

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
November 5-7, 2017
Chicago, Illinois**

**President's Report
(Prepared by Tanya Zanish-Belcher)**

Executive Activities

Participated in weekly policy and process calls with the Executive Director and periodic calls with the Executive Committee and Vice President to deal with current issues and prepare items for Council discussion.

Participated in monthly calls with the CoSA/NAGARA/SAA Leadership Group to work through areas of mutual concern.

Worked with the Executive Director, COPP Chair, and Executive Committee on the status of issue briefs and public policy statements.

Worked with the Executive Director (as well as the Governance Coordinator and Vice President) to develop Council meeting agendas.

Attended the American Society of Association Executives CEO Symposium with the Vice President, Executive Director, and Governance Coordinator.

Member Communications

Assisted in the drafting, revising, and writing of the following statements:

- Archives and Archivists Listserv
- SAA Council Statement on White Supremacists' Actions in Charlottesville, Virginia
- Open Letter to SAA Members Regarding the Location of the 2019 Annual Meeting
- SAA Statement on the Value and Importance of the U.S. Census
- SAA Statement on Government Transparency
- SAA Statement on the Use of Private E-mails for Government Work

Wrote President's column for publication in *Archival Outlook*:

- Remarks from the Annual Meeting (August 1)
- SAA Appointments Process (October 1)

Wrote blog posts for *Off the Record*, which were also shared with the SAA Leader List, Archives and Archivists Listserv, and Twitter:

- Archives and Archivists Listserv
- Additional Remarks on White Supremacy and Goals for Council's Working Group on Diversity and Inclusion
- Expanded Annual Meeting Remarks
- Disaster Resources
- SAA Appointments Process

Spoke with archives representatives in Mexico as well as the State Archivists of Florida and Texas regarding recovery from recent earthquakes and hurricanes affecting them. Added discussion item concerning access by Mexico and the non-US Virgin Islands to disaster response funds to the agendas for the Council and the SAA Foundation to consider at their November meetings. Also emphasized access to these funds for U.S. archivists/archivists in U.S. territories in an *Off the Record* blog post.

Discussed 2018 Joint Annual Meeting preparations with the Executive Director and SAA's co-chair of the Host Committee.

Conducted a phone call with Mark Matienzo to discuss the status of his metadata and digital practice scan being prepared for the Council (approved August 2016).

Governance

Completed appointments for the Host Committee and the [SAA-ACRL/RBMS Joint Task Force to Revise Statement on Access](#). ACRL has now appointed its representatives and the group's work has begun.

Drafted a proposal to form a Task Force to Revise and Expand Best Practices for Accessibility in Archives, which is on the Council's November meeting agenda.

Participated in a conference call with the Association of Canadian Archivists, ARMA International, and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators to discuss a proposal for a 6-month task force to:

- Collect and analyze data on membership demographics for all Associations;
- Examine the membership categories/levels, benefits and fees of each Association;
- Determine the benefits of various forms of collaboration;
- Explore the pros and cons of a shared membership across all Associations;
- Develop recommendations for a consortial/allied Association model; and
- Deliver a final summary proposal document to the 4 Associations

Based on discussion with the Executive Committee and previous feedback from the Council, SAA declined due to other priorities, such as the transition to a new association management software system, implementation of a large and complex 2018 Joint Annual Meeting with two partner organizations (NAGARA and CoSA), completion of the work of three joint task forces with ARCL/RBMS, and several other major projects, as well as the complexity of our dues structure. We do hope to continue partnering on continuing education offerings and possibly other products and services.

Representation

Contacted CoSA and NAGARA presidents to confirm acceptance of previously scheduled SAA keynote speaker. Confirmed possible dates with keynote speaker.

Meeting, e-mail, and calls with NARA External Affairs Liaison Meg Phillips. Coordinated Executive Committee response to NARA's review of recommendations for ICE records.

Held monthly phone calls with RBMS Chair Athena Jackson.