

**Committee on Public Policy
Business Meeting
Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting
Washington, D.C.
August 15, 2018**

IPWG Updates:

- Jan 1, public domain begins to roll forward again.
- Term of copyright has not been extended.
- Nothing on the docket legislation-wise
- Stalled: Classics Act, about sound recordings, seeks to bring pre 1972 recordings under federal copyright law. Looked like it would get passed. Still might pass, but less likely the closer we get to midterms. Not horrible for us, but would put anything before 1923 under the variety of state laws. Opposite bill, Access Act, is dead
- Next for IPWG, endorsement of protocols for Native American archival material, there are sticky points between copyright and the protocols/interaction between western and nonwestern ideas of intellectual ownership. Will review previous documents/comments and propose a gloss or some other document that may help mediate/elucidate where the points are that may be difficult to reconcile.
- Another best practices doc by Peter Yassi and Brandon Butler re: preservation of software. Draft due beginning of September. Hope to get SAA's endorsement by ARL meeting at end of Sept.

SAA/COSA/NAGARA Joint Working Group Updates:

- None.
- Brief group discussion about opportunities to improve effectiveness of collaboration.

IMLS Coalition Updates:

- Discussion: Will part of it be an opportunity to reevaluate the funding structure within the organization and make archives more explicit? Dennis thinks this is an interesting opportunity. Could it be a more valuable place to concentrate our efforts on advocacy and funding? Where should SAA focus?

Archives on the Hill Debrief:

- Planning and execution. What did we observe? How did things go? What could we do better? What went really well?
- Webinars were great. It was easy and smooth regarding someone else planning and participants showing up at the appointed time and place. Some feeling that the language we were given wasn't specific enough for some conversations. Met the goal of getting people into offices and reducing anxiety over doing this work. Another goal: beginning relationship building. Introducing ourselves to reps in the interest of being able to maintain contact and increase influence over time. One gap to improve on next time: data gathering. Challenging to probe

NHPRC and IMLS websites. Allow more time and perhaps have a more experienced intern. Know in advance what data we actually need.

- February and October are best times to approach congresspeople. Regional representatives. Someone who can bring others along with them. Train by doing. Hook people up when there's an action alert. Can be about any issue. SAA can fund a cadre to the National Humanities Alliance visits every year.

Planning for Next Year:

Group did a modified version of the 25:10 crowdsourcing activity from the Liberating Structures website (<http://www.liberatingstructures.com>). Because of time constraints, attendees were asked to write on an index card one realistic, actionable thing that, in their opinion, would increase the effectiveness of advocacy within SAA. We then shared our ideas as a group.

- Do an annual continuing ed workshop on advocacy which includes an overview of the content of SAA's agenda, examples of successes in the past, strategies and tactics for advocating, and some role play
- Develop a 5-7 year plan for COPP. Consider longer term tactical goals to expand impact, develop relationships on the Hill, expand training in advocacy, disseminate position statements, etc.
- Advocate to have someone become responsible for all advocacy efforts by SAA as part of their primary responsibility
- Convene a group from the AOH attendees, COPP, and Council to identify a plan to move forward on legislative advocacy
 - Identify short term/immediate goals/actions by October, as well as long term
 - Identify data needs
 - Legislation, current and future
 - Training
- Call the Archives on the Hill participants expert advocates and encourage SAA members who want to give it a try to contact those experts for district visits and letter writing campaigns, etc.
- SAA should comment on draft legislation which impacts archives (with intent to build relationships with legislators). How would we track this? NCH?
- Have annual COPP meeting in DC to build relationships with key legislators and federal agencies
- Help members become comfortable with regular engagement in driving forward the advocacy work of SAA
 - Issue brief workshop next year
 - Big dream: have an advocate staffer
- Eliminate siloes between organizations doing archival work within SAA. Is there opportunity to reevaluate the current structure of advocacy in the organization?

Joint Meeting with COPA:

- Discussion of perceived need to increase collaboration between committees to leverage expertise of each and extent reach.