

NAAS May Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 9, 2022

4:00–5:00 p.m. EST

1. Introductions & Welcome Dominique Luster!

Attendees: Diana Marsh, Sam Meier, Rachel Menyuk, Jonathan Pringle, Nathan Sowry, Katherine Satriano, Selena Ortega-Chiolero, Dominique Luster, Rose Buchanan, Liza Posas, Vina Bega, Eric Hung, Melissa Stoner

2. PROJECT UPDATES

a. Twitter (Brian)

- i. Send Brian info on conferences, events, etc.

Diana: any updates? Big push will mostly be around elections

b. Facebook (Selena)

- i. Reminder to send Selena conferences, interesting events, etc.

Selena: Facebook's chugging away, good feedback on posts, mostly about positions, send Selena anything else you want to see

c. Microsite (Rachel, Diana, & Katherine)

Diana: Katherine is up and running, no other updates except call for elections:

<https://www2.archivists.org/groups/native-american-archives-section/upcoming-naas-elections-join-our-steering-committee>

d. Protocols Case Studies (Diana, Katherine, Lotus [+ Rose])

Diana: waiting game on a few things, perhaps the Autry will submit a case study but no pressure, may want to think about another push around this effort around elections outreach, send some individual emails to ask people if they want to contribute, the case studies are extremely useful to have out in the world, used by students; if you have folks in mind who have implemented the Protocols in an interesting or bureaucratic way, feel free to nudge in your networks

3. SAA UPDATES

Call for Candidates - Early May is Election Time!

Diana: bylaws say this is the time for elections; think about your networks, individuals, friends, colleagues, people in the circle who haven't officially served in the last few years

- 3 Steering Committee Members - mostly monthly meetings plus volunteer tasks

- Vice Chair/Chair Elect - role that Selena is in; 1 year in Vice Chair as “second in command” though Selena has taken on extra, in absence of Chair, Vice Chair takes on Chair roles in second year; then in third year are ex officio, Rose has been great (From Rose to Everyone 01:13 PM - And Jonathan too!! Wonderful past chair!); obviously want to encourage Indigenous folks and folks working in tribal settings though this can be difficult due to cost of SAA membership; if membership is a barrier to leadership, contact Diana to see if can get support from Council; having discussions with Diversity Committee about a more permanent line to support tribal institutions/archivists
- From Rachel Menyuk to Everyone 01:15 PM: When is the start/end of the cycle?
- From Jonathan M Pringle to Everyone 01:15 PM: Thanks Rose! That feels like forever ago:)
- Diana: annual meeting is the last meeting I will be chair, so August 2022
- Jonathan; What are the vacant positions for the steering committee again?
- Diana: three general Committee Members and Vice Chair/Chair Elect
- Rachel: Nathan and I are both in our second year (coming off)
- Diana: if you want to re-nominate yourself you can do that, previous folks can come back on, even if you're not on the steering committee, you're welcome to attend meetings/receive emails, don't have to be on steering committee to be part of the group; can use list servs utilized for other NAAS announcements, if people have other ideas about places to promote
- Katherine: we can use the SNAC list
- Sam: are we going to have an early career member? can't recall if this was discussed
- Diana: Council wanted that info back closer to April, not sure if we can't do it, early career is student or less than 3 years into field, Steering Committees can have early career members plus normal members, might still be possible by early June but let Diana know quickly if anyone is interested
- Early May call; late-May deadline; Ballots due June 1, open June 24

Call on our website:

<https://www2.archivists.org/groups/native-american-archives-section/upcoming-naas-elections-join-our-steering-committee>

Google form self-nomination:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd7ZVg4Wh0ceuiqNliv3405URiuni9NO3WaTLPNOryRoTOBDA/viewform?usp=sf_link

****Repatriation Discussion Item - Diana, Selena, Rose, etc!**

- As a reminder, Rachel, Nathan, Rose, Lotus and Selena, with the support of Dominique Luster, met and prepared a document that was presented at the SAA February Council meeting ■ SAA-NAAS Recommendation to Council_ Archival Repatriation - Google D...
 - Received two documents from Dominique and need feedback by Council meeting May 18-19

- Doc 1: [Creation of Archival Repatriation Committee](#)
- Doc 2: [Council Support Statement for Archival Repatriation](#)

Dominique: will take notes in addition to conversation

From Katherine Meyers Satriano to Everyone 01:21 PM: Sorry, have to head out to daycare pickup! Gave couple comments to Diana

Diana: since we were just talking about elections, we always struggle on finding a Vice Chair/Chair, one initial comment with Rose is that the Repatriation Committee would have immediate past chair and that's a bit of a hard sell to have the third year be past chair plus this role, might be too much; personally could do it next year but might not be a good expectation

Melissa: at first it sounded like a lot, then in thinking about it further, it's a good idea because you're taking the knowledge of the committee & its discussions as the Chair so it might be good

Selena: same feelings as Melissa, not sure how burnt out past chairs felt, but it's a good idea because you've been through the experience as Chair and know what NAAS is doing; don't know any other Steering Committee member who could do it except maybe Vice Chair, but that person might still be learning that role, so might not be a good fit at that stage

Rose: institutional knowledge carry over is a good point, not sure if NAAS wants to reserve the right to appoint someone who is not necessarily on the Steering Committee, thinking of workloads, [missed this]

Jonathan: in theory it sounds like a great idea to have a NAAS member for two years then chair this committee, but will it affect recruitment for this role or conversely will it be really appealing? Not sure

Eric: understand at this stage why we're centering Native Americans, but repatriation goes beyond that; there are a lot of colonial materials that are non-Indigenous, not sure that the Repatriation Committee should always be a person from this particular perspective

Diana: interesting point

Rachel: to that point, is there buy-in from other committees in terms of commitment even in just having a member be a part of this? The SAA VP will select the committee members, which could be anybody, anywhere, to clarify?

Dominique: absolutely. In conversations of Council, wanted to respect who brought the proposal to Council, which was NAAS. Did discuss and then remove having the 6 members of the committee being 1 from NAAS, 1 from Archives & Archivists of Color, etc.; maybe can go back to Terry and resurface that piece for another conversation, fascinating that it came up here organically

Jonathan: I would be supportive of bringing that proposed idea back

Diana: way to add language re: the committee to Eric and Dominique's points that there will be some weight to diversifying the committee in terms of SAA membership as well as original/indigenous purview, not sure how to phrase, to ensure the committee is thinking about repatriation from a broad perspective

Rachel: in the initial documents NAAS submitted talk about repatriation and purposeful deaccessioning, is there a reason we are just calling this repatriation? This has legal connotation for Native American materials in people's minds, might influence how people think about this; bring back language about purposeful deaccessioning, Smithsonian is calling it 'ethical return', use alternate language

Selena: good point

Sam: I agree with you

Liza: I agree with Rachel

Jonathan: agreed

Melissa: agree as well, can see universities utilizing that wording in a specific way, like the idea of ethical return

Diana: Katherine was wondering whether/to what extent the docs will address the legal piece of repatriation, whether/what advocacy would be needed to involve NAGPRA, figure out relationships with NAGPRA, complicated

Dominique: thank you for bringing that up, Councilmembers who are not as familiar with NAGPRA are trying to write this, open and welcome the advice of people who know more about NAGPRA/the legal issues, send a link, trying to learn as best can

Liza: some of you may know, a project funded by SAA called "where repatriation meets the Protocols" workbook intended to address NAPGRA/archives intersect, became a huge territory, made a resource guide also, there's a there there, project ended last year but in the many meetings said we were committed to continuing it, still working on it

From Dominique Luster to Everyone 01:33 PM: my email is dominique@thelustercompany.com

From Jonathan M Pringle to Everyone 01:33 PM: That was a great set of meetings. The Autry's done a great job!

Sam: this?

<https://sustainableheritagenetwork.org/digital-heritage/developing-where-repatriation-meets-protocols-workbook>

From Dominique Luster to Everyone 01:33 PM: Anythign that you could share would be very helpful!

Sam: <https://rmpworkbook.wordpress.com/>

From Dominique Luster to Everyone 01:34 PM: Thank you Sam :)

Dominique: may I include these as documents/links for discussion?

Melissa: It's an awesome resource

Liza: yes, my point is that it did become important to delineate what is legally mandated under NAGPRA from digital repatriation, ethical return, deaccessioning, which are not mandated under the law, the 'spirit of NAGPRA'

Diana: maybe one of the duties/responsibilities of the Committee is to look into NAGPRA and legal issues further, one of the goals of the group would be to do advocacy

Liza: also to highlight that archives ARE part of the NAGRPA process, archival collections help with lines of evidence, background research, that another institution has collections that fall under NAGPRA, e.g. photographs that won't be repatriated vs. museum that has objects

Dominique: are there similar associations for any other misrepresented community items?

Thinking about archival materials irresponsibly placed in a VA repository from coastal Eastern Africa, goes NAGPRA apply?

Group: no

Dominique: is there anything that gets into repatriation for enslaved African materials, etc.?

Rachel: objects or archives?

Dominique: archives

Rachel: I don't know if you've looked into the Harvard case with the photographs of formerly enslaved people that the family had requested return, case had been made that there weren't

any legal actions in place for the family similar to how archives aren't covered in NAGPRA, there's no legal course of action for return, but with the Smithsonian's new Ethical Return policy, it's for all the museums, not just NMAI, puts the impetus on the museums to implement it into their collections management policies, there's nothing overarching

Dominique: that's helpful, thinking of like a manuscript or photo collection held at a state institution, there's no federal policies to return them to the families

Sam: I'd think only if you could demonstrate they were improperly collected

Diana: this could also be the work of the committee to push this advocacy at a high level

Jonathan: Eric, does this speak to the makeup / purpose of committee which extends beyond Indigenous communities?

From Rose to Everyone 01:41 PM: There's replevin for federal records that should be with NARA but wind up elsewhere. But that has a limited scope, of course.

Eric: there are lots of improperly/unethically collected materials, in war situations e.g., can see arguing for different committees but at this point it might be better to have one

Diana: I just added this draft bullet: Further ongoing investigations of relationships between NAGPRA, repatriation policy, and archival collections and/or to advocate for inclusion of archival collections in U.S. and international repatriation policy.

Dominique: I see your point; I wonder if one of the committee members should be a member of COPA or a similar public policy; VP by governance can assign pretty much anyone per the bylaws, so if it was written that a public advocacy/policy person was on the committee, that might help bridge the gap, would have to review bylaws

Rose: I like that idea

Diana: sounds cool

Eric: if we could have someone from Africa be on the committee, have an honorary position, might be difficult with different time zones, someone who works in archives from a formerly colonized place

From Lotus Norton-Wisla (she/her) to Everyone 01:43 PM

I'm wondering too about the Human Rights Archives section

Selena: when I was looking at it, was surprised that there wasn't an external position for that, thinking of the way cultural resources within tribes communicate, those decisions are by committee, have a tribal member who's not a staff person on the committee to have that voice, should have the consideration for a non-SAA person to be on it as an external member or something, Jonathan can say this too, very difficult to get more BIPOC people appointed, people who should be part of the conversation is not in SAA, someone doing this work but has nothing to do with SAA should be able to contribute; the Association of American Indian Affairs does the repatriation conference nationally plus calls one a month, should have a person like that, not necessarily a tribal member but an external position

From Melissa Stoner (she/they) to Everyone 01:44 PM: I was thinking that too, Thanks Selena!

From Eric Hing-Tao Hung to Everyone 01:45 PM: We are all already on multiple committees!

Diana: is that the idea that's expressed with the ATALM / appointed member?

Dominique: it's in the spirit of this, but what Eric and Selena are advocating for is a non-SAA member as opposed to consulting, we took a step but there are two more steps that could be taken

Dominique: thoughts on second document?

Diana: main comments from Katherine/Jonathan come down to better defining 'cultural heritage collections'; in both cases, it was pointed out that archival repatriation is complicated because often they're created by white colonial folks but which include Indigenous knowledge/depict Indigenous communities; what's contained is and should be owned by Indigenous communities but the records creator is a white dude, creates a lot of issues; "collections both by and about", by is easier and about is harder, so spelling out what could be included in these collections, detailing those complexities; the first para/support statement might be a good place to add resources people have been sharing/bolster with existing policies or ways people have approached these topics

Dominique: does NAAS have a research biblio on your microsite?

From Diana E. Marsh to Everyone 01:49 PM;

<https://www2.archivists.org/groups/native-american-archives-section/protocols-for-native-american-archival-materials-information-and-resources-page>

Jonathan: that one para was so short but had a lot contained within it, like the spirit but it needs a lot of clarification

Dominique: can I say, hey I met with NAAS and the direction is good but we need more time? We are going into the meeting with the intend to vote on creation of committee, but that doesn't have to happen if it would be more intentional/thoughtful to keep talking about it

Diana: what's the process for revising a support statement like this? If we make edits and get it to A+/B-, what's the process if the committee wants to revise or tweak or make a 2.0 version?

Dominique: myself, Terry, Stephen, if you want to rewrite and get back to me by June, than get back to Terry and Stephen by July to facilitate collaborative co-writing process, we want to be timely but if more time is more thoughtful, then OK, would have you all collaborate on revisions, go back and forth, then would put to Felicia again to put on August agenda, would need thumbs up from Terry as VP before it goes to Courtney Chartier for final sign off, if that's the decision for now, I need to know and communicate that

From Jonathan M Pringle to Everyone 01:51 PM: I feel better about that timeframe.

From Melissa Stoner (she/they) to Everyone 01:51 PM: same

Diana: can the creation of the Repatriation Committee doc get voted on in June meeting and then start to create the Committee who could then tweak the statement? Rose would have to take it on for a few months before I took it over, but then that group could function as committee working on that

Dominique: that would work in terms of timeline; if the committee is voted on by council in May, it would exist in SAA governance land at the END of SAA annual, current leadership year would complete at annual and then a new one would commence; the Committee would come to exist beginning at the end of annual meeting which would make current Chair as the role in this committee, so be mindful of that, who would be signing up to do this, work on it starting in like Sept. 2022, wanted to put it out in May, would probably put it out in August, if wait on Committee, it would likely be January 2023 if not later because of how Council voting / meetings work, only 4x a year

Diana: don't want to lose momentum so like the idea of 1 of the 2 docs going to Council, not opposed to trying to do quick edits

Eric: will take same amount of time no matter when the deadline is, will always be day before

From Lotus Norton-Wisla (she/her) to Everyone 01:56 PM: I think more time would be helpful

From Vina Begay to Everyone 01:57 PM: More time I think would be better.

Jonathan: this would be groundbreaking so don't want to rush, August announcement would be perfectly fine

From Sam to Everyone 01:57 PM: I agree, Jonathan

From Rachel Menyuk to Everyone 01:57 PM: Agree as well

Selena: I want this yesterday, but I think Jonathan is right; August is probably more realistic timeline for NAAS given that we've been talking about this all meeting

Diana: that's consensus on that; Dominique, do you want to put through the 1st document on the Committee document? If you can add comments to that document, work collaboratively to get it where it is, would love bullet points, notes, documents about what updates/changes to make for talking documents for next week at the meeting as to the changes people would like to meet, help in the next few days since people start to leave on Monday 5/16; could also use 3-4 bullet points to move the resolution to August, can type something up about thoughtful/purposeful but want it to be more specific e.g. more centering voices and citations, reasoning about moving it to August would be helpful

From Selena Ortega-Chiolero to Everyone 02:00 PM

yay Diana, you still get your working group within the next 9 days, lol

Diana: Dominique, maybe you me and Selena can do that in the next few days?

Dominique: perfect, doesn't have to be much

From Lotus Norton-Wisla (she/her) to Everyone 02:00 PM: Best of both timelines :)

Lotus: What was the June timeline deadline date again? Thank you so much!

From Selena Ortega-Chiolero to Everyone 02:00 PM

Dominique, thank you so much for coming! Very productive

From Eric Hing-Tao Hung to Everyone 02:01 PM

Thank you, Dominique!

From Rose to Everyone 02:01 PM

Yes, thank you, Dominique!

From Lotus Norton-Wisla (she/her) to Everyone 02:02 PM

Thank you Diana and Selena for your most recent meetings and drafts re: Mellon - incredible ideas and planning!

From Dominique Luster to Everyone 02:02 PM

If you could get your notes/edits to me by early June, I can work with my Council teammates in early July, Back to you by Early August, and presented at Council for a vote in Late August
You all are very welcome!! Thank you for working on this incredibly important topic :)

Diana: quick updates

Trainings - had meetings with all SAA leadership and still waiting about whether a section can technically fundraise/apply for grants, if you haven't heard from me on the Mellon grant, that's why, probably ways to do this through SAA Education, probably a new course proposal, will work on that collaboratively with Education program, start with Mgmt track, add Indigenous stewardship throughline, maybe 3 part, into Management track, as a 'starter space'

Annual meeting - planning to host solo as a section, but let us know about collaborators e.g. Human Rights for Repatriation Committee, share by email or now

Liza: I have a roundtable spot for ATALM, was supposed to talk about workbook, but maybe this group would be interested in that, can follow up via email

Diana:

Task force webinar - July 11 [missed details on this, but I think it's below

SAA 2022 Conference - Boston, August 20-27th, plan for hybrid annual NAAS meeting?

- Plan for virtual meeting
- Reminder to think about/ideas: Do we want to collaborate with other sections?

SAA Leaders Forum - Selena

SAA Diversity Committee - Selena, Diana & Eric

SAA Diversity/NAAS/Membership Collaboration - As a reminder, two proposals currently in progress, both here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OjoANUGywN2pDJ6MH2IO1p-wsGW2H4uEUecQrJyEqpE/edit>

Protocols Webinars & Toolkit

- Still waiting on Jennifer's next update - Diana sent follow-up 3/24/22

3. Taskforce Webinar– Follow-up from Erica Hernandez-Read and Donald Johnson.

- 5 Taskforce Members
- Week of July 11
- Collaborations for co-sponsorship?
- Any conflicts outside of AERI?

The Framework:

https://archives2026.files.wordpress.com/2022/02/reconciliationframeworkreport_en.pdf

The SCCA Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce page:
<https://archives2026.com/response-to-the-report-of-the-truth-and-reconciliation-commission-taskforce/>

-----meeting concluded at this agenda item-----

4. NEW GOALS FOR 2021-2022

- **Creating resources/webinars/MOOCs for Tribal archivists**
- IAIA Archives and Research Center for Contemporary Native Arts collaboration (Ryan Flahive) - Had a March meeting, notes here:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FDgRQz2kzoz6VRAzKD_9i7mhjxZrDcA5a7iLMlkHlrQ/edit?usp=sharing
 - Not really bandwidth to cosponsor a virtual event but interested to help with framing of Mellon pitch
 - Suggested to ensure we aim to influence folks in power, esp archival administrators
- **Mellon Pitch**
 - “Unlearning/Indigenizing Archival Practices” (examples exemplary work + struggles)
 - Small group “Mellon subcommittee!” working on retooling
 - Diana, Selena & Rose met with Carly
 - Diana met with JO, PC, RS
 - Further Mellon pitch & notes document here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1guBav-8nqfDz21CoWTbUZd3QExEIYAjhlyE8-SSijF4/edit?usp=sharing>
 - Pilot of regional training (virtual and physical)
 - Gathering evidence that this type of training is desired, needed
 - Could use as model to scale up
 - Partnership with ATALM for project?
 - ATALM said NO (overextended)
 - Partner with regional org for trainings?
 - SAA in kind contributions? Cash match
 - Deliverables
 - Certificate (maybe given RF suggestion, this is aimed at both audiences– Tribal folks in person and administrators online?)
 - Guide
 - Who is responsible for this? Funding would probably have to go to SAA. Rather than to an organization of one of NAAS’s members.

- For small event, Privacy & Confidentiality section sent SAA Council a proposal for the honorarium in January 2020. We got feedback and then resubmitted in February 2020. Here is their proposal:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PYqhVyYGSg30kRXFKwltoNvt8ptxdAZg/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112393461668579842530&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- **Tribal Archivists Forum:** Space to connect and chat and talk about issues
 - Report on connectivity/broadband
- **Promoting community-based work** (veteran's projects; cult heritage; reparative description in other contexts; community curation)
 - Updates to microsite? (Katherine, Diana, Rachel)

4. ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Fort Apache Heritage Foundation (Foundation), a nonprofit subsidiary of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and a partner with the Tribe's Nohwike' Bágowa Museum and Cultural Center, has funds available for contracting with a professional archivist for approximately one year to work with the Tribe's collections of litigation and heritage resource documents, maps, photographs, and ephemera. Qualified professional archivists (especially members of the Academy of Certified Archivists, or equivalent) wishing to be considered should send a letter of interest, along with a resume, CV, or both, to John at jwelch@archaeologysouthwest.org. Preference in contractor selection will be given to Indigenous Persons. Questions or requests, including any request for a teleconference to discuss the project, should be submitted to John via email. Salary range \$50,000–\$85,000/year, DOE.
2. **"How religious archives can support the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation," Raymond Frogner, Head of Archives, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation**

Rescheduled from May 2, 2022 to June 6, 2022

Time: 3:00 - 4:00 PM ET/ 12:00 - 3:00 PM PT

This 30 minute talk will be followed by a brief question and answer period.