

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
January 25 – 27, 2012
Chicago, Illinois**

**President's Report
(Prepared by: Gregor Trinkaus-Randall)**

This report covers the period from August 27, 2011, through January 6, 2012. Nancy Beaumont and I have had weekly telephone conversations to keep each other apprised of developments, either within SAA or potentially affecting SAA.

1. **ICA/SPA Conference:** Represented SAA at the ICA/SPA conference in Edinburgh, Scotland, August 31-September 3, 2011. Presented a paper, "Diversifying Revenue Sources and Expenses: The Society of American Archivists in Economic Hard Times," in the session on Managing Associations in Financial Hard Times. Many thanks to Tom Jurczak and Nancy for providing me with much information and for going over my remarks ahead of time.
2. **SAA/CoSA/NAGARA Conference Calls:** Participated in several conference calls with Julia Marks Young (CoSA), Paul Bergeron (NAGARA), Vicki Walch (CoSA), Jackie Dooley, and Nancy on a number of topics. Most recently NARA has joined the conference calls.
3. **Communication with Nancy Beaumont:** Weekly telephone calls with Nancy, as noted above.
4. **Cultural Property Working Group Charge:** Conference call with Donna McCrea (Council liaison) and Jeannette Bastian and Marisol Ramos (Co-Chairs) on clarifying the charge for the Cultural Property Working Group (CPWG). Charged them with developing a more detailed charge that at the same time is much broader than the existing one, including American and international sources, case studies, etc.
 - a. Call followed conversations that Donna was having with the CPWG co-chairs.
 - b. Continued this conversation with Donna once the CPWG co-chairs submitted a more detailed charge. See action item on the CPWG in the Agenda.
5. **Standards Committee Charge:** Long email exchange with Standards Committee Co-Chairs Marcy Flynn and Cory Nimer, essentially addressing various procedures that they needed to clarify and a discussion of MPLP.

- a. Followed this with an Executive Committee conference call, with Nancy, to discuss the direction that the Executive Committee felt that the Standards Committee should take.
 - b. This was followed with a conference call involving Marcy, Cory, Nancy, and me regarding the above discussions, including how this could or would relate to joining ANSI.
 - c. Marcy and Cory were to revise the Standards Committee charge to bring it from the theoretical to the practical. They submitted a revised charge to Nancy, Dennis Meissner, Jackie Dooley, and me. A number of suggestions were made to clarify the charge even more. The revised charge is on the agenda for the January Council meeting.
6. **SAA/Regional Forum:** Initiated a discussion of the possibility of holding an SAA/Regional Forum at the 2012 Annual Meeting by requesting responses from Council members and from the presidents of about a dozen regional associations. Received numerous comments and suggestions. See discussion item on the Agenda.
 7. **Letter re IRBs:** Worked with Nancy and Mark Greene to draft a letter *re* IRBs to HHS following input from SAA groups.
 8. **SAA's Financial Status:** Participated in an Executive Committee conference call to address SAA's financial condition and steps being taken by the staff to reduce expenses. Decided to email the Council with the staff's report, with brief explanations as to reasons for reductions to see if there were other comments, suggestions, etc.
 9. **SAA Foundation:** Approved of and distributed emails to Fellows and Past Presidents soliciting donations to the SAA Foundation. Also, approved of the email that was distributed to the membership at large for the same reason.
 10. **SAA Representative to NHPRC:** Had a conference call with Nancy and Jackie regarding a request from Kathleen Williams, Executive Director of NHPRC, to appoint someone to represent SAA as NHPRC develops a report to the President updating the last one that was sent in 1978. Developed a short list and distributed that list to Council members for their suggestions and comments.
 11. **Roundtable Discussion:** Monitored the Council's discussion on new Roundtable petitions as well as the report of the Task Force on Sections and Roundtables. Asked Nancy to develop an update on the status of the recommendations from the Task Force for the Council meeting.
 12. **IMLS Grant proposal:** Discussed with Jackie and Nancy Beaumont the possibility of submitting a National Leadership Grant planning grant proposal to IMLS to look into the possibility of repeating the A*CENSUS survey on the tenth anniversary of the original survey (i.e., 2014), based on work done by Helen

Tibbo in recent weeks. Decided to request further information from Helen and IMLS before proceeding.

13. **SAA Members Survey:** Monitored Council discussion of the proposed member survey. Was impressed with the comments and suggestions put forth to make the survey as easy as possible to complete and to analyze.