

MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

Delaware • District of Columbia • Maryland • New Jersey
New York • Pennsylvania • Virginia • West Virginia

MARAC Business Meeting

2024 April 10, 12:00pm

Virtual (Zoom)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:01pm.

II. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved at 12:03pm.

III. Approval of [Saratoga Springs Fall 2023 Business Meeting Minutes](#)

The minutes were approved at 12:04pm.

IV. Chair's Report

The strategic plan has been approved and [is now available on the MARAC website](#). It is the result of several conversations among the MARAC membership and deliberations in Steering Committee that have taken place over the last two years. There are new educational programs and initiatives included that are very exciting.

A proposal for a new award is in progress. In developing this award we are reconsidering the workflow for awards – how to fund them, how to develop new awards, who is responsible for reviewing applicants for the awards, and so on. We want to look at ways to ensure that the awards subcommittees are not overburdened with work in their deliberation process.

By all accounts Monday's MARAC Symposium was a success. Mary Mannix will provide more information in her report.

V. Meeting Coordinator's Report

Congratulations to Rayna Andrews and the Diversity & Inclusion Committee for the success of the MARAC Symposium on Monday. We had 85 registrants and 11

vendors. A reminder that there is a follow-up Right To Be training occurring virtually on April 26 (\$30 registration fee).

The next MARAC conference will be held virtually from November 13-15. Virtual LAC and program committee chairs have been identified (PC needs a co-chair!).

The Spring 2025 meeting will be in person at the Harrisburg Hilton from May 1-3. The reception will be at the science center adjacent to the Hilton.

Thanks to the Saratoga Springs committees and committee co-chairs!

VI. Treasurer's Report

a. Treasurer's third quarter report

Q3 highlights: We had a net gain of \$8,516. This includes income from the Symposium but not expenses (which are paid in Q4). The net gain for the year is \$8,940, a substantial improvement on where we were at this time last year. Our investment returns have improved a lot, partially due to market performance and partially due to repositioning of our investments into higher-return CDs.

b. Membership dues proposal vote

Proposed changes: Regular rate increase from \$45 to \$60. Student/Retired rate is redefined to Bridge/Retired rate, and increases from \$20 to \$30. The vote will be open until 1:00pm.

Jessica Webster commended the work of Amy Fitch and the Finance Committee, in particular for maintaining the current simple dues structure and striving to be as equitable as possible when considering dues structures.

VII. Awards Announcements & Presentations

a. Finding Aids Awards

Kira Dietz presented three citations. First: *Francis Paudras collection on Bud Powell*, Institute of Jazz Studies, Rutgers University Libraries. Second: *Benjamin McLaurin papers*, New York Public Library (Em Longan, author). Third: *Shipley-Bringhurst-Hargraves family papers*, Special Collections and Museums, University of Delaware Library (Dustin Frolick, author).

b. Meeting and Travel Awards (Symposium)

The Marsha Trimble Award went to Laura Stein. The Joan Echtenkamp Klein award went to Michael Johnson.

c. Distinguished Service Award

The winner of the Distinguished Service Award for 2024 is Sharmila Bhatia! The committee and nominators noted Sharmila's longstanding and passionate commitment to the archives profession, willingness to step up in mentorship and service within MARAC particularly. Work in emerging tech, electronic formats, extensive knowledge of system management, user testing, managing work of team members and providing training in archives management across the lifecycle of materials. Served on one LAC and multiple program committees, presented and written four meeting presentations and three MAA articles. Long career at NARA, many presentations about AI, records management at SAA, MARAC, NAGARA. Longtime SAA and MARAC member, currently the treasurer of SAA and SAA Foundation.

d. Diversity and Inclusion Session Award

Ali Zawoyski presented the Diversity and Inclusion Session Scholarships to Frank Vitale ("Affordable and Easy Universal Design in Archival Instruction") and Diane Biunno, Angela Lawrence, and Robert Vietrogoski ("Editing Wikipedia, Advancing DEI: Spotlighting Newark History in Rutgers Archives").

VIII. New Business

No new business to report.

IX. Invitation to the Fall 2024 Virtual Meeting

The VAC co-chairs (Scott Keefer and Colleen McFarland Rademaker) invite MARAC to The Internet, for the Fall 2024 virtual meeting from November 13-15. The benefits of planning for virtual conferences: cost reduction, avoidance of travel costs and hotel contracts, guests from outside the Mid-Atlantic region, and flexibility in scheduling. We will have the same educational content that membership expects.

Both VAC and program committee (Megan Craynon, chair) are looking for volunteers. Get in touch with the chairs and co-chairs if you are interested! The Program Committee is also interested in recruiting a co-chair.

X. Announcements & Adjournment

Jessica Webster congratulated Ali Zawoyski as incoming MARAC chair, and Zachary Hottel as incoming chair-elect, as well as all of the incoming Steering Committee members and caucus chairs.

There are many [upcoming educational offerings from MARAC](#) to be aware of.

Amy Fitch noted that the virtual conference budget has been approved and we can share the registration rates. The fees will be \$30 for members and \$50 for non-members. Student members continue to enjoy free attendance at the virtual conference (student non-members pay \$10).

Congratulations again to Sharmila for the Distinguished Service Award!

The meeting adjourned at 12:35pm.