

SAA Electronic Records Section 2005 Annual Report

Date: 31 December 2005

Name of Section/Roundtable: Electronic Records Section

Report from annual meeting:

Number of attendees: Approximately

Election results:

Arian Ravanbakhsh was elected Vice-Chair of the Electronic Records Section
Shelby Sanett was elected to the Steering Committee

Summary of meeting activities:

Fynnette Eaton gave a presentation on the Electronic Records Archives (ERA) Program at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

There was a discussion of possible session topics for next year's joint SAA/NAGARA/CoSA meeting.

The section held its election of new officers

Completed projects/activities:

The Electronic Records Section Steering Committee worked with NAGARA's Committee on Electronic Records and Information Systems (CERIS) to put together session proposals for the 2006 joint SAA/NAGARA/CoSA meeting.

New projects/activities:

The ERS plans to continue to look for opportunities for joint initiatives with NAGARA's CERIS. We are exploring the possibility of discontinuing the ERS newsletter and use the section-only listserv for distributing news.

Questions/concerns for Council attention:

The ERS still has concerns over how sections recommend/endorse session proposals. Cheryl Stadel-Bevans, Rosemary Pleva Flynn, and I had a discussion with Mark Duffy and Nancy Beaumont at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans about some of these concerns. Among our concerns are:

1. No one from Council contacted any of the people identified on the petition prior to or after the Council passed their new guidelines.
2. The new guidelines have not been clearly conveyed to the membership at large. There have been differing - sometimes contradictory - communications coming from SAA leadership as to what the new policy is.
3. The new policy does not address one of the key issues from the petition - the need for institutional diversity (i.e., academic, government, business, etc.) on the program committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Conrad

Electronic Records Archives (ERA)

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