

SNAC September 2019 Newsletter

News from the Operations Committee

General Updates

Directors:

The Mellon Foundation has agreed to fund a meeting of representatives from SNAC, the Michigan State University Enslaved Project, and The History Makers project. This meeting will bring together directors and technologists from the three project to discuss a variety of intellectual and technical challenges in identifying people and relating identified people across platforms. A report from the meeting, to take place November 13-14, 2019 at the Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D.C.

The University of Virginia Computer Science Capstone Program is offering senior engineering students the opportunity to develop a SNAC OpenRefine plugin.

SNAC had a table in the registration area of the Society of American Archivists' Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. The table had a fortunate location, immediately in front of the escalator depositing meeting attendees into the registration area. A total of 39 people [registered interest in SNAC](#). Many more stopped by for chocolate "snacs" supplied by Jerry Simmons.

Communications:

The revised [History of SNAC](#) webpage is now available. Please feel free to [contact us](#) with any comments or suggestions.

Membership:

The membership meeting is only three weeks away in Washington, D.C. Wednesday September 18 will be a SNAC School at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (see more details below). Members will meet at the National Archives on Thursday, September 19 starting at 9:00 to 5:00, and Friday, September 20, starting at 9:00 and ending by 3:00 or 3:30 at the latest (for those of you trying to get to planes, trains, or automobiles). Coffee, drinks, and light snacks will be provided but meals are on your own, as are hotel accommodations. A full agenda will be circulated soon.

Developer's Update:

In September we're rolling out optimizations for viewing SNAC on mobile devices. The new mobile-friendly improvements will make text and tables larger and better formatted when viewed via a mobile device.

We're also adding improved table filtering and several features involved in Holding Institutions, including searching Resources by Holding Institution, downloading a CSV of resources held by a particular Holding Institution, and transferring holdings en masse from one Holding Institution to another without merging.

One important note for all API users, the "otherRecordIDs" field has been renamed to "sameAsRelations" in the Constellation JSON.

SNACSchool:

The SNACSchool Team is pleased to announce a successful training event at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library during the Society of American Archivists conference week in Austin, Texas. The class had new editor/partners from Harvard University, University of Miami (Florida), Swarthmore College Archives, and National Archives staff from Lyndon B. Johnson, John F. Kennedy, and Harry S. Truman presidential libraries. SNAC's new Source Citations policy was introduced at this event.

The SNACSchool bell will ring again on September 18, at the Smithsonian Library Center at the National Museum of Natural History! If you are interested in attending this training, either in person or by remote GoToMeeting, please contact [Dina Herbert](#) to register. The SNACSchool Team would like to remind all SNAC editors that they are welcome to retake the training at any event. This can be a helpful exercise to keep abreast of new changes to the editing interface and learning about new policy developments!

Finally, we want to remind all SNAC editors that there is a new policy guiding citation of sources for SNAC records. You can find the policy statement on the members' portal site @ [Citations in SNAC](#). Please review the policy and let us know if you have any questions. As of August 2nd, SNAC review for source citations is based on the new policy. Let us know if you have any questions.

NARA Liaisons Team:

The Team is currently supporting our University of California-Irvine partners in their work on the Critical Theorists web project, responding to a number of issues including a proposal for a new Resource Type, proactively merging corporate body records to support **Internal CPF Relations** linking, and creating new geographic place terms to support **History** tab elements.

Editorial and Standards Policy:

The demographics has been approved and posted on the SNAC portal: <https://portal.snaccooperative.org/node/359> The group is working on their meeting agenda for the September meeting.

Technology Infrastructure:

Calling all SNAC editors! Please consider providing your feedback by taking a very short survey: <http://bit.ly/snac-survey>

Other Announcements

The buzz over SNAC during the SAA meeting was sufficient to prompt Teresa Branti of *Archival Outlook* to request an 800 to 1,200 word article on SNAC's latest happenings and resources in the journal. We're thinking a two-page spread with images. If anyone has ideas or photos to share of the SNAC table at SAA or SNAC school, please share them. The deadline for the Nov/Dec issue is October 1.