

**SAA Committee on Public Policy
Conference Call
January 17, 2018**

Meeting Notes

COPP Membership

Concern expressed that COPP is down two members, including the Vice-Chair. Agreed that filling these vacancies is critical.

August Hill Event

SAA-CoSA-NAGARA-RAAC have agreed that federal funding will be the primary issue, and it is likely that any secondary issues (i.e. net neutrality, copyright) will be organization specific.

SAA will take the lead in crafting a one-pager regarding funding based on previous issue briefs and background documents.

The intention is to hire a staff person/intern to help with logistics (i.e. set up appointments) who will be based at SAA's offices. This will hopefully be done by March. Organizations will seek board input/agreement to fund this position.

Preliminary plans for the Hill Event include utilizing the NAGARA's staff offices near the Capitol as base of operations, including as a way-station throughout the day if participants have down time between appointments. The morning will include an opportunity for participants to gather and get on the same page before heading out to meetings and will conclude with a wrap-up/readout of visits.

Between now and March organizations will identify which of their members should be asked to participate – i.e. Congressional reps are on the oversight & appropriations committees (<https://www.archives.gov/congress/committees.html>)

COPP members are slated to attend the National Humanities Alliance advocacy event and will bring back ideas.

SAA/COPP should also brainstorm how to encourage members who do not participate in the formal/organized Hill Event to make their own appointments with their Congressional reps.

Issue Briefs

Will begin drafting a brief on net neutrality, with an aim to submitting it to Council at its spring meeting. This will be due late March/early April depending on when Council meets.

Question raised regarding the issue of legislative and judicial records as public records and it was noted that SAA had made a statement when Justice Thurgood Marshall's papers were donated to the Library of Congress.

There was agreement to dust off the Congressional records draft brief and submit as is it to Council at its spring meeting.

Another issue was raised related to Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) records for possible follow-up.