

Privacy and Confidentiality Roundtable Meeting Notes
SAA Annual Meeting 2012, San Diego, CA
Wednesday, August 8, 2012
5:30-7:30 pm

1. Chair Phoebe Evans Letocha opened the meeting and welcomed approximately 50 attendees.

2. Immediate Past Chair Heather Dean announced P&C roundtable election results:

- Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Menzi Berhnd-Klodt
- Steering Committee member, Erin O'Meara
- Steering Committee member, Ryan Speer

All current members of the roundtable leadership were introduced as well.

3. SAA Council liaison, Dennis Meissner, provided an update of Council's recent activities:

- Council decided that all roundtables must have bylaws. P&C will focus on that this year.
- The process by which SAA appoints representatives to external groups is being reviewed to reduce the overall number and to ensure relevance to SAA.
- The member-needs survey this year produced tremendous feedback. Council will subdivide the review into 7 or 8 groups to address the results. Dennis emphasized that this was a big effort and would be a big focus for Council this year.
- The advocacy strategic initiative has been reenergized, with Frank Bowles at the helm.
- Description given of NHPRC report to the Executive Branch/OMB on the state of documentary heritage of the U.S. It addresses the gaps in documentary programs.
- A question from the floor was asked: With Council's increase in focus on advocacy, would there be additional budget to support lobbying? Answer: No, no additional funds were discussed. Council was trying to cohere something quite nebulous, providing more advocacy supporting NHPRC, NEH, funding levels of NARA, etc.

4. Updates and Projects:

- As stated, bylaws are now required for all roundtables. Amy Fitch will lead the effort to develop bylaws for the P&C roundtable. They will be presented next year for a vote.
- HIPAA final regulations are expected to be released by HHS, perhaps very soon. It has been 2 years since the comment period closed. An announcement will be distributed to the P&C list as soon as they come out.
- Susan Lawrence, University of Nebraska--Call for Archivists:
Dr. Lawrence is a historian working on a project entitled "Privacy and the Past," which includes a chapter on archives. She is looking to interview archivists for a sense of how decisions are made with regard to privacy and confidentiality in providing access to information on the dead. This can include medical, financial, or sexual identity information. Her IRB-approved project will look at what historians should know about the decision-making process for such access.
- The P&C roundtable endorsed Session 107 on the John Cutler Papers and the Guatemala syphilis experiments. It is Thursday, August 9 at 10:00 a.m.
- Open Floor: Erin O'Meara is on the 2013 program committee for SAA in New Orleans, August 11-17, which is theme free and joint with COSA. Any types of topics are

welcomed. Lightning talks are an option. Sections can endorse 2 session proposals, which are due October 5. Presenters can speak at only one session.

- Julie Graham of the SAA Education Committee announced that SAA and IMLS have multiple scholarships available for the upcoming EAD-CPF workshops. The next one is in Princeton, NJ.
- Frank Bowles of the Government Affairs Working Group relayed a request from Council for volunteers to help monitor public policy issues of interest to the various roundtables. If anyone is interested in P&C topics, please contact him.

5. Introductions were made around the room, followed by a call for session ideas for SAA 2013. A session partnering Dr. Lawrence, other historians, and archivists to discuss P&C issues with regard to the deceased was suggested. Any additional ideas should be sent to the P&C leadership for endorsement.

6. Roundtable meeting program: "Reconciling Access and Privacy: Opening Archives of the Recent Past." Panelists Laura Clark Brown, Nancy Kaiser, Aprille Cooke McKay, and Kelly Wooten presented thought-provoking talks using case studies from their repositories (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University) to advocate for greater emphasis on open access to archives, particularly those containing modern personal and private organizational papers.

Minutes submitted by Amy Fitch, September 28, 2012.