

MAC midwest archives conference

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Preserving the Documents of the Past and Making Them Accessible to the Future!

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President's Page

January 2021

To the MAC community:

Happy 2021! I am sure that you, like me, have a guarded optimism about the year ahead. It feels like a long time since I've been able to share something positive with you over the past year. But, I believe we have several things that we, as an organization, can begin to look forward to.

At our Council meetings in October, we were able to make future plans that will benefit MAC.

First, MAC Council approved our slate of candidates for the 2021 election. I am so appreciative of the work of the Nominating Committee for putting together an excellent list of candidates. MAC will be well-served by each and every one. Thank you, Dina Kellams, Heather Fox, and Rachel Seale.

Next, we launched a Code of Conduct Working Group that will pick up the recommendations prepared in 2018 and finalize a Code of Conduct for Council's approval. This will apply to all of MAC's spaces, including in-person, online, and in any other way, MAC comes together.

We approved a Social Response and Advocacy Committee. Inspired by the events of 2020, including the global pandemic, unemployment, loss of funding sources, and the clarity of systemic racism in our society as is evident in the murder of George Floyd, this new working body will be led by an appointed Council member and will include the president, secretary, and two individuals from the general membership including one who is currently a student member. The committee will address issues or events that affect our membership as archivists and as members of our communities to help MAC leadership respond more quickly and efficiently.

Council also approved the new role of volunteer coordinator. At any given time, MAC has dozens of members serving in leadership roles, as committee or working group members, and planning and preparing our meetings. How do we find all of these people? Some self-nominate, but others are suggested or recruited, yet no one ever has a good idea of how many people there are or what roles need to be filled. This new role will allow for a point person to connect volunteers to open positions on existing committees, recruit members to serve in soon-to-be vacant positions, and assist the vice president in recruiting members for Local Arrangements and Program Committees.

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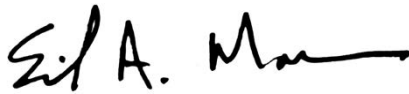
President's Page

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Finally, MAC is moving forward with annual meeting planning, which you can learn more about in the vice president's column. But, suffice to say, meetings are important, whether virtual or in-person. They are the heart of MAC and the reason we were organized in the first place.

Please do remember to renew your membership. There is still time before the MAC 2021 election begins.

Sincerely,



Erik A. Moore
President, Midwest Archives Conference



2021 Spring Annual Meeting

May 13–14, 2021, virtual

While we are disappointed that we won't be able to see one another in person this spring, we hope you'll join us for the MAC 2021 Spring Annual Meeting to be held virtually on May 13 and 14. The year 2020 brought both challenges and opportunities to archivists. How have archivists responded to the pandemic, budget cuts, remote work, shutdowns, and civic unrest? What opportunities were presented to archivists, such as community engagement, working on backlogs, and focusing on digital projects? What other clouds and silver linings have archivists encountered in their work? What work and projects have archivists undertaken that adapt to cultural, societal, and environmental changes?

Look for registration later this spring!

**MAC 2021 Candidate Slate
Approved by MAC Council**

President

- Tamar Chute,
The Ohio State University
- Mary Ellen Ducey,
University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Secretary

- Sarah Lebovitz,
Wayne State University
- Anne Thomason,
Lake Forest College

Council (1 position)

- Rebecca Kuske,
University of Wisconsin–Stout
- Donica Martin,
The Urbana Free Library

Nominating Committee (2 positions)

- Jessica Ballard,
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Becky Dampitz,
Decatur Public Library
- Ryan Leimkuehler,
Kansas State University
- Lauren White,
Ford Presidential Library

*Submitted by Dina M. Kellams, MAC Nominating
Committee Chair*