

November 30, 2016

Dr. Edmund P. Russell
Vice President, Research
American Historical Association Council

c/o Boston University
History Department (Office 302)
226 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Dr. Russell:

As chair of the Society of American Archivists Archival History Section (SAA-AHS), I write to you in your role as Vice President for the Research Division of the American Historical Association.

The purpose of our affinity group is to advocate for and promote an understanding of the history of the American archival profession. As a professional cohort, we support and share many of the same objectives as the AHA's Research Division, including an interest in promoting historical scholarship, preserving historical documents and artifacts, ensuring equal and open access to information, and fostering the dissemination of information about historical records and research. Currently, AHS has 855 participants. We would welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Research Division of the AHA on suitable projects. Such collaborations could include:

- Advocacy for public support and/or legislative action on behalf of archives, archivists, and cultural history organizations;
- Efforts to address issues of archival preservation and historical documentation;
- Identifying and cultivating individuals who hold membership in both SAA and AHA;
- Learning more about the current archival, records management, and digital curation needs of AHA members and identifying resources to address these needs

We are also happy to serve as a point of contact with SAA if and when the need arises. We would welcome the opportunity to hold thoughtful conversations on this topic. We can be reached at EricStoykovich@gmail.com and kelly.kolar@mtsu.edu.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric Stoykovich (University of Maryland), SAA-AHS Chair (2016-2017)

Dr. Kelly Kolar (Middle Tennessee State), SAA-AHS Vice-Chair (2016-2017) and Chair-elect (2017-2018)