

**SAA Membership Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 10, 2010, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

In attendance:

Teresa Yoder
Carla Zimmerman
J. Gordon Daines
Renna Tuten
Teresa Mora
Kate Theimer
Terry Baxter
Rachel Vagts
Bertram Lyons
Brenda Lawson
Adriana Cuervo
Tanya Zanish-Belcher
James Roth
Aimee Felker
Jacqueline Reid
Scott Schwartz
Brian Doyle (Staff)

Zanish-Belcher called the meeting and called for approval of the agenda and the 2009 meeting minutes. PASSED.

Zanish-Belcher described the restructuring of the committee, which was followed by a short discussion about the rationale (i.e., the need for the committee to address broad membership issues while continuing its efforts vis-à-vis the Key Contacts Program) and the appointments process.

Current Subcommittees:

- Key Contact Subcommittee
- Mentoring Program Subcommittee

Announcements of Committee-Sponsored Events

- New Member and Key Contact Breakfasts
- Networking Café
- Career Center
- Mentor-Protégé Meet-and-Greet

Navigator Program

Currently has 12 pairings.

Strategic Issues for Membership

Proposed Dues Increase

SAA Treasurer Aimee Felker provided a report to the committee. The SAA Finance Committee charged by the Council to conduct a three-year periodic review of dues. The committee found that the Society needs a dues increase to sustain its operations and recommended a graduated increase to be implemented over three years.

In following discussion, the committee questioned and discussed whether the dues categories themselves adequately cover the full range of salaries earned by archivists. Reid pointed out that having the highest category set at \$75k risks sending a message to resource allocators that this is the highest salary level worthy of archives professionals.

Send Council talking points on dues out to the Membership Committee immediately following meeting.

Send talking points on benefits to A&A, Facebook, etc?

Electronic voting for annual business meeting

The Council is charging a subgroup to develop options and recommendations for enabling all-member participation in the Annual Membership Meeting.

Proposed Constitutional amendment to the dues grace period

Doyle provided a report on the background to this issue, which was followed by a short discussion of various considerations, including operations and eligibility for Fellowship.

Institutional membership—issues and discussion

The Council is referring to the committee several questions regarding the nature of institutional membership, specifically as they relate to benefits of primary contacts. A report to the Council is requested by February 2011.

Broader issues related to participation, diversity → possible survey

Review of Past Year--Short Reports and Discussion Points

- Gordon Daines was appointed liaison to Mentoring Program Subcommittee for 2010-2011.
- Adriana Cuervo provided a report on the Key Contact Program and mentioned that she has appointed Laurie Gemmill as District Representative for District 5.
- Doyle to investigate posting a graphic map of the KC districts.
- Renna Tuten provided a report on the Career Center.
- Vagts and Doyle reported on student surveys that were conducted a couple years ago and the findings. This was followed by a discussion as to whether the committee should continue to focus attention on student member issues.
- Jamie Roth and Teresa Yoder, Mentoring Subcommittee
 - 39 matches in 2009-2010
 - 167 matches in 2008-2009
 - A big difference resulted in the different ways that applications to the program are now solicited and the fact that member status is now verified in advance.
 - Responsibilities for work were distributed to a subcommittee of five instead of one single representative—i.e., Yoder.
 - What to do for the future?
 - Utilize an online application similar to ALA Mentor.
 - There was general support for this concept and a sense that this is a smart use of organizational and volunteer resources.

Diversity Committee

Baxter reported that the Council has charged the Diversity Committee to develop a proposal for a Mosaic Scholarship Program. A second important issue concerns trying to enhance member participation, particularly in relation to committee service (e.g., remote meeting participation). Beaumont requested suggestions (by January 2011) on how the Annual Meeting schedule might be adjusted. Finally, Baxter described the concept of the two committees conducting a joint survey, with the goal of having results available for analysis by Chicago 2011.

Broader issues

The meeting concluded with a discussion about the need for SAA to investigate options for remote participation in the Annual Meeting. Theimer and Baxter both expressed the concern that inability to participate in the meeting is an equity issue that disenfranchises members whose institutions don't pay for travel.

Doyle: What are the most important contact points on which SAA should

direct its attention in terms of providing remote participation opps?

Theimer: These are questions that should be asked of the members → survey

Roth: Is SAA getting too big? Should we be investigating “mini-conference” opportunities in cooperation with the regional associations? Gordon Daines: The Western Roundtable (which occurs every four years) would be an excellent opportunity to do this.