

## SAA Mentoring Program Subcommittee

Report to the Membership Committee by Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Alison Stankrauff and Kate Dundon

August 7, 2014

### Administering the Mentorship Program

The following members are rotating off the Mentoring Program Subcommittee in 8/2014:

- Alison Stankrauff, Co-Chair
- Michelle Gachette, member
- Melissa Gonzales, member
- Elizabeth Slomba, member
- Anne Thomason, member

The following SAA members have agreed to join Subcommittee starting 8/2014:

- Mike Zaidman, Co-Chair
- Andrea Gietzen, member
- Alexandra Orchard, member
- Jeremy Brett, member
- Devhra Bennett-Jones, member

As of August 7, 2014, there were 96 Protégés and 95 Mentor volunteers active in the program (191 participants total). Of these, there are 5 Protégés and 9 Mentors waiting to be matched. Of the 95 Mentors, 86 are currently matched and 1 Mentor currently mentors more than one Protégé. At this time, we aim to match Protégés with Mentors within two weeks of application.

Efforts in this behalf on the part of the Subcommittee in the past year include:

- Reviewing and updating the database Protégés and Mentors to identify matches and manage information about participants.
- Contacting recently "expired" Mentors to see if they are interested in being matched with another Protégé.
- Submitting calls to the memberships of various SAA sections and roundtables for Mentors, including the Fellows listserv.
- Clarifying the Mentoring Program workflow to include a step to address unresponsive Protégés and Mentors.
- Updating of the Mentoring page on the SAA website (<http://www2.archivists.org/membership/mentoring>).

### Defining the Program and Other Substantive Tasks

The subcommittee met via conference call on 11/7/2013 and 12/12/2013 to check in about various projects the Committee had undertaken for the 2013/2014 year.

The Subcommittee discussed several ideas for celebrating National Mentoring Month (January) in conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the SAA Mentoring Program (started in 1994).

Co-Chair Kate Dundon composed a blog post for Off the Record to highlight this commemorative month, and promote the Program.

(<http://offtherecord.archivists.org/2014/01/16/celebrating-national-mentoring-month/>)

There was significant discussion amongst the Subcommittee about the role of the Mentoring Subcommittee in the ARL/SAA Mosaic Scholarship program. The Co-Chairs met via a conference call on 12/4/2013 with our SAA Council Liaison, Terry Baxter, SAA director Nancy Beaumont, and SAA President Danna Bell-Russel to discuss the possibility of the Mentoring Program connecting with the ARL/SAA Mosaic Scholarship program. It was decided that while there is no formal role for the Mentoring Program in this program, the Co-Chairs were invited to participate in the 2014 ARL/SAA Mosaic Scholarship Program Leadership Forum in order to promote the Mentoring program to the Mosaic Fellows.

At the request of the Membership Committee, the Co-Chairs crafted official Guidelines for the Mentoring Program (available on the Mentoring Program microsite:

<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/mentoring-program-subcommittee/mentoring-program-guidelines>).

#### Ongoing Issues/ Goals for the Upcoming Year

- Continue to foster meaningful mentoring relationships between SAA members by matching Mentors with Protégés and soliciting Mentor volunteers via group listservs and personal connections.
- Analyze the less favorable anecdotal responses from the 2012-2013 Mentoring Program survey, and discuss how we can address these concerns.
- As recommended by the 2014 Membership Committee Chair, build on the 2012-2013 Mentoring Program survey by gathering more quantifiable data with a new version of the survey.
- Develop a step in the workflow in which a Mentoring Program member checks in on mentoring partnerships periodically to see if the connection is going well. This point of contact would provide an opportunity for the Subcommittee to disseminate the survey and receive feedback on the Program.
- Add a checkbox to the SAA Membership Form to indicate interest in serving as a mentor - for both new SAA members and for renewing SAA members.
- The Subcommittee also hopes to continue to engage in conversation with SAA groups on furthering the call for diversity in the profession, and how the Mentoring Program can support this effort.

Submitted by Kate Dundon, SAA Mentoring Program Co-Chair - August 12, 2014.