

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
November 10, 12, 2021
Virtual Meeting**

**Annual Report: Committee on Ethics and Professional Conduct
(Prepared by Rosemary K. J. Davis, Co-Chair)**

For the 2020-2021 term, CEPC worked on the following:

Early Career Member Contributions:

In 2020-21, CEPC hosted our first Early-Career Member, Madeline Goebel, who became an equal member of the committee actively contributing to meeting discussions and working with Cliff Hight to perform an extensive documentation review. Grace Muñoz joined CEPC as an Early-Career Member for 2021-2022.

Foundational Conversations about New Iteration of Ethics Case Studies:

Tywanna Hodges and Rosemary K. J. Davis collaborated on the examination and revision of the CEPC's call for case studies in ethics. Multiple discussions with members of the SAA Publications Board and the *American Archivist* team paved the path for a future iteration of case studies that are published not only in the case study portal, but also in either *AA* or perhaps collected in an open-access e-book. Both Hodges and Davis rotated off of CEPC this cycle, so future work on the next iteration of case studies will be continued by current CEPC members.

Reading Circles

Mary Larson and Renee James organized a small series of virtual reading circles to create opportunities to engage with current archival scholarship through an ethical lens. The first meeting took place in February 2021. Partnering with the Privacy and Confidentiality Section, the event discussed Ashlyn Velte's 2018 *American Archivist* article, "Ethical Challenges and Current Practices in Activist Social Media Archives." Ms. Velte (University of Colorado Boulder) gave a short presentation, followed by Q&A and general discussion. The second meeting took place in April 2021. Partnering with the Diversity Committee, the event discussed Anna Robinson-Sweet's 2018 *American Archivist* article, "Truth and Reconciliation: Archivists as Reparation Activists."

Ms. Robinson-Sweet (The New School Archives and Special Collections) gave a short presentation followed by Q&A and general discussion. Robinson-Sweet also previewed her most recent publication, "Ancestry.com's Race Stories: Examining Whiteness on the Genealogy Web" (*International Journal of Information, Diversity and Inclusion*). Both events were open to SAA members as well as non-members and were well-attended. Larson and James anticipate organizing more CEPC reading circles in the future.

Documentation Review

To represent the history of the CEPC's work more fully on their microsite, Cliff Hight and Madeline Goebel undertook an extensive documentation review. Hight and Goebel reached out to many years' worth of CEPC past and present members to collect meeting notes, dates, and other documents. Filling in the gaps on the microsite is a large project and will continue during the next year of the CEPC's work.

Annual Meeting:

The CEPC annual meeting was held on Tuesday, July 27th, virtually, with around 20-25 attendees, with both committee members and SAA members attending. Incoming CEPC early-career member Grace Muñoz shared a pre-recorded presentation related to her post on SAA's "Descriptive Notes" blog entitled, "Reframing Reparative Description Initiatives through CriticalRace Theory and Black Feminism." The balance of the meeting featured updates on the CEPC's other projects during the year, outlined within the other sections of this report.