



SOA Officers/Council Candidate Statement

Open Council Position	Council seat
Candidate's Name	Jim DaMico
Current Job Title	Archivist
Current Place of Employment	Cincinnati Children's Hospital

What skills and experiences can you offer to SOA?

I can offer my 16 plus years of experience working in a diverse range of archives and serving on committees from which I have developed excellent organizational and collaboration skills and professional community connections in the archives and preservation fields. I believe that working as a solo archivist in a medical archive will bring a different perspective to SOA as well. While chair of the New England Archivist's Education Committee, I advocated for and helped support a survey of repositories throughout New England to increase awareness of NEA's resources to non-academic organizations.

Tell us about your past experience with professional organizations that would make you a good fit for this position.

I have served as the chair of the Ohio Preservation Council since November 2021 and during this time, I have worked with our leadership team of nine to update OPC's bylaws to establish a community liaison role, collaborate with Ohio Digitization Interest Group to craft a memorandum of understanding to partner with OPC, collaborate with the State Library of Ohio on the LSTA Preservation and Conservation grant of which OPC created the educational modules and reviews grant applications. We are currently reviewing all aspects of the grant process to make it more inclusive to a wider audience. During this period, OPC leadership also agreed to support the funding of SOA's Student/New Professional Scholarship for five years. Prior to becoming chair, I was chair-elect and was responsible for managing and promoting OPC's Professional Development grant.

I served on the New England Archivists Education Committee as chair from 2010-2014 and led a team of seven to develop workshops for bi-annual and stand-alone meetings, acquired and reviewed curriculum development services from independent contractors, and liaison with the



Society of American Archivists Education team to bring the Digital Archives Specialist curriculum to NEA members.

What are some of the most important themes/issues the SOA should address in the next 3-5 years?

I believe that some of the most important issues that SOA should address are diversifying the membership to include more non-academic organizations such as all volunteer organizations that have little to no archives experience but have historic collections and non-traditional citizen archivists. In my experience as a member of a variety of professional organizations, I have observed that they skew to academic institutions and coming from non-academic institutions, I did not feel that my experience was well represented. Addressing this will encompass all four core values of SOA. Another area that SOA can help address is the impact that the management of archives has on climate change. This can take the form of inviting speakers to present via webinars, and publishing articles in the SOA newsletter.

Previous Positions

Curator of Audiovisual Collections, Cincinnati Museum Center, 2014-2021
Special Collections Curator, Rhode Island Historical Society, 2007-2014

Education

MLIS, University of Pittsburgh, 2005
B.S. Film and Video, Rochester Institute of Technology, 1994

Professional Associations

Ohio Preservation Council, (OPC), 2017-present; Chair December 2021-present; Chair elect, January – November 2021-
Society of Ohio Archivists, 2015-present
Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences (LAMPHHS), 2022-present
Cincinnati Area Health Sciences Libraries Association, 2022-present
New England Archivists, (NEA), 2008-2014; Education Committee Chair 2010-2014