



Council of Allied Societies

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July 2026 CoAS News and Notes

Update from the Summer Membership Meeting (via Zoom)

Members from Archaeological Society of Delaware, Falls of the Ohio Archaeological Society, Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology, New Hampshire Archeological Society, North Carolina Archaeological Society, Ontario Archaeological Society, Oregon Archaeological Society, Pre-Columbian Society of Washington, D.C., Saskatchewan Archaeological Society, and Texas Archeological Society participated. SAA Board Secretary and Council of Allied Societies Liaison, Sarah Herr, joined the call, and SAA Interim Executive Director, Dawn Jiménez helped make sure we stayed on track.

The following discussions/actions occurred:

- **Election of the 2026-2027 CoAS officers** slate was carried with a voice vote. This vote was postponed from April, since few CoAS members were able to attend the SAA meetings. Shane Peterson is now the Chairperson, Anne Tobbe Bader is the Vice-Chair, and Sara Pfannkuche is the Secretary.
- Riley Chronister, the **CoAS Social Media Guru**, will be creating a Bluesky and Instagram accounts to attract younger members and jump start our social media presence. Our Facebook page will continue, with Judith Palos helping with it. If any of our member organizations want to have their FB posts shared with CoAS, please let Riley Chronister know your account names or "handles" at rc112@uark.edu.
- We are looking for nominations for the **Crabtree Award**. The Crabtree Award is given to an outstanding avocational archaeologist in remembrance of the singular contributions of Don Crabtree. A highly skilled self-taught flint knapper, he brought experimental archaeology and lithic technology to prominence among archaeologists. Nominees should have made significant contributions to advance understandings of local, regional, or national archaeology through excavation, research, publication, site or collections preservation, collaboration with the professional community, and/or public outreach. No award was handed out in 2026 and we would like to make sure that doesn't happen again in 2027.
- The **Poster Contest** will occur again in 2027. Don't forget to send your poster in if you have one. There was discussion on if we can include electronic versions of posters, since many places no longer print the posters. CoAS must find out what resources are available at the 2027 annual meeting, so more information on this will be in upcoming newsletters.

- The **2027 SAA Annual Meeting will be taking place in Indianapolis from April 7 - 11, 2027**. CoAS will have a table, but there is hope that we can sponsor a forum or symposium. This will allow the CoAS membership to present the work they are doing at home to a larger audience. **The deadline to organize and submit proposals for the 2027 SAA Annual Meeting in Indianapolis is Thursday, September 10, 2026.** If you are interested in participating, contact leadership.coasnews@gmail.com and tell us if you prefer a poster session, forum, or symposium. Even if you do not intend on participating, send a note to let us know what you would like to see presented at the Annual Meeting.

- Marybeth Tomka of the Texas Archeological Society asked if the following information could be passed along...**"The Nationwide Collections Locator Project (NCLP)** Ad hoc committee has offered to present the progress in creating and finding aid for locating archaeological collections in repositories and other holding institutions in the United States and its territories to CoAS membership. This project is an outgrowth of the Airlie House 2.0 Initiatives begun in 2023 and a long-standing desire of many in the archaeological collection's community. The pairing of the Digital Index of North American Archaeology (DINAA) with a multi-state group of state government archaeologists, and collections professionals in 2025 triggered the process which has resulted in a prototype version presented at the SAA Meeting in San Francisco this past Spring. The NCLP Ad hoc committee will present an overview of the background, technical versatility of the Open Context software and potential for vast linkages across the internet, data needs, future plans for the project, how COAS can help, and the customary cautionary statements regarding publishing free and accessible data. Although no time frame has been agreed upon, the NCLP committee anticipates a fall date will be possible." If you are interested in hearing such a presentation, please email leadership.coasnews@gmail.com.

Upcoming SAA Seminars

Council of Allied Societies Promotion

If you are not a current SAA member, but you are a current member of an SAA **Allied Society**, you can attend one free and one discounted online seminar. To take advantage of this promotion, please contact your local society for details and promo codes. For questions, please contact onlineseminars@saa.org.

[Developing a Community-Oriented, On-Campus Archaeological Project](#)

Maureece J. Levin, Ph.D., RPA, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

When: 9/16/2026

[Foundational Skills]

Description:

Archaeological education today faces a variety of challenges. In the classroom context, it can be difficult to fully communicate to students what it is actually like to do archaeology. While we know that there are careers available for graduates, many students struggle to gain the field experience they need, as this often requires leaving home for weeks to attend an expensive field school. Additionally, the general public often only has a rudimentary understanding of what

archaeology is in the first place, and some believe that archaeology is something that happens at far away monumental sites, not in their own backyard. The community-oriented campus archaeology project tackles these challenges head-on, creating opportunities for students to get valuable training and for community members to experience archaeology. It also has the added benefits of raising the profile of archaeology in the university setting, where we are often a small field that gets less attention, enhancing local knowledge of past land use, and potentially contributing to institutional history. This seminar is geared towards archaeologists who work in college and university settings and want to develop broadly accessible projects that combine teaching and scholarship. The instructor will discuss her own experience designing and running a public-facing, classroom-integrated campus archaeology project, with lessons learned along the way.

RPA-Certified! Free to CoAS Members!

[Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plans: Supporting the DOD and other Federal Agencies in their...](#)

Jessica Clark Royster, MA, RPA, Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc.

When: 10/8/2026

[Foundational Skills]

Description:

This course will cover the ins and outs of the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP), a CRM tool used by the Department of Defense and other federal agencies to support their cultural resources programs. Participants will learn what these documents typically include, who writes them, who uses them, and most importantly how they benefit cultural resources as a whole.

RPA-Certified! Free to CoAS Members!

92ND ANNUAL MEETING SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2026



To view articles in the May 2026, edition of *The SAA Archaeological Record*, click [here](#).

ADVANCES IN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PRACTICE

Volume 14 • Issue 2 • **May 2026**

- [Old Data, New Horizons: 3D Modeling as a Catalyst for Recontextualizing Fragmentary Legacy Data](#)
• Polte De Weirdt, Karin Nys, Matthias Recke
• Published online by Cambridge University Press: 13 April 2026, pp. 159-178
- [Using Simulated Training Data to Locate Archaeological Sites with Machine Learning](#)
• Katherine Peck, Claudine Gravel-Miguel, Grant Snitker, Matthew Helmer
• Published online by Cambridge University Press: April 2026, pp. 179-197
- [Artificial Intelligence and the Interpretation of the Past](#)
• Matthew Magnani, Jon Clindaniel
• Published online by Cambridge University Press: 18 December 2025, pp. 218-233
- [Without a Roadmap: Reflections on the Emergent Methods of Community-Based Archaeology](#)
• Patricia G. Markert
• Published online by Cambridge University Press: 13 April 2026, pp. 307-327
- [How to Conduct an Archaeoacoustic Study of Rock Art Sites through Impulse Response Measurements](#)
• Lidia Alvarez-Morales, Neemias Santos da Rosa, Margarita Díaz-Andreu
• Published online by Cambridge University Press: 11 March 2026, pp. 328-340
- [Data Literacy in Archaeological Education](#)
• Paulina F. Przystupa
• Published online by Cambridge University Press: 19 June 2026, pp. 358-365



An Update from the Government Affairs Committee

Please go to our [Take Action](#) page today and submit your comments in opposition to the Office of Management and Budget's proposed rule on **"Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance."**

If enacted, this rule will give administration political appointees veto power on the issuance of federal grants, cooperative agreements and other forms of assistance. Specifically, there are certain provisions in the draft (2 CFR § 200.205) that would:

1. Require almost every agency to designate senior political appointees to carry out pre-issuance review of all discretionary awards, thus making political appointees part of every discretionary grant approval process;
2. Require that these appointees ensure that all awards conform with the President's policy priorities;
3. Give appointees the ability to NOT defer to the recommendations of independent, objective peer review assessment of grant proposals; and
4. Relegate the peer review process to purely an advisory role.

The United States has historically based its scientific research on independent, peer-reviewed grants, and has benefitted from federal research that supports innovation, scientific discovery, cultural preservation, and evidence-based policymaking. The current proposal will upend all of that, and will risk discouraging researchers from seeking federal funding, thus endangering the educational opportunities of future archaeologists, as well as undermining the understanding of Indigenous and American history, and harming local economies through diminishment of employment, travel, field operations, laboratory analysis, and partnerships with community organizations.

We need to ensure that our voices are heard on this CRITICAL issue. Please go to the [Take Action](#) page today and click on the “**Oppose the OMB Proposed Rule**” button. Once you fill in your information, you will be able to use our editable talking points to create your own letter. Be sure to include any personal examples you may have. Then hit the “submit” button and file your comments with OMB.

Our advocacy is far stronger when our membership is engaged. Thank you for your time and for being a valuable member of the SAA.

View the Society's positions and actions on the Government Affairs web page. If you would like to sign up for the monthly Government Affairs newsletter, please contact David Lindsay at david_lindsay@saa.org.



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