

**Society of American Archivists
Publications Board
Virtual Meeting | April 14, 2023**

MINUTES

In attendance: Stacie Williams (Publications Editor and Chair), Peter Botticelli, Colleen Hoelscher, Dana Lamparello, Monika Lehman, Cyndi Shein, and JoyEllen Williams; Early-Career Member Chaeyeon Kim; *American Archivist* Reviews Editors Stephanie Luke and Rose Buchanan; and SAA staff members Abigail Christian and Hannah Stryker.

Unable to attend: Monika Lehman, Sarah Demb, Sarah Keen, Yvette Ramirez; Dominique Luster (Council Liaison); Amy Cooper Cary (*American Archivist* Editor); Early-Career Member Sarah Coffman; and SAA staff member Julia Pillard.

I. WELCOME – Stacie Williams

- A. Williams introduces new Board Member Peter Botticelli.
- B. Project update: [Decolonial Archival Futures](#) is set to come out fall 2023, published in collaboration with the American Library Association.

II. Intergenerational Conversations Update – *American Archivist* Reviews Editors Stephanie Luke and Rose Buchanan

- [Intergenerational Conversations](#) is a monthly series on the Reviews Portal that reviews the work of John Fleckner. This idea came out of a book proposal that the Publications Board declined. Cary, Christian, Buchanan, and Luke worked with the authors to find a new outlet and developed guidelines for reviewers. Contributors are reviewing ten articles that Rand Jimerson and Fleckner put forward. Reviews are published on the Portal and in PDF format. The Reviews Editors would like to continue this new series with other various perspectives and are open to suggestions of authors and literature significant to the profession to focus on next.
- Please share the Reviews Portal with your archival communities—and invite people to review for it. Consider using it in classes to task students with reviewing as an assignment.

III. Board Discussion: One Book, One Profession

- A. The 2023 One Book, One Profession event occurred on Tuesday, May 23 at 12 pm CT with the author of *Reference and Access for Archives and Manuscripts*, Cheryl Oestreicher. The book was originally picked for the 2022 selection, but the event was pushed back due to staff transitions. Four panelists spoke with Oestreicher about the challenges and emerging trends in this area of archival practice since the pandemic, and the event had more than 130 people attend, with more than 350 people registered.
- B. **Ideas for the 2024 book selection**
 - The OBOP initiative started in 2016 with *Teaching Primary Sources* to highlight SAA books in depth and market past catalogs and emerging titles. Some titles have been more practical; others more theoretical for discussion. What book would board members like to select for the next year?
 - A few board members voiced that *Archival Virtues* stands out given current worldly events. This topic may be helpful for early career members who are not

as familiar with the profession or for archivists not focused on teaching. We might also consider a [Teaching with Primary Sources](#) chat between two authors of case studies. Another idea is a conversation between the two authors of *Teaching Primary Source Research Skills* and *410 Activities for Primary Source Literacy* (both forthcoming in late fall.) We might also consider using *Decolonial Archival Futures* once it is released (also in fall).

TO DO #1 (Christian and Stryker): Send Publications Board sample chapters of the three potential selections for review and discuss at next meeting.

IV. Article Discussion: ["Moving Scientific Publishing Toward Social Justice"](#) (Inside Higher Ed)

- The Board discussed what in this article is applicable to how we accept proposals.
- In response to #1, "critically examine and challenge existing scholarship," a few Board members suggested that we may want to consider adding a disclaimer to older publications that might ignore current issues, which would require the Board to review our catalogue. In current work, authors could acknowledge their biases by including positionality statements with their biographies.
- Regarding #2, "recognize that research processes always already reflect society's power dynamics," the Board should be mindful about representing both our members in the academic field and those outside of that field in what we publish as well as who we publish.
- #5, "ensure that editors and reviewers have appropriate expertise," relates to our peer review system. We may consider cultivating peer reviewers from outside the archives profession, either an archives user or someone in an allied profession, to understand other perspectives and build our member pool. Of course, much of our literature is geared first toward archivists and archival work. A few members voiced that a downside to this would be the lack of expertise from outside users to comment on tools in archives. A solution could be using an outside peer reviewer only for certain books which would most benefit from a broader perspective.

V. Publications Program Updates

- A. [Pubs Editor Report](#)
- B. [Publications Program Report](#)
- C. [Project Status](#)