

**Society of American Archivists  
Publications Board Meeting  
March 4–6, 2018 | Chicago**

**Report of the Publications Editor  
(Prepared by Christopher J. Prom)**

My goal as Publications Editor is to help the Publications Board position SAA for continued growth and impact by focusing on three areas: a) Increasing the number of high-quality books and other resources published, b) Forging new distribution partnerships, channels, and platforms, and c) Providing members new opportunities for professional and societal influence. Specifically, the Publications Board has a number of important works in process, we are making tangible progress in establishing publishing partnerships, and we are the cusp of launching a high profile new book series.

**Archival Fundamentals Series III**

- Work continues on six of the seven volumes, coordinated by AFS III Editor Peter Wosh. Three manuscripts are in the editorial review/revision stage:
  - *Advocacy and Outreach for Archives and Manuscript Repositories* by Kathleen Roe is moving forward quickly through revisions.
  - *Leadership and Management of Archival Programs* edited by David Carmicheal and Peter Gottlieb. We are consulting with a prospective chapter author, to add a reflective essay and the end of the volume.
  - *Providing Reference and Access Services for Archives and Manuscripts* by Cheryl Oestreicher. Peer reviews have been completed, and Caryn Radick has agreed to join as Consulting Editor to assist the author to incorporate feedback and polish the manuscript.
- The manuscript for *Arranging and Describing Archives and Manuscripts* by Dennis Meissner is in peer-review.
- Work continues apace on *Advancing Preservation* by Beth Joffrion and Michele Cloonan.
- Wosh is working with Margery Sly and Michelle Light to refine their proposal for *Appraising and Acquiring Archives and Manuscripts* (originally to be authored by the late Mark Greene). We hope to receive this revision soon.
- We are currently in contact with Tom Nesmith for the volume *Introducing Archives and Manuscripts*, with the goal of implementing an aggressive timeline. If this is not possible, we will need to consider another author or revised approach.

**Trends in Archives Practice Series**

- Manuscripts are due on March 1 for modules in process for the volume tentatively titled *Innovative Approaches to Outreach*, co-edited by me and Jennie Thomas. One of the modules is proceeding well, but there are delays in two of the others. Concurrently, I received a skeletal proposal from Michell Ganz for a module of case studies on advocacy, and we are exploring ways to combine or merge that proposal with the overall concept in this volume.

**Accepted Proposals and New Partnerships**

- Work is moving forward quickly on a volume edited by Luciana Duranti and Corinne Rodgers, *Trusting Records in the Cloud*, and including an international set of contributors. The work will be co-published by SAA and Facet Publishing, with SAA acting in an editorial advisory role and Facet taking the leading on copyediting and final production. SAA will be the North American distributor. I provided initial feedback on chapter outlines and drafts at a meeting of all chapter authors held on February 19, with travel funded by InterPARES.

- Laura Millar’s proposed book *A Matter of Facts: The Value of Evidence in an Information Age* will be co-published with ALA Editions. SAA will take the lead in developmental editing and peer review. This collaboration will bring great benefit to SAA and build bridges to another ally and professional association publisher who can help bring archival values to greater prominence. ALA currently has a contract out for Laura’s consideration, and I look forward to moving forward with this book. I was able to talk with Laura and provide some initial editorial guidance when visiting Vancouver last November for another purpose.
- We are moving forward with Margot Note’s book, *Creating Family Archives*. This is aimed at a public readership, and we will be pursuing distribution partnerships for this as well, including potential brick-and-mortar distribution. We think it opens up an exciting advocacy role for our book publishing and our members, and will be something that builds connections between families and archivists. Currently, I am working to put together an editorial advisory board for Margot, which will function in essence as an open peer review body.
- I’ve responded to proposed authors on the following volumes:
  - *Archival Accessioning*, by Audra Yun. Audra took the board’s suggestions on her work to heart, and prepared a revised version of her proposal, which acts as the reference model moving forward. Sarah Demb has agreed to help on this volume as a shepherd, and Audra is looking at ways to cut the length, including dropping the deaccessioning chapter. Agreements for Audra and contributors are in process.
  - *Making your Tools Work for You (System Integration)*, by Max Ekhard. Max responded well to the board’s feedback, and is currently preparing a revised prospectus for reference moving forward. Gordon Daines will act as board Shepherd.

### **Publishing Partnerships**

- As noted above, we are working with ALA Editions and Facet Publishing on distribution of existing books, and publishing new co-published works.
- We have been in active contact with the University of Michigan regarding Fulcrum, an electronic publication platform currently under development with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. We hope to pilot a few books into the platform when it is available in early 2019, and will consider it for potential institutional distribution of ebooks. This would represent a new and valuable distribution channel and position SAA as one of the early adopters of a full-featured ebook platform that runs on a not-for-profit, collaborative basis.

### **Archival Futures Series**

- The Publications Board is actively working to develop this new series concept, in conjunction with ALA Editions, tentatively titled “Archival Futures.” As with our other partnerships, this would leverage our member expertise and our editorial advisory services, giving members a means to influence professional dialog during disruptive times. Each book in this series will take the form of an extended essay or “think piece,” which is intended to be provocative and speculative while also providing some practical insight and guidance, examining a trend or issue in light of professional values and current innovations in archival and library practice. We hope to have a co-editor in place shortly, then move forward to form an advisory board and to begin working with ALA editions on this series.

### **Other Project Updates**

- *Archival Values: Essays in Honor of Mark A. Greene*, edited by Mary Caldera and Christine Weideman. The manuscript is currently undergoing revisions and publication is expected later in 2018

- *Museum Archives: An Introduction* (3rd Edition), edited by Rachel Chatalbash and Susan Hernandez. A third editor—Megan Schwenke—was added in the fall. Work is proceeding and manuscript is expected for review in November 2018.
- Sarah Polirer is developing a proposal on *Business Archives*. She anticipates having something ready for the Publications Board to review in the next several months.
- The Reference Access and Outreach Section launched a new case study series in January on the topic of Teaching With Primary Sources. Coordinated by Bill Landis, this series will offer a low-barrier publication channel for peer-reviewed work on this topic. This will bring the number of active case studies series to five—Campus Case Studies, Archival Ethics, Diversity, and Government Records—and we enjoy seeing such deep involvement by the respective sections and committees directly in the publication process and in peer review.
- I continue to work with Publications Board members and potential authors on additional ideas for either module clusters in Trends in Archives Practice or for SAA books.