

Date: 11/24/08

Name of Section/Roundtable: Reference, Access, and Outreach Section

Officers: Please see report separately filed with SAA office.

Report from annual meeting:

- Number of attendees: 77
- Election results: Amy Schindler, Vice-Chair/Chair-elect, Danna Bell-Russel and Kathy Marquis to the two open Steering Committee slots.
- Summary of meeting activities:
(or attach minutes or newsletter accounts)

Minutes from the RAO meeting.

1. Information regarding session proposals presented, along with information pre-conference workshops.
2. Task Force Report 1: Susan McElrath spoke on National History Day, reporting on survey completed by the NHD Task Force. Report available on RAO website.
 - Suggestions include SAA sponsoring a prize
 - Leverage SAA support at the state level with SAA as a sponsor
 - Work towards diversity in applicants, workers
 - 2nd question on broader participation – how we do this. Answers included:
 - o workshop for NHD
 - o preconference workshop/session
 - o session by RAO in Austin
 - Do it yourself workshop another idea
 - Recognition of an NHD participant – let them talk about their experiences, suggestions.
 - Put the curriculum on the website
 - Create a brochure
 - Provide continuing education credit
3. Task Force Report 2: Joanne Archer, Shannon Bowen, Jackie Dean, presented information on the MPLP Task Force. Report available on RAO website.
4. Workshop and Program ideas:
 - Sustaining traffic in a digital age
 - History Day
 - Basics of Archives workshops, including diversity of people we are hoping to include in outreach efforts.
 - Impact of Technology – remote users; mass digitization’s impact on reference
 - Topical collection guides –variety of access points
5. Election of officers
6. Presentations

Completed projects/activities

National History Day (NHD) Task Force report

MPLP Task Force report (both on RAO website at:
<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/rao/index.asp>)

Ongoing projects/activities

Continuation of NHD Task Force to determine next steps

Continuation of MPLP Task Force to determine next steps (potentially as a joint project with the Description Section)

New projects/activities

Appointment of Newsletter Editor: Nancy Melley, NARA

Appointment of Newsletter Task Force to evaluate the newsletter as an instrument of communication for the Section, survey membership as to communication needs, and suggest to Steering Committee possible changes as well as any required Bylaws changes. Task Force initially comprised of: Nancy Melley, Todd Kosmerick, and Tiffany Schureman. Task Force to complete their work by mid-October 2008, provide suggestions to Steering Committee, and Steering Committee to act on suggestions as needed.

Web 2.0 investigation: may take the form of a task force, may take other forms. Several members of Steering Committee and other interested parties will start investigating what RAO might do in regards to 2.0 technologies: either in RAO communications or for furthering use of these technologies in the RAO-related elements of the profession.

Preparing a list of section goals.

Diversity initiatives

Nothing concrete at this time. As the time for Steering Committee nominations comes closer, will deliberately be working to make sure diversity matters are taken into consideration in the slate. Other opportunities to work diversity initiatives into other RAO activities will be actively pursued as possible.