

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
January 2023**

**Report of the *American Archivist* Editor  
November 2022 – January 2023  
(Prepared by Amy Cooper Cary)**

**I. Update on Publication Status**

- [85:2 Fall/Winter 2022](#), was published December 29.
- **Content for 86:1** is being sent to copyedit.
  - Chartier, Presidential Address
  - A\*CENSUS II – All-Archivists Survey and Report, Executive Summary, Introduction, Methodology, Collaboration, Survey Findings, Conclusion. (pp. 3 – 72)
  - Tansey, “The Academic Enclosure of *American Archivist*”
  - Todd-Diaz and Poole, ““Sometimes I think that they hate us”: Archival Studies Faculty, the Society of American Archivists, and Graduate Archival Education in the 21st Century”
  - Sweetser et al, “College and University Archivists: Doing it All for Less”
  - Meehan, “Taking Our Own Measure: Archival Engagement and Storytelling”
  - Jones, “Adapting for Distance: A Perspective on Team-based Archival Processing during a Pandemic”
- **Content for 86:2** – I continue to gather content for 86:2
  - A\*CENSUS II – Administrator’s Survey. As we did with the All-Archivists Survey, we intend to publish the basic information from the Administrator’s Survey.
  - Special Section on Archives and Libraries of the Middle East and North Africa (Guest Editors Sumayya Ahmed and Rebecca Hankins). We continue to see high interest in submissions for this special section. Final submissions are due February 1. We continue to plan for publication in 86:2, F/W 2023. Cary is in conversation with Editors and Abigail Christian to determine whether we can make this open access for some period of time, as a service to the international reader community for this topic.

**II. Report from the Reviews Editors (Prepared by Rose Buchanan and Stephanie Luke)**

This has been a busy year for the **Reviews section** of *American Archivist*! In 2022, we published 8 pieces in the journal and 14 reviews on the Portal. On the Portal, we have experimented with new formats and structures, which we think has done much to encourage diverse voices to contribute their work to the platform. We have also begun to promote content across the journal and Portal. The reviews from the Portal are now listed in the journal and our reviews introductions incorporate content from both the journal and the Portal.

In January 2023, we will begin a new series on the Portal that we are calling “**Intergenerational Conversations.**” For the first year of what we anticipate to be a continuing feature, we explore the writings of John Fleckner. Each month, an early to mid-career archivist will reflect on one of Fleckner’s articles, sharing their thoughts on how it relates to their work and to the continuing evolution of the profession. We have begun to contact archivists, five of whom have already agreed to contribute.

We have also joined the team of SAA podcast’s *Archives in Context* as producers, which we hope will continue to closely tie the SAA platforms together. The first episode of Season 7 was released in December and features interviews with attendees of the annual meeting. As of now, we believe this season will consist of 8 episodes in total, many of which highlight SAA publications.

### II. Update on Events

- **The Write Away Forum** was held on November 17. About 200 individuals attended the event (while about 700 registered and received a follow-up email), which resulted in new volunteers for Peer Reviewers.
- **The Editorial Board’s joint meeting with CODA** was held on November 18, discussing the ongoing role of *American Archivist* in contributing to the CODA Research Roadmap and the Dataverse. The Roadmap generated good conversation, and the Board looks forward to continuing to support CODA in its efforts.
- Cary is collaborating with Awards Committee Chairs for **publication awards** to cross-promote this segment of awards, prior to submission deadlines. Chairs of the Pease Award, Coker Award, Leland Award, Posner Award, and the Preservation Publication Award are meeting to discuss promotion opportunities to expand awareness of awards, and to encourage a broad range of submissions.
- Next Editorial Board Meeting is January 20.

### III. Update on Ongoing Conversations and Initiatives

- **A\*CENSUS II:** Cary will continue to represent the Board with the Dissemination Team and the larger A\*CENSUS II Working Group. The timeline has shifted somewhat, based on the available contributions by folks who have been involved in the process.
  - 86:1: Publication will include the first 70 pages of the report from Ithaka on the All Archivists Survey.
  - 86:2: Publication will include the first part of the Archival Administrators’ Survey.
  - 87:1: Call to write from the data, which invites themed articles based on the Surveys. Themes will mirror the themes from the grant.
  - 87:2: Open call – writing from the data.
  - Role of Editorial Board
    - ITHAKA Survey reports will be published without peer review, based on the nature of the information. Survey reports have already been disseminated in electronic format; we are publishing them in the journal

because *American Archivist* is the journal of record for the profession, and as such these surveys need representation in the journal.

- Themed articles will be identified in the journal as part of an ongoing A\*CENSUS II section. They will be peer reviewed in the same manner as all articles. A call for articles will be made in Spring/Summer 2023.
- **Readership Survey, Spring 2023:** Cary has been gathering questions for a brief readership survey (no more than 10 questions), to be publicized to members and readers of *American Archivist* in Spring 2023. The goal is to get a “snapshot” of where we stand as a digital publication. Questions will be finalized at the January Board meeting.
- **General conversations:** I meet regularly meet with people to discuss potential articles and other areas of interest in the journal. I also meet with Abigail Christian, and with Reviews Editors. Recently, I met with Sarah Coffman and Yvette Ramirez (early career members for the Publications Board) to discuss potential areas of overlap in the Publications Analysis project. I’m always available for conversations to discuss concerns of interest to the journal.