President’s Report
(Prepared by Peter Gottlieb)

My work since the February Council meeting has involved developing the framework for the advocacy/public relations strategic priority, concluding a new contract with Print and Electronic Publications Editor Peter Wosh, inviting comments on and revising the SAA statement on diversity, holding regular telephone conferences with the presidents of CoSA and NAGARA, and maintaining communications with Archivist of the United States David Ferriero.

Nancy and I discussed the advocacy/public relations priority with Dorothy Pirovano, reviewing our notes from the February Council meeting. We talked about ways to identify the most feasible, productive ideas from the meeting’s brainstorming and use them to write a new draft of the priority. Subsequently, Nancy and I discussed, wrote, and revised a new draft that I circulated to the Council on April 2. After getting the Council’s favorable review, Nancy and her staff added the plans for the measurable actions into the new draft. The entire new version of this priority comes back to the Council at this meeting for a final review.

Another follow-up from the February meeting included my telephone conference with Peter Wosh about renewing his contract as Publications Editor. The contract had already been drafted, and Peter told me he was satisfied with its terms. We quickly agreed to accept this without changes, and with our signatures on the document, Peter began his new contract on March 1.

The Council had decided to invite comments from several SAA groups on the diversity statement that we drafted and discussed at the February meeting. After some further editing by SAA staff, I sent this draft to the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable, the Native American Archives Roundtable, the Lesbian and Gay Archives Roundtable, the Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Heritage Archives Roundtable, and the Diversity Committee. With the exception of the Native American Archives Roundtable, all these groups responded, and their comments agreed on several points. I prepared a summary of all the comments and asked Diane Vogt-O’Connor to lead the process of revising the February draft, assisted by Rosalye Settles and Scott Cline.
During a telephone conference call about *DC 2010* with the presidents of CoSA (Pat Michaelis) and NAGARA (Tracey Berezansky), the executive directors of the organizations, and Nancy, there was a suggestion that we schedule regular conference calls to maintain communication about the meeting and about other issues of mutual interest. We held calls in March, April and May to talk about meeting arrangements, plenary sessions, major projects like PAHR, and our respective strategic plans and planning processes. Nancy and I also spoke by phone with AUS Ferriero and his staff on April 26, after a lengthy effort to schedule a time to connect. We reviewed PAHR’s legislative progress, the status of NHRPC’s reauthorization and FY 2011 appropriation, NARA’s government openness initiative, and Ferriero’s “citizen archivist” theme.

Finally, I represented SAA as plenary speaker at the Western RoundUp, a joint conference of several western states’ regional archives associations that took place in Seattle from May 28 to 31. I sent Nancy an electronic version of my talk on “Archivists and the Challenge of Cultural Property” so she could add it to the SAA website.