

Midwest Archives Conference Quarterly Meeting

Virtual Meeting

February 3rd, 2026; 11am-12pm EST

Attendance

April Anderson-Zorn, Cara Bertram, Mary Ellen Ducey, Rosalie Gartner, Marcella Huggard, Sasha Kim, Michelle Sweetser, Carrie Schwier

The President called the meeting to order, gave a welcome, and provided some updates since the last Council meeting.

President's Report (Sweetser)

Sweetser and Gartner plan to meet with AMC later this week to discuss administrative needs. They will update as needed. They will also meet with the Society of Ohio Archivists officers this week to discuss annual meeting topics.

Vice President's Report (Gartner)

The conference budget is holding steady and in a good place as of now. The Union as a venue looks to be more cost-effective. Registration is tentatively set to open on February 20th, along with a PDF program. Gartner stated that all conference co-chairs "are amazing." Symposium meetings are also starting up.

Secretary's Report (Anderson-Zorn)

Anderson-Zorn asked Council about the effectiveness of the new between-meeting voting platform, with general agreement that it is working. Reported that Google Calendar sharing issues within Workspaces appear to be an institutional-specific issue.

Treasurer's Report (Ducey)

Ducey reported positive feedback from Sweetser on budget reports (more info below in the Business section).

Appointments (Sweetser)

- **VOTE:** McFarland Rademaker notified Sweetser that Jeremy Pekarek resigned from the Mark Greene Award Committee in December. The Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Nolan Valier, Assistant Archivist at the Sousa Archives and Center for American Music, to fill the role. (Sweetser called, Kim motioned, Bertram 2nd)
- **VOTE:** Emily DuGranrut notified Sweetser she will not return as the Public Information Officer at the end of her term (2026). She has identified and is training her successor, Kimber Van Heukelom. Van Heukelom is a 2024 Motley Scholarship winner and is currently employed in a project archivist position. The Council voted unanimously to approve Van Heukelom to fill DuGranrut's role. (Sweetser called, Schwier motioned, Ducey 2nd)

Business (Sweetser)

- **VOTE:** After a request to Council by Sasha Kim, Council drafted a position statement on Korean Adoption Records (statement below). After discussion largely based on grammatical and order-of-content changes, the Council voted to

approve the statement. As the requester, Kim abstained from voting. (Sweetser called, Gartner motioned, Huggard 2nd).

- o [Request by Kim](#)
- o [Approved Statement](#)
- Budgetary planning (Sweetser)

Sweetser discussed her recent work to better understand the budget. With Ducey, the pair will develop goals to streamline the budget and make it easier to understand in the context of MAC's larger financial picture. Suggestions for further improvements include defining categories we need to understand the current financial picture, and figuring out how we get that data. For example, we pay for 'program expenses,' but is the annual Zoom subscription included in that expense bucket? Sweetser asks that, as we do our work and see something useful for streamlining the budget, please bring it to her. Discussion briefly touched on how annual meetings once served as a revenue driver for MAC, but in recent years, this has not been the case. Schwier thanked Sweetser and Ducey for the charts; it helped her better understand the budget. She also requested that this be an annual 'onboarding' for new Council members. Sweetser will draft a charge and proposed membership for a task force to evaluate current finances and identify cost savings and other financial benefits.

The Council moved to adjourn at 11:59am EST (Sweetser called, Schwier motioned, Bertram 2nd).