

Society of American Archivists
American Archivist Editorial Board
Virtual Meeting | July 22, 2022

MINUTES

In attendance: Amy Cooper Cary (American Archivist Editor and Editorial Board Chair), Rose Buchanan and Stephanie Luke (Reviews Editors), Sumayya Ahmed, Rebecca Hankins, Katharina Hering, Eric Hung, Jessica Lacher-Feldman, Mark Matienzo, and Sylvia Welsh; Amanda Greenwood (incoming early-career member); ex officio member Mario Ramirez (Council Liaison); and SAA staff Abigail Christian, Julia Pillard, and Jacqueline Price Osafo.

Unable to attend: Shadrack Katuu, Marlee Newman, Kate Puerini, Bree-ya Brown (incoming early-career member), and ex officio member Stacie Williams (Publications Editor).

I. WELCOME

- A. Amy Cooper Cary welcomed incoming early-career members Amanda Greenwood and Bree-ya Brown. We're excited to have them and they'll work with Hering on the ongoing hidden content project. Greenwood even has a forthcoming article in the Spring/Summer 2022 issue.
- B. The Board thanks Shadrack Katuu for his three years of service and his always insightful feedback at Board meetings and via peer reviews. Katuu's space will be filled by an international Board member TBD.

II. COUNCIL UPDATE - Mario Ramirez

- A. At its recent meeting, the SAA Council approved the fiscal budget for FY2023 which includes provisions for enhancing technology support, SAA's first hybrid conference, filling out gaps in SAA staff, and funding member-led projects. It also approved a description and charge for the Archival Repatriation Working Group. Check out the [call for volunteers](#).
- B. Ramirez is an outgoing Council member. Joyce Gabiola will be the new Council liaison to the Board.

III. CONTENT UPDATE

- A. Issue [85.1](#) was published in late June. Production for issue 85.2 is underway. New content is now being slated for issue 86.1.
- B. Reviews Editors – Rose Buchanan and Stephanie Luke
 - Since January 2022, the Reviews Portal has published 12 reviews (!). There is a lot of interest in pop culture and media as it relates to archives. The Reviews Editors have also introduced some different formats such as interview and Q&A-style reviews and multi-author reviews. Aiming to be more of a conversation, some joint authored one or pairing reviews with roundtable discussions.
 - The Reviews Editors had a large response after putting out a call for reviews last year and plan to do so again. They have also begun cross-promoting the Reviews Portal in their introduction to the reviews section in the journal as a way to boost their presence.

- The Reviews Editor and Cooper Cary met with Rand Jimerson and John Fleckner about a proposed intergenerational conversation in which early and mid-career archivists take a look back and engage with seminal articles by Fleckner. This retrospective series came out of a book proposal to the Publications Board, but , and doing a retrospective piece on what continues to be important.
 - One Board member suggested that a name change for the portal might be timely as the focus of the reviews seems to be changing—would someone think to go to “portal” for “conversations”?
- If Board members have suggestions for review topics or reviewers, please let them know via this [Google form](#).

To Do #1 (Cooper Cary, Buchanan and Luke): Revisit Reviews Portal name.

III. SPECIAL SECTION FOR 86.2 - Sumayya Ahmed and Rebecca Hankins

- A. Ahmed and Hankins proposed a special section on archives and libraries of the Middle East and North Africa, to be published in 86.2. The call for submissions would go out immediately with a deadline of February 2023. (See [Proposal and Timeline](#).)
- B. The Board approved both the special section and the description of the call for articles and case studies. The call has been published [here](#) and will be shared via SAA’s networks and Board members’ networks.

IV. A*CENSUS II FRAMEWORK – Amy Cooper Cary

- A. Cooper Cary and Christian have been in conversations with Erin Passehl Stoddart, liaison to the A*CENSUS II working group and CODA, about publication of the report and subsequent analysis. The proposed plan is
 - 86.1 (Spring/Summer 2023) will feature an introduction, initial survey, and preliminary report,
 - 86.2 (Fall/Winter 2023) and 87.1 (Spring/Summer 2024) will feature clusters of themed articles on analysis of the report, and
 - 87.2 will feature articles garnered from an open call to invite people to write from the data.
- B. The working group is considering how to approach that initial identification of authors for issues 86.2 and 87.1, and hopes to work with the Editorial Board who can suggest potential people to reach out to.
 - One Board member suggested that it’d be interesting to have current students reflect on the data that is relevant to education and early career members.
- C. Ithaca S+R will publish two reports: one on the All Archivists Survey (released in August) and one on the Archival Administrators Survey (released later in the fall). The actual deposit of the data into the SAA Dataverse is projected to happen in fall for the first survey and winter for the second survey.

V. EDITORIAL BOARD AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

- A. Board Participation in [SAA Sections](#)
- B. Board will host a Conversation Lounge on Thursday August 25, 5:30 p.m. ET.

VI. PREVIOUS TO-DO'S

TO DO #2 (Amy Cooper Cary): Finalize language for opt-in on reviewer identity in Editorial Manager to share with the Board; send to SAA staff for implementation.

TO DO #3 (Cooper Cary, Hering, Hung, Lacher-Feldman, and Matienzo): Cooper Cary will connect with members to create a bibliography about what's been written about the journal's and SAA's history. [Goal for 86:1]

TO DO #4 (Cooper Cary): Review formatting of the rubric so that visual clues encourage explanation rather than brief comments, and write an introduction for the rubric which stresses the purpose and value of the responses, especially for reviewers not on the Board. Board members can send examples of other good rubrics or suggestions for additional/revised questions to Cooper Cary.

TO DO #5 (Cooper Cary): Develop a draft set of questions for the readership survey.