January 2018 Update

News from the Operations Committee

New SNAC Software Engineer

Joseph Glass began work on December 11, 2017, as as software engineer. Joseph is a graduate of the University of Virginia and the Turing School of Software and Design. Robbie Hott is excited to have some help satisfying all of our demands. You can reach Joseph by email at jhg2v@virginia.edu.

General Updates from Working Groups

Communications

Cooperative Members Web Portal (http://portal.snaccooperative.org/)

A schedule with soft deadlines for transferring existing documents from dispersed group storage locations (such as Google Drive and Dropbox) into the portal is now available at (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OOy1Mc_hYzNcYXKymIpnMJlwmCoiNvgJ8Oaz5Ak90QY/edit#gid=0). Please indicate on the spreadsheet when you have migrated your content. Note that not every group will have material for all sections. When that is the case, please select n/a from the column marked "Added?".

To assist in evaluation of the portal as it continues to develop, please note any questions or issues related to the portal in the appropriate column in the spreadsheet. The Communications Group greatly appreciates your feedback.

Editorial Policy and Standards

The group has submitted the following policies to Daniel Pitti for review:

- Editorial workflow

- SCM metadata feature adjustments

The following policies are currently being researched, discussed, and drafted:

- Data dictionary

- Demographic policy

- Relationships vocabulary

- LCNAF name verification

- Sub-divided topic headings and occupations

SNAC School

Members of the SNACSchool Working Group conducted another all-remote training on December 13 and 14 for staff at the Getty Research Institute. All participants have submitted newly created and/or edited identity constellations, and are projected to become SNAC-web editors by the beginning of the new year . SNACSchool organizers are studying participant evaluations to determine if the 1:00 p.m. EST start time was a constructive approach to account for the time difference.

Thanks to Dina Herbert and Glen Wiley for their continued support as trainers.

The next SNACSchool training will be held on January 24, 2018. Spots are still available, so please contact [Dina Hebert](#) if you'd like to join the class.

Other Announcements/ Requests for Participation

News from the Cooperative Director

Professor Joseph Price, director of the Record Linking Lab at Brigham Young University has offered to assist SNAC by adding [FamilySearch](#) "sameAs" links to SNAC person entities, and the inverse links to SNAC in FamilySearch. He also offered to assist in SNAC Identity Resolution.

Professor Vu Thi Phung, Vice President of the Vietnam Association of Archivists and Editor of *Vietnam Journal of Archival Studies* in Vietnam, has inquired about Vietnamese participation in SNAC, with a particular focus on community archiving of soldiers who participated in the Indochina War and the Vietnam War, and their families, though also wanting to include other archives, including government archives. Discussions are underway exploring how SNAC may be able to assist.

SNACSchool

Starting in early 2018, Jerry Simmons will begin contacting Cooperative members to discuss plans for a new phase of training which will prepare seasoned Cooperative members to become local SNAC reviewers. If you have an interest in learning more ahead of time, please contact [Jerry](#).

Social Media

This January and February SNAC on Twitter ([@snaccooperative](#)) is doing a coordinated campaign about space exploration & SNAC records (long nights are good for staring up at the stars!). Follow the hashtag #SNACconstellations. If you'd like to contribute or have ideas and

feedback please contact [Dina Hebert](). And please continue to stay on top of the tips and connections with SNAC on Twitter.

Virtual Intern

During the summer of 2018, Jerry Simmons and Dina Herbert at NARA and Lesley Parilla at Smithsonian Libraries will lead a pilot project involving hiring a virtual intern to edit records directly in SNAC. Upon completing SNACSchool, the selected intern will focus on connections and resources for three to four polar expeditions and explorers. We hope to recruit a MLS student who might already have some experience, classroom or otherwise, with archival description. If you'd like more information including how you can help, please contact Dina or Jerry (dina.herbert@nara.gov or jerry.simmons@nara.gov).

Get Involved!

Are you interested in joining a SNAC Cooperative Working Group? If so, or if you'd like more information on the function and goals of a group, please contact the appropriate chair listed below. Some groups may be full and unable to accept new members at this time (but the Communications Working Group sure could use you).

Communications - Kelly Spring kspring@uci.edu

SNACSchool - Jerry Simmons jerry.simmons@nara.gov

Editorial Policy and Standards - Susan Pyzynski pyzynski@fas.harvard.edu

Technology Infrastructure - Nancy Kennedy KennedyN@si.edu