
Archivists & Archives of Color Newsletter

Newsletter of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

Vol. 19 No. 1

Spring/Summer 2005

Greetings from the Co-Chair

By Rose Roberto

The 2005 SAA Annual Meeting will be held in New Orleans, beginning on August 17, 2005 at 5:00 PM. Further details about the meeting, including the agenda, are currently posted on the AAC website at

<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac>.

This meeting will mark the end of my tenure as AAC Co-Chair. I'm proud to say that I feel much has been accomplished during the last two years. Among the accomplishments, AAC established an advisory board. The AAC Roundtable is now fully online—current work as well as our history. Work has been done to update the Pinkett Award and make it more high profile and effective. And finally, we are beginning to look at other ways AAC in conjunction with the Diversity Committee can provide outreach for minority students during their college years and perhaps even younger. As information professionals, we have an important role in society, and many of us do very interesting work. We need to convey that to the next generation and continue laying the groundwork to make SAA as diverse as possible.

There are three very important reasons why all of us going to the SAA conference this year should attend the awards ceremony. Dr. Thomas Battle is being made a Society Fellow AND the roundtable is awarding the Harold T. Pinkett Award to two very talented people from UCLA: Jennifer Osorio and Paul Sevilla. Please see the other articles in the newsletter with more details about the award winners. I'm also pleased to announce that there are quite a few sessions dealing with diversity this year. As someone sitting on the Annual Meeting Program Committee this year, I had the opportunity to preview some very thought-provoking sessions. Although AAC sponsored many of them, some of them were proposed by other members of SAA who chose relevant topics, especially topics dealing with Middle Eastern communities. I highly encourage you to go to at least two of the following sessions.

- Destruction and Preservation of Archives in Wartime: The Balkan Wars of the 1990s and Iraq
- The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Archives Institute: A Model for Archival Training
- Controlling Human Reproduction: The Challenges of Documenting the Post-World War II Revolution
- Hidden Treasures: Strategies for Broadening Archival Access Via Visual Materials Depicting Women and Minorities

- Pluralizing the Archival Paradigm: How Archival Education Can Help
- Managing Diversity Programs in Archives
- Making "Us vs. Them" into "We": Resolving Conflicts between Institutions and Minority Groups
- Documenting the Middle East: A Look at Photograph Collections in the United States
- Latinos in the Archives: Documenting a Community on the Rise

I want to thank Petrina Jackson for doing significant work as Newsletter editor. I want to also thank Lisa Nguyen for agreeing to be the new listserv moderator and for keeping the AAC Directory up-to-date. Finally, I want to say that I am leaving you in the very capable hands of Teresa Mora. She has been industrious and extremely insightful, and I look forward to supporting her and the next co-chair in my old role as web liaison.

Thomas Battle Named SAA Fellow

By Danna Bell-Russel

Established in 1957 and conferred annually, the distinction of Fellow is the highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the archival profession. Long-time member and past Co-chair of the AAC Roundtable, Dr. Thomas Battle has been named an SAA Fellow.

Dr. Thomas Battle received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University. He has his MLS from the University of Maryland and a Ph.D in American Studies with emphasis in African and African American History and Culture from the George Washington University. He started his career as a librarian at the District of Columbia Public Library and also served as an Exchange Librarian for the Sierra Leone Library Board.

Dr. Battle has spent nearly his entire career at the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center at Howard University. Starting out as a reference librarian, moving on to become the Curator of Manuscripts and eventually Director, Dr. Battle has worked tirelessly to improve the collections and encourage use of the collections. He helped to develop the Howard University archives, so that future scholars could study the history of this important institution. He wrote widely about the collections and about Dorothy Porter Wesley, the mother of the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center and an Africana scholar in her own right. He worked to improve the lecture series in

her name that works to bring information professionals of color to Howard to talk about issues of interest to the library and archival community. He also worked to provide information on other African American bibliophiles including co-authoring a book on the subject in 1990. Dr. Battle was also instrumental in the establishment of a Voting Rights History archive at Howard and in insuring the preservation of the Black Press by developing an archival repository to document the activities of this important communications arm of the African American community.

In addition to providing access to resources on African and African American life and culture via the print medium, in 1999 Dr. Battle created HUArchives.Net, an electronic periodical dedicated to the study of African and African American history and life. Included in HUArchives.Net are articles, scanned copies of archival materials, and links to other information resources of interest. In addition to reaching to the scholarly community, Dr. Battle also works to bring the story of African-American history to the general public. People living in the Washington, D.C. metro area may have seen Dr. Battle on television, talking about various aspects of the history of Howard and providing material from the Howard University archives and Moorland-Spangarn to highlight the topic of the presentation.

Though much of Dr. Battle's work has focused on the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center, he has also reached out to a wider community. To name a few examples of the many listed on his resume, he has served as a reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1976 and also served as a member of several task forces. He has served as an advisor for the National Park Service, including his most recent work on the Underground Railroad Museum, and as a consultant for the DuSable Museum and the Avery Institution. He has served on advisory committees for the Smithsonian Institution, most notably on an advisory board relating to the development of an African American museum on the national mall. He has also served on the advisory board for the Index to Black Periodicals.

Within the archives community, Dr. Battle has been active on both the regional and national level. He has served on the program and nominations committees within the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference and also was elected as an At-Large member of the Steering Committee. Within SAA Dr. Battle served for four years as the chair for the Task Force on Minorities, the committee that eventually became the Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable. He has also served on the Program Committee, as Chair of the Nominations Committee, on the Publications Board and as a co-chair of the Awards committee. He was elected to serve as Co-Chair for the Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable in 1999 but had to step down to accept his position on Council where he served until 2003. He is also a certified archivist. For all of his work, Dr. Battle was awarded the 2004 Carter G. Woodson Medal by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

2005 Harold T. Pinkett Award Winners: Jennifer Osorio and Paul Sevilla

Submitted by Rose Roberto

Established in 1993, the Harold T. Pinkett award recognizes and acknowledges minority graduate students, who, through scholastic and personal achievement, manifest an interest in becoming professional archivists and active members of the Society of American Archivists.

Jennifer Osorio and Paul Sevilla were chosen as the 2005 Harold T. Pinkett Minority Award winners.

Jennifer Osorio is currently enrolled in the MLIS program at UCLA, specializing in archives and records management. She is the incoming co-president of UCLA's SAA student chapter and the outgoing co-president of the ASIST student chapter. She is also the recipient of the [Mink Scholarship from the Society of California Archivists](#) and the [Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship](#) from the Midwest Archives Conference. Osorio is currently working as a Graduate Student Researcher on the International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES 2) Project in the UCLA Department of Information Studies.

Paul Sevilla was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the US when he was ten years old. Before he began his graduate degree, he provided reference support at the California Department of Health Services Resource Center. He is in his second year as an MLIS student at the UCLA. Currently, Sevilla is working at the Department of Special Collections at UCLA and interning as an archival research assistant at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood, California. In addition to the Pinkett Minority Student Award, Sevilla also received a partial scholarship to attend the 46th Annual ALA/RBMS Preconference in St. Louis, July 2005. He has also received other numerous student honors and awards through the years, including the 2000 Gates Millennium Scholarship.

Join the New AAC Listserv!

By Lisa Nguyen,

AAC Listserv Moderator and China Projects Archivist,
Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford University

Greetings! The AAC listserv is a new email discussion list dedicated to providing a network of communication for the members of the [Society of American Archivist's Archivist and Archives of Color Roundtable](#). This discussion list is maintained by SAA webmaster, Brian Doyle, under the guidance of the AAC co-chairs.

The address of this list is: aac@lists.archivists.org

TO SUBSCRIBE:

To subscribe to AAC, send an email message to:

imailsrv@lists.archivists.org
and type the following command into the body of
your message:

subscribe aac firstname lastname

Replace firstname and lastname with yours (e.g.:
subscribe aac john doe)

Leave the subject line of your message blank
Enter the above command only. Do not enter any
other message or signature.

TO CANCEL SUBSCRIPTION:

To cancel your subscription to AAC, send an email
message to:

imailsrv@lists.archivists.org
and type the following command into the body of
your message:

unsubscribe aac

Leave the subject line of your message blank.
Enter the above command only.
Do not enter any other message or signature.

A few notes from the SAA webmaster, Brian Doyle, regarding
the nature of this listserv:

- 1) These lists have no archives functionality.
- 2) These lists have no user and/or subscriber management
features other than the basic subscribe and unsubscribe list
commands.
- 3) SAA staff is currently in the beginning phases of
researching a new mainframe system to replace our current
database software. It is our hope that the new system will
include more robust, integrated features for managing special
interest group (SIG) membership and electronic
communications, including mailing lists.
Therefore, in consideration of the above, the new lists should
be viewed as an interim solution that may very well be
replaced in the next 12-18 months.

Thank you for your attention.

Please contact Lisa Nguyen at nguyen@hoover.stanford.edu
for further questions or to post information.

The Knowledge River Program at the University of Arizona: An Insider's Experience

By Jennifer Walele

Historian, U.S. Department of State, Office of the Historian,
Washington, D.C.

In the fall of 2002, a new and innovative diversity program
began at the University of Arizona's School of Information
Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) that has set the model
for bringing diversity to the library profession. Created and
directed by Pat Tarin, the Knowledge River (KR) program

focuses on library and information issues from the needs and
perspectives of Hispanics and Native Americans. In turn, KR
aims to increase the number of minorities in the library and
information studies profession. With an initial two-year grant
of \$500,000 from the federal Institute of Museum and Library
Science (IMLS), Tarin recruited Native American and
Hispanic students from across the United States.

Although I already had a Masters degree in history, I wanted
to earn a graduate degree in the library and information field
to further develop skills for a career in the archive profession.
In the spring of 2002, in the midst of applying to various
library schools, an advertisement for the KR program
appeared in my tribal newspaper, *Smoke Signals* (The
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in Northwest Oregon).
The description caught my attention, and the program sounded
like the ideal program for both obtaining an advanced degree
and gaining specific knowledge from both Native Americans
and Hispanics—two groups that are underrepresented in the
library field. I submitted the pertinent documents and
information for admission to SIRLS and KR and also applied
for the Udall Archive Internship—another program linked to
KR to prepare students for a career in archives and the care of
cultural heritage resources. By the end of spring, I heard that I
had been accepted to the first cohort of students in KR and
would also be one of two Udall Archive Interns. I was thrilled
to be starting a new chapter of my education and career.

The first KR class included seven Native Americans and 17
Hispanics—some already working in the profession while
others were pursuing a library career for the first time and the
program gave them the ideal opportunity to do so. Successful
applicants receive substantial financial aid and various support
services. Tarin and peer advisors were there to help all of us at
every step as we made the transition to the campus. They
assisted us with everything from registration and housing to
parking and healthcare. Knowing that you had individuals to
turn at every step of the way made the transition seamless.

KR students must meet the same requirements as all SIRLS
students, plus take courses developed by educators and
administrators of Native American and Latino backgrounds.
All KR courses are developed to meet the needs of the Native
American and Hispanic community, such courses include
Information Environments from Hispanic and Native
American perspectives; Information Policy from Hispanic and
Native American Perspectives; and Indigenous Information
Services. These courses are open to all SIRLS students and are
taught by at least one Native American or Latino instructor.
We also had the opportunity to hear from various guest
lecturers, such as Alyce Sadongei of the Arizona State
Museum, Roberto Trujillo from Stanford University, Loriene
Roy from the University of Texas, and Hartman H.
Lomawaima, Interim Director of the Arizona State Museum
and member of the American Indian Studies faculty at the
University of Arizona. All students networked with the some
of the most prominent Native American and Latino library
professionals in the United States, an invaluable experience.
The KR model is successful because it builds coalitions across
affinity groups with the library, library school, academic
departments, and the surrounding communities.

The Udall Archive Internship provided hands-on training at the University of Arizona Special Collections Library in preparation for a career in the archive profession. Under the direction of Rebecca Hankins, I processed various archival collections, including portions of the Steward L. Udall collection. Additionally, the Udall Interns were tasked with the development of the first national traveling exhibit, documenting the accomplishments of Morris K. and Stewart L. Udall. Each member of the Special Collections Library taught us pertinent skills for beginning a career in the archives.

Overall, the most significant experience from KR came from the immediate mutual support group created between the KR students. Each of us could relate to what we were going through, trying to accomplish, and, moreover, the challenges we faced. Whether it was simply hanging out or late nights spent in the SIRLS lab together, we were always there to help each other through the program. We all take with us life-long friendships and a renewed sense of perspective for the library and information profession as we each follow our career paths.

For additional information on the Knowledge River program, please visit <http://knowledgeriver.arizona.edu>.

In the fall, Jennifer will begin the Ph.D. program in History at Georgetown University.

Historic Scrapbook of Kooskia Internment Camp Now Part of UI Special Collections

(Reprinted from the 5 July 2005 University of Idaho Online News Release

<http://www.today.uidaho.edu/details.aspx?id=3135>)

MOSCOW, Idaho -- The University of Idaho Library, with financial assistance from the Library Associates, has acquired a rare photographic resource related to Idaho's World War II history. It is a hand-made scrapbook of 148 original photographs and two drawings of activities and buildings related to the Kooskia Internment Camp on the Lochsa River.

Immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor, federal authorities rounded up some 1,200 Japanese aliens living in the United States. Arrested by the FBI and local officials, these men were turned over to the Immigration and Naturalization Service who placed them in internment camps in Texas, North Dakota, New Mexico and Montana, among others.

The Kooskia camp was not one of the 10 large concentration camps where West Coast Japanese-American citizens and their families were sent unconstitutionally. Rather, it was a road-building site in a former CCC camp on the Lochsa River in Idaho. The inmates were extending the Lewis and Clark Highway, now US 12, up the river toward Montana. Completion of the road was declared a wartime necessity and so the INS paid Japanese alien volunteers from the larger internment camps.

The photographs in the scrapbook, taken about 1944, are the work of either one of the Japanese inmates or one of the federal guards. The signed sketches are by one of the inmates. The son of a deceased guard discovered the scrapbook among family memorabilia and offered it to the UI.

The photographs are an extensive record of life in the camp, with multiple views of the mess hall, the canteen, and the recreation facilities, as well as scenes of the heavy equipment and the construction work on the highway, where the Japanese worked closely with the Bureau of Public Roads personnel.

Priscilla Wegars, curator of UI's Asian American Comparative Collection and author of a recent article on the camp published in *Idaho Yesterdays*, calls the scrapbook "a major artifact from a little-known aspect of Idaho's history."

The scrapbook pages and the photographs have been scanned and added to the Historical Photographs Collection database, now approaching 100,000 entries. The scrapbook and the database are available for viewing in UI Library's Special Collections during regular hours.

UI Special Collections includes materials that, because of subject coverage, rarity, source, condition, or form, are best handled separately from the general collection. Several such collections are the Day-Northwest collection of Western Americana, rare books, Idaho documents, Sir Walter Scott collection, Ezra Pound collection, Caxton collection, UI theses, historical maps, historical photographs, personal papers and university archives. Descriptions are online at www.lib.uidaho.edu/special-collections/.

Contacts: Terry Abraham, UI Special Collections, (208) 885-7951, tabraham@uidaho.edu or Nancy Hilliard, University Communications, (208) 885-6567, hilliard@uidaho.edu

Howard University Announces Online South African Research Archival Project (SARAP)

The South African Research Archival Project (SARAP), located on the campus of Howard University, in collaboration with the University of Fort Hare in South Africa, is pleased to announce the launching of the SARAP website: <http://sarap.howard.edu>

SARAP is a documentation project that identifies, inventories, and facilitates access to archival collections that demonstrate linkages between Americans and South Africans, principally African Americans, during the anti-apartheid movement.

To date, SARAP has inventoried the following collections for the website:

- African National Congress United Nations Mission Records

- African National Congress Washington, D.C. Mission Records
- Pan Africanist Congress United Nations Mission Records
- Records of the House Sub-Committee on Africa in the Charles C. Diggs

Papers:

- Southern African References in the American Society of African Culture Collection

**Call for Papers: Paul Laurence Dunbar:
A Centennial Conference at Stanford University**

Stanford University's Program in American Studies <<http://www.stanford.edu/group/HSP/AmStud/>> announces the Paul Laurence Dunbar: A Centennial Conference at Stanford University, March 9-11, 2006.

This conference will celebrate the centennial of Dunbar's death by exploring new critical perspectives on the full range of his career as a poet, novelist, lyricist, dramatist, and journalist. The conference organizers will edit a selection of the papers for a special issue of *African American Review*.

We welcome papers exploring Dunbar as an individual challenged by complex psychological, esthetic, social, and political pressures. We seek lectures that place him in the context of historical phenomena such as slavery and the Civil War, Reconstruction, lynching, race riots, and landmark Jim Crow legislation such as Plessy v. Ferguson. We want to consider Dunbar as a regional, national, and international writer, and as a stylistic innovator of the highest order. We also invite papers on his relationship to his literary predecessors, contemporaries, and successors--writers such as Harriet Beecher Stowe, James Whitcomb Riley, William Dean Howells, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Mark Twain, W. E. B. Du Bois, Booker T. Washington, Charles Chesnutt, James Weldon Johnson, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, Langston Hughes, and more recent poets. We also hope to explore Dunbar's engagement with the musical theater, popular song, minstrelsy, spoken-word poetry, and reading-speaking tours; with visual culture, such as the Hampton Camera Club; and with notable cultural events, such as the World's Columbian Exposition.

Sponsored by the American Studies Program at Stanford University, this conference is organized by the director of the

program, Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Gavin Jones (Stanford), Meta DuEwa Jones (George Washington), Arnold Rampersad (Stanford), and Richard Yarborough (UCLA). Co-sponsors include the Office of the President of Stanford University; Office of the Dean of Humanities & Sciences; Department of English; Department of History; Stanford Continuing Studies, Program in African & African American Studies; Stanford Humanities Center; and the Central Region Humanities Center.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, or in attending the conference, please let us know at once at the email address below. **Note that August 1 is the deadline for receiving paper proposals.** To propose a paper, please send an abstract of about 600 words in length by 1 August 2005, along with a one-page CV and contact information to:

DunbarConference@stanford.edu
<<mailto:DunbarConference@stanford.edu>>.

The conference will be free to all registrants. In addition, we expect to provide travel and lodging support for all presenters.

Wanted: AAC Newsletter Editor

Looking for a fun and challenging way to be active in the AAC Roundtable? The Newsletter comes out twice a year and is a great way to show your support for the mission and goals of the Roundtable. Contact the current editor (below) for more information.

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is published twice a year.

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Mission Statements

The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

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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