Acquisitions and Appraisal Section Meeting

Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

Meeting Notes

**Thursday, August 4th 2016, 3:30-5:00 PM**

**Room: Salon C**

**Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30303**

**Business meeting: 3:30-4:00pm; Panel discussion: 4:00-5:00pm**

Business Meeting

* Call to order and introduction of current Section leadership (Jaimie Quaglino)
  + Jaimie introduced current steering committee members (Jaimie Quaglino, Gates Archive, Chair; Bethany Anderson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Vice Chair/Chair-elect; Laura Sullivan, Iowa State University, Immediate Past Chair; Lily Troia, Simmons College, Intern; Denise Rayman, IUPUI, Web Liaison; Steering Committee Members: Marcella Huggard, University of Kansas; Cliff Hight, Kansas State University; Mat Darby, University of Georgia; and Heather Soyka, DataONE.
* Current activities and projects
  + Bylaws revision (Jaimie Quaglino)
    - Section members voted to approve the new bylaws during the recent election
    - The bylaws revisions rectified inconsistencies in the language; clarified processes and concerns regarding elections; formalized Section web intern responsibilities; and ensured that Section duties are shared across the steering committee
    - The revised bylaws will be sent to Council for final approval
  + Member Survey (Bethany Anderson)
    - On June 15, 2016, the steering committee sent out a survey to members to gauge how the Section is engaging with members, find out if there are specific topics that members would like to see us address, and gather information about current acquisitions and appraisal policies and practices
    - The Committee received 30 responses total
    - Responses included requests for discussions about appraisal at small institutions; capstone appraisal of email, scientific data, and big data; and born-digital appraisal. The steering committee will be using these responses to determine the committee’s initiatives and projects, including Twitter chats or other opportunities for engagement over the coming year
  + Social Media Committee (Bethany Anderson & Mat Darby)
    - The social media committee, including Bethany, Mat, Heather Soyka, and Lily Troia, have worked to organize a number of projects over the last year, including a series on our blog called “Third Thursday Conversations” wherein each month we pose a few questions relating to a specific topic and ask people to submit responses directly on the blog. Third Thursday engaged with members on a number of different topics, such as legal issues with appraisal, new opportunities for appraisal, asking people how they learn about appraisal and, balancing appraisal with donor expectations, and born-digital appraisal
    - Section intern Lily Troia organized a joint Twitter chat with the SNAP roundtable on May 25
    - The section conducted several interviews on different appraisal topics which we featured on our blog, including with Sarah Barsness on born-digital appraisal at the Minnesota Historical Society and Adriana Cuervo on acquisitions and appraisal in a music archives
    - The section also in recent history launched a blog, a Twitter account, and a Facebook page. It currently has over 1,000 followers on Twitter
  + Best Practices Subcommittee (Cliff Hight & Marcella Huggard)
    - The subcommittee was recently created to help develop and share relevant resources on archival selection and appraisal and to help keep best practices and standard current and updated
    - In addition to Cliff and Marcella, the subcommittee also includes a few external members, including Mark Greene, Courtney Mumma, Linda Whitaker, and Rachel Rosenfeld (who will begin her term on the subcommittee after the annual meeting)
    - Members can send copies of their institution’s collection development or acquisitions policies to Marcella and Cliff; they are still collecting data and especially looking for examples of non-academic policies
    - Abandoned Property Project: the Section has hosted a resource on its microsite since 2009 related to unclaimed property laws; the page needed updates to reflect current laws and fix dead links to nonexistent websites. In July 2016, the subcommittee revised and updated the page on the microsite so that links to states’ current abandoned property laws
* Election results (Laura Sullivan) and outgoing officers (Jaimie Quaglino)
  + Incoming: Cliff Hight was elected to the Vice Chair/Chair-elect position; Section intern Lily Troia was elected to the steering committee; the position for the second steering committee position was tied (and runoff election is held during the meeting, see below)
  + Outgoing: Laura Sullivan, Immediate Past Chair and Mat Darby, steering committee member
* Runoff election (Jaimie Quaglino)
  + Due to tie during the election, a runoff election was held during the business meeting; attendees were given copies of candidates Julie May and Mat Darby’s statements
  + Election results: Julie May is elected to the steering committee following the tally of votes
* Remarks from Council Liaison, Lisa Mangiafico
  + Change to affinity groups, removing distinction between roundtables and sections - all groups might become “sections” but this has not been finalized; and standardizing bylaws
  + New discussion list and community software to be implemented (forthcoming)
  + Brief on archives and the environment was approved, which came out of Project ARCC
  + Courtney Chartier will be the new Council Liaison for the Section
* Future Business (Jaimie Quaglino & Bethany Anderson)
  + The results of the member survey will inform some of Section’s project over the coming year, including ideas for Twitter chats and interviews for the blog
* Announcements from the floor, motions, etc. (Jaimie Quaglino)
  + Asked if there were any questions, comment, etc. None indicated.

Panel Discussion

Transitioned to the panel discussion. Three panelists responded to an appraisal and acquisitions-related scenario and explained how they would, based on their particular area(s) of expertise, approach the scenario including any specific appraisal frameworks they’d look to as part of that process. Panelists included:

* **Doug Boyd** (University of Kentucky) on acquiring and appraising oral history interviews
* **Melissa Hubbard** (Case Western Reserve University) on acquiring and appraising from a social justice perspective
* **Michael Shallcross** (Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan) on acquiring and appraising born-digital material