

# Minutes, SAA Acquisitions and Appraisal Section Annual Business Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2015

## Agenda

- Panel Discussion (3:00-4:00 pm)
- Business meeting (4:00-5:00 pm)

Chair Laura Sullivan called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. Approximately 60 attendees were in attendance.

## Panel Discussion

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect Jaimie Quaglino introduced panelists Thomas Hyry (Florence Fearington Librarian of Houghton Library, Harvard University) and Virginia Hunt (Associate University Archivist for Collection Development and Records Management, Harvard University Archives).

Thomas and Virginia spoke about their unique experiences working with ethical and other responsibilities involved with purchasing collections, donor requirements and restrictions, and transparency with the collecting process. Thomas spoke specifically about his experience working as the former Director of the UCLA Library Special Collections, during which he was involved in the appraisal and acquisition of the Susan Sontag Papers including born-digital (email) content. Virginia spoke to her experience working in her position at the Harvard University Archives to appraise and acquire the Richard Greener Papers, which included appraisal negotiations and managing relationships with Harvard leadership, the Donor, and the press.

This presentation was followed by a short Q&A with attendees.

## Business Meeting

Following the panel discussion, Laura Sullivan called the business meeting to order at 4:05. Approximately 30 attendees remained for this section of the agenda.

### **Active leadership**

Leadership for this past year included:

Laura Sullivan, Chair

Jaimie Quaglino, Vice Chair/Chair

Bethany Anderson, Steering Committee Member

Matthew Darby, Steering Committee Member

Cliff Hight, Steering Committee Member

Heather Soyka, Steering Committee Member

Virginia Hunt, Immediate Past Chair

Denise Rayman, Web Liaison

Lily Troia, Social Media Intern

### **Current Projects**

Laura provided an overview of three main activities: a refresh and reorganization of the A&A SAA microsite, update to the section bylaws, and the section's social media efforts over the past year. The social media efforts in particular were called out as the section's largest focus for the year, with the creation of a Social Media Subcommittee (co-chairs Bethany Anderson and Mat Darby) whose efforts to strategically increase awareness around acquisitions and appraisal efforts, increase engagement with the membership, and raise visibility to section activities paid off significantly.

### **Social Media Initiatives**

Social Media Intern Lily Troia was introduced, and spoke about some of the efforts to-date and underway for the Social Media Subcommittee.

Twitter: Lily discussed the targeted identification and implementation of Twitter as an effective tool for communication. An A&A twitter account was launched in January 2015, and used to publicize general acquisition and appraisal related communications as well as Section-specific activities and announcements. It was also noted that the A&A twitter account currently has the second-largest following of all other affinity groups, following SNAP. New activities proposed include a live tweet session (in collaboration with another affinity group TBD).

"Valuable Inquiries" blog: Discussion highlighted the two interviews posted to date ("Changing Nature of Acquisitions at the Schlesinger Library" and "Web Archiving: Capturing the Human Experience"), as well as the announcement of an upcoming interview with Adriana Cuervo regarding Jazz archives at Rutgers. Planning for a schedule of recurring articles and interviews is underway for 2016.

Facebook: this was discussed as another opportunity for continued outreach, with the potential for a change from a group-only to more publicly accessible page.

The discussion closed with a callout of additional new tools (TBD for 2015-2016), such as Instagram and Tumblr, and the observation that an effective social media program requires a programmatic and sustained effort to ensure continued presence and interest from followers. This will be considered for ongoing planning efforts.

### **Remarks from Council Liaison**

Lisa Mangiafico first spoke to the Section about two key proposals underway: an increase in membership fees (noted was that membership will be able to vote on this proposed increase) and the move to eliminate distinctions between affinity groups such as sections and roundtables (noted was that this proposal would result in the potential elimination of non-members from such groups, and the creation of a virtual group(s)).

A report of additional organizational activities was provided, including a new Arrangement and Description certification program (similar to the DAS track), assessment of the listserv, and an update on the motion to eliminate the NHPRC (has been pulled back, but the program is still at risk of zero funding).

#### **Remarks from Technical Subcommittee on Guidelines for Reappraisal and Deaccessioning**

Laura Uglean Jackson provided update on new guidelines, which are up for review with feedback due 12/15, and outlined ways to provide feedback directly in Google document or by emailing Laura or Chela Scott Weber directly.

#### **Election results**

Past president Ginny Hunt provided an update on election results:

Vice chair/chair elect: Bethany Anderson

Steering committee members: Heather Soyka and Marcella Wiget

#### **Outgoing officers**

Laura Sullivan provided a report on outgoing officers. Outgoing Steering Committee members Bethany Anderson and Heather Soyka were elected to the position of Vice Chair / Chair-Elect and (re-elected) to a second term on the Steering Committee, respectively.

#### **New business**

The floor was opened to the audience for suggestions / input into future section projects, and announcements/motions.

-One audience member suggested additional social media outreach, building on existing efforts underway.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.