SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS MEETING 2020 COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORTS

2020 Report from the Native American Affairs Liaison Committee (NAALC) Submitted by Michael Federoff and Turner Hunt (co-chairs) October 20, 2020

Current Members: Brad Lieb, Kent Reilly, Adam King, Robbie Ethridge, Brett Riggs, Thomas Foster, Chris Judge, Erin Pritchard Dunsmore, Mike Fedoroff (co-chair), Turner Hunt (MCN) (co-chair), Beau Carroll (EBCI)

Activities through the past year, since 2019 annual meeting:

- Reviewed, approved, and/or reimbursed one Native Affairs Speakers Fund (NASF) travel grant to Jan Simek (UTK) & Chickasaw Nation. Due to Covid-19 concerns in Tribal communities the Speaker Fund activities were suspended for most of the reporting period. Two NASF recipient reports were published in the SEAC newsletter: 1.) Kevin Pierce Wright and Choctaw Nation; 2.) Jan Simek and Chickasaw Nation.
- Lieb stepped down as Chair of the Committee after six years of service to the organization. The committee thanks Lieb for his continued participation and assistance in transitioning the committee to different leadership. The board added two Co-Chairs to NAALC committee [Michael Fedoroff and Turner Hunt] to replace Lieb.
- The committee engaged with the Executive Board to address concerns over the recent SEAC Journal cover art, and the committee drafted several letters to Southeastern tribes addressing concerns over SEAC's editorial policy in the SEAC Journal in order to facilitate a resolution to the policy issue.
- The committee has activated a new email address that we would like listed on the website: <u>seacnaalc@gmail.com</u> (Also please note Mr. Fedoroff's name is spelled incorrectly on the SEAC webpage).

Plans for Upcoming Year:

- Work with the Diversity Committee on joint initiatives that benefit Indigenous communities.
- Establish and revamp committee vision statement and formalize processes and procedures.
- Work with the editorial board and SEAC Executive Board to revamp address concerns regarding SEAC editorial policy regarding on funerary items in the Journal
- Establish a collaboration workshop tailored specifically for students and young professionals working outside of CRM and NAGPRA issues. Talks are currently underway on how we may be able to deliver this virtually, and Mr. Fedoroff has asked the USACE Tribal Nations Technical Center of Expertise to Co-Sponsor the event to offset any potential speaker costs.

- Encourage session on Collaborative Archaeology that could result in a SEAC Journal special issue
- Establish a quarterly conference call with Federally Recognized Tribes.

Budget requests if any: None, at this time.

Concerns, recommendations, debates, etc: There are a few issues regarding the SEAC Editorial policy that warrant some Board discussion. Removing the name C.B. Moore from the excellence award. Finding a different trophy than a funerary object.

Is there anything else you want to say to the board? Yes, Covid-19 has disproportionately impacted Native communities due to long-standing and flawed policies of the United States Government. Please be understanding of this in your interactions with Historic Preservation Offices across Indian Country and redouble your efforts to collaborate virtually when possible.