

**Society of American Archivists
Committee on Public Awareness
Conference Call 01/08/2020, 2:00pm–3:00pm ET**

Minutes

- I. Roll Call
 - A. Kate Barbera, Teresa Brinati (SAA Staff), Chris Burns, Lynn Cowles, Vince Lee, Sami Norling, Nick Pavlik (Chair), Rachel Seale
- II. December [Meeting Minutes](#)
- III. Working Group updates
 - A. COPA microsite enhancements (Rachael W.)
 1. [2018 review of advocacy content](#)
 - a) Both Rachael Woody and Rachel Seale have put together some proposed revisions as additional and consolidated content all related to public awareness and advocacy which will be placed on the COPA microsite. Nick, Rachael W, and Rachel S will meet this Friday to review the documents and work with Abigail and Matt Black at SAA to revise microsite with the new content.
 - b) There is a [microsite folder](#) in Google Drive for 2020 with 2 documents with the proposed revisions. One is content about American Archives Month and the other is about SAA Resources and Toolkits. Also provide more info on members, minutes, and other relevant documentation.
 - B. Highlighting SAA member stories, i.e., *Why do you love being an archivist?* (Nick for Anna)
 1. Quick update from Anna via Nick- Anna and others have contacted 8 archivists to ask them a response to the question “Why do you love being an archivist?” They will be incorporating these responses into graphics and providing the text to Abigail to preschedule into Twitter and Instagram accounts for SAA. Those will be live on the social media account on February 14 (Valentine’s Day). Anna and team will be monitoring Twitter and Instagram accounts, so we can retweet and respond as needed. The responses of the 8 archivists will go to the email address for ArchivesAware, Rachel S will forward those responses to Anna.
 - C. Promoting blog series ideas (Nick for Anna)
 1. [List of possible groups/sections/organizations for promoting blog series](#)
 2. No further updates from the last call. Essentially the current updates are captured in the December 2019 minutes.
 - D. National media outreach/Press releases (Vince, Nick)
 1. Backstory Radio Podcast (Kate, Lynn)- this would also be a press release

- a) Update from Lynn is that Ed Ayers is very interested and they are currently waiting on the producer to see where they can place them on the schedule. This project is a “go”. They would like to schedule this in October 2020 for American Archives month, which would be preferable.
2. No further updates on Press releases at this point. We are reviewing the documentation (resources, templates, etc) since our last call in November 2019. Vince would start drafting a Press Release for the 100th Anniversary celebrating the Ratification of the 19th Amendment. Nick would start drafting a press release on “What Archivists do”. Third press release draft would be on the 100th Anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance. The production of these press release drafts will be in production in the near term and throughout the spring. We will reconvene and setup a call time at the end of January to check in and talk about the status of these ongoing projects.

IV. Activities at Archives*Records 2020 (All)

- A. **Finding Aid to My Soul Storytelling event** (all in favor)
 1. Chris is onboard to help volunteer to plan the event and also bring Micaela back to host
 2. This is the right time to reach out to Micaela and get on her schedule for the storytelling workshop and to host our storytelling event per Chris and Teresa
- B. **Longer/Full day storytelling workshop-possible charge for attendees?**
 1. Possible concern is if we charged for a longer/full day workshop would there be the same interest/attendance, because it may involve additional costs for attendees and hotel stay, etc. (Chris, Teresa, Rachel S, and Kate will work on pursuing this).
- C. **Media Training Workshop as follow-up to Jason Steinhauer**
 1. Concern is with cost/ budget of SAA and is this the right time to pursue it?
 2. Other idea is this could be a training for a small cohort/cadre who volunteer to be media speakers for the archives (train the trainers approach)
 3. Potential options: Revisit with Jason to tailor his workshop on media training or approach the one of the other organizations who previously bid on the workshop to tailor it specifically to media training. Teresa can share with Nick the other orgs who bid on the workshop and place it on Google Drive.
 4. Possibly investigate firms in Chicago that we could use.
 5. Nick, Teresa, and Vince have expressed interest in investigating the possibilities and costs from Chicago firms. Nick will reach out to schedule a separate phone call to follow-up on this
- D. **COPA Tabling at SAA 2020 near lobby and registration (We can determine this at later date)**
 1. Suggestion for a new possible
 2. Archivist Emojis (possible to pursue)

V. *ArchivesAWARE!* Blog (Rachel S.)

- A. [Calendar](#)
- B. Rachel has updated calendar which shows what’s coming up. Rachael Woody has a post scheduled for next week, Rachel S has a draft from her for the series “There’s an Archivist for That”, possible date of publication week of January 21st. Some folks

contacted Rachel S via the ArchivesAware email with offers to contribute content. Rachael Woody continues to enlist and gather folks who have contributed to the blog. Nick has a post that he's working on with Samantha Cross, archivist who writes about archivists in pop culture. Has a running series on SAA's website. Will hopefully be submitting a post next week.

VI. Other COPA business (All, if applicable)

A. None

VII. Standing Updates

A. Joint Working Groups

1. CoSA/NAGARA/SAA (Nancy or Nick)

- a) Last call devoted to issue of US Citizenship and Immigration Services Office proposed increased fees for accessing records relating immigration and citizenship status. SAA has published a statement since the call communicating their concern on the issue, encouraging that the records be transferred to the National Archives and Records Administrations where the records could be accessed more easily and at a nominal cost.
- b) The budget for FY2020 included healthy increases for the budget for IMLS and NHPRC. Funding for NARA was reduced.

2. COPP/COPA/RAAC/I&A (Vince)

- a) No update since last call in November 2019. Joanna is putting out a call via email to see if there are updates or activities from the group in between or 2 calls every 6 months. Now might be a good time to check in with the groups to see if there are new news, updates, initiatives they are working on.

B. Council (Nancy or Brenda)

1. Per Teresa-2020 SAA slate of candidates has been approved by Council and posted at the end of December 2019. Courtney Chartier of Emory University and Joyce Gabiola (unaffiliated) are running for Vice President/President Elect. For Council Janet Carleton of Ohio University, Adriana Cuervo of Rutgers, Stephen Curley of National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition, Derek Mosley of Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History, Rachel Winston of The University of Texas at Austin, and Katherine Wisser of Simmons University School of Information are running for council. Any eligible member of SAA maybe placed on ballot by submitting a petition signed by 50 individual members and must be received by SAA by February 10th 2020. You can volunteer for SAA Archival Compensation Task Force, council approved in December. The groups identifies issue related to archival compensation-benefits, salary negotiations, and working conditions. The study and evaluations of archival compensation in its entirety, using new and old data generated on the subject, creating and disseminating an archival compensation survey to SAA members, and exploring feasibility of creating a standing body within SAA to

liaison and communicate with non-archival entities such as Bureau of Labor and Statistics and Regulatory Affairs Society, etc. Deadline for putting your name in the hat for this is Friday, January 24, 2020. Yesterday, SAA put out a statement on the targeting of cultural heritage sites for destruction, in response to President Trump's response that Iranian cultural heritage sites could be targeted as part of a military strike.

C. COPP (Sarah)

1. No COPP Update, but Nick applauds Sarah and her team to mobilize to get statement on the targeting of cultural heritage sites created and approved by Council in a short period of time and that SAA takes a stand on the issue. COPP has also been working on questions for the US Presidential Candidates to address for the primaries- the questions may currently be vetted by Council. COPA may be able signal boost these questions to the various groups and also on the ArchivesAware Blog.

Next call: Wednesday, February 5th, 2 PM EST