



Board Election Slate for 2025 Announced

The CoSA Board of Directors thanks the CoSA Nominating Committee – *Allen Ramsey, CoSA Vice-President (CT), Chair; Sara Davis (WY), and Abbie Norderhaug (WI)* – and is pleased to announce the slate of candidates for election to the CoSA Board of Directors for three-year terms ending summer 2028. The Board sets policy and provides leadership for CoSA, is responsible for strategic planning and program development, and represents CoSA members to allied organizations, funders, and the field at large. The board election will take place as part of the Annual Business Meeting on August 7, 2025.



Shane Molander
State Archivist, State Historical Society of North Dakota

Shane Molander is the State Archivist and Director of the North Dakota State Archives, a department of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, a state agency. The State Archives is responsible for acquiring, preserving, and referencing the documentary holdings of the state. It is the official repository of the historic records of state and local government.

In addition to preserving government records, the State Archives collects manuscript collections that chronicle life across North Dakota and include letters, diaries, photos, maps, moving images, audio recordings and other unpublished materials from private individuals and organizations.

A native North Dakotan, Shane has been with the State Historical Society since 2002 as a Reference Specialist, Deputy State Archivist and State Archivist since 2020. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Minot State University and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of North Dakota.

"It has been a wonderful experience to be a part of COSA. Attending meetings, the annual conferences, and hearing issues others have through the list serve has been valuable to my professional life. It's like having an advisory board of people at my fingertips that really have the same issues and experiences. COSA and its members are such valuable resources!"



Melanie Counce Montanaro
State Archivist and Executive Director, Louisiana State Archives

Melanie Montanaro is the State Archivist and Executive Director of the Louisiana State Archives, a division of the Louisiana Secretary of State's Office. The State Archives serves as the repository for the permanent historical records of state government records and accepts private donations which add to the breadth of the holdings. Melanie began working at the Archives in 1991 as a Project Archivist for an NHPRC grant and then worked many years in the Conservation Lab before becoming Collections Supervisor.

She became Archives Manager in 2019 and was appointed State Archivist in 2024. She serves on the Louisiana Historical Records Advisory Board and is currently a member of the Louisiana America 250 Commission and CoSA's Advocacy Committee.

Melanie has a bachelor's degree in Geography from Northeast Louisiana University and a master's degree in Cultural Geography from Louisiana State University.

"The role that CoSA plays in helping the State Archives across the nation and territories is invaluable. The resources they provide and the opportunities to connect with our colleagues provides support from leadership down to operations and workflows."



Cathy Popovitch
Director, Illinois State Archives

Cathy Popovitch is the Director of the Illinois State Archives, the state agency that is responsible for the preservation of historic Illinois government records and records management for state and local agencies. Prior to being named Director in January 2025, she served as Deputy Director overseeing the Archives' Operations Unit and was the Deputy Coordinator for Illinois' SHRAB. Cathy worked as a librarian and records specialist for an engineering firm in Springfield before joining the State Archives in 2014. Cathy currently serves as CoSA President and has been

a member of CoSA's IDEA Committee, SERI Steering Committee and served as Chair of CoSA's Education and Training Committee. Also, Cathy has been recognized by CoSA with the 2018 Victoria Irons Walch Emerging Leader Travel Stipend and the 2021 Rising Star Award.

She has a bachelor's degree in history from Millikin University, a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Certificate in Special Collections and was a member of the 2019 Archives Leadership Institute cohort.

"I care about CoSA because of all of the valuable resources it provides to its members, including educational opportunities, advocacy tools and, most importantly, connections with other archivists and administrators working in state archives."