

**Development Committee**  
**Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference**  
**February 2011**

The Committee met during the fall meeting in Harrisburg on November 11, 2010 and decided to conduct an internal fundraising campaign for the Disaster Assistance Fund. Several members worked via email during December and January and have developed a modest plan for the spring 2011 meeting in Alexandria.

We will be asking the Finance Committee for a small allowance, under \$100, for supplies.

Submitted on Feb. 1, 2011  
Marianne Kasica  
Chair

**MARAC**  
**Distinguished Service Award Committee Report**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Baltimore, MD**  
**February 4, 2011**

**Membership**

- Susan McElrath, Chair
- Lauren Brown, MARAC Archivist
- Jodi Koste
- Cheryl Stadel-Bevans

**Progress**

- The Distinguished Service Award will be presented at the spring meeting in Alexandria, Virginia. The deadline for nominations is February 16, 2011.
- The 2011 Distinguished Service Award Nomination Form is on the MARAC website.  
<http://web.memberclicks.com/mc/page.do?sitePageId=95297&orgId=marac>
- Announcements were distributed via email and in the conference packet at the fall meeting in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The final announcement will go out later this week.

Submitted by  
Susan McElrath

# MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

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New York • Pennsylvania • Virginia • West Virginia

February 1, 2011

**TO: MARAC STEERING COMMITTEE**

**FROM: ARIAN D. RAVANBAKSH, CHAIR, ELECTRONIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**RE: STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

For submission to the MARAC Steering Committee at the winter meeting on Friday, February 4, 2011 in Baltimore, MD.

## **Committee Membership**

Committee is fully staffed. We've added MARAC Webmaster Matthew Strauss (see item 1 below) to the committee roster.

## **Meetings**

The Committee held a meeting on January 31.

- 1) Matthew Strauss, the Digital Collections Archivist at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh, PA has volunteered to serve as the MARAC webmaster. He has experience with HTML, CSS and is looking forward to working with MARAC. The Committee will continue to oversee the "punch list" items that were previously developed and will work on transitioning Mr. Strauss into his new role.
- 2) The Committee will support the Nominations and Elections Committee's deployment of Survey Monkey for the upcoming MARAC elections as necessary.
- 3) The Committee is considering the development of a survey instrument to assess what kinds of collaborative functions would be used by MARAC committees or the membership at large (i.e. Basecamp, other wiki/communication platform).

## **Issues for Steering**

We have none at this time.

**MARAC Education Committee Report**  
**January 31, 2011**  
**Submitted by Brian Keough, Chair**

**Off-conference Workshops**

On Thursday February 24, 2011, MARAC and Rutgers University Library are hosting a full-day workshop on managing electronic records. The instructor is Bonnie Weddle, Electronic Records Archivist, New York State Archives. 41 people are registered for the workshop.

**Leonard Rapport Modern Archives Institute Scholarship**

Yuki Hibben is the recipient of the Leonard Rapport Modern Archives Institute Scholarship and is currently attending the Winter 2011 MAI. She will submit an essay describing the value of her experience for an upcoming issue of the *Mid-Atlantic Archivist*. Ms Hibben works at the Special Collections and Archives, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries.

**Spring 2011 conference travel and workshop awards**

The deadline for the Spring 2011 conference travel and workshop awards for the Alexandria, VA conference is April 1, 2011. For more information go to:

<http://www.marac.info/mc/page.do?sitePageId=92118>

# Finding Aids Committee Report MARAC Steering Committee Meeting University of Baltimore February 4, 2011

## **Membership Changes**

Kelly Spring of Johns Hopkins University recently agreed to serve on the Committee. Once her appointment is final, the committee will be set for the 2010 awards cycle.

## **Activities**

A call for submissions for the 2010 Finding Aid Awards (to be awarded at the upcoming MARAC meeting) was sent out originally via MARAC's caucus representatives and the SAA listserv. Committee members also saw that the award deadline appeared in SAA's "In the loop" newsletter, the SAA and MARAC facebook pages and the Delaware Valley Archivists listserv. (Thanks go to Steven Bookman and Clare Flemming.) Finally, an announcement was made at the Fall Business Meeting to make members aware of the upcoming deadlines. (Special thanks go to new committee member Adriane Hanson for going above and beyond the call to make the announcement!)

Despite these efforts, we received only four submissions before the December 17<sup>th</sup> deadline. The deadline was extended to January 14<sup>th</sup>, eliciting submission of five further finding aids. The net result was the submission of nine finding aids from nine different institutions. This represents the same number of institutions as last year, but fewer finding aids, since there were not multiple submissions from any institution.

The committee will be proceeding with selection of awardees in the next two months.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorthea Sartain

February 4, 2010

Memorandum: MARAC steering Committee

The membership committee reports that of January 28, 15 new members joined in November and 4 members in December. These members have already been contacted with their log in information.

Carolina Palacios

Membership Chair



## **FISCAL YEAR 2010 ANNUAL REPORT--THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR HISTORY**

(Prepared by Lee White, Executive Director)

### **I. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY**

#### **1. Federal Appropriations**

**Before adjourning sine die in late-December, the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) for fiscal year (FY) 2011 that runs until March 4, 2011.** Federal agency FY 11 budgets were frozen at FY 2010 funding levels. However, the Republican leadership in the House and Senate have pledged to try to attempt to cut the FY 11 budget back to FY 2008 levels when the CR expires in March. As a result, the implications for federal agency programs are not known at this time.

In March 2010, NCH submitted testimony to the House and Senate Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Subcommittees on NARA and the NHPRC's FY 2011 proposed budgets. NCH supported the Administration's proposed funding for the National Declassification Center, Electronic Records Archive and other operational programs. NCH strongly supported the proposed increase in funding to hire additional archival staff. NCH called for \$13 million in funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission instead of the Administration's proposed funding level of \$10 million.

#### **2. Teaching American History Grants:**

In March 2010, the White House released "A Blueprint for Reform," which details the administration's plans for reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Like NCLB, the reform proposal continues to prioritize reading and math over other subjects.

President Obama's FY 2011 budget request to Congress for the Department of Education proposed consolidating 38 existing K-12 education programs into 11 new programs. **Under the administration's budget request, grants for history education would now be part of a new program called "Effective Teaching and Learning for a Well-Rounded Education."**

**Teaching American History Grants would be consolidated into this new program and would no longer exist as a free-standing budget line item.**

The administration proposed \$265 million in funding in fiscal 2011 for the new initiative. Although the fiscal 2011 budget request included a \$38.9 million increase in funding to support teaching and learning in arts, history, civics, foreign languages, geography, and economics, the administration proposes to combine eight subject-specific grant programs into a single competitive grant program. **Unfortunately, under the proposed competitive grant program the various subjects would be pitted against each other for scarce resources.**

In July, the National Coalition for History (NCH) and ten other NCH members joined forces with over 20 educational organizations representing other K-12 academic disciplines in issuing a statement to Congress and the Administration calling for the continued robust funding of core academic subjects including history. This includes maintenance of discrete funding for each discipline, including Teaching American History grants.

### **3. National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Reauthorization**

**NCH urged the passage of the House and Senate bills with an annual authorization for the NHPRC at the \$20 million level.**

**The NHPRC's authorization expired on September 30, 2009, which had authorized funding at the \$10 million level.** Legislation (H.R. 5616) was introduced in the House to reauthorize the NHPRC for 5 years through FY 2015 at an annual level of \$20 million. In July, the Senate passed legislation (S. 2872) to reauthorize the NHPRC at an annual level of \$10 million for five years, through FY 2014.

On June 7, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census and the National Archives held a hearing to consider ways to strengthen the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Even before any witnesses testified, both Republicans on the subcommittee who were present took a hard line against any increase in the authorization level and also argued that the National Archives should focus on its core mission of preserving federal records. They asserted that NHPRC funding should not go to states or other entities to preserve "non-federal" records.

Witnesses representing six NCH member organizations testified at the hearing including the American Historical Association, Association for Documentary Editing, American Association for State & Local History, Council of State Archivists, Organization of American Historians, and Society of American Archivists.

On July 30, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee's scheduled mark up of legislation (H.R. 5616), was postponed indefinitely. Although no official reason was given as to why the bill was pulled from the agenda at the last minute, apparently the Republican members of the committee had planned to offer a number of crippling amendments. These included cutting the authorization level for the NHPRC in the bill to \$10 million and limiting eligibility and the scope of projects the NHPRC could fund.

#### **4. Presidential Records:**

**In January 2009, presidential records reform legislation (H.R. 35) was the first bill passed the House.** In July 2009, similar legislation cleared the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. **However, for the second year in a row Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) continued to place a hold on the bill preventing its consideration in the Senate.** Senator Joseph Lieberman (ID-CT), chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and General Government Committee, repeatedly tried to convince Senator Sessions to lift his opposition, but to no avail.

#### **5. Formula Grants for State and Local Archives**

The archival community lobbied throughout the year for the passage of legislation (H.R. 2256, S. 3227) to establish the Partnership for the American Historical Record (PAHR), a state-based formula grant program for archives. NCH has endorsed the bill and assisted their efforts by issuing a legislative alert to those on our mailing list urging them to contact their Members of Congress and ask them to co-sponsor the bills.

## **II. FEDERAL AGENCY ADVOCACY:**

### **1. Processing, Preservation and Declassification of Federal and Presidential Records**

NCH collaborated with other stakeholder groups in working to reduce over-classification of government records, increase public access to unclassified records, speed the declassification process and establish standards for the preservation and retrieval of federal and presidential electronic records. NCH will continue to press for the passage of legislation or regulatory action by NARA to establish meaningful records preservation standards and aggressively ensure federal agency compliance.

The National Archives has a 400+ million page backlog of records that need to be processed and declassified. NCH's input was solicited by NARA's new National Declassification Center on establishing a prioritization scheme for the declassification of its vast holdings. NCH also participated in meetings with the Directors of the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), Electronic Records Archive and Presidential Libraries at the National Archives.

In 2010, NCH continued to advise and monitor the activities of the Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB), the State Department's Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation, the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, the Advisory Committee on the Electronic Records Archive and the Advisory Committee on Presidential Library-Foundations.

**Nominations and Elections Committee Report**  
**Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference**  
**February 2011**

All members of the 2010-2011 Nominations & Elections Committee attended and participated in meetings held on November 11 and 12, 2010, during the MARAC meeting in Harrisburg. Arian Ravanbakhsh, MARAC's Chair of the Electronic Resources Committee, met with the committee on November 11 and discussed "electronic voting" for the 2011 elections. Ravanbakhsh and Administrator Holly Kahlbach will facilitate electronic voting via Survey Monkey. Committee members decided on format and content for candidates' biographies to be submitted in advance of the election and formulated the question to be addressed by candidates for MARAC Chair. There was also discussion of nominations and self-nominations received before November 11 for Chair, Vice Chair, Members-at-Large, Arline Custer Award Committee, Distinguished Service Award Committee, and Nominations & Elections Committee. Committee members discussed possible nominees for slates that had not yet been filled and assembled a list of individuals to be contacted; individual members accepted responsibility for contacting possible nominees for unfilled slates and confirming the interest of those who previously agreed to run. Much of the discussion at the November 12 meeting focused on nominees for Chair and Vice Chair.

On November 17, MARAC administrator Holly Kahlbach disseminated the second (and last) call for nominations to members.

Committee members contacted twenty MARAC members to run for Chair or Vice Chair before the slates were filled. One of the twenty enthusiastically agreed to run for Chair. Previously, the incumbent Vice Chair had agreed to run for re-election. Eventually, two incumbents of other elected offices, who had agreed to run for re-election for those positions, agreed to run for Chair and Vice Chair. By January 19, all slates were filled!

Committee members contacted all of the candidates and solicited biographical statements to be submitted by February 1. Chair candidates were also asked to submit a response to the following question: "While serving as Chair, a graduate student asks you why he or she should join MARAC. How do you explain the relevance of the organization and its role within the profession?"

Document containing candidate biographical statements and Chair responses is under construction to be completed and approved by committee members by February 14. Balloting will take place between March 3 and April 7. The MARAC Administrator will send the announcement about the election on or about February 21, an invitation to the Survey Monkey ballot on or before March 3, and reminders to vote on or about March 17 and April 1.

The Steering Committee may wish to propose an amendment to Bylaw 3.A:

“The Nominations and Elections Committee shall consist of five (5) members. Two (2) shall be outgoing Steering Committee members chosen by the MARAC Chair, and three (3) shall be elected by the membership. The Nominations and Elections Chair shall be the elected member that received the most votes.”

In 2010, all of the outgoing members of the Steering Committee opted to run for re-election. The Chair was forced to appoint two newly elected Steering Committee members to the committee, as Nominations and Elections Committee members may not be nominated for election.

Respectfully submitted  
Beth Alvarez, Chair  
February 1, 2011

# MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

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Delaware • District of Columbia • Maryland • New Jersey  
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To: MARAC Steering Committee

From: David Rose; Chair, Outreach Committee

Re: Outreach Committee Report; Baltimore, Maryland; February 4, 2011

Outreach Committee to develop Archives Month theme for 2011. Your suggestions will be appreciated.

I would like to touch briefly on the agenda items proposed last quarter, as follows:

Issue for Steering:

Archives Month 2010 featured a blog created by Leahkim Gannett of the Outreach Committee. See <http://maracarchivesmonth.blogspot.com/>. We propose to continue the blog throughout the next year for MARAC outreach efforts and ask for input on the following:

- Steering Committee contributions to the blog
- Approaching selected archives patrons to submit items about how archives have impacted their academic, profession, or personal research
- Improving the blog (increasing contributions!) for Archives Month 2011
- Coordination of blog with Electronic Resources Committee

Your ideas will be appreciated!

**February 4, 2011 / David Rose / Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC)**

**Publications Committee Report**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Baltimore, MD**  
**February 4, 2011**

*Mid-Atlantic Archivist*

In January, the Committee, working with Holly Kalbach, submitted suggestions and comments for the revised MAA which has been redesigned with new graphics and color.

MAA deadline for the Spring Issue is February 15.

**Technical Leaflets**

Mary Mannix is working on Technical Leaflet #12 which is on conducting a reference interview.

Don Mcilwain is no longer able to complete Technical Leaflet #7 because of his duties concerning the establishment of the National Declassification Center. We are looking for an author to take over this task.

**Publication Sales**

November 1, 2010 to January 25, 2011

Title	Conference	Other
Documentary Heritage	0	0
Constitutional Issues	0	0
Guidelines in Archives & Ms.	0	0
Technical Leaflet #1 (No longer for sale)	0	0
Technical Leaflet #2 (Computing the Cost)	0	0
Technical Leaflet #3 (Planning for Arch Prog)	2	0
Technical Leaflet #4 (Congressional Collections)	0	0
Technical Leaflet #5 (Exhibits)	1	0
Technical Leaflet #6 (Volunteers)	2	0
Technical Leaflet #7 (No longer for sale)	0	0
Technical Leaflet #8 (Archival Sampling)	2	0
Technical Leaflet #9 (Photograph Preservation)	5	0
Technical Leaflet #10 (Scientific Record-Keeping)	3	0
Technical Leaflet #11 (Architectural Records)	2	0
TOTAL	17	0

Respectfully submitted,

Sharmila Bhatia

Chair, Publications Committee