

**Society of American Archivists
Cultural Heritage Working Group Meeting (MINUTES)
Wednesday, August 14, 2013
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Hilton Riverside New Orleans
Room: Jasperwood**

Attendees: (Members) Jennifer O'Neal, Kelvin White, Helen Wong Smith, Donna McCrea, Marisol Ramos, Doug Cox, Beth Joffrion; (Non-Members) Rachel Lyons (Jazz Cultural Heritage), Ann (National Archives: Denver)

1. Welcome (Kelvin White and Jennifer O'Neal, Co-Chairs)
2. Introduction of current and new CHWG Members (All)

New Members:

- Kim Christen, Associate Professor, Director of Digital Projects, Plateau Center for American Indian Studies, Washington State University
- Douglas Cox, Associate Law Library Professor and International Law Librarian, CUNY School of Law
- Patrick Stawski, Human Rights Archivist, Duke University

3. Review CHWG charge and purpose (Jennifer/Kelvin)
4. Review SAA Strategic Planning Assigned to CHWG (Jennifer/Kelvin)

Went over all the action plans from SAA Strategic Plan (ones that we had questions about SAA from).

5. Report of yearly activities (ie. selection of new members, website, social media initiative, etc.) (Jennifer/Kelvin)

Marisol SM Update: Social media update, fan page update, plug into twitter, also pushed to both sites, most useful to have the statistics, etc. Followers fb=82 Twitter=42. She wants to add more people, members agreed that they are willing to serve. Jennifer/Marisol will send out direction to the group. Make sure you like the page so she can add you.

Blog: Jennifer will do first post after this meeting and will update. Everyone will post and we will assign monthly so everyone has a chance to participate.

Helen Wong Smith: Recommendation, connect with Pacific Islander Library and Archive Association

6. Individual Activity Reports and Discussion (All)
7. SAA Strategic Plan: New Plan on pg. 58 of program book. Which has the high level info and goals/performance indicators. Forum tomorrow where we can give input. Send info to Dana and Helen. Here's where CHWG fits and how it can be codified in the strategic plan. Goal 3: Advancing the field. 3.1 – this is where we should be focusing; care and

best practices. CHWG will work with or identify and bring forward best practices. DUE: Done before Winter meeting. We need to send in our measurable outcomes. One or two broad high level goals. Example: Actively disseminate information to members.

8. Questions/Discussion:

Feedback from group, have Marisol put forth questions to community to get information from the broader community.

a. What are the main issues related to Cultural Heritage?

MR – Traditional Repatriation vs. Virtual Repatriation. Replevin. Property vs. Heritage (only copy available) how do you get access to it. Digital Repatriation. Reuniting collections with source communities. Deals more with ownership
DC – Who does the cultural heritage belong to you? Control and access. Tension between how culture accessed.

PS – Record creators can be individual belong to the community. Multiple levels of creator and ownership.

KW – Whole notion of ownership and control over access and sensitivity issues.

MR – Latina American Archivist: From the point of view of colonialist that informed large acquisitions in the 20th century. Why do you have this and how did you get it? Newspaper collections in Latin America at UConn, but other types of collections in Puerto Rico. Legacy of colonialism and what are our moral and ethical responsibilities. Moral and Ethical, nothing to do with property. Nobody owns the newspapers, but becomes property later on when there was war between these two countries. What is our responsibility to the materials? Example: Notre Dame repository.

KW – Pluralizing the archival paradigm. Sensitive educators. One way to make a dent. Woman from Interpretation as well.

MR – Institution needs to support as well. How to get this information out to those in the field (administrators and practitioners). Do this through a basic statement and guidelines.

BJ – Bring source communities into that dialogue. Include the communities.

BJ – Repatriation. What are the alternatives to repatriation? Such as digitization.

DM – Various formats is an issues. Much broader than the regular. Ie. recordings, songs, intangible, etc.

DC – Heritage definition

PS – changing characteristics of an object that is always changing and evolving. Big problem. CONTEXT big issue.

KW – Museum with a pot, if this person was here today what would they say it is? Is it a Pot? Or does the Museum make it something it is not.

RL – Music and audio and community of musicians and on top of it are other layers, audio recordings. Also with jazz festival in terms of ownership what happens at event, youtube channel, always looking at our Archive clash between cultural and entertainment world. Music booked is New Orleans and how is that brought together and packaged. Barrier=what is cultural and what's property? More about cultural identity. Diversity of people who knock on her door for video footage, generally what she starts with is that she doesn't own it, it has

various owners. First threshold is with the musician. Balancing with identity, does the musician want to be associated with this use? Larger question.

KW – comes back to definition issue. Culture vs. community.

BJ – In indigenous use that extends to how knowledge should or shouldn't be used.

PS – Human rights groups, Argentina – we don't want American researchers here. If we have time for you, maybe, but usage is limited. Mission of repository or larger group. Research agreement: you will never support the military. Issues of Memory and knowledge. Repository that discovered Human Rights – or Human Rights Issue that discovered Archives.

In these countries these memories are still so fresh, in US there's been more time to forget. System that's been codified, but there are still pockets and groups that are saying we can't still do this. Needs to be sensitivity because of these issues.

BJ – Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Africa and Canada)

KW – Identify other knowledge domains that we need to figure out what's going on? What are different approaches to accomplish this work?

MR – Creators control. See the outsiders as the enemy. From the Latino community they create own community centers. Hispanic Genealogical Society. They don't trust others. But they don't necessarily don't know how to do it. Post Custodial model.

KW – Women's archive collections study. Are women actually in the Archives or not. Or are Archivists not describing properly? Comprehensive study.

Presentation at Historians of Women's History – but they don't know what the archivist does. "Perceived perceptions." Book publication. Historians use to be archivists. Huge divide. This is what historians this archivists do actually.

Backlog and financial woes.

Create Summary Points.

b. What are the main venues for Cultural Heritage issues/discussion?

- SAA
- ALA: Rare Books Manuscripts Section, etc. (Diversity Section)
Affiliated Groups, be specific, (Beth)
- SALAM (Marisol)
- Library of Congress (Jen)
- AASLH (Beth)
- IPinCH (Jen, Kim)
- UNESCO
- WIPO
- ATALM (Beth, Kelvin)
- ACRL
- ICA (SAE): Get involved in Human Rights Working Group (Kelvin)
- Museum and Anthropology AAM (Kim/Jennifer): Are there separate groups within that focus on these issues.

- US Committee of the Blue Shield
- Lawyers Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property (Doug)
- Archivists without Borders (Based in Spain)
- NAI: National Association for Interpretation (Park Service, Native American Groups w/ and international focus)
- Association of Canadian Archivists: Special Interest Groups (
- Advocating with funders (training and educational needs) (Beth)
- NWDA (Jen, Beth)
- SAA sent someone to WIPO but they got a grant to go.
- AMIA: Association of Moving Image Archivists
- IFLA
- What are other disciplines doing? Be more inclusive.

c. Action plan/Next steps:

9. Action Plan for 2013-2014

- a. Conferences (Kelvin/Jennifer)
- b. Publications (All)
- c. Case Studies (Beth/Jennifer)
- d. Bibliography (Marisol/Jennifer)
- e. SAA Glossary (Kelvin) – old updated terms and new terms
- f. Social Media (Marisol)
- g. Select Intern for Assistance (Kelvin)
- h. Other ideas and suggestions (All)
- i. Monthly Communications (Kelvin)

Patrick and Doug will review the list and will get back to us on what we want to work on.

To help keep the monthly communication going – have an email? On-going conferences, etc. Every month report back or submit names to contribute to the blog. Monthly communications. Make an internal blog, as well, on internal site.

We will discuss the guidelines/statement at a later date after we've done the definitions

10. Suggested Sessions to Attend at SAA:

- Thursday, August 15, 1:30 PM, Session 208: “ Native Americans and Route 66: Hidden Stories of the Mother Road”
- Saturday, August 17, 8:00 AM, Session 603: “To Protect and Connect: Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Heritage Material in the Archives”
- Saturday, August 17, 9:45 AM: “Displaced Archives: Current Controversies and a New Initiative”

11. Other Business

12. Adjournment