

TACRAO 2023 Historical Committee Report

October 29, 2023

The Historical Committee is responsible for the collection and archival of the TACRAO President's official materials from their presidential year. This year, as chair, it was my responsibility to collect documents from Paige Bussel, TACRAO President 2023. I contacted Paige, who e-mailed me documents she found, mostly from the TACRAO "shared drive."

Currently, the TACRAO Executive Committee maintains a shared drive of all their documents for that given year. These documents are stored in digital format within the drive. To collect Paige's materials, I had her e-mail them to me from the shared drive so I could print them out to collect for her "book," which will then go into an archive where no one will ever see it again. In today's day and age, this makes very little sense.

As chair of the Historical Committee, I bring forth the following recommendation for consideration by TEC. Stop the practice of putting together a "book" to be stored and instead invest in a cloud storage system where the materials could be stored and viewed by membership more easily. While the committee did not delve deeply into options, a quick search on the web produced several options for consideration. Soutron Global (<https://www.soutron.com>) provides a system that combines "library and archive" together and touts its ease of access for users.

"Your archive and library records reside in the very heart of your organization. Our combined approach provides archive and library teams with the workflows needed to work in harmony and provides a simple and easy-to-use resource for users to access. "

Other options that appeared interesting are Content Central, OneHub and Metashare. These are just ones found through a web search that appeared to be more of a document management cloud system versus just a storage system. To maximize the benefit, the solution should be accessible by the membership, even if it is limited access, given for limited amounts of time, or only accessed by TEC and the documents provided to the requesting member. Whatever is done, accessing what the Historical Committee has been collecting would be a huge benefit to moving in this direction.

Once a solution is selected, the committee recommends that the archived materials currently stored be digitized and placed into the same cloud-based solution.

Meanwhile, as Chair, I still need to archive the materials for Paige's presidential year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Lothringer
Chair, TACRAO 2023 Historical Committee