

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
November 20, 2020  
Virtual Meeting**

**Staff Report: Membership  
(Prepared by Nancy Beaumont and Carlos Salgado)**

We are reworking our membership reports after recently discovering an error that over-reported membership levels by roughly 1%. There is no error in the data; the error was a miscalculation in the reports. The trends we've been seeing are still accurate (including the membership increase in the last few months). This report contains the corrected numbers.

As of October 31, SAA membership totaled 5,655, a decrease of 77 from the same time last year and 578 below our all-time high of 6,233 in November 2014. Individual membership less students totals 4,092; our all-time high was 4,608 in February 2015. We saw declines in the ID2 through ID5 categories, as well as ID7. **See the table on page 2 for details by membership category, October 2019 to October 2020.**

A note about Bridge memberships: Of the 97 Bridge members as of October 2019, 59 renewed at another level (Complimentary = 2, ID1 = 31, ID2 = 3, ID3 = 4, ID4 = 5, ID5 = 3, ID6 = 3, ID7 = 1, Retired = 4, Student = 3). In the past, staff has spent significant time enforcing the special restrictions for Bridge memberships. To reduce this effort, we removed Bridge rate from the self-service web form when we moved to Nimble AMS. The rate is still available for members who contact the office directly.

In response to the pandemic, we granted 30 members extensions to their current memberships. Average length of an extension was 3 months.

We have awarded 162 Complimentary memberships as part of AWEF: 96 New, 18 Reinstated, and 48 Renewing.

**We look forward to discussion with the Council in the coming months about dues restructuring as well as removal of the requirement for all-member referenda to change dues rates. The latter creates a significant barrier to thinking creatively and moving nimbly as membership declines.**

Dues Category	Dues	Oct-20	Oct-19	Change	% Change
Associate	\$ 115-145	167	164	3	1.83%
Bridge	\$ 55	19	76	(57)	(75.00%)
ID1 (part-time)	\$ 80	755	681	74	10.87%
ID2 (\$20-\$29k/yr)	\$ 105	227	264	(37)	(14.02%)
ID3 (\$30-\$39k/yr)	\$ 140	263	332	(69)	(20.78%)
ID4 (\$40-\$49k/yr)	\$ 174	515	575	(60)	(10.43%)
ID5 (\$50-\$59k/yr)	\$ 218	582	641	(59)	(9.20%)
ID6 (\$60-\$74k/yr)	\$ 250	646	632	14	2.22%
ID7 (\$75-\$89k/yr)	\$ 285	298	309	(11)	(3.56%)
ID8 (>\$90k/yr)	\$ 325	358	352	6	1.70%
Lifetime		11	11	-	0.00%
Honorary		1	1	-	0
Retired	\$ 77	250	243	7	2.88%
Student	\$ 55	1,058	886	172	19.41%
<b>Total Individuals</b>		<b>5,150</b>	<b>5,167</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>(0.33%)</b>
Regular	\$ 340	427	483	(56)	-11.59%
Sustaining	\$ 595	78	80	(2)	(2.50%)
<b>Total Institutions</b>		<b>505</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>(58)</b>	<b>(10.30%)</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>		<b>5,655</b>	<b>5,730</b>	<b>(75)</b>	<b>(1.31%)</b>