

**Society of American Archivists  
Committee on Public Awareness  
Conference Call 07/08/2020, 1:00pm–2:00pm EST**

**Minutes**

- I. Roll Call
  - A. Kate, Nick, Teresa, Chris, Lynn, Vince, Sarah, Anna, Rachel S., Rachael W.
- II. [June meeting minutes](#)
  - A. No discussion.
- III. Working Group updates
  - A. Media outreach/Press releases (Vince, Nick)
    - 1. Plans to draft a press release for the women's suffrage anniversary; have something in place by the end of July.
    - 2. Kate and Lynn will officially join the working group to help with future press releases, etc.
    - 3. Use the press release for COVID as a template for future drafts.
  - B. Inaugural SAA speakers cohort (Nick)
    - 1. [Final nominee list](#)
    - 2. Contacting speakers to confirm interest
    - 3. Nancy recommended two archivists to the researcher who contacted SAA.
    - 4. Begin outreach to nominees on the list to gauge their interest.
    - 5. Nick, Vince, and Rachel S. will draft a form letter to send out to nominees.
- IV. Activities at Archives\*Records 2020 virtual conference
  - A. Storytelling Workshop + Event (Chris)
    - 1. Micaela Blei is confirmed for the storytelling workshop on August 3.
    - 2. Call to use our professional networks to spread news about the workshop; aiming for a minimum of 40 participants. There is no limit on the number of participants.
    - 3. There is a separate fee from the conference to participate. It is \$49.
      - a) People can register for the workshop and not the conference.
    - 4. The workshop will be separate from the Finding Aid to My Soul event, which will be held in October and will kick off American Archives month.
    - 5. Chris will put together a short blog post to promote the workshop.
    - 6. Question: Will storytellers for the Finding Aid to My Soul event be limited to workshop participants? Teresa will check with Micaela.
  - B. COPA business meeting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5F3DZV2>
    - 1. Does not have to be scheduled during the conference. It could be part of the pre-conference activities (before August 6-7) but it could be held later.
    - 2. Options include Zoom meeting, Zoom webinar, and conference call.

3. The meeting can be recorded and made available afterward. Teresa can confirm if livestreaming the meeting is an option.
  4. Possible agenda: annual updates, summary of activities, work plan for the coming year (Vince), promote one of the free COPA webinars.
  5. Decision: Hold the meeting via Zoom during the week of August 10 (8/10-8/14). Nick will send out a Doodle poll.
- V. COPA-sponsored webinars and other content (All)
- A. No updates. Upcoming phone call soon with the working group.
- VI. *ArchivesAWARE!* Blog (Rachel S.)
- A. [Calendar](#)
    1. Decreased summer schedule. Pandemic is also causing a decrease in submissions.
    2. Possible pre-conference post: flag any awareness-related sessions or activities.
    3. Idea: repurpose relevant ArchivalOutlook articles for the blog.
  - B. Editor for 2021-2022
    1. No new editor. Contact Rachel S. if interested. Rough deadline is August (circa COPA business meeting). COPA may assign the blog to one of its members if no one volunteers.
    2. HUGE THANK YOU to Rachel S. for serving as editor this year!
    3. Thank you to COPA, especially Rachael W., for contributions!
- VII. Educational programming re: Ahmad v. University of Michigan (Nick)
- A. Brought to COPA's attention by COPP.
  - B. A researcher took the University of Michigan to court over restricted material.
  - C. Should SAA be a signatory? COPP is recommending that SAA not sign the brief. Instead focus on educating and sharing information about the case.
  - D. Ideas for educational activities: write a blog post for COPA, host a webinar in partnership with COPA.
  - E. COPP working on a report related to their deliberations on the case. Council will have it to reference moving forward.
  - F. Council will need to sign off on the educational activities before COPA/COPP move forward.
- VIII. 2020-21 early career member (Nick)
- A. Rachel S. is the new chair elect (2020-2022).
  - B. Lynn and Anna are reappointed as members for 2020-2023 term.
  - C. A new regular member will be joining us, Leon Miller (2020-2023).
  - D. An early career member will be joining us, Kristianna (Kristi) Chanda (2020-2021).
  - E. New appointments will be officially seated and take effect in August.
  - F. Congratulations!!
- IX. Other COPA business (All, if applicable)
- A. None.

X. Standing Updates

A. COPP (Sarah)

1. Working on a draft of an initial brief about judicial records.
2. Planning their annual business meeting.

B. Joint Working Groups

1. CoSA/NAGARA/SAA (Nancy or Nick)
  - a) Update will be sent via email.
2. COPP/COPA/RAAC/I&A (Vince)
  - a) Updates will be sent via email.
  - b) From Vince via email: "There has been no update since our last joint call back in May."

C. Council (Nancy or Brenda)

1. Council approved the fiscal 2020-2021 budget.
2. SAA is running a deficit of \$54,000. Due to the pandemic. SAA also anticipates a decline in membership.
3. Measures taken by SAA to address the deficit: zeroed out all travel expenses (eg. no in-person council meetings), moving to digital only versions of all periodicals, suspended the pilot project to fund section initiatives, suspended the search for a vacant SAA position.
4. SAA signed onto an ALA spearheaded relief fund, which will be backed by IMLS. No updates yet on legislation.
5. There is a town hall listening session coming up on SAA's finances in the next few weeks.

**Next call: SAA virtual conference, August 2020, date TBA**