

Awards Committee Report

Fall 2020 Steering Committee Meeting

As noted in the report, the Finding Aids committee had a tie for the winner of the Finch award. I approached the MARAC Chair and Treasurer to see if we could have two awards. After discussion the MARAC chair brought forward a proposal asking for the approval of the two awards to Steering. Steering approved the request.

I will be out of pocket from mid-November to early January. I will check email occasionally when I am able.

MARAC Custer Awards Committee

Jasmine Smith, Senior Co-Chair

The Custer Awards Committee is pleased to announce the 2020 award recipients. The Arline Custer Memorial Award for Books goes to Barry Loveland and William Burton for their book, *Out in Central Pennsylvania: The History of an LGBTQ Community*.

The Custer Award for Articles goes to Sarah Hedlund for her article, "At the Hands of Parties Unknown: The 1880 Lynchings in Montgomery County, Maryland," published in *The Montgomery County Story*, Summer 2020 issue.

The Committee received 15 nominations for the Custer Award. The committee will continue to research publicity venues for the award announcements.

Committee members reviewed and scored each of the 15 entries, and co-chairs tabulated scores to determine the winners. Winners have been initially notified, and the treasurer will shortly receive mailing information so that checks can be delivered to the winners. Non-winning entries are being notified and returned.

MARAC Finding Aid Awards Committee Report

Phoebe Kowalewski, Senior Co-Chair

We received thirteen nominations for the C. Herbert Finch Online Publication Award by the July 31st deadline. This impressive turn out is far beyond the 4-5 submissions we would typically receive in the two years since I joined the committee. Nominees represented a diverse range of archives, including the Library of Congress, NARA, Goldman Sachs, and a number of university and historical societies.

The committee convened for a 90-minute session on Zoom on August 31st, in which we discussed the strengths and weakness of each publication in terms of content, design, and originality. Two submissions—those from the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division and the University of Virginia-- stood out far beyond the rest. Due to the closeness in merit of these two submissions, we were unanimous in our desire to present the award to both institutions. I emailed Danna Bell to see if this were possible. While waiting for a decision, committee members began drafting consolation letters. Last week I was pleased to learn to our request to grant the award

to our top two nominees had been approved. I have begun to draft the congratulation letters and plan to have all letters sent out this week.

MARAC Scholarship Committee Report

Cindy Bendroth, Chair

New members to the Scholarship Committee started in July and were added to the google drive. No travel scholarships were given in the Spring or Fall due to the meeting cancellations due to Covid-19.

In the beginning of September, a call went out for one graduate scholarship. Applications are due October 31st with the selection process to be completed by mid-November

MARAC Distinguished Service Award

No report

Respectfully submitted,

Danna Bell
MARAC Awards Committee Chair

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October 16, 2020

Communications Committee is comprised of Heidi Abbey Moyer, Jodi Boyle, Ilhan Citak, Kathleen Donahoe, Alex Japha, Michael Martin, Melissa Nerino, Lara Szypszak, Dana Dorman, Diane Wunsch, and Molly Tighe. Caitlin Rizzo and Sara Predmore are ex-officio members.

Committee Assignments

With several committee assignments nearing the end of their terms, including MAA Editor, Technical Leaflets Editor-in-Chief, and Technical Leaflets Editor, the committee has been exploring both succession planning and recruitment.

Missy Nerino, MAA Assistant Editor will be moving into the MAA Editor role in Summer 2021, leaving the MAA Assistant Editor role vacant. Recruitment efforts for the MAA Assistant Editor role are underway.

Technical Leaflets Editor-in-Chief and Technical Leaflets Editor have agreed to continue serving in their respective roles for an additional term. The committee is exploring options for adding an additional committee member to Editorial Team.

Mid-Atlantic Archivist (MAA)

The fall 2020 issue of the MAA was published online on September 23. The print version was distributed via postal mail soon afterward. This issue included one submission from presenters/authors originally intended to present at MARAC Harrisonburg.

As the MAA will transition to a predominantly online publication in winter 2021, the fall issue included a feature with MARAC Archivist Dr. Joni Jones Floyd reminding readers about the transition, who will still receive print copies (only institutional subscribers), and how Dr. Floyd and colleagues at the University of Maryland Libraries will ultimately upload all back issues of the MAA to the Internet Archive for MARAC members to access. The article also offered background on Dr. Floyd and MARAC's archival collection.

Social Media

Since July 2020, original content has been published 8 times on Twitter, with posts being seen approximately 7800 times. During this period, the MARAC Twitter account has had 110 profile visits, 4 mentions, and 9 new followers. The current follower total is 860.

The MARAC Facebook page has gained 4 new members for a new total of 697. There have been 32 new posts by both the Social Media Manager and by various members, especially as relates to the

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conference scheduling, committee opportunities, and scholarships. Six new blog posts were published since July 2020 and each was subsequently shared through Facebook and Twitter channels.

Additionally, members of the Communication Committee are planning social media posts relating to National Archives Month in fulfillment of strategic plan goals.

Technical Leaflets

The Technical Leaflets editorial board has edited and returned a first draft of a forthcoming leaflet on Scrapbooks and is in the process of contacting peer reviewers. This leaflet is on track to be published before the end of 2020. An additional leaflet in development has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and is expected to be published in 2021.

The Technical Leaflets Editor-in-Chief and the Technical Leaflets Editor have been updating relevant sections of the Operations Manual and are creating a new set of guidelines for authors and peer reviewers. These updated guidelines are expected to be particularly helpful in soliciting and publishing new leaflets in the future.

Calls for proposals are planned for mid-October, a schedule that meets the committee goal of promoting the publications in parallel with conferences.

In consideration of the evolution of the MARAC Technical Leaflets Series towards a double-blind, peer-reviewed and more formal yet still practical publication, the committee is exploring the potential to rebrand the series with a title that more accurately conveys the purpose and intended audience. This exploration may include considerations relating to the ISSN number, the serial numeration, and potential coordination with MARAC's 50th anniversary activities.

MARAC Advertising Rates

In August 2020, a subcommittee comprised of members of the Communications Committee, MARAC Treasurer, the MARAC Website team, the Vendor Liaison, and members met to discuss the creation of paid advertising space on the website and/or as part of an overall revision in vendor advertising options through MARAC properties.

Following a review of the advertising rates and locations of similar organizations, it was determined that MARAC would provide website banner ads at quarter year intervals for \$250 per quarter (10% discount for entire year). The quarters are to follow the MAA deadline schedule.

Efforts are ongoing to determine resolution and dimensions needed and to create a new advertising rate card that includes the web banner for distribution to advertisers. The new advertising rate card

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will be available on the website and is expected to be completed before the Spring 2021 publishing deadline.

Other News

- The committee has updated the Operations Manual to reflect logistics relating to representation at SAA conferences through a free, volunteer-staffed table at in-person conferences or an equivalent for virtual conferences.
- The first two Occasional Webinars were presented on July 29th and August 5th. There was good attendance between 50 or 70 people for each. From a technical standpoint, things went smoothly. The topics were related on the archival records of the 1918 influenza pandemic and documenting the present COVID-19 pandemic with the student paper at Lehigh University. These were obviously very relevant given the times and we had questions about the sources used and how archives were relevant to the presenters' research. There is now a form on the MARAC website to allow others to give their proposal for another occasional webinar. MARAC already presented one in September about returning to work at the Archives and dealing with the pandemic. Currently there are immediate plans for another webinar.
- The committee has run into one problem. The Zoom recordings cannot be stored in DRUM as MARAC is transitioning its electronic files from DRUM to the Internet Archive. This has caused problems because of issues with workflow to allow upload in the Internet Archive. The MARAC Zoom account's cloud storage is limited. So, recordings can only be saved on local PCs and Google Drive accounts for the time being. MARAC Archivist Joni Floyd is still working on setting up the workflow to allow the recordings in MP4 format, along with a transcription and associated files, to be saved.

Respectfully submitted by
Michael Martin & Molly Tighe
MARAC Communications Committee Co-chairs

MARAC
Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report
October 2020

Date: 10/21/2020

To: Members of the MARAC Steering Committee

Re: Summary of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee Activities (August 2020 – October 2020) for Fall Steering Committee Meeting, October 23, 2020

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is comprised of the following members: Josué Hurtado (chair), Rayna Andrews, Marci Bayer, and Ali Zawoyski,

The committee conducted meetings virtually.

D&I Session Scholarship goes for virtual conferences

The committee reviewed procedures for awarding its first session scholarship for virtual sessions. The first awards were set to be handed out for the since cancelled Long Branch conference. Virtual conferences negate the need for transportation and lodging expenses, but the award can still cover conference registration fees for members of a winning session.

Committee proposes another online forum

The committee proposed to host another online form around the topic of precarious employment in the archives field. Committee member, Rayna Andrews, worked on the Collective Responsibility Forum: National Forum on Labor Practices for Grant-Funded Digital Positions, and the white paper this forum released will form the basis of the discussion. We are hoping that some of the report's writers will be able to join us. Date is to be determined.

Program Committee coordination

Josué Hurtado will serve as the committee's liaison to the virtual spring program committee. Ali Zawoyski will remain as liaison for the Gettysburg program committee.

Respectfully submitted by Josué Hurtado (chair)

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MARAC Education Committee Report 16 October 2020

Activities

Worked with the Communications Committee to create Occasional Webinars, and have offered three so far this year:

July 29 – Bethlehem Steel, Industry, and the 1918 Influenza Pandemic by James Higgins

August 4 – Publishing and Archiving the Lehigh University Campus Newspapers Brown and White During the COVID-19 Pandemic by Matt Vedo

September 30 – Reopening the Archives with panelists Laura Christiansen, Bob Clark, Alexandra Gressitt, Paige Newman, Chrissie Perella and moderator, Tara Wink

Reminder that the Presentation Proposal Form is available under Workshops on the MARAC website

Spring 2021 Virtual Conference

Nuts and Bolts: Creating Sustainable Foundations for Oral History Projects and Programs

Instructors: Elizabeth Call, Rochester Institute of Technology and Marilyn McKinley Parrish, Millersville University

Contacting other workshop instructors from Harrisonburg and Long Branch

Ongoing tasks:

~ Developing webinars

~ Developing guidelines for Zoom workshops/webinars

~ MARAC Archives Institute – mission and overview

~ Workshop instructors' contracts

Respectfully submitted:

Paige Newman, Chair

Andrea Belair

Deirdre Joyce

Elliot McNally

Dawn Sherman-Fells

Elizabeth Wilkinson

MARAC

Membership Committee Report

October 2020

Membership

- Sara A. Borden, CA, Chair
- Sierra Green
- Cara Griggs
- Liza Zakharova
- Theresa Altieri Taplin
- Alexandra deGraffenreid
- Sheridan Sayles, Mentorship Program Sub-Committee Coordinator
 - Diane Biunno
 - Christie Lutz
 - Nicole Topich
- Caitlin Rizzo, MARAC Secretary (ex-officio)
- Sara Predmore, MARAC Administrator (ex-officio)

Progress and News

- Membership Survey
 - The membership survey went out early in 2020 and results are in and were analyzed. A report was given to Steering in July; the results and presentation are available on request
 - Sara B. will present the results of the survey to the general membership in the Old Business section of the Business Meeting on October 30
- Virtual New Member Orientations
 - Virtual New Member Orientations were held on three dates (August 14 at 10AM; August 18 at 2PM; August 26 at 7PM) throughout the summer via Zoom
 - We reached approximately 75 members through these sessions
 - We would like to continue to host quarterly virtual New Member Orientations moving forward, regardless of in-person meetings, to reach members who, for whatever reason, cannot attend conferences
- Special Interest E-Lists
 - E-lists premiered in late July.
 - In addition to the e-list that were listed in the last report, we added two additional e-lists, as follows:
 - Diversity@marac.info: Discuss any and all issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion in archival institutions and in the archival profession
 - Job-concern@marac.info: For members affected by layoffs, downsizing, fear of job loss and other stresses on archival positions; seek and share job-hunting strategies and leads; general job-hunting and job-mourning networking

MARAC
Nominations and Elections Committee
Report October 23, 2020

The Nominations and Elections Committee consists of: Christopher Hartten, Jordan Patty, Matt Testa, Kate Palm, and Tara Maharjan (chair).

Two emails to the MARAC membership generally, two facebook posts, and a *Mid-Atlantic Archivist* article have announced that the elections are open. So far we have eleven people running. The NEC chair also sent emails to everyone who expressed interest in Diversity and Inclusion, Distinguished Service, and Nominations and Elections in hopes to get a few more to run.

- Chair Elect (1 needed) - 0 running
- Secretary (1 needed) - 1 running
- Meeting Coordinator (1 needed) - 1 running
- Member-At-Large (1 needed) - 1 running
- Diversity Chair (1 needed) - 1 running
- Custer Award (2 needed) - 2 running
- Distinguished Service (1 needed) - 2 running
- Finding Aids (2 needed) - 3 running
- NEC (3 needed) - 2 running
- Scholarship (2 needed) - 5 running

We are using the new Google form to keep the nominations together. So far the form is working perfectly.

The timeline for the rest of the election is as follows:

- Nov. 9 - Email seeking additional candidates
- Nov. 20 - Finalize slate of candidates and draft questions for chair-elect candidates
- Dec. 15 - Finalize bios for candidates.
- Jan. 15 - Work with Sara to create test ballots/ Steering Report
- January 22 (80 days before Spring Meeting) - Email to explain election procedure to MARAC
- January 27 (75 days before Spring Meeting) - Send out ballots (voting lasts 30 days)
- February 26 - Voting closes

Respectfully Submitted,
Tara Maharjan
October 12, 2020