

# SAA Museum Archives Section (MAS) Summary of 2014 Survey Results



Presented During the 2014 MAS Business Meeting  
CoSA-NAGARA-SAA Joint Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.  
Friday, 15 August 2014 (12:30-2:30 pm)



Total Responses

215\*

- \* Complete Responses = 151
- \* Response Rate = 15.8%

**Survey Created: Tuesday, June 10, 2014**

**Data Gathering Phase I: Monday June 16, 2014 – Monday, June 30, 2014**

**Data Gathering Phase II: Tuesday, July 1, 2014 – Tuesday, July 8, 2014**

# Overview of Key Survey Responses

## \* **MAS Member Institutions**

- \* Non-museum setting (22.07%)
- \* Art/architectural (29.58%)
- \* Other specialized (36.62%)

## \* **Types of Organizations**

- \* Academic (30.73%)
- \* Non-profit (51.71%)

- \* Lone Arrangers (39.15%)
- \* Insufficient Funding (29.83%)
- \* Insufficient Space (35.8%)
- \* Supportive Admin. (44.51%)
- \* SAA Attendance Low/Lack of Travel Funds (73.53%)

# Overview of Key Survey Responses

- \* **MAS Meeting Attendance**

- \* 1-3 Meetings (20.59%)
- \* Never Attended (64.12%)

- \* **Barriers to MAS Meeting Attendance**

- \* Don't attend SAA (55.91%)
- \* Unaware of MAS (26.88%)

- \* **Interest in MAS**

- \* Professional Devel. (72.78%)
- \* Networking (58.58%)

- \* **Valued MAS Resources**

- \* Email Listserv (68.86%)
- \* Newsletter (20.36%)
- \* Website (10.78%)

# Overview of Key Survey Responses

## \* **Use of Social Media Tools**

- \* Facebook (78.79%)
- \* Blogs (67.88%)
- \* Twitter (40.00%)
- \* Interest in LinkedIn Too

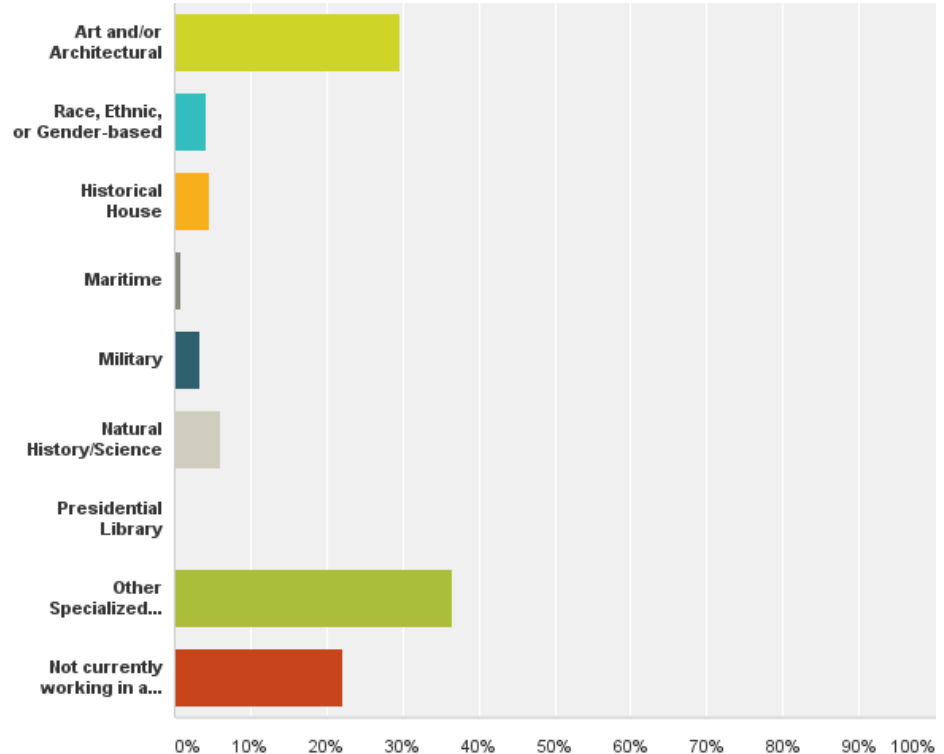
## \* **High Interest in Creating a Blog and Facebook Group Limited to Members**

- \* **Possible Interest in Offering Bi-Monthly Online MAS Meetings to Share Best Practices/Rotating Topics**
- \* **Continued Interest in MAS Standards & Best Practices Working Group**

# Q1: What type of museum and/or cultural institution do you work in?

Answered: 213

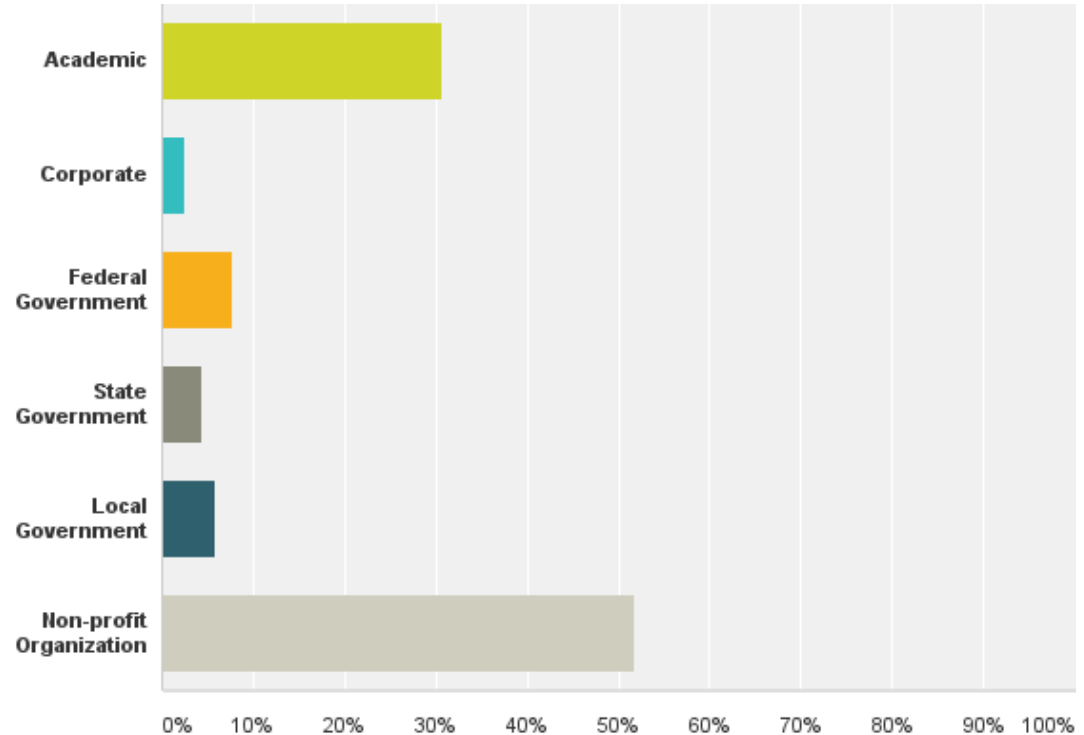
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## Q2: What type of organization is it?

Answered: 205

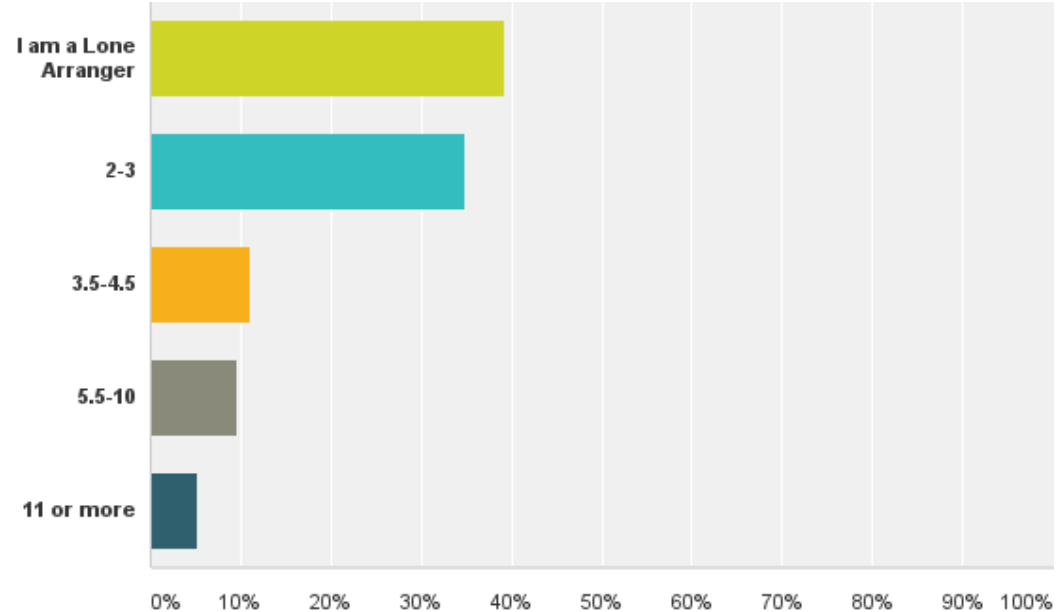
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# Q3: How many FTE staff members work in your archives?

Answered: 189

Skipped: 24

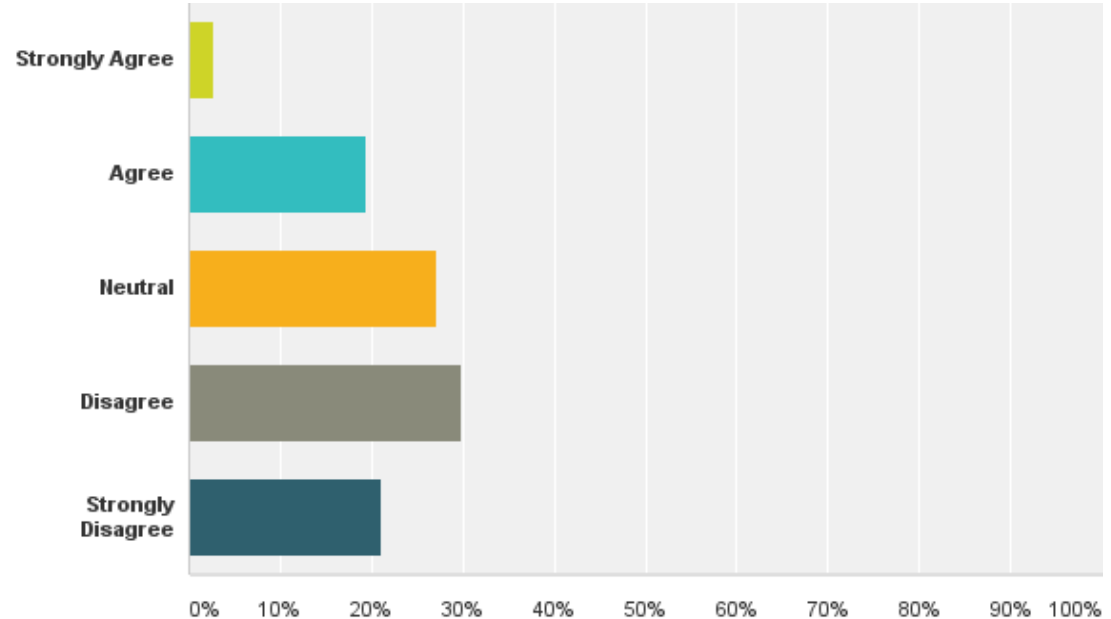




# Q4: I have sufficient funding to meet the goals of the archives

Answered: 181

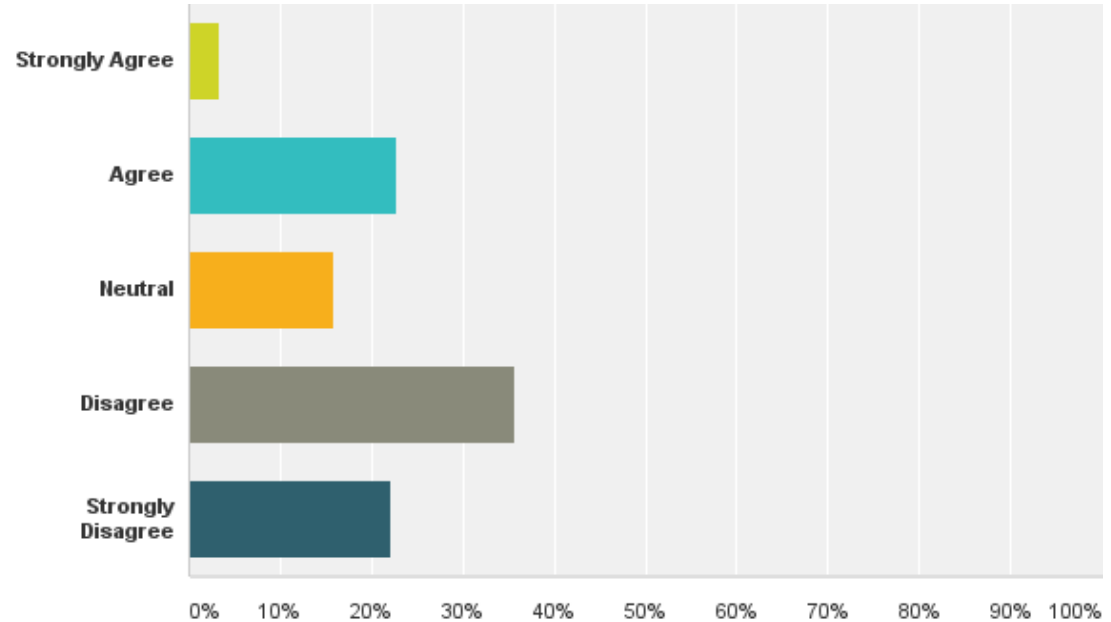
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# Q5: I have sufficient space for storing collections.

Answered: 176

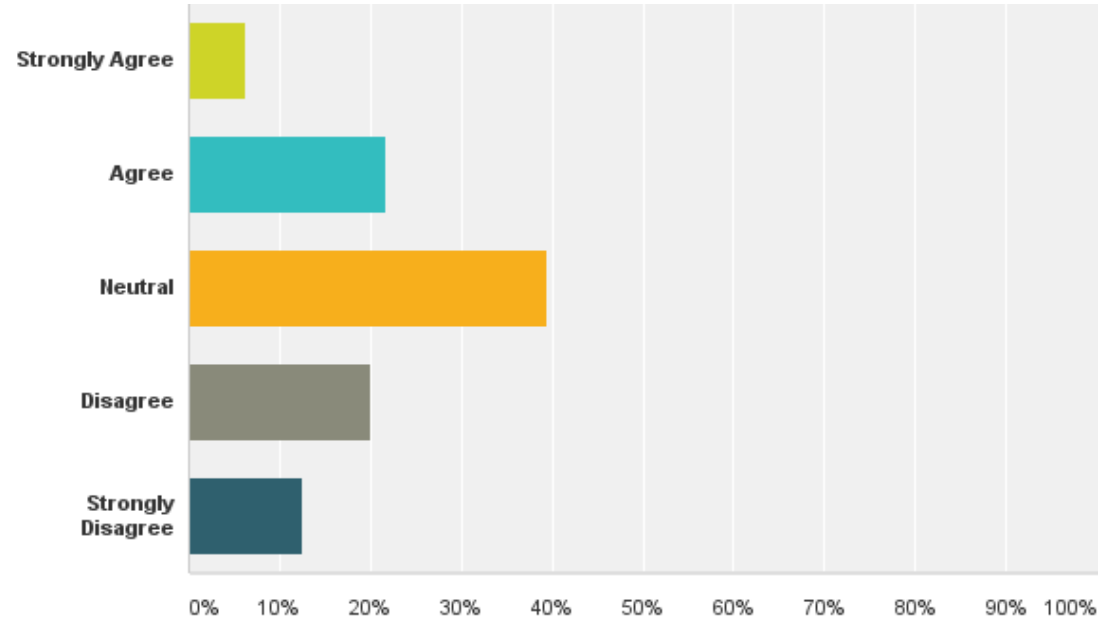
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## Q6: I compete internally for grant writing assistance.

Answered: 175

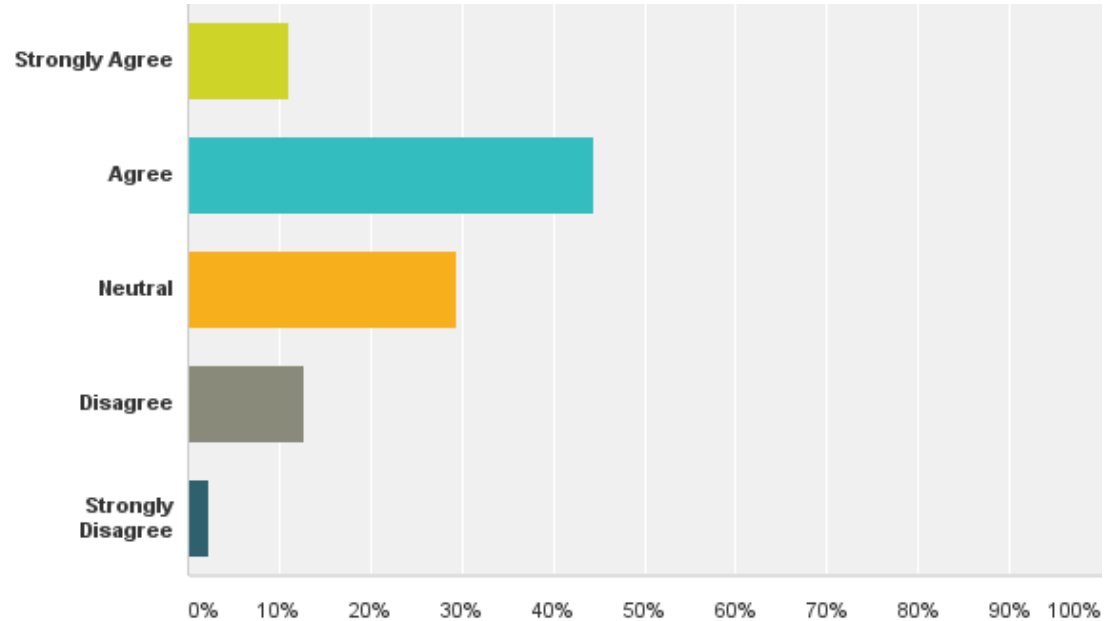
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# Q7: I work within a supportive administrative structure.

Answered: 173

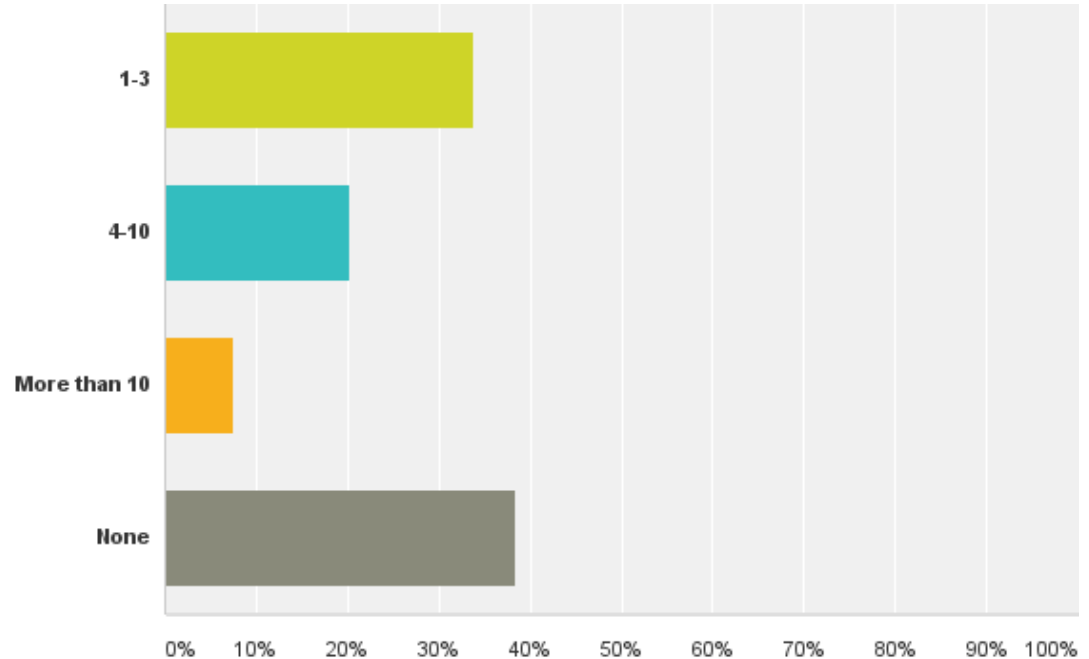
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## Q8: How many SAA Annual Meetings have you attended?

Answered: 172

Skipped: 41

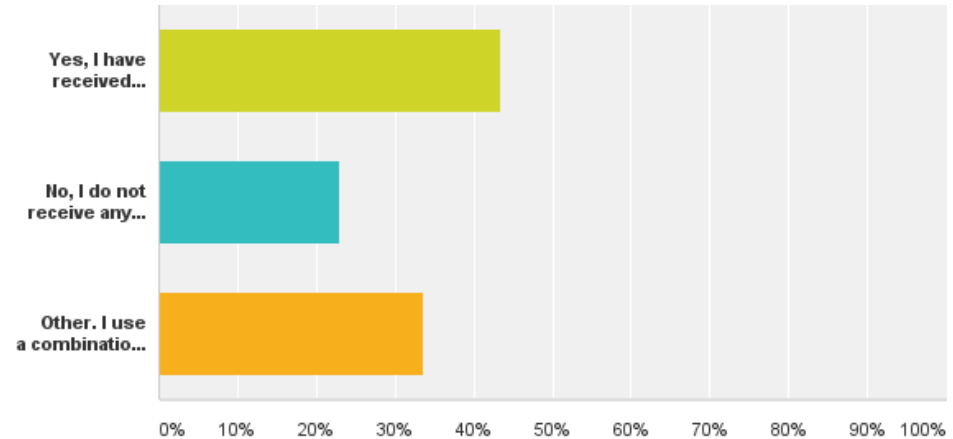


Q9: If you have attended SAA Annual Meetings, did you receive travel funds from your institution to cover costs?

Answered: 122

Skipped: 91

Slide 14

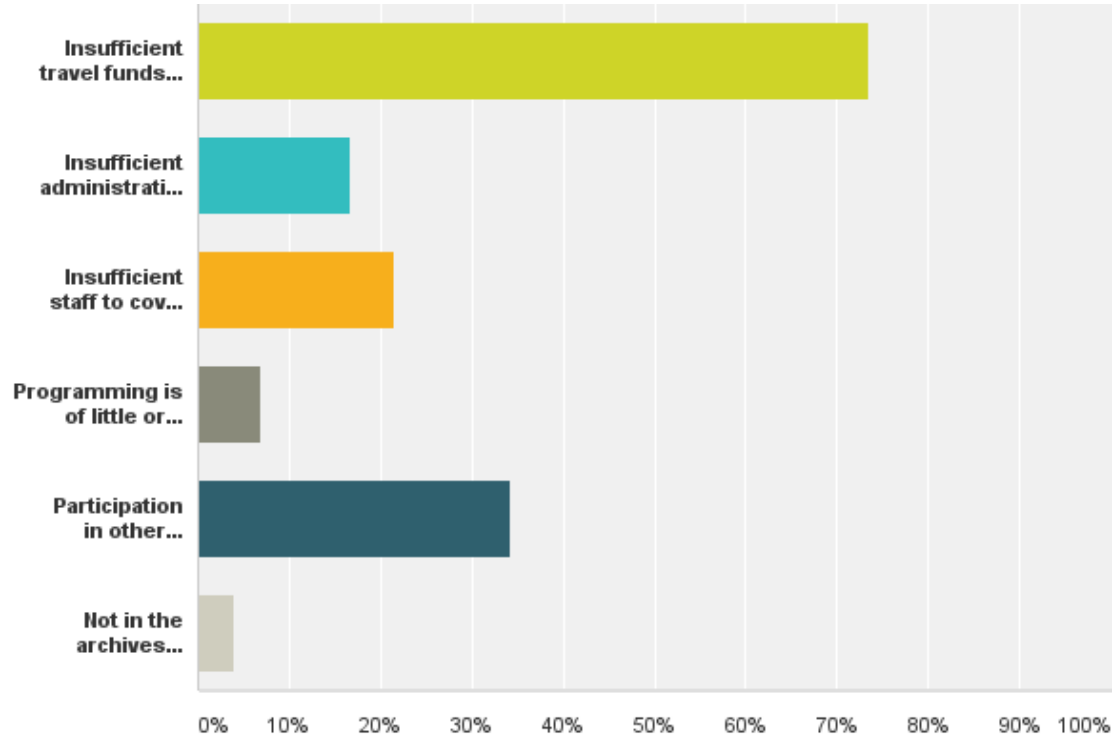


# Q10: If you have never attended an SAA Annual Meeting or do not regularly attend them, why not?

Answered: 102

Skipped: 111

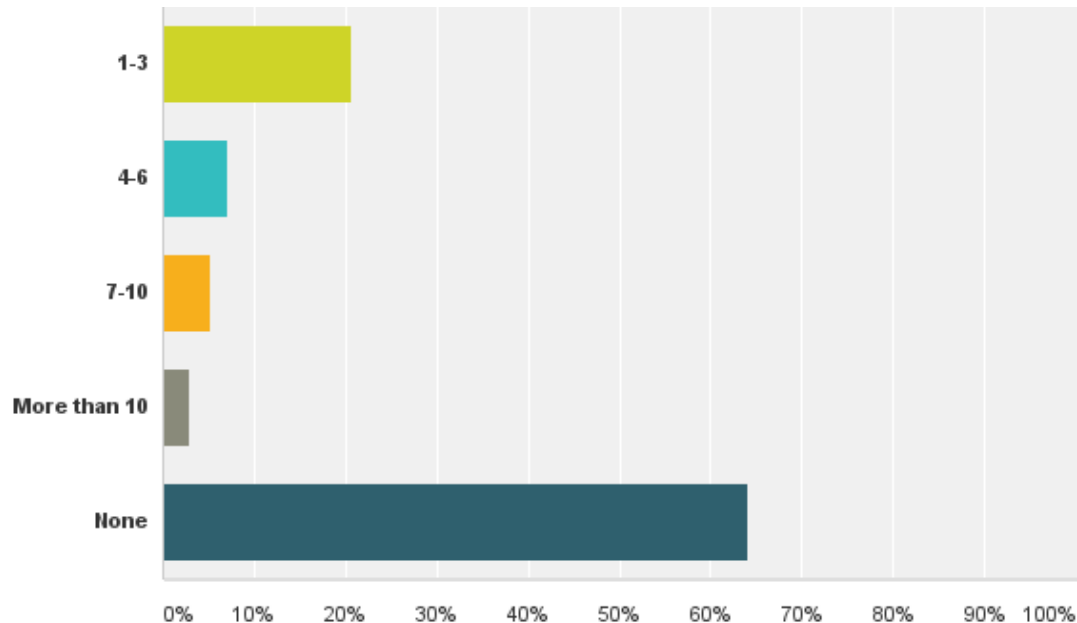
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# Q11: How many Museum Archives Section (MAS) Meetings have you attended?

Answered: 170

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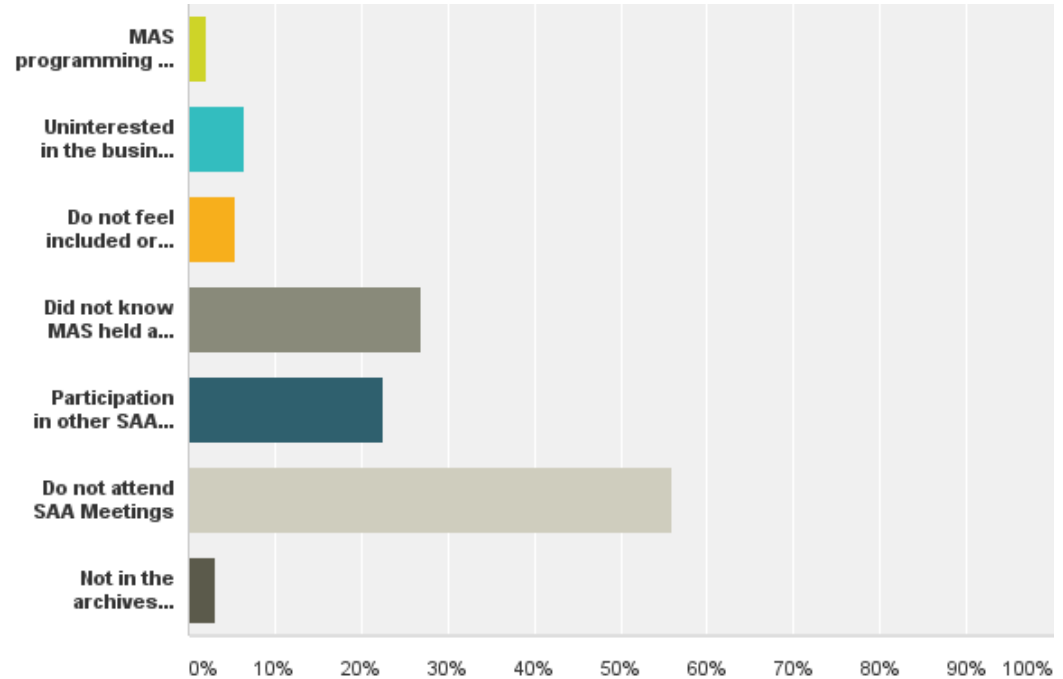




# Q12: If you have never attended a Museum Archives Section (MAS) Meeting, why not?

Answered: 93

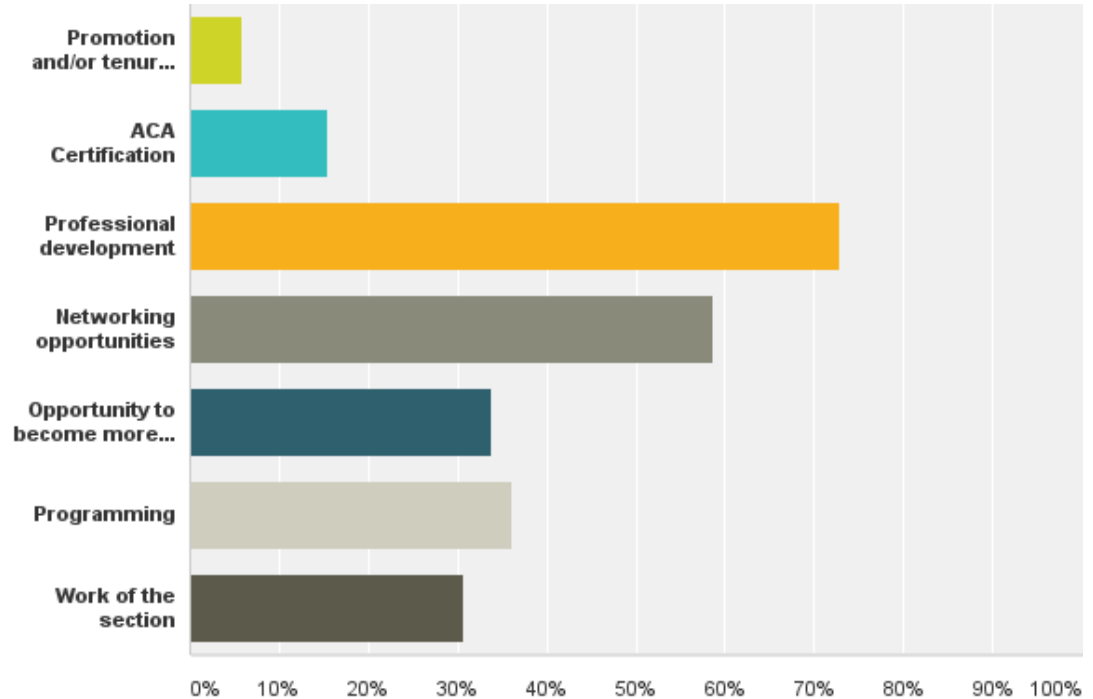
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# Q13: What motivates you to be active in MAS, or what would motivate you to be more active?

Answered: 169

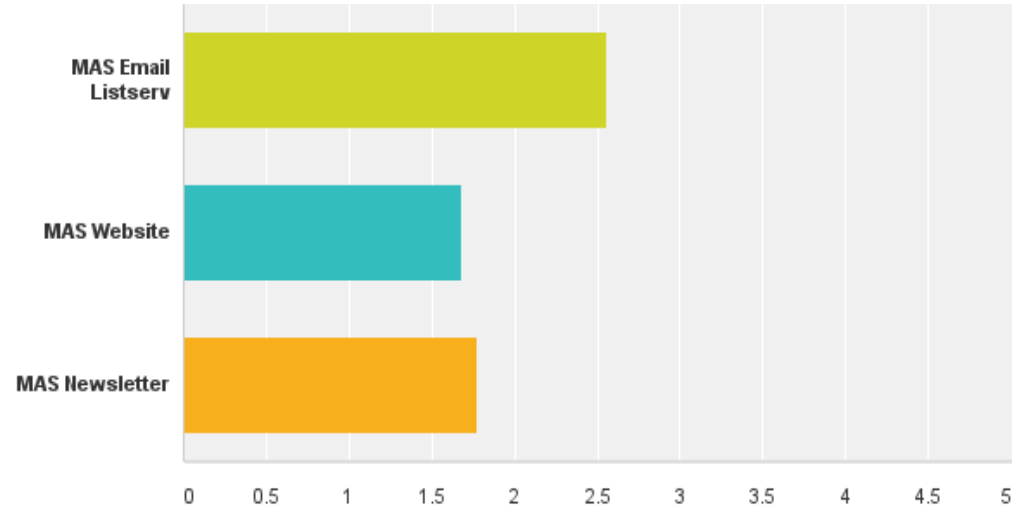
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Q14: What resource is the most valuable to you for learning about MAS and communicating with MAS members?

Answered: 167

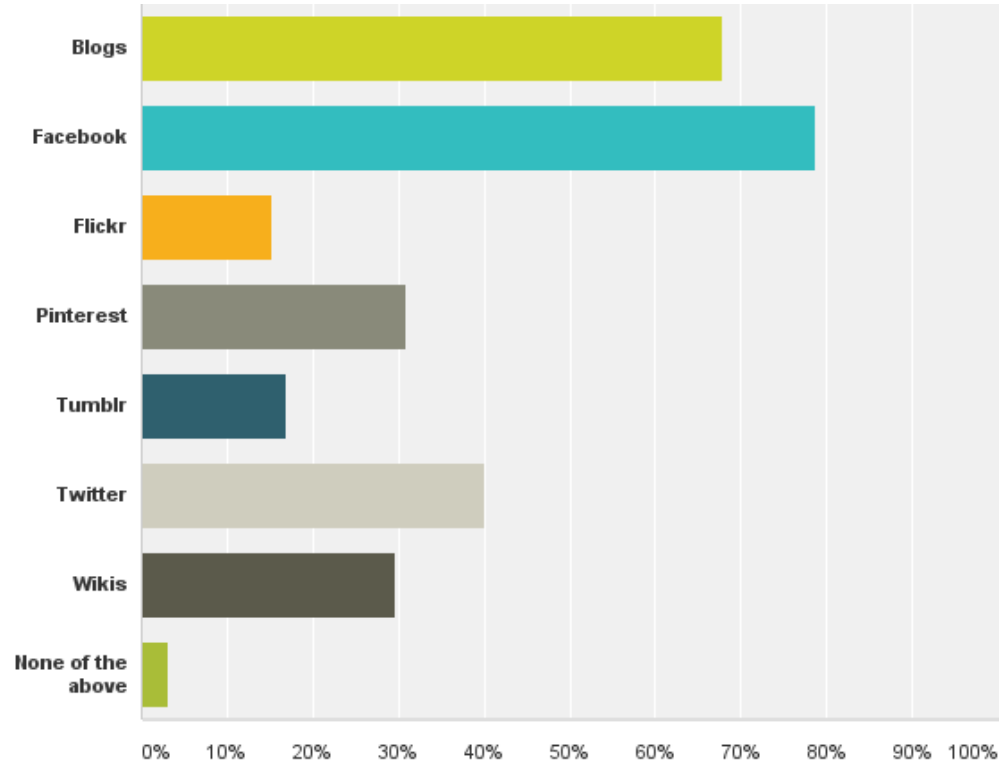
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# Q15: What social media tools do you currently use either professional or personally?

Answered: 165

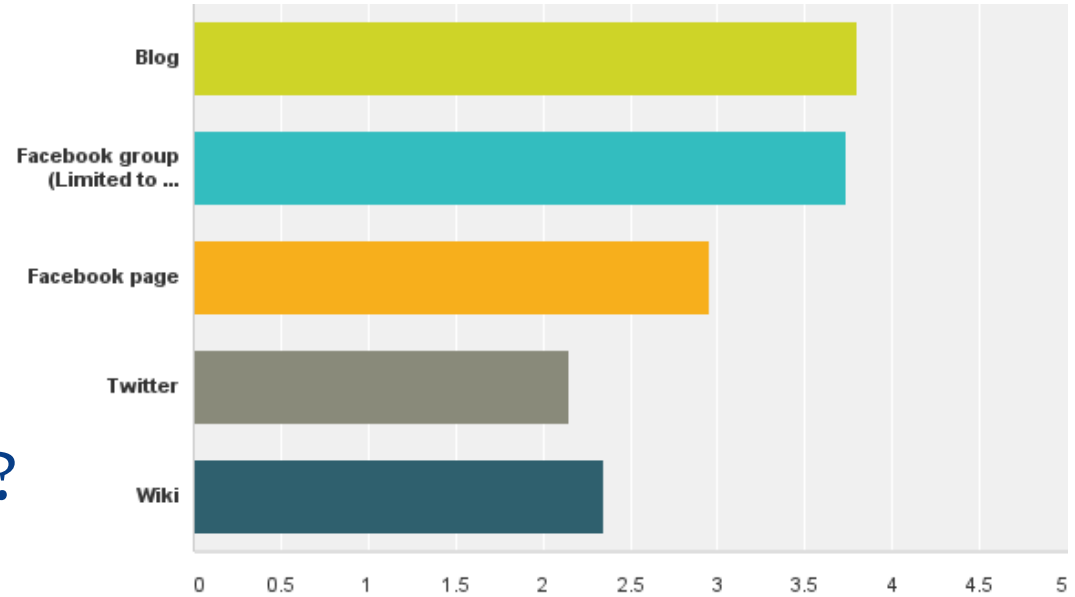
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Q16: If MAS were to embrace social media for communication among members, which tools would you be most inclined to use?

Answered: 164

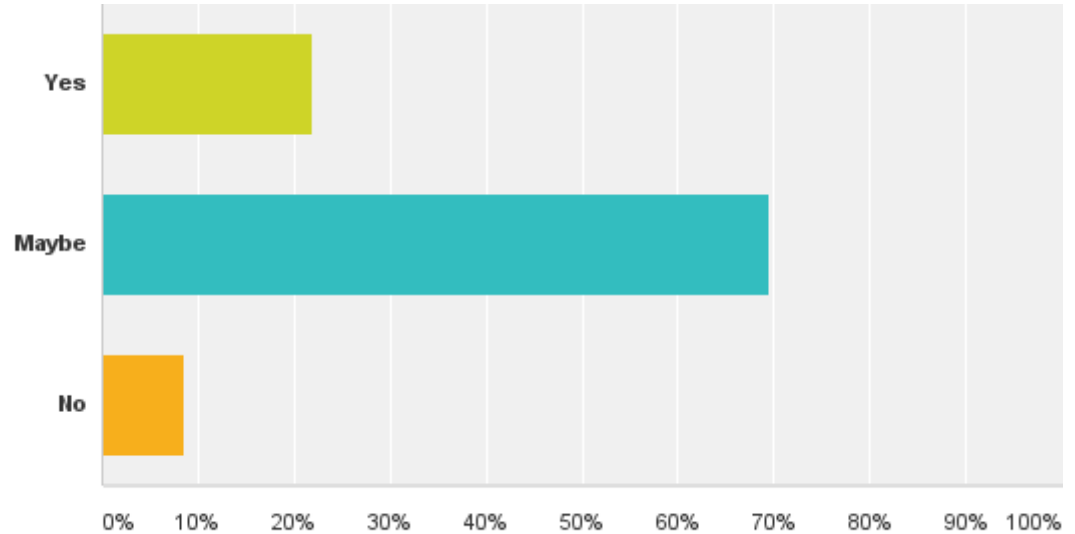
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Q17: If MAS were to hold monthly or bi-monthly online meetings, would you attend them?

Answered: 164

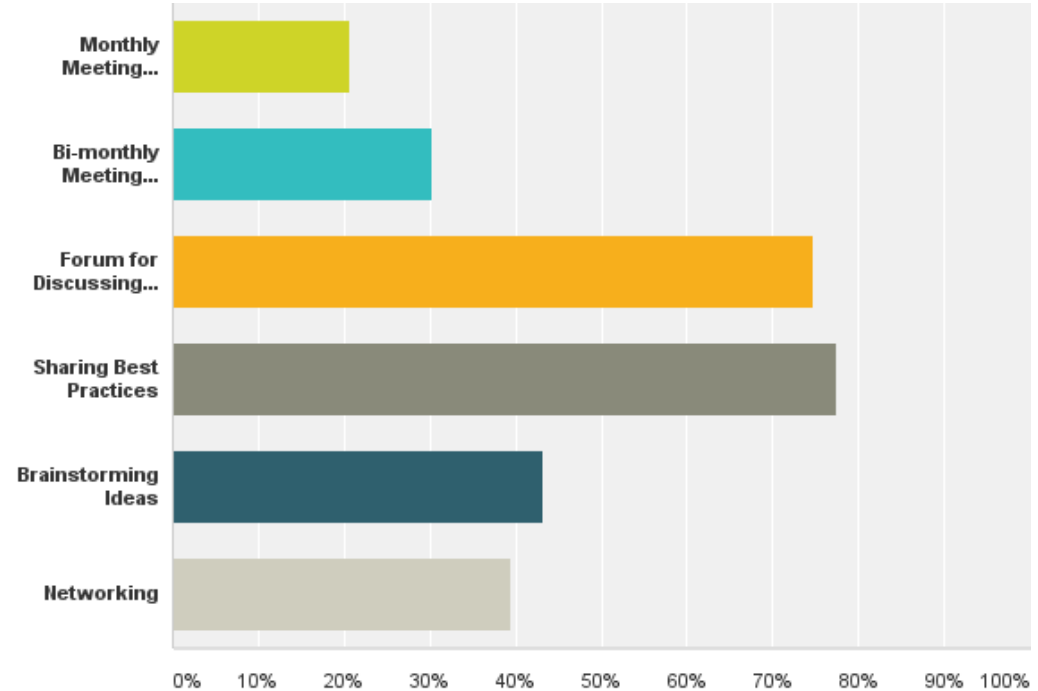
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Q18: If you are interested in attending MAS online meetings, how would these meetings best serve you?

Answered: 155

Skipped: 58





## Q19: If you are not interested in attending MAS online meetings, why not?

Answered: 164

Skipped: 49

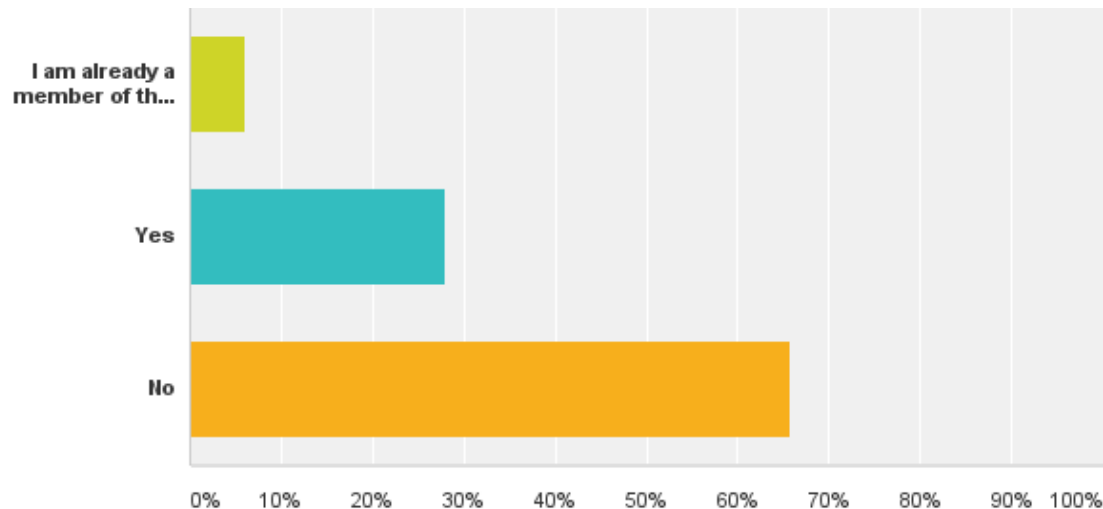
- \* Lone arrangers... too busy
- \* Lack of time/too many time constraints
- \* Webinars preferred
- \* Online meetings viewed as unproductive
- \* Participation would depend upon the topics offered



# Q20: Are you interested in joining the MAS Standards and Best Practices Working Group?


Answered: 164

Skipped: 49



\* 47 responses from members potentially interested in joining the S&BPWG

# Q21: What else could MAS do to better serve your needs?

- \* Clarify what MAS does
  - \* Resources for archives students
  - \* Information on conservation
  - \* Another survey to gather more data about members' needs
  - \* Continue emphasis on best practices and standards
  - \* Better access to colleagues with same/similar problems
- 
- \* Advocacy, outreach and networking needed
  - \* Offer webinars/online classes
  - \* Provide social media tools to facilitate communication
  - \* Add “At-Large Members” to Steering Committee

# Q21: Unedited Data Collected

- 1 Provide information and resources to help archives students
- 2 Would like to see free membership for students and more educational and professional development opportunities for LIS students
- 3 The email for this survey is the first contact I have had from the section, so I am not familiar yet with how much I will use it.
- 4 n/a
- 5 Offer specialization/certification
- 6 I would use MAS for information on conservation
- 7 I've just joined so I don't have an opinion just yet.
- 8 I am still working to expand my use of this
- 9 Training in museum field, exhibits, education ideas for children and public, assistance with studying the certified archivist handbook and how to pass the exam.
- 10 I do not know
- 11 As a manager of archives a myriad of issues and questions come up. We are very pleased with the UK's Spectrum 4.0 system.
- 12 X
- 13 I think the emphasis on best practices and standards is a good one.

# Q21: Unedited Data Collected

13 (Cont'd.) Cooperating with other sections, roundtables for

online presentations might be more useful than meetings. The questions not addressed here are what are people's needs, especially those who can't attend often....another survey. Might be worth it.

14 n/a

15 Does this section offer meetings/events outside of the SAA meeting? Would love a workshop on historic houses museums/archives.

16 At this time, nothing else.

17 Outside of individual initiative I am not sure if the Section would want to work with East and Southeast Asian museum on joint projects where there is shared research material.

18 n/a

19 Webinars

20 It is really hard to work in a small museum setting that doesn't seem to care about archives, even though the original organization will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in four years. What I would like is more access to others with the same problems.

21 I have seen little to no communication from MAS since I joined a few years ago – this survey was possibly the first listserv item that I noticed. As a result I have not bothered to attend the meetings during SAA, because I'm not certain what the section does or if the meetings are worth my time.

# Q21: Unedited Data Collected

22 online class style meetings would work for me as well

as online availability of notes/handouts from workshops, lectures, etc.

23 Doing well with what extra time we all have. Thanks for your efforts.

24 Add the social media aspect of communication that would deliver us information easily throughout the year

25 Advocacy and networking with peers

26 more interaction with each other! A Facebook group sounds very useful to me

27 Social media usage would be great. Participating in OTHER blogs - success stories - as guest bloggers would be good.

28 Keep advancing the website

29 Suggest adding one or two "at-large" members to the steering committee. For one reason, it might help spread the work.

Secondly, it gives people a chance to work with the committee to decide whether they might be suitable for senior positions on the committee.

30 More information about members and their work

31 To be honest, I've never explored this section too much other than reading the newsletters. It would be great to have specific education targeted at people who have one foot in museums and one foot in archives and also probably don't have the administrative resources that larger archives have.

# Q21: Unedited Data Collected

32 Allow to answer "NONE" to your question #15

33 I don't know what this group does

34 N/A

35 Possibly sending out available scholarships to attend conferences for those of us working at nonprofits.

36 This is Heidi's test responses to the survey.



Thank You for  
Participating  
in the  
2014 MAS Survey!



Many thanks also to members of the MAS Steering Committee for 2013-2014, to SAA for providing MAS access to Survey Monkey, and especially to Matthew Black, Web and Information Systems Administrator at SAA, for his excellent technical assistance and ideas!