

Metadata and Digital Object Section

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ACTIVITIES

Completed:

1. Staffing MDOS at full capacity
 - a. At the beginning of the fiscal year, MDOS had only three active members out of the seven positions listed on the roster at the time. Considering that MDOS is one of the SAA's largest sections, it was imperative to staff the section in order to provide services to our membership. We conducted a Special Election in January 2018, from this effort we recruited Blake Graham, Co-Chair; Elisa Landaverde and Courtney Butler, Steering Committee Members; and appointed, Rebecca Pattillo as the Social Media Coordinator. We also run a regular election in June 2018, we recruited Angela White, steering committee member.
2. Planned the programming for the 2018 SAA annual meeting
 - a. The planning, announcements, and programming for the lightning talks presentation was completed by our newly elected co-chair, Blake Graham. The request for proposals was sent at the end of May and the committee made the presentation selections during the month of July.
3. MDOS decided to continue staffing the section and to recruit for an education coordinator, a new position for our section.

Ongoing:

1. Updating the microsite: annual reports, meeting minutes, and updating the roster.

New:

1. We have a dedicated social media coordinator member and hope to have a dedicated education coordinator soon.
2. In early 2018, the Steering Committee discussed the need to revise and update the "Metadata Directory" webpage on the microsite. Planning for this, as well as other changes to the microsite, is scheduled for the 2018-2019 year.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 1: Advocating for Archives and Archivists

In efforts to propel MDOS' advocacy for archives and archivists, the section created the Social Media Coordinator position. It is our intention to demonstrate and to promote the importance of metadata and digital collections through the use of various social media platforms.

Goal 2: Enhancing Professional Growth

The MDOS leadership decided to continue this year at the annual meeting with another round of lightning talks to showcase the new research and methodologies for working with metadata and digital objects. This specific platform allows presenters to demonstrate their expertise in a casual and inviting atmosphere.

Goal 3: Advancing the Field

The creation of the Education Coordinator position will enable MDOS to promote training and educational opportunities through the exposure and the promotion of new webinars and on-site classes. We also anticipate a strong role of the Social Media Coordinator in the promotion of future training.

Goal 4: Meeting Members Needs

The Steering Committee conducted a member survey in April 2018 to explore members' needs and areas of interest. 64 members responded to the survey; the following profiles represent the majority of respondents: 60% were employed in a college or university setting, 11% were in a private organization, and 12% designated "other." When asked about helpfulness of resources on the MDOS microsite, respondents considered Metadata Listservs, Sample Metadata, and SAA Standards Portal as the most helpful. Lightning Talks were considered to be of highest interest during the annual meeting, so the Steering Committee coordinated a Lightning Talks session alongside the annual meeting. An overview of the survey data can be found on the MDOS microsite.

ANNUAL MEETING

Number of Attendees: Unknown, my apologies, I did not attend the annual meeting this year.

Summary of Meeting Activities:

October 6, 2017 – Meeting about contacting members and attempting to assess who out of the 9 members on the roster were active. Also, we discussed the possibility of implementing a media coordinator position.

November 21, 2017- Meeting regarding recruiting efforts for open positions, discussed statistics provided by SAA leadership, and two members agreed to serve an additional year to assist with recruiting efforts and better service to the current membership. We decided to run a special election at the beginning of the next year.

December 13, 2017 – Beginning of special election process, the MDOS special election run in January 2018.

March 16, 2018 – Discussed the format for the MDOS meeting at the annual meeting, potential future meetings frequency, and discussion about the next MDOS annual report to the SAA.

May 23, 2018 - Discussed results from the 2018 MDOS member survey, creating a new MDOS workspace (Google site), Fixing the Metadata Directory webpage (on MDOS microsite), and discussed the 2018 Election Ballot.

July 3, 2018 – Discussed the 2018 MDOS ballot results, gathered recommendations for the lightning talks, and discussed the schedule for the annual meeting in addition to MDOS attendance for the same event.

August 15, 2018 – New co-chair hosted the meeting, welcome of new members and the introduction of the new education committee.

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL

Earlier this summer (2018), a member of the SAA leadership listserv asked for suggestions on recruiting members to serve on section committees. MDOS has struggled with recruitment for several years, and it seems many other sections are struggling with similar challenges, so will the Council consider taking steps to better understand and assess why sections are experiencing this difficulty?