Society of American Archivists
Native American Archives Section
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
April 15th, 2019

**Present:** Stephen Curley; Rose Buchanan; Liza Posas; Nicole Topich; Jonathan Pringle; Melissa Stoner; Nicholas Wojcik

**Prepared by:** Jonathan Pringle

**Updates:**

- **Case Studies**
  - Jonathan’s case study posted. Really good feedback. People enjoy it. Now we have Brian’s and Jonathan’s case studies.
  - Last week, Jennifer O’Neal reached out about a case study out of the University of Oregon. Can get it to us in early Summer.
  - Next on the agenda. Originally we had a different author in Minnesota; an email bounce back revealed she is no longer there. There are a number of others who have signed up.
  - Caitlyn and the Breath of Life folks are aiming for the end of Summer. Case studies are rolling along nicely.
  - Congrats to Jonathan. Liza is on the list; we’re a couple months behind. She can go ahead and get started and get it in.

- **NAAS Lesson Plan for SSA/CIMA Workshop:**
  - Structural breakdown and overview of the workshop
  - Broken up in two halves.
  - First half is how to identify the Protocols:
    - The objective is to look at the anatomy of protocols; how they were drafted and organized in the document. First half will have an overview of the Protocols; include a presentation. Overview of the APS case study.
    - Will also go over Jonathan’s case study. Will break down the essence of the case study (Jonathan to reach out to Nicholas).
    - Stephen would like to have 40-45 minutes for the breakout conversation. Discussion groups about the Protocols. What do the Protocols mean to you and your institution? If there are other discussion questions that need to be included, be sure to add them in to the Google docs section. This section will be scripted in a way that it can be modified/administered by individual institutions.
  - The second half is How to Prepare your Institution.
    - Focus on repatriation and what that means. Including digital repatriation.
    - We will lean into Nicholas and his work at the University of Oklahoma.
    - We will put forth the spreadsheet for analyzing indigenous collections. Think of it as an audit. All: add more information to the spreadsheet.
    - Stephen to add this as a Google Sheet for everyone to participate. After the spreadsheet, break out into discussions about digital repatriation.
• Presentation on repatriation/digital repatriation. The last bit is to ensure that people engage in personal contact.
• To elaborate, Stephen tried to break down all the topics into modules; he has attached an overview/objectives/activities associated with them. Is there anything to change, scheduling wise.

Discussion:
• Regarding workshop, time may run out if there is good discussion. Not a bad thing. Plenty of material. Objective is make sure conversation happens.
• Want to ensure that this workshop is interactive and not so much “talking at” attendees.
• Printouts to provide?
  o PNAAM as originally scripted.
  o Protocols as marked up (themes, chapters); discussing the anatomy.
  o Other printouts would include the case studies (both the original and the marked up versions). Will consolidate them in the Google Drive.
• Reach out to ethnologists or museum professionals that are engaged with repatriation?
• Links to theory/practical articles related to repatriation/digital repatriation. Need to contextualize this. Have participants identify the Protocols in digital repatriation.
  o Logistics on this. How do we do this? Each group has an article to analyze; could take a look at them online in advance. Go through and highlight the Protocols throughout.
  o Multiple choice activity?
  o Creating scenarios that are either based off the case studies themselves, or creating altogether new scenarios?
    ▪ Group will focus on this as a type of tabletop exercise? Group will Draft up scenarios and create hypothetical scenarios based on articles Rose identified in the Digital Repatriation section. Nicole, Liza, Jonathan volunteered to help do this.
• Since Rose primarily worked on the Digital Repatriation section of lesson plan, what are her ideas on the questions?
  o Comes from the perspective of not having any experience with digital repatriation. Came up with questions that are very basic related to digital repatriation. Nicholas could speak to that as well.
• Regards to the spreadsheet, there are a lot of administrative fields included (is this necessary?). Stephen sent out the edited version. The red text is the administrative field (to delete?). The intent of the spreadsheet is to do an audit of indigenous materials in our collections not cataloging, per se.
  o The spreadsheet could be flexible for individual institutions; Nicholas could help institutions out with its use and interpretation.
  o All add comments on the spreadsheet to help determine what fields are useful and recommended for baseline auditing and shared conventions. (Stephen will move it to a Google Sheet)
  o Maybe not necessarily eliminate them, but group fields together and describe what their intent is.
• Nicholas sent Stephen the PowerPoint (draft) of the workshop. Noticed the spreadsheet markup. He is coming at it from a linguistic archives. People having to incorporate it into their own institution.
• To do: As far as the second half and digital repatriation, we will look at the case studies Rose put in the Google Document. We will distill the essence of them, and create
scenarios/questions (hypothetical) about what each institution would do. Be part of the breakout session. The other piece that is more relevant to the spreadsheet and how it should be utilized.

- Stephen: Curious about how Nicholas will work his own experiences of a cultural audit into the second half.
  - Nicholas: In the process of transferring his files, but has a presentation that demonstrates some of the things they’ve taken into account/implemented. Sort of like a lesson plan. Better to present the information in a more general manner or come at it from a museum perspective?
  - Nicholas: Talking about public programs and models for inclusion. Some of the ideas are how non-tribal institutions work with tribal nations to provide Indigenous perspectives (i.e. exhibits). Use some of the Protocols to demonstrate how non-tribal institutions have evolved. Showcase other related efforts at his institution. Nicholas will send some things to Stephen that show this type of work. Stephen has forwarded this to the rest of the steering committee.
  - Any recommendations from Nicholas as to the structure of the workshop?
  - Nicholas: Feel free to send me (Nicholas) things that demonstrate items he discusses in his PPT. Under the activities section, the two questions that are posed are the only ones. Are there other questions to ask? Really what we’re wanting is fewer presentations and more discussions, correct?
  - Yes, this is what we’re after. Wants to make sure there is plenty of time for conversation.
  - Nicholas: Will send out a more updated version of the PPT in the coming days. Have some transparency and confidence. Email with comments, issues, recommendations, etc.