

Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) Conference Call, March 9, 2015: Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Amanda Focke, Society of Southwest Archivists; Jennifer Brannock, Society of Mississippi Archivists; Kristen Chinery, Michigan Archival Association; Lynette Stoudt, Society of Georgia Archivists; Daniel Alonzo, Archivists of Central Texas; Rachel Chatalbash, Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.; Casey Westerman, Metro Detroit Archivists League

Announcements

- Messages went out to RAAC representatives with goals / updates; we hope that representatives will share the message with their Boards and members (Amanda)
- RAAC meeting during SAA - on August 19th, time TBD (Rachel)
- Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries & Museums update (Amanda)
 - Amanda has been attending phone calls, going to DC later this week
 - The Coalition put on a successful two-part webinar on project, attended by approximately 800 participants; feedback on project plans provided to participants
 - Currently trying to develop a sustainable model for the Coalition for when grant funding no longer exists.

Discussion

- Elections timeframe – Amanda and Rachel will provide the Steering Committee with a draft of an election email in April
- Potential issues with membership rules were discussed. When we created these rules, we believed that the two sentences—1. Members can only serve two consecutive terms; and 2. No regional can serve more than 2 consecutive terms [on the steering committee]—would lead to positive changes in the RAAC membership and leadership structures. It was decided that this language could be slightly modified to say “preferred,” thus not prohibiting participation but still encouraging turnover.

Committee updates - progress on goals

Advocacy (Rachel)

- The subcommittee will be partnering with the Issues and Advocacy Roundtable to achieve its goals. Rachel will be drafting a proposal for SAA Council discussion.

Disaster Preparedness / Recovery (Rachel & Amanda)

- Tim Hawkins has stepped down from RAAC. Rachel and Amanda have taken the lead for the group. The subcommittee has done a great job gathering together information for a disaster preparedness/recovery online resource; Lynette created the page for this on our microsite and agreed to be the contact adding items. The next steps should be to raise awareness of the site.

Education (Jennifer)

- The subcommittee has created a document repository. They are now interested in thinking about next year and what kinds of online training could be provided. It might be worth completing a more extensive education needs survey.

Grant Development (Kristin)

- The subcommittee has created an online grants tool, which targets regions based on representation in RAAC. We are going to need to monitor the site to make sure that all links are active. The subcommittee continues to work with Collection Match. Kristen will help them place an article in the MAC journal.

Public Awareness (Daniel)

- Daniel authored an article on RAAC, which he has shared with his subcommittee and the steering committee. The subcommittee has 31 contacts to send the article to, ranging from newsletter editors to those who maintain regionals' blogs. The subcommittee's work on Facebook posts continues.

Directory (Casey)

- Casey continues to update the Directory.
- Casey will contact LA as subject to find out if the group is eligible to join RAAC, be listed on the directory, or should be added to his list of consortia.
- The scope of Casey's list of consortia was discussed. The list will focus on geographic consortia.

Website (Lynette)

- Lynette created the document repository, disaster recovery resources, and the grant pages
- How to update the microsite in the future was discussed.
- Lynette is working on embedding URLs for a cleaner look

Symposium

- Initial ideas for the 2016 symposium were discussed.