

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
February 2 – 4, 2010  
Washington, D.C.**

**Discussion Item: Mandated Periodic Review of SAA Dues  
(Prepared by Brian Doyle and Tom Jurczak)**

**BACKGROUND**

The Council Handbook/Governance Manual specifies that the Council will review SAA's dues structure every three years to modify as necessary. The most recent review commenced in January 2006. A Dues Task Force, chaired by SAA Treasurer Fynnette Eaton, was charged in February 2006 and conducted its work the following summer. At its August 1, 2006, meeting, the Council resolved:

THAT the SAA Council take to the general membership in August 2007 the following proposal for an increase in member dues, effective January 1, 2008:

- (1) THAT a new membership category be created for those SAA members whose salary is \$75,000 per year or greater, and that the annual dues for that category of membership be established at \$216;
- (2) THAT a 10% dues increase be implemented for all categories of membership, except for Life and Retired members, effective January 1, 2008;
- (3) THAT SAA dues be adjusted upward every three years, effective January 1 of the third year, in an amount equal to the average annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for the preceding three-year period; and
- (4) THAT the SAA Council may suspend or reduce the triennial increase as economic factors warrant; and
- (5) THAT SAA evaluate the dues level categories every ten years to reflect the effects of inflation on the overall income of SAA members.

At its October 2006 meeting, the Council further resolved:

THAT the SAA Council rescind resolutions 3 and 4 of the vote taken on August 1, 2006, related to a proposed dues increase, and

THAT the Task Force on Dues be required to report back to the Council with a draft communication plan in January 2007; and

THAT the SAA Council evaluate the dues levels every year as part of the budget process to ensure adequate funding of the Society's strategic priorities and operational functions.

Resolutions 1 and 2 were moved at the Annual Business Meeting in August 2007, were approved by the membership, and went into effect on January 1, 2008. Prior to 2008, the most recent review and modification to SAA dues occurred in 1997.

## **DISCUSSION**

In August 2009, the Council established a new Finance Committee charged to “(assist) the Council in meeting its fiduciary responsibilities by: monitoring the financial health of the organization, ensuring that its assets are protected, and providing advice and counsel to the SAA Treasurer and the Council on financial matters, including the investment program.”

Staff proposes that the Council charge the Finance Committee to conduct the mandated review of SAA dues and present recommendations for consideration at the May 2010 meeting.