Greetings from the Co-chair
By Rebecca Hankins

SAA’s meeting in Los Angeles represented a couple of firsts for me; the first time in California and the first time having to run a meeting alone as co-chair. Both turned out to be much more pleasant experiences than I originally imagined in spite of truly missing the support of my co-chair, former colleague, and friend, Wayne Coleman. We missed you Wayne! It has been a pleasure serving with you as co-chair and you have patiently listened to my suggestions, complaints and questions. Sincere thanks for making this first year an enjoyable experience. Rose Roberto ran unopposed and was selected as the new co-chair of the Roundtable for 2003-2004. Congratulations Rose!

The AACR meeting took place on Thursday, August 21, 2003 at the Los Angeles, CA annual meeting of SAA. There were 38 people in attendance and the meeting started at 5:15 p.m. Jennifer Walele, University of Arizona graduate student and Princeton University archival intern graciously offered to take minutes. Guidelines for being a voting member of AACR were reiterated and consisted of being a member of SAA and AACR. Karen Jefferson noted that she and Rose Roberto were creating two directories, one directory of Archivists of Color already on the website, but in need of updating and a membership list of the Roundtable for anyone who supports the purposes of the Roundtable. For those listed, it was strongly encouraged that you check to ensure that your information is current with AAC. Karen noted that future issues of the AAC newsletter will be available online. Rose Roberto developed a new on-line membership form at http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac/Members.htm. Cathy Lynn Mundale encouraged Roundtable members to submit articles for the newsletter.

In late November 2003, Petrina Jackson agreed to take over as AAC newsletter editor. The Roundtable as a whole wishes to thank Cathy and co-editor JoEllen El Bashir for their excellent leadership, initiative, and creativity as editors of the AACR Newsletter. Petrina is an assistant archivist at Cornell University’s Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections. For submissions to Petrina e-mail her at pj43@cornell.edu.

This year’s recipient of the Harold T. Pinkett award is Michelle Baildon, August 2003 MLIS graduate from Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts. A total of $262 was collected from the meeting to add to the Pinkett Award. The Pinkett account now has $27,198, and a suggestion was made that we should consider the establishment of an endowment in the future.

Greetings from the Co-chair
By Rose Roberto

Welcome to the first online only issue of the AAOC Newsletter!

We have two identities in this organization: First and foremost as archivists; secondly, (if not people of color ourselves) as those who care for the collections of American minority groups and who safeguard the memory of their struggle for basic rights guaranteed by the US constitution. I find it quite ironic then, that when I moved to the UK, that the Brits saw me as a mainstream American. Amazingly, in various social situations after I open my mouth and the west coast American accent is heard, (not work situations since librarians and archivists here are aware of the harm the Bush administration
We need to explore issues that may overlap with other groups, to continue to be creative and innovative in this Roundtable, and to explore different ways we can approach issues of people of color and their collections.

Archivists & Archives of Color Roundtable Minutes
Submitted by Jennifer Walele, University of Arizona Graduate Student and Princeton University Archival Intern

Archivists & Archives of Color Roundtable Minutes
Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting
16th Annual AAC Roundtable Business Meeting
August 21, 2003
Los Angeles, CA

I. Rebecca Hankins called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She thanked Wayne Coleman, who could not attend, for his service as the Roundtable Co-Chair.

II. Committee and Project Reports

A. Guidelines for Voting: Rebecca Hankins opened the floor to a discussion about the guidelines to vote on the co-chair and other items of interest to the Roundtable. Her understanding was that you had to be a member of SAA and AACR. This seemed to be the consensus. If there are any objections then it could be opened for discussion later.

B. Directory: Karen Jefferson reported that she and Rose Roberto are compiling two directories:
1. The directory of Archivists of Color (on the website, needs to be updated)
2. A membership list of the Roundtable.
Anyone who supports the purposes of the Roundtable may be on the membership list. Membership in SAA nor working as an archivist is required. There are a number of librarians and historians on the mailing list that previously served as a membership list. Karen highly recommended for those at the meeting to check to ensure that their information is current with AAC. Those listed in the Archivists of Color Directory will automatically be on the membership list. Karen noted that future issues of AAC newsletter will be available online. To receive the online newsletter you must be on the new membership list. Cathy Lynn Mundale, AAC newsletter editor will provide more details about the newsletter later.

C. Pinkett Award Report: Karen Jefferson asked if AAC should establish an endowment. Currently, there is $27,198 in the account. AAC should establish an endowment. Currently, there is $27,198 in the account. AAC collects money every year. To endow the Pinkett award would require another major fundraiser. Also there is concern about having multiple

Archivists and Archives of Color Newsletter - 2
fundraisers for SAA units at the same time. Karen will discuss the matter with SAA leadership. Cynthia Lewis Patterson stated that she thought our financial statement would be in better shape if the economical forecast were more optimistic.

III. Council Liaison Report: Danna Bell-Russel introduced Nancy Beaumont, SAA’s new Executive Director. Danna and Nancy encouraged continued communication between the roundtable and the Executive office.

A. 2002 Diversity Resolution Update: The past years there has been a great deal of work on the Diversity Resolution. SAA Council has changed how we communicate with task forces. Council has approved the Committee on Diversity, which will begin work in Spring 2003. Danna also reiterated the full purpose of the committee, which will consist of 6 people. She noted that all chairs of the committees that deal with Diversity issues would serve as ex-officio members of the committee. She reported that Tim Ericson would appoint individuals to the diversity committee and encouraged people to let her know if they were interested in servicing on this or other committees.

B. Membership Development fund is being renamed in honor of Bernice Brack who passed away last year. Funds from the Brack fund will be unrestricted so that they can be used to assist SAA in membership development issues but also could be used to assist an archivist who might have lost his or her job continue membership in SAA

C. For the 2004 annual meeting in Boston, there are 6 program slots that have been reserved for topics of special interest to SAA. AAC has been guaranteed one program session. The October deadline does not apply, however, the sessions must be submitted by December 6, 2003.

D. Council Awards Committee: Danna expressed concern that the Harold T. Pinkett award is the only award which individuals of color have been nominated for regularly. Danna expressed the desire to create a committee to find potential nominees for other SAA award categories. She stressed the importance of getting involved.

IV. Election of Co-Chair: Rebecca Hankins announced that Rose Roberto is selected as the next co-chair as she ran unopposed. Rose works at the Jet Propulsion Library, the NASA Centre in Pasadena, California. She is also a former Pinkett Award winner.

V. Tamar Evangelestia-Dougherty spoke to the roundtable about the Boston SAA annual meeting, August 2-8, 2004. Projects will be endorsed differently and there is not a theme for the presentations. She advised that when writing proposals, people should think of a broad appeal. October 7th is the deadline to have them submitted to the Program committee. Roundtables and Sections can endorse proposals after the deadline, in November.

VI. Harold T. Pinkett Award

A. Funds were collected for the award.

B. Rebecca Hankins announced that Michelle Baildon would be receiving the Pinkett Award. Michelle received her MLIS from Simmons College, in Boston, August 2003. Her areas of expertise include digital initiatives, scholarly communication, reference and instruction. Michelle thanked the group for the award.

VII. AAC Newsletter-online access

A. Cathy Lynn Mundale thanked the co-editor JoEllen El Bashir, who did a wonderful job mailing the newsletters and maintaining the mailing list for many years. The newsletter will now be available only on-line on the Roundtable’s Website, in the “Activities” section. Copies of all past newsletters are available on the Website as well. Cathy also noted that Rose Roberto developed a new on-line membership form at http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac/Members.htm

B. Cathy encouraged Roundtable members to submit articles for the newsletter. She reminded everyone that this is their newsletter and should include their voices. The last few issues had few, if any, contributions from Roundtable members.

VIII. New Business

A. Taronda Spencer, Spelman College Archivist and Historian, introduced the group of students she brought to the meeting. The students received funding from the Mellon Foundation to bring undergraduate students in history to the meeting to introduce them to the field of archives.

B. Clark Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies is in jeopardy of being closed by 2005. Four other units at CAU are also in jeopardy – Africana Women Studies, Allied Health, Engineering, International Studies. Letters of support to keep the library school open can be sent to the Dean, Dr. Arthur Gunn, agunn@cau.edu. We will find out if SAA President will send a letter on behalf of SAA. Rebecca reminded the group about the University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science program that was almost eliminated but with help from students and alumni they were able to save the school. She suggested CAUSLIS get in touch with
Brooke Sheldon, the Dean of the Library School at U of A.

C. Thanks were expressed for all those who helped with the arrangements of the memorial service in Atlanta for Bernice Brack. SAA members were all in a state of shock by her sudden death. Many SAA members knew of and have met Bernice’s four children who have maintained good relationships with SAA.

IX. Presentation by Chuck Wilson on the Tom Bradley Mayoral Papers

A. Chuck gave a short presentation regarding the Tom Bradley Papers at UCLA. He also provided information on UCLA holdings, such as oral history books. Tom Bradley is the first black mayor of Los Angeles who served in that office for 20 years, from 1973-1993. He was a very significant leader for the local communities of color in California. Processing of the Bradley papers was finished four years ago. The collection is 1800 cubic feet. Tom Bradley died in 1998.

X. Announcements

A. Pinkett Award collection: $262
B. Get proposals in. Contact Rebecca if you have questions.

Rebecca Hankins adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

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Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award
(Reprinted from SAA’s Website)

MICHELLE BAILDON is the recipient of the Society of American Archivists’ 2003 Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award. The award, which is coordinated through SAA’s Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable, recognizes minority undergraduate and graduate students of African, Asian, Hispanic, or Native American descent who, through scholastic achievement, manifest an interest in becoming professional archivists and active members of SAA. Baildon received complimentary registration to SAA’s 67th annual meeting in Los Angeles.

Baildon received a B.A. in history and science from Harvard University in 1997; an M.A. in American Studies from Yale University in 2001; and an M.L.I.S. from Simmons College in August 2003. She has received numerous awards and scholarships, including the ALA Spectrum Scholarship in 2002; the LITA/OCLC Minority Student Scholarship in 2002; and the Midwest Archives Conference Archie Motley Scholarship for Minority Students in 2003. Her archives experience includes internships at Massachusetts Historical Society, Tufts University Digital Collections and Archives, and Harvard Medical School Rare Books and Special Collections. She has also worked part-time at Massachusetts Institute of Technology Archives and Special Collections. She recently secured a professional position at the Boston College O’Neil Library, where she will be working in the areas of digital initiatives, scholarly communication, and reference and instruction.

The award, established in 1993, honors the late Dr. Harold T. Pinkett, who served with distinction during his long tenure at the National Archives and Records Administration and was a Fellow of SAA.

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2003 Council Exemplary Service Award
(Reprinted from SAA’s Website)

BRENDA BANKS, deputy director of the Georgia Archives, was honored for challenging SAA to embrace a diverse membership and for encouraging the protection and preservation of historical records, especially those documenting the African American experience.

While many encourage change, Banks has worked throughout her career to make it happen. Most recently, she has served as consultant for the Cooperative HBCU Archival Survey Project, which surveyed the archival collections at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This important project assisted HBCU archivists in creating descriptions of their collections and making these descriptions available on the Internet, thereby providing access to some of the richest resource material on African American history.

Banks has coordinated and served as lead instructor for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Archival Institute, a program to help provide education and training for archivists and librarians who care for archival and manuscript collections at these institutions. As part of the curriculum, institute attendees are encouraged to join SAA and, in 2002, she shepherded 27 of the 47 participants from the first two years of the institute to the SAA conference in Birmingham, Ala. For many, it was their first time at an SAA conference. This year an additional 17 archivists and librarians from HBCUs and other African American archival repositories are participating in the archival institute.

In addition she has helped in the development of the Archival Assistants training program providing formal training for archival assistants working at HBCUs, formal training not often provided to these staff members. She has worked with her alma mater, Spelman College, to obtain grant money to fund these projects and many others to help ensure the preservation of materials that document the activities of HBCUs, including those of her alma mater.

A Fellow and former president of SAA, Banks continues to make SAA a stronger and diverse organization by being a model of activism and excellence through her work and example.
Career Moves

On October 1, 2003, Tamar Evangelestia-Dougherty, member of the 2004 Program Committee, became the new Curator of the Herbert H. Lehman Suite and Papers at Columbia University. Her previous position was project archivist for the David Dinkins Archive also at Columbia University. Congratulations Tamar!

Home Again: The UCSB Libraries Acquire the Papers of Alumnus and Author Frank Chin
by Jon Bartel
(Reprinted from The Coastlines, Fall 2003, Vol. 34, No. 2)

In plays like the Chickencoop Chinaman, novels like Donald Duk, short stories, and essays, Frank Chin ’66 pioneered as an Asian American writer. The production of the Chickencoop Chinaman off Broadway at the American Place Theatre in 1972 was a major event—it was the first play by an Asian American Playwright to be produced in New York.

“He is the groundbreaking Asian American writer, from when the name Asian American wasn’t even in the dictionary. He got the word out that there are Asian Americans,” says Ambi Harsha, lecturer in Asian American studies at UCSB.

Now the UCSB Libraries have acquired the Frank Chin Papers, a major new collection that will advance scholarship in Asian American cultural studies. Acquiring this collection caps a 12-year effort of the California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives (CEMA) to secure the papers of this prolific cultural luminary. The papers will be housed in the Special Collections Department in the Donald Davidson Library.

Frank Chin is widely recognized as the most influential Asian American dramatist and writer in the country. He is one of a handful of top literary figures in Asian American literary and cultural communities. He founded the Asian American Theater Workshop in San Francisco that evolved into the Asian American Theater Company (AATC). CEMA secured the AATC archives in 1991. Chin also founded the Los Angeles based East/West Players.

In addition, he was the original editor of the Asian American anthology Aiiiiiiieee! and the author of the widely cited essays “This Is Not an Autobiography” and “Come All Ye Asian American Writers of the Real and the Fake.”

“He has always been controversial,” says Harsha. “Not everyone agrees with him, but that’s what makes him important. He is more a thinking man’s writer. He can be quite abrasive, and very down to earth. He put it out there, saying there is a new way of looking at things. I think it is great that we could get this collection.”

Stereotyping of Chinese men in Hollywood movies is one topic that captured Chin’s attention. In his 1976 essay “Confessions of A Number One Son” he wrote: “Everybody took to Charlie Chan, knew he was only passing but saw him as the real image of a Chinaman anyway…America in its sinister wisdom invented a different movie form to irritate and mess on the minds of each of its minority groups. For the Indians it was the Western. The black movie was the courtroom drama where a black man would be accused of a crime and then sit in a courtroom and listen to two white men discuss Abraham Lincoln and Karl Marx. The Chinese movie was the Charlie Chan movie and the road movie.”

At UCSB, Chin majored in film studies. He worked in Seattle on film documentaries about the boxer Archie Moore, Chinese New Year, and the Seattle Repertory Theatre. Later, he was a story editor and scriptwriter for “Sesame Street.”

The Frank Chin Papers amount to 56 linear feet (45 boxes), which include typed and pen-corrected original manuscripts, letters, unpublished scripts, photographs, and ephemera. The collection also includes files of his early involvement in the Redress and Reparations movement, even prior to that of the Japanese Americans Citizens League. In discussing the value of the papers, Chin remarked, “I hope that my collection of research, letters, and experimental manuscripts will stimulate more traditional study of Asian American literature, beginning with an introduction to the Asian children’s stories shared by China, Korea, and Japan since pre-historic times, and the “vernacular novels” developed to spread Chinese heroic tradition of the Ming, as a conscious expression of the myth of civilization throughout Asia. By making my papers available to the public, I hope that my efforts to treat knowledge of Asia and America as equally important will be seen and used.”

Claire Conceison thinks the papers will be very useful to UCSB students. The assistant professor of dramatic art says, “In courses I teach on Asian American theater, I assign his plays and essays and require students to do archival work in the CEMA archives. UCSB already has an amazing collection of materials on Asian American theater, but the Frank Chin collection has materials unavailable from other sources. These are papers from the really formative period of his writing and influence. There is a lot of controversy regarding his opinions, but even those who disagree with his viewpoints do not deny the importance of his contribution. He is an important figure in the study of American theater not just Asian American theater. Studying Frank Chin, I have found, has a particularly powerful and affirming impact on my Asian American male students.”

CEMA Director Sal Guerena first approached Chin in 1991 about his collection but Chin replied then with his characteristic wit that he was “not yet ready to go to that great ethnic studies department in the sky.” In the end, 12 years later Chin agreed that his papers should make their home at UCSB. According to UCSB Asian American Studies librarian Gerardo Colmenar, “This unique collection will provide Asian American Scholars and other researchers with a rich source of primary materials of paramount importance to a deeper understanding of the complex nature of cultural and literary production by Asian Americans. We anticipate that this collection will bring many researchers to UCSB.”

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The University of Delaware Library Announces Online Guide to African American Sources
Reported by L. Rebecca Johnson Melvin, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library

The Special Collections Department of the University of Delaware Library has a new online guide to African American Sources <http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/guides/afroam.htm>. Consisting of five sections (Printed Collections, Visual Materials, Oral Histories, Postcards, and Manuscript and Archival Collections), the guide features subjects, such as slavery, the Underground Railroad, education, housing, and healthcare. The finding aids for the manuscript collections of writers Charles Johnson, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, and Ishmael Reed are just a few of the resources found on this online guide.

The Special Collections of the University of West Florida Libraries Acquires the Records of the Junior Funeral Home, Pensacola, Florida
by Dean DeBolt, Department Head, Special Collections, University of West Florida Libraries

The Special Collections of the University of West Florida Libraries has received the records of the Junior Funeral Home, Pensacola, Florida. This home was established in 1986 to serve the African-American community of Pensacola and was headed by Willie Junior, Escambia County Commissioner. The home was one of the first in the United States to feature a drive-up viewing room. The home closed in 2001. The records consist of materials on every funeral conducted at the home including biographical and eulogistical materials. The collection is approximately 25 cubic feet and covers over 4,000 individuals.

Native American Archival Training Institute in Durango
Submitted by Todd Ellison, Certified Archivist & Assoc. Professor, Center of Southwest Studies, Fort Lewis College

The Center of Southwest Studies invites Native Americans who are working in archives in tribal settings to submit applications to participate in a paid Institute, February - August 2004. The Center (which functions as an archives, a library, a museum, and a forum for public programming) is hosting a select group of Native American archivists in Durango, Colorado for a total of five weeks, spaced in three visits -- with intervals allotted for participants to complete assigned practical applications back home. Durango is in the Four Corners region of the U.S., near Mesa Verde National Park.

This institute offers the following benefits for participants. It will:
1. Enable individuals to keep up with their work and their lives back home;
2. Provide an educational overview and a hands-on experience with a variety of archival tasks in the Center's model new facility;
3. Include, built into the institute, specific applications that participants will implement back home in their tribal archival settings;
4. Offer the possibility of one-on-one mentoring by the Center's archivist, visiting each participant's tribal archival setting; and,
5. Include a collegial experience of working with tribal archivists, both during the term of the institute and afterwards.

This institute offers the best of two worlds for a person who needs practical training in archival work. It includes some of the content offered in a concentrated form at two-week archival institutes, and it also provides the archival immersion experience that is available through an internship held on-site at an archival facility.

The following funding is available to train four practicing Native American archivists:
1. Stipend: $400/week for up to 5 weeks.
2. Housing and meals at Fort Lewis College for up to 5 weeks (6-day week: arriving Sunday afternoon and leaving Saturday morning). This assumes sharing a dorm room with another participant; if that is not possible, each participant must pay the additional $14/night.
3. Travel to and from the participant's home to the Center, for up to three round trips, @ maximum $500/trip.

Institute participants or their home institutions will be required to pay any additional costs for participation.

Institute schedule:
Application deadline: January 30, 2004
Selections announced: February 13, 2004

First session at the Center of Southwest Studies (two weeks): 2/29-3/12/04
Topics: the 7 institute elements for building an archives; collection development; records management.

Second session at the Center of Southwest Studies (two weeks): 4/11-4/23/-04
Topics: preservation; arrangement and description; reference services; access.

Site visits in the field by Fort Lewis College Archivist Todd Ellison, between 5/10 and 8/13/04.

Third session at the Center of Southwest Studies (one week): 8/15-8/20/04.
Topics: outreach; career development; computer applications; wrap-up.

To apply:
Application forms can be obtained from the Center's Web site at: http://swcenter.fortlewis.edu/InternNAApp.htm

To obtain a copy of the application form by mail, and to submit the application, please mail to:

Catherine Conrad, Administrative Assistant
Center of Southwest Studies
Fort Lewis College
1000 Rim Drive
Durango, Colorado 81301
Phone: (719) 247-7456; FAX: (970) 247-7422
Email: conrad_c@fortlewis.edu

CALL FOR PAPERS

Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archive

Professionals welcome manuscript submissions for its first issue, to be published in July 2004. This new journal will be published by AltaMira Press, already known as a publisher of high quality books and other journals on museological topics. An interdisciplinary journal for museums and archives, Collections will provide information on handling, preserving, researching, and organizing collections. Both collection practices and theoretical debates are welcome. All papers appearing in this journal will receive peer review.

Curators, archivists, collections managers, preparators, registrars, educators, students, and others are encouraged to submit their work. We accept articles of 15-25 manuscript pages, along with 3-6 page opinion pieces, book reviews, and technical columns. For further questions, or to submit manuscripts, please contact Hugh Genoways, editor, at hgenoways1@unl.edu.

POTENTIAL CONTENTS FOR COLLECTIONS

Philosophy of collecting
  Why we collect?
  What we collect?
  Why we collect what we collect?
  How we collect?
  Philosophical differences among organizations
    Archives
    Botanical Gardens & Arboreta
    Halls of Fame
    House Museums
    Non-collecting Museums
    Specialty Museums
    Traditional Collecting Museums
    Zoos
  Collecting and museum mission
  Philosophy of the care of collections
  Ethics of collecting and collections care

Collection practices
  Best practices
  Methods in collection care

Preventive conservation
Conservation
Historic Preservation
New Techniques
New Technology
Data management/Informatics
Access to collections
Uses of collections (including research and preparation for exhibition)
Accessioning
Deaccessioning
Historic practices
Taxidermy for museums
Cost control
Loans
Project management
Policy development and maintenance
IPM
Emergency preparedness
Object identification
Legal issues

Collecting practices
  Acceptable methods
  Legal issues
  Conflict of interest
  Unique historical methods

Digitizing
  Objects
  Records
  Uses of images
  Copyright
  Watermarking

Special collections
  Over- and under-sized objects
  Odd-shaped objects
  Unusually fragile objects
  Heavy objects
  Dangerous objects (munitions, drugs, poisons)

History of collections
  Historically unique collections
  Nationally or regionally significant collections
  Biographical discussion of important collectors
  Historic Architecture

Collection surveys
  Surveys of national significance
  Surveys of disciplinary significance

Reviews
  Books
  Websites
  Online databases
  Digitizing projects

Archivists and Archives of Color Newsletter - 7
The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable was established in 1987 as an interest group within the Society of American Archivists. The Roundtable’s purposes are to:
1) identify and address the concerns of Archivists of African, Asian, Latino, and Native American descent
2) promote wider participation of said archivists in the archival profession
3) promote the preservation of archival materials that pertain to people of color

The co-chairs of this Roundtable are:

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The Society of American Archivists

The Society of American Archivists (SAA), founded in 1936, is a professional association of individuals and institutions interested in the preservation and use of archives. Its membership includes individuals serving government, academic institutions, businesses, churches, libraries, historical societies, museums, and professional associations in more than sixty countries. Through its publications, annual meetings, workshops, and other programs, SAA provides a means for contact, communication and cooperation among archivists and archival institutions:

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