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President's Page

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April 2017

Dear MAC Members,

This is one of those years when the newsletter arrives in our mailboxes as we attend the annual spring meeting. I hope that you have all enjoyed a visit to Omaha, the Gateway to the West. The Local Arrangements Committee has planned a number of excellent tours and activities highlighting cultural diversity and local history, and has arranged for our opening reception at The KANEKO. The Program Committee has planned a variety of sessions designed to educate, stimulate conversation, and inspire us when we return to our institutions.

Later this month, you will receive an invitation to participate in a MAC member census. I hope you will take the time to complete the survey to help MAC better understand its membership. In addition to seeking demographic and education information, we are asking for information on members' work environments, and participation in and access to professional development. With this data, we want to better direct MAC programs to meet member needs, understand barriers to development, and discover opportunities where we may experiment with new programs.

As Erik Moore mentions in this newsletter, dates for our Annual Meeting in Chicago have been set for March 21–24, 2018. We are also looking for hosts for future Annual Meetings and Fall Symposia. Council recently convened a committee to review the MAC symposia to make recommendations about their future organization, structure, and success. The symposia have been a popular offering for a decade, but recently have experienced budget overruns. To keep the symposia educationally beneficial for members, but also cost effective, it is time to evaluate the goals for this program and how future offerings may be improved while remaining a good value. A final report will be presented to Council in 2018.

As I write this, elections are underway for president, secretary, Council and Nominating Committee. MAC committees are undergoing leadership changes, and volunteers are being recruited to fill committee vacancies. I have had the privilege over the past year of working with an outstanding group of leaders; thank you for your service. And welcome to our incoming leaders and new committee members. As I step down as president, I know you will accomplish great things over the next year.

Happy spring!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer L. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Johnson

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