

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting Agenda
November 18/19, 2024
Chicago, IL – Hybrid**

Staff Report

**Publications Program Overview (Prepared by - Savannah Tiffany)
Marketing and Communications (Prepared by - Julia Pillard)**

I. QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

- *American Archivist* 87.2 is in production.
- Our annual SAA Conference Book Sale was a success in both online and in-person sales, and a region-specific pre-sale is scheduled for SAA's newest release, *Alone in the Stacks*, for the GLA annual meeting.
- The publications team assisted this year with the SAA Election, Section meetings during the conference, Section elections, and SAA Awards.

II. BOOKS

A. Publications Board

The Publications Board met virtually on July 31 to welcome new members, discuss project updates, and finalize details of our upcoming virtual author panel. Their next meeting will be in November.

B. Project Updates

• In Production

- *Managing Digital Congressional Collections: A Technical Supplement to Managing Congressional Collections*, edited by Carly Dearborn, Robert Lay, and Hope Bibens. Authors have begun writing for this digital supplement, and production is moving forward with an expected publication of February 2025.

• Manuscripts in Process

- *604 Measurable Learning Outcomes for Primary Source Literacy* by Robin Katz.
- Archival Futures Series (SAA/ALA): *Archives, Time Travel, and Pop Culture* by Lynne M. Thomas and Katy Rawdon
- *Lifting As They Climbed: How Archivists of Color Changed the Landscape of SAA* edited by Steven Booth and Barrye Brown.
- *Remedy, Rectify, and Reconstruct: Case Studies in Inclusive and Reparative*

Archival Description Efforts, edited by Katherine M. Wisser and Elena C. Hinkle.

- *Archival Fundamentals Series III, Volume 6: Selecting and Appraising Archives and Manuscripts* by Audra Eagle Yun and Chela Scott Weber.
- *Radical Visions: New Perspectives in Special Collections Curatorship*, edited by Jillian Cuellar and Agnieszka Czeblakow.
- *Archival and Special Collections Facilities: Guidelines for Archivists, Librarians, Architects, and Engineers*, Revised Edition, by Michele Pacifico.

C. Perlego (New)

We are currently working with Perlego, a third-party publisher, to make some of our more popular books available on a subscription-based textbook platform that will allow students to access additional accessibility features and potentially access titles at a discounted price. Contracts are in review with both SAA and Perlego legal teams. Hosting and formatting is free, requires no additional work from staff, and generates revenue for SAA based on user views/reading time. More updates to come.

III. AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

A. American Archivist production

Issue 87.1 was released at the time of the last report, and 87.2 (Fall/Winter 2024) is now in production. It will feature 6 articles and 6 reviews.

B. Editorial Board

The Editorial Board will meet virtually on October 3 to discuss upcoming special section accessioning and user experience, communication of the new submission window workflow and classification revisions.

C. Article Price Increase

On January 1, to reflect inflation and [match pricing with similar academic journals in the US](#), we will be increasing the price to purchase individual AA articles from \$18 to \$25. This will only impact select articles in the three most recent volumes – all other content in American Archivist is open access. SAA members will continue to receive full access to the journal. This pricing is on par with the market average and will help to increase revenue while still maintaining SAA's core value of accessibility.

D. New Content on Reviews Portal

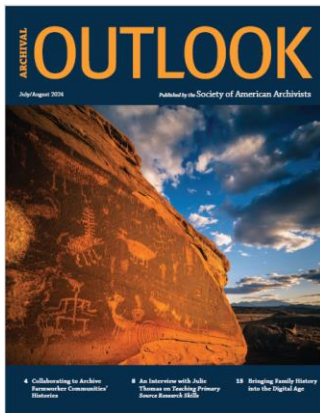
Six reviews were released on the Reviews Portal during this period. The first iteration of the

Intergenerational Conversations series concluded, and the second iteration is underway. It began with Elliott Kuecker’s review of Trudy Peterson’s Presidential Address “Reading, ’Riting, and ’Rithmetic: Speculations on Change in Research Processes,” *American Archivist* 55, no. 3 (1992). Four reviews in this series have been released so far.

1. [“Homo Archivalis Americanus: The Evolution of the American Archivist in the Age of Capital, 1956–2024” by Emma Barton-Norris](#)
2. [Dictionary of Archives Terminology reviewed by Gregory K. Tharp](#)
3. [“Found in a Pop Culture Landscape” by Samantha Cross](#)
4. [Ghosts of Archive: Deconstructive Intersectionality and Praxis reviewed by Jenifer Monger](#)
5. [“The Manager and the Archivist: Robert Bahmer’s Presidential Address and its Relevance Six Decades Later” by Caitlin Birch](#)
6. [Heritage, Memory and Identity in Postcolonial Board Games reviewed by Cheryl Oestreicher](#)

[Check out the latest posts here.](#)

IV. ARCHIVAL OUTLOOK



This quarter, the July/August issue has been published and is available [on the SAA website](#).

V. DICTIONARY OF ARCHIVES TERMINOLOGY

- The [Dictionary of Archives Terminology](#) continues to be updated to reflect improvements to definitions based on user feedback as well as introduce new terminology. The nine-member working group meets every Wednesday via Zoom to define terminology and draft the [Word of the Week](#).
- Platform training is ongoing post-migration.

VI. OUTREACH & PROMOTION

A. [Archives in Context Podcast](#)

- The fourth episode of Season 8 has been recorded and, at the time of this report, is in production with our sound engineer.

B. Reviews of SAA Books in the Professional Literature

- a. *Archival Accessioning* (SAA, 2021)
 - i. [Rare Books and Manuscripts](#)
- b. *Arranging and Describing Archives and Manuscripts* (SAA, 2019)
 - i. [Rare Books and Manuscripts](#)
- c. *Museum Archives* (SAA, 2022)
 - I. [Journal of Contemporary Archival Studies](#)

SAA MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS (Julia Pillard)

I. Statements and News Items Highlights

- A. [SAA Foundation 2024 Catalyst Grant Program Recipients](#)
- B. [SAA Receives IMLS Grant to Create a Research Agenda for the Profession](#)
- C. [Share Your Archives during #AskAnArchivist Day](#)
- D. [Gratitude for Our SAA Foundation Board Directors](#)

II. Marketing

- a. American Archives Month
 - i. #AskAnArchivist Day occurred on October 16. We saw wide engagement, particularly on Instagram, as archivists shared images from their repositories.
 - ii. On SAA’s Instagram, over 30 images were shared and repositories tagged to encourage engagement.
 - iii. Our lead post accrued 344 likes; the highest amount given on our posts yesterday.
- b. On October 25, SAA hosted an event with AASLH to share information about America’s 250 Anniversary in 2026.
 - i. 143 people registered to attend, 72 actually attended.
 - ii. The talk has been posted on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/@SocietyofAmericanArchivists/videos>
 - iii. Thank you to Bryan Whitledge for suggesting and supporting this event.
- c. On October 30, SAA is hosting a storytelling workshop masterclass in preparation for a new “Finding Aid to My Soul” event in February.
- d. From July through September, SAA highlighted some of the following:
 - i. The 2024 SAA Election Results
 - ii. Information on the rebranded Catalyst Fund from the SAA Foundation
 - iii. Information on the 2025 election to encourage candidate nominations
 - iv. A news release about the recent IMLS Grant SAA received.
- e. Individual education courses were marketed via social media, as were individual

- articles from recent issues of *Archival Outlook*.
- f. A/B testing of emails continues to be employed.
 - i. SAA recently tried a new “narrative” style of email for book promotion. This email saw extremely high engagement. We are examining how to employ this in other areas of the organization.
 - G. SAA continues to evaluate different email methods to ensure information is reaching membership without overwhelming anyone’s inbox.

III. Communications Procedures Reminder

- a. SAA produces a large amount of content each month, from procedural updates to statements to professional information. Given those constraints, we ask the following when a statement is planned to be released:
 - I. Please ensure the statement is finalized prior to being shared with staff for release. Information, structure, and sentence-level changes should be finalized.
 - ii. Staff will review the statement for clarity. Minor grammatical errors (correcting capitalization, commas, etc.) will be made by staff. Anything that requires larger clarification will be run past the body releasing the statement prior to the statement being released.
 - iii. Please cc the governance team on any statements.
- b. The goal of these guidelines is to minimize confusion and duplication of work and streamline the publication process.
- C. Please reach out to Marketing and Communications Specialist Julia Pillard at jpillard@archivists.org if you have any questions.