

also stopped by the finding aids fair in the Exhibit Hall on Friday, August 19th to look at finding aid samples provided in the Finding Aid booth. A Finding Aids Fair website can be found at: <http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/descr/2005faid.htm>

Ongoing Projects/Activities:

- Once again this year, the Section reviewed session proposals for the annual meeting. The Section endorsed five proposals, and shared our thoughts on these proposals with the Program Committee.
- We expect continued involvement in the RDA response process as it goes forward.

New Projects/Activities: Began using section listserv for announcements and some discussion of description-related issues. Discussion potential is limited due to the fact that members can't post, but section leaders would post questions from members, then summarize responses received from other members.

Diversity Initiatives: While we had no concerted diversity initiatives last year, the speaker at the section meeting was from outside the U.S. (Marcel Caya, of Quebec.)

Questions/Concerns for Council Attention: None.

Electronic Records Section

No report received as of December 27, 2005.

Government Records Section

Officers:

Nancy Melley, Chair and Federal Representative
Geof Huth, Vice Chair/Chair Elect and State Representative
Lucy Barber, State Representative
Terry Baxter, Local Representative
Susan Cummings, Federal Representative
John Slate, Local Representative

Report from Annual Meeting:

- Number of attendees: about 40.
- Election results: Barbara Rust – Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Federal Representative; Jan Hart – Local Representative and Local Government Records Roundtable Chair; Amelia Winstead – State Representative

Summary of Meeting Activities: Nancy Melley, Archives Specialist at the National Archives and Records Administration and outgoing chair, opened the business meeting. Aimee Felker, John Slate, Nancy Melley, and Paul Bergeron reported on Council, Local Government Roundtable, Section, and Newsletter activities respectively.

Following the reports, the membership elected new steering committee members. Barbara Rust of the National Archives and Records Administration – Fort Worth was elected as the federal representative and will serve as vice-chair/chair-elect; Amelia Winstead of the Georgia State Archives was elected as the state government representative; and Jan Hart of the Irving City Archives was elected to serve as the local representative and Local Government Records Roundtable Chair. They will replace Terry Baxter of the Multnomah County Records (local), Nancy J. Melley of the National Archives (federal), and John H.

Slate of the Dallas Municipal Archives (local). Geof Huth is the 2005-06 chair and will continue as a state representative, while Lucy Barber continues as a state representative and Susan Cummings continues as a federal representative.

Following the elections, a discussion took place about proposed changes to Section IV of the by-laws, concerning nominations and elections. There was discussion of other possible amendments to Section IV of the by-laws. The Steering Committee agreed to look at other possible amendments and propose additional changes if they deemed it appropriate. The amendment was approved.

Nominations would close upon the announcement of nominees by the Nominating Committee. If the Nominating Committee proposed two or more candidates for one vacancy, voting at the Annual Meeting shall be by secret ballot. If the Nominating Committee did not propose candidate(s) for a vacancy, nominations may be made from the floor at the Meeting for that vacancy. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Nominating Committee Chair at least seven (7) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Finally, under the existing by-laws, three – not two – steering committee members' terms expire each year. The first paragraph of Section IV is amended to clarify that all three steering committee members, "whose terms are not expiring at the conclusion of the next annual meeting," would assist the immediate past chair as members of the Nominating Committee.

The program portion of the meeting was a presentation by Joseph R. Klett, Chief of Archives of the New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management on the New Jersey PARIS (Public Archives and Records Infrastructure Support) Grants Program.

Completed Projects/Activities: The Government Records Section received requests for endorsement from developers of five session proposals for the 2005 SAA annual conference. Members of the steering committee reviewed, commented, and ranked the proposals, ultimately endorsing four sessions. Two of the sessions were incorporated into the final program.

Ongoing Projects/Activities: Paul Bergeron assumed the newsletter editor position after the 2004 annual meeting, and has done a great job of producing an interesting, useful, well-balanced newsletter over the last year. The membership greatly appreciates the time and effort he has devoted to producing the newsletter.

Wayne Everard of the New Orleans Public Library has taken over from Janet Waters of Ohio State University, Columbus as section's web liaison. Many thanks to Janet for doing a great job in keeping the web site up to date. The section is interested in adding more content to the web site and encourages members to submit ideas or content to Chair Geof Huth at geofhuth@gmail.com.

Diversity Initiatives: The GRS continues to maintain geographic diversity in its steering committee.

Questions/concerns for Council Attention: None reported.

Manuscript Repositories Section

Officers 2005-2006:

Amy Cooper Cary, Chair, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Beth Bensman, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Prebysterian Historical Society
Cynthia Pease Miller, Chair, Nominating Committee, Independent Archivist

Steering Committee:

Maria Estorino, University of Miami