

A NEWSLETTER OF  
STUDENT CHAPTERS AND  
INDIVIDUAL STUDENT  
MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY  
OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS



**SOCIETY OF  
American  
Archivists**

**EDITOR**  
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SAA-LSU

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# CHAPTERS & LOOSE PAPERS

## A Student Archivist Newsletter

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FALL 2006

### OCTOBER WAS AMERICAN ARCHIVES MONTH

#### **California State University-Sacramento**

This year's American Archives Month proved quite fruitful in Sacramento, California. The student chapter at California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) participated in and helped organize several different activities and events celebrating Archives month.

Two of the chapter's members, former President Greig Best and Treasurer Lisa Prince, were on the California State Archives Month planning committee and surely contributed some of the innovative ideas that made the month's activities successful. Secondly, the CSUS student chapter coordinated with the Special Collections and University Archives at CSUS to display some of the treasures of their archives at the California State Archives open house, representing one of the ten

regional repositories with archival holdings on display at the open house. The California State Archives open house, held on October 7, had a remarkable visitor turn out with nearly

#### **Two of the chapter's members served on the California Archives Month planning committee.**

300 people attending the one night event.

Additionally, the student chapter organized an open house at the CSUS Special Collections and University Archives. This event attempted to reach out and inform the campus community of the archival collections of the University Archives. Some of the features of this open house included tours of the archives facilities, brief

workshops on the basics of archives, and information pertaining to historical research in the archives.

Lastly, many chapter members maintain employment at regional archival repositories. Each of these members played a vital role in assisting their respective archives with carrying out Archives month preparations and activities. Overall, Archives Month 2006 proved a busy, yet rewarding month for the members of the student chapter at CSUS. Most of all, both the public and the archival community thoroughly enjoyed the Archives Month events and activities in Sacramento.

- Brent M. Rogers  
President

## Wisconsin Archives Week in Madison



**The Archivist Cookbook for sale by UW-Madison SAA chapter, is on sale until December 1st for shipment by Christmas.**

We have been busy in Madison, with a record number of members and event attendees. In celebration of Archives Week we hosted a bake sale (we are quite famous amongst the SLIS community here in Madison), offered sampler-Zines of the *Archivist Cookbook* at the Zine-fest (part of the week long Wisconsin Book Festival), and created a beautiful display about the history of the Archives Program at SLIS.

We have also had two gatherings for chapter members. A potluck at co-ordinator Alexis Braun Marks' home was held in September as a meet and greet for first and second year students. Advisor Ciaran Trace hosted a "Job

Outlook" potluck where Rick Pifer of the Wisconsin Historical Society offered his advice on applying for jobs, how to read job announcements and ways to beef-up your resume. Thanks to Russell James of LSU and our own Gabe Angulo we were able to offer attendees a sampling of recent job postings and data on skills employers are looking for. (If you are interested in seeing what we came up with please contact [abraun2@wisc.edu](mailto:abraun2@wisc.edu))

Fifteen first year SLIS students have been accepted to the archives track and we are hoping to that all 13 of the graduating second year students find employment come spring.

We were honored to host a talk by Russian Archivist Dr. Marina Sorokina in early November and we are keeping busy with plans for another bake sale in December along with a Resume writing workshop and an interview workshop in January.

Interested in ordering a copy of the *Archivist Cookbook* for the holidays? We are taking orders through December 1<sup>st</sup> and will ship in time for the holidays. If you would rather order on your own and see what else we have to offer please visit us at <http://www.cafepress.com/uwsaachapter> all sale profits go to benefit the UW-Madison Student Chapter.

## SAA-LSU Louisiana State University



**SAA-LSU—The 25th student chapter**  
**Front row, l to r: Russell D. James (president), Dr. Elizabeth H. Dow (advisor), Jennifer Pino, Aimee Everett (administrative secretary), Suzanne Horton.**  
**Back row, l to r: Debbie Cannon, Dana Teepell, Kyle Kendall, Andree Bourgeois, John Hansen, Katie Erikson.**

The Louisiana State University student chapter received its charter from the SAA Council in mid-July 2006, becoming the 25th student chapter. Plans were made for a big year at LSU.

President Russell James, vice president Neil Guilbeau, and administrative secretary Aimee Everett worked hard to plan a beginning of the year tour of the university libraries' special collection department's Hill Memorial Library location. Thirteen students attended the tour.

The officers felt strongly that the chapter needed to become involved in the celebration of American Archives Month and Louisiana

Archives Week. During the latter, the chapter released a bookmark created by webmaster Debbie Cannon (see figure at left). The bookmark was distributed to university libraries and the history department (in hopes of recruiting some members). It was such a hit that SAA included it on its "Archives Month Activities" webpage.

Also in October, and also to celebrate American Archives Month, Lee Miller, manuscript curator at Tulane University in New Orleans and SAA Council member, spoke to the group about being a professional archivist and what it means.

The group decided to undertake a service project to

both archivists and researchers in Louisiana by updating the online *LAMA Directory*. LAMA is the Louisiana Archives & Manuscript Association, the state's professional association. The project is ongoing.

In November, six members of the group attended the LAMA Annual Meeting in Thibodaux, Louisiana, hosted by Nicholls State University. The group heard about efforts to record oral histories about life during and after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, learned about the restoration of the Jackson Barracks after the storms, and listened to president Russell James give a presentation on the cutting-edge method of function-based appraisal.

## Simmons College student chapter

Over the past year, Simmons SCOSAA members have visited archives at Boston University and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Guest lecturers have included Richard Pearce Moses (immediate past president, SAA), Howard Lowell (NARA) on the Electronic Records Archive, and Susanna Belovari (Tufts University) on the processing of Holocaust records. We co-hosted an archives student potluck at the home of the head of the Simmons archives program

(Jeannette Bastian), and had a poster presentation at the annual SAA conference this summer in Washington D.C. Later this month we will be visiting the processing and audiovisual archives at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and holding an archives career panel.

Heather Soyka

*The Society of American Archivists holds its annual meeting from August 27-September 2 in Chicago.*

*Students and student chapters are encouraged to make poster presentations and present them at the annual meeting. In the past, the student chapter poster presentations have been highly visible and very successful. Doing a poster presentation is a way to have your student chapter recognized and a way for the students at the annual meeting to get an opportunity to network with other archivists (read here – potential employers).*

*Pay attention to the SAA website and publications in coming months for a call for poster presentations.*

## Folklife and Kringles in Milwaukee

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee SAA student chapter had an active Archives Month. Our chapter had the privilege of a Q&A session with Dr. Michael Taft, Head of the Archive of Folk Culture at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in October. Dr. Taft was making presentations to a class and another student organization and generously took the time to talk with us. We discussed digitization, access to records and the most unusual item the Center received- a ham. All students who were able to attend appreciated his insight and advice.

In addition to that we sold kringles for

our annual fall fundraiser. For those not familiar with kringle it is a Danish pastry shaped in an oval and filled with fruit or nuts (<http://www.kringle.com/>). We sold over 100! All the money raised will be put towards subsidizing student costs for the SAA conference in Chicago in 2007.

Membership in our student chapter has risen in the last two years thanks to an increase in students interested in archives at UWM. With this influx of new members we have been

able to do more activities. Look for a report of our tour of the Marquette University Special Collections and Archives, the implementation of our new website and other activities in the next segment of this newsletter.

Katie Blank  
Vice President

## Wright State University student chapter

The Wright State University Student Chapter of SAA is a relatively young organization. It began in 2003 with about five members with a current membership of twelve members. Since we are still a small organization we did not do anything for last month's Archives week but are planning a couple trips in the near future.

One of the trips we are planning is going (mid-December) to the Cincinnati Museum Center. Another event we are planning in February 2007 is traveling to Indianapolis to visit the IUPUI Special Collections and Archives as well as the Children's Museum.

Garret B. Kremer-Wright  
President

## SAA/SOA at Kent State University

The SAA/SOA student chapter at Kent State University (KSU) believes that an important aspect of its job is to help fellow students by offering speakers and activities that will enhance what is being taught in the classroom. This is especially important since KSU does not have an archival focus within the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS). There are several courses and workshops offered each semester that cover archival topics which have allowed many students to pursue their interests in archives.

Kent State students combined two student groups, the SAA student chapter and the student chapter of the Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA) in order to bolster support and increase awareness of the archival profession. The goals of the chapter are to increase membership and provide programs and

events of interest to students.

The chapter kicked off the programming in October. The first speaker was a recent graduate of KSU, Ms. Rhonda Rinehart, MLIS. Ms. Rinehart is the archivist at the Archives of the History of American Psychology (AHAP) at The University of Akron in Akron, OH. She gave the group an overview of her job and described some of the projects that she has worked on and completed while at the AHAP. Ms. Rinehart also shared her experience as a graduate student.

Ms. Miriam Kahn, MLS, was the second speaker hosted by the chapter. Ms. Kahn is an adjunct instructor in KSU's SLIS program in addition to running a consulting business for libraries and archives. Ms. Kahn's presentation focused on a course

she will be teaching in the spring (Reference and Research Methods for Genealogy and Local History) as well as those courses that she is currently teaching.

The final speaker for the semester, Mr. Steve Paschen, MA, MLIS will be giving a presentation in December. Mr. Paschen recently joined the Kent State faculty as the University Archivist, a position which had remained vacant for many years within the department of special collections and archives. Aside from hosting speakers, the chapter is planning to organize several "field trips." The group hopes to tour local archival facilities in order to obtain an inside look at what goes on in the field.

Alyssa Weldon  
Lizette Royer

## Oregon Student and Oregon Archives Week

The chapter of Northwest Archivists celebrated Oregon Archives Week with a number of activities and presentations around the state during the week of October 9-15.

To end the week long festivities, historians, archivists and Shakespeare enthusiasts at large converged upon Oregon's Shakespeare Festival in Ashland Oregon. The weekend's activities revolved around the exhibit of Shakespeare's first folio on loan from the private collection of Paul G. Allen. The folio was printed in London in 1623 by Isaac Jaggard and Edward Bount and exhibited in the New Theatre where the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Archives are held. The folio is one of 235 copies that exist.

Paul Merchant, Shakespeare scholar and William Stafford Scholar from Lewis & Clark College Special Collections, presented on the folio and gave

an in depth history of printing during that time period.

We also received a tour of the Festival Archives by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Archivist, Kit Leary.

Saturday consisted of lectures and attendance of the performance of *King John*. Jeff Land, Historian and Archivist for the National Forest Service spoke on forest history in Southern Oregon. His presentation was titled, "100 Years of Forest History: The Historical Records Collection of the Rogue River National Forest."

Alan Armstrong then spoke of the performance of *King John* and how the director went about writing and researching for this version of the performance. The performance of *King John* was phenomenal. The director had set the historical context in the midst of World War I.

We were also given a glimpse into the Archives and Special Collections of Southern Oregon University which contains a copy of Shakespeare's second folio printed in London in 1632.

The activities and presentations were exceptional. This was my first time attending activities associated with Oregon Archives Week. It was nice getting to know others around the state involved in the Northwest Archivist Chapter.

Robyn Ward  
MLIS Student  
Emporia State University –  
Oregon Cohort  
Lewis & Clark College  
Portland, Oregon



## E-Portfolios Can Sell You to An Employer

I have been following the student archives list serve for some time now and became interested in the thread regarding on-line portfolios. In reality, as I graduated in August of this year, I am no longer technically a student. The notion of putting together a portfolio of my research and writings actually came out of discussions that I had with friends who were in the general library track. As part of a library instruction class, I believe it was anyway, the students had to develop a simple web page with their pertinent papers, contact info etc. While this was not discussed in any of my classes, I thought it was a great idea. I believe I may be the only one in my class to have something like this.

I set out to create a very simple webpage that I could post to my .Mac web server. For those who don't know about this service, it is a web-based service that originally started off as a free program called iTools but Apple decided to charge \$100 a year. Anyway, I have one GB of server space that I can post web pages to, store my bookmarks etc. Essentially, I can create the HTML in any application and upload via the web interface.

Back to the webpage itself: version one was VERY basic. Here is a link to the basic page: ([http://homepage.mac.com/jdamico68/employment%20web%20page/html/Portfolio\\_James\\_DaMico.html](http://homepage.mac.com/jdamico68/employment%20web%20page/html/Portfolio_James_DaMico.html)) I used NVu to create the HTML and created PDF's of all of my papers. This way there wouldn't be any problems with formatting etc. I knew this was to be more of a placeholder for a much improved website. Included at the top of my resume is a link to the portfolio page. And yes, I had one potential employer that actually went to the webpage and reviewed my finding aid.

On to the more advanced online portfolio: As I was taking a full load of classes in the summer, I sent my basic page to a web developer friend of mine to get his feedback. He suggested getting a friend that could design a page for me. It was at this juncture of the process that I asked my friend, who is an excellent designer, to produce a webpage for me using my rudimentary layout and organization as a starting point. I knew I wanted to make

use of CSS so the pages would render consistently and could easily be updated. Furthermore, I based the final design on my friend's photography website. Here is a link to the final webpage: (<http://homepage.mac.com/jdamico68/jim-damico/index.htm>)

The one factor that I don't know is how many people are actually looking at my on-line portfolio. Another is ensuring search engines are picking the page up. As it stands now, that isn't happening.

In conclusion, I think that whatever you choose to implement, whether it is basic or more advanced design, have some kind of online presence. Keep it clean, simple and easy to read. And don't forget to update it on a regular basis. There are plenty of free hosting services, your university included, that you can post your portfolio to. Just keep in mind that you want to have access to the server once you graduate.

James DaMico

## French Archives Students Visit Michigan

The student chapter of SAA at the University of Michigan has had a great fall opening up conversations between students, professors, and professionals. This year the Archives and Records Management program in the School of Information has expanded to include 4 full-time faculty: Paul Conway, David Wallace, Margaret Hedstrom, and Elizabeth Yakel. The chapter introduced new and old members alike to the new faculty--Wallace and Conway--at the first meeting of the semester and at a potluck. SAA also visited several on-campus and off-campus institutions to give students an idea of the different job possibilities in their future, including the William L. Clements Library (American history), the

Labadie (social protest) and Special Collections within the Hatcher Graduate Library, the Reuther Library (labor and urban affairs) in Detroit, and the State of Michigan Library in Lansing. In early November, a group from the Institut National du Patrimoine of Paris visited the Bentley Historical Library on-campus. Two French archivist students that were a part of the cohort met with students from the UM SAA chapter. Joan Schwartz from Queen's University (Kingston, Ontario, Canada) visited the Bentley and gave a presentation entitled "Photography and the de/re/con/struction of Geographical Archives" to a packed house. In early November, SAA hosted a fall session

for students to discuss what archives classes were best with many of the second years in the program. Finally, on November 9, students got an opportunity to meet and talk with archivists from across the state at a reception at the Bentley Historical Library.

Sarah Walch



## Student Chapter at University of British Columbia

The University of British Columbia student chapter of the Association of Canadian Archivists is one of three such chapters in Canada. The other two are: McGill University and the University of Toronto

As it is located within Canada, the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) does not have an SAA student chapter. However, SLAIS does have a student chapter of the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA). Established in 2004 as the first such chapter in Canada, UBC's ACA chapter is now in its third year of operation. A student coordinator leads the chapter; this year, Carolyn Petrie, a student in the joint Master of Archival Studies (MAS) and MLIS program, holds this position. Other chapter executive positions are two events coordinators, a secretary/treasurer, an archivist/web coordinator, and a first-year representative. Two of the chapter's most recent accomplishments are the creation of a website and a policy manual.

There are two ways of pursuing archival education at UBC: either through the stand-alone MAS degree program, or through the joint MAS-MLIS program. At least twenty new students enter the MAS program every September, and since all first-year MAS students are required to take eight core courses in their first year, there is often very little interaction between these students and their more senior counterparts. To foster communication between the cohorts and to provide support to first-year students, the ACA student chapter has developed a mentorship program that matches new students with second- or third-

year MAS and Joint students. This program has a high rate of involvement and both mentors and mentees speak favourably of their experiences as participants.

Another chapter activity consists of cultivating a long-standing relationship with the SAA student chapter at Western Washington University in Bellingham. For many years, the two programs have enjoyed a reciprocal relationship whereby students and faculty from one program travel across the international border to meet with the other program's students and faculty on their respective campus. Faculty organized these visits until the 2004-2005 academic year, when the schools' student chapters took over this role. In 2005, UBC students travelled to Bellingham, and in March 2006 Western Washington students came to Vancouver. The program for this visit included a tour of the UBC archives and presentations by UBC faculty, including a talk by Luciana Duranti, the ACA student chapter's faculty advisor, on the InterPARES 2 Project, which she directs. Plans for the UBC chapter's spring 2007 visit to Bellingham are underway.

Chapter events held this term have included a pub night, a Halloween bake sale, and a discussion of MAS curriculum changes. More events are planned. On November 3rd we will have a lunchtime chat on the subject of archival education with Ciaran Trace, an assistant professor at the School

of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. November 19-25 is Archives Week in British Columbia and we have a couple of activities planned. First, Rosaleen Hill, a Vancouver-based conservator and the coordinator of the Archives Association of British Columbia's preservation service, will give a presentation on preservation techniques and standards associated with digital photography and born-digital images. Later in the week, chapter members will visit the Museum of Anthropology at UBC for a tour of the museum archives and a behind-the-scenes look at the museum's exhibits and current digitization projects. Events taking place next term include speaker presentations, a Valentine's bake sale, and more social gatherings.

For more information about the ACA student chapter at UBC, please visit the chapter's website at <http://www.slais.ubc.ca/PEOPLE/students/student-groups/aca/>.

Christina Miller  
Jill Prior

## Cookout in Kentucky

The Student Chapter of SAA at the University of Kentucky is a fairly new organization on campus. The chapter was founded during the 2003-04 school year, and we have been working ever since on building membership and establishing ourselves on campus.

Our first event this semester was a cookout at Archives Professor Bill Marshall's house on October 8 to welcome new members and celebrate the start of Archive's week. On October 13, our vice-president Jennifer Howard and member Kat Lloyd attended the Kentucky Council on Archives fall

meeting at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort. Plans for this year include a presentation by recent UK SLIS graduates, and a resume writing workshop. Tours of local archives were also made available to UK SAA members in conjunction with the Archives class. For more information about our Student Chapter, check out our website at <http://www.uky.edu/CommInfoStudies/SLIS/students/saa/index.htm>



Kentucky students at cookout. From l to r: Tom Fiehrer, Alice Wasielewski, Adrienne Phillips (president), Sue Maggard and Jennifer Howard (vice-president).

## Syracuse Student and Sound Archives

Quite honestly, I love working in a sound archive. But how did I end up here? My professional background is in teaching, and a little over a year ago I was in the midst of a graduate program in ethnomusicology at UCLA. Several factors conspired to prompt my move into the world of archives. I had begun to pay more attention to one of the best resources the department had to offer, the Ethnomusicology Archive. I talked with the archivist about his work and career path, attended archiving panels and committee meetings at a conference, and was quickly drawn into the world of a myriad of media formats and objects that are the product of ethnographic field research. At the same time, I began to question my motivations to continue on to the Ph.D. Family concerns also came into play, and by the end of the academic year I had finished my first master's and was returning to my undergraduate alma mater, Syracuse University, to pursue a second master's in library and information science.

It wasn't for the archival studies program that I chose Syra-

cuse -- despite being a top-ranked "i-school," there isn't one here. The main draw for me was the bunker-like building hidden beside the main library: the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive. Belfer is recognized as one of the world's significant audio collections, with over 300,000 recordings in formats from the earliest experimental tin-foil and brown wax recordings to modern digital media. Our collection of 22,000 cylinder records is the largest at a private institution in North America. We maintain playback equipment for all formats and are able to do delicate restoration and preservation work on recordings from any era. We also serve as a teaching facility for classes in the undergraduate Music Industry program. Through the generosity of the William Fleming Trust I am supported as the archive's first graduate assistant. The work involves me in all aspects of media archiving, including preservation, digitization, organization, publicity and relations, reference, teaching and research -- experience that library coursework doesn't offer.

Since arriving, I've met other students interested in archiving, from the more traditional historical materials to video and film collections. We seem to be a growing contingent at Syracuse. One faculty member has begun to offer occasional courses in special collections and archives. We've also started to look into establishing summer courses in audiovisual archiving, with an eye on evolving those into a complete interdisciplinary master's degree in recorded sound and AV archiving -- which would be, as far as I can tell, the first in the country. In the meantime, our contingent is planning to start a student chapter of SAA right here at Syracuse. We refer to ourselves as the "library heretics," a tongue-in-cheek way of pointing out the uniqueness of the archival perspective within a library. In all seriousness, we hope to convince people that it's a valuable perspective, worthy of curricular attention in any forward-looking information school.

*Sound Archives are just one area of archives that students can work on while in school.*

*Students from universities with no SAA student chapter are welcome to submit articles for this newsletter. In coming months, SAA may be considering starting a "virtual student chapter" for such students.*

**Gregory Hunter  
and William  
Saffady lead the  
archives education  
program at Long  
Island University**

## Long Island University Archives Students

The Archives program at Long Island University is part of its Palmer School of Library and Information Science. Classes are held at two locations: The C. W. Post Campus in Brookville, Long Island, NY. This campus is set on the former Gold Coast estate of Marjorie Merriweather Post, heiress to the Post cereal fortune. Other classes are held in Manhattan at the Bobst Library of New York University.

The lead faculty members in this area are Gregory S. Hunter, Ph.D. and William Saffady, Ph.D.

Dr. Hunter, a certified archivist and records manager, was first president of the Academy of Certified Archivist, manager of corporate records at ITT world headquarters, and director of archival programs at the United Negro College Fund, Inc. He is the Principal Archivist and Records Manager for a team headed by Lockheed Martin that is building the Electronic Records Archives for the National Archives and Records Administration. Dr. Hunter is the author of *Devel-*

*oping and Maintaining Practical Archives: A How-To-Do-It Manual*, a textbook for many basic courses in the field.

Dr. Saffady is internationally known in the fields of information and records management, library automation, and document imaging systems and technologies. Before joining the Palmer School, he taught at the State University of New York at Albany, Vanderbilt University, the Pratt Institute and Wayne State University.

Adjunct faculty includes Mimi Bowling, a consulting archivist and former Curator of Manuscripts at the New York Public Library and Rick Block, Head, Special Collections and Metadata Cataloging at Columbia University.

Since the program is part of the Palmer School of Library and Information Science, all students must complete a core of four basic library classes. The Certificate in Archives and Records Management requires a total of six classes. Two required classes are Archives and Manuscripts and Records Man-

agement I. Three electives are required. Some of the courses offered as electives are strictly archival in nature, such as Appraisal of Archives and Manuscripts; others are shared with the Rare Books and Special Collections concentration. The final requirement is an internship in an archives. The New York location gives students many unique opportunities for internships, ranging from major corporations to small repositories to major research libraries such as New York Public to international institutions such as the United Nations.

The Manhattan location at New York University offers students the opportunity to register in certain classes that are part of NYU's Archives program in their History Department. NYU students are also welcome in some of the Palmer School's library and archives classes.

Peter Andes

**Why this  
newsletter?**

Chapters and Loose Papers is a production of the twenty six student chapters of the Society of American Archivists and various student archivists from around the world.

The idea for this newsletter came out of a discussion by students on the archives students listserv, hosted by the Society of American Archivists.

Thanks to the hard work of

SAA membership and technical director, Brian Doyle, nine student chapters presidents officially sanctioned this newsletter as an official mouthpiece of the student chapters in September 2006.

Submissions to this newsletter may be made to newsletter editor Russell James at [rjames8@lsu.edu](mailto:rjames8@lsu.edu). Photos are welcome.

We would also like to thank Indiana University's student chapter for hosting this newsletter on their website.

Any and all interested parties, especially student chapters in the United States and Canada, are welcome to link to this site.

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## Publication Information.



## Wayne State University Activities in Fall 2006



From l to r: Troy Eller, Eva Gronowska (pink shirt), Jennifer Hassell (behind Eva), Frank Boles and Ronee Francis

### Frank Boles Presentation

On Thursday, November 16, 2006, the student chapter of the Society of American Archivists at Wayne State University invited Dr. Frank Boles to speak about the appraisal and selection of archival records. He explored the background of the theory behind selection and the current state of the appraisal discussion.

Dr. Boles began with a lively comparison of the Jenkinson and Schellenberg appraisal theories. He then discussed who appraises, why they appraise and what they deem worthy to keep and on what grounds. Are records kept only to

record business transactions? Are they kept as evidence in the court of law? Or is it for the use of historians? Dr. Boles said that it can easily be any of these and that appraisal is different from institution to institution, adding that collection policies must be clear and readily available for anyone that questions what is kept and what is discarded.

The presentation was filled with not only solid information on appraisal and selection, but also included memorable anecdotes and thoughtful questions from the audience. Dr. Boles also had a PowerPoint presentation. The entire presentation and the PowerPoint slides were recorded and will be posted on the web near the beginning of December. Keep checking our website for updates: <http://www.lisp.wayne.edu/saa>.

Dr. Boles is the director of the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University and is also the author of the 2005 SAA publication entitled, *Selecting and Appraising Archives and Manuscripts*.

### SAA T-shirts and zip-up sweatshirts now available!

The SAA at Wayne State was very excited to introduce our latest fundraising effort – creating and selling short-sleeve t-shirts and zip-up

hoodie sweaters. The shirts come all sizes in gray and white and the sweaters are gray. Both have a small SAA icon on the front. On the back is another SAA logo and “100% Acid Free” above the logo. SAA’s Co-webmaster, Crystle Martin, did the printing and secretary Ronee Francis will be coordinating the sales of the shirts. We are developing an online order form, but you can send us an email if you would like to purchase shirts in time for the holidays. Contact us at: [saawsu@wayne.edu](mailto:saawsu@wayne.edu).

### Midwest Archives Conference

The SAA at WSU is trying to get a road trip to Columbus, OH together. Each year, the Midwest Archives Conference gives archival students a fantastic chance to mingle with professionals that are not only in their field, but also in their region. The MAC conference is affordable, nearby and filled with fantastic sessions. This 2007 spring meeting will take place May 2-7. More information is available at <http://www.midwestarchives.org>.

Eva Gronowska

## Speed Processing v. Slow Processing

In the archives world, a new mantra called “More Product, Less Process” has opened up the gates for a serious rethinking of how we process new collections. As put forth by Mark A. Green and Dennis Meissner, archives suffer from tremendous backlogs hindered by slow and careful processing methods that are in need of a serious overhaul. Many archivists are now advocating a new approach called “speed processing.” The Midwest Archives Conference in Omaha, held in October of this year, focused on this new revolution in the archives world and how it can be implemented in local archives. Three employees at the Iowa Women’s Archives attended this conference and returned ready to try some new ideas. As we have made changes, it is clear that speed processing has its advantages, but cannot be implemented for every collection. I have recently completed processing two collections that prove this point.

The term “speed processing” does not mean that I frantically process a new collection at warp speed. In reality, it means skipping some tedious steps that would

previously have been deemed necessary for providing a researcher with a well-organized, neatly prepared collection, but now are considered too time consuming and unnecessary. The collection that I speed processed belonged to Johnnie Hammond, a recently retired Iowa state legislator. While serving in both the house and senate, Hammond kept alphabetized research files and constituent mail organized roughly by congressional session. If I had processed this collection a year ago, I would have re-folded and labeled over 90 research files and chronologically organized her letters and other materials. I kept the original folders as is and the rest of the letters and materials remained in their original order and organization. In total time I would estimate that the collection, at five linear feet, took me twenty hours to process.

In contrast, I have also recently prepared a collection donated by Margaret Keyes, a retired professor at the University of Iowa. This collection consists of family papers from five branches of the Keyes family, spanning from 1832 to the 1960s. It includes a wide variety of materials including letters, essays,

newspaper clippings, marriage licenses, Civil War diaries, tax documents, wills, photographs and ambrotypes. This collection did not come to us already organized or in folders. Although it took me weeks, I thoroughly combed over this collection by making folders, reorganizing, researching the family and creating a detailed finding aid.

In considering speed processing, several questions need to be asked: How large is the collection? How much variety is there in the materials and format? Are they already in some sort of organizational system, and are the papers already foldered? Is this an important collection for our archives, and will our researches be eager to use it? Answering these questions can help us make important decisions concerning what can be speed processed and what must be slow processed.

Kathryn V. Stewart

**The Society of Tennessee Archivists is not the only state and regional archives association to reach out to students. The recent Louisiana Archives & Manuscripts Association meeting had a cake to commemorate the chartering of the student chapter at Louisiana State University.**

## Society of Tennessee Archivists Reaches Out to Students

The Society of Tennessee Archivists (STA) has established a new program to provide funds to enable two students to attend its annual meeting. The two scholarships are open to Tennessee undergraduate and graduate students in archives and related fields of study, reflecting the STA's emphasis on encouraging student participation in the organization. The first recipients were Dorothy Davis from Middle Tennessee State University and Anthony Norton, a student at East Tennessee State University. Another scholarship program, the Mary C. Barnes Archives Scholarship funded by the Friends of Metro Archives in Nashville, provides meeting and workshop attendance funds for students who also actively work as archivists. This year's recipient was Terry Jackson, Middle Tennessee State University Student and Archival Assistant with the Metropolitan Archives in Nash-

ville, Tennessee.

STA held its annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee this year; co-sponsored by the Southern Baptist Historical Society. The theme was *Facing the Future: Archives, Technology and the New Millennium*. Seminars, roundtable discussions, and a keynote address by Dr. Elizabeth Dow were part of the bill of fare, and this year the STA co-sponsored a workshop, *Digital Libraries and Digital Archives*, with the Society of American Archivists, providing a different educational opportunity for students and active archivists.

The STA does not currently have student chapters, but has recently made an increased effort to reach out to students. This year the membership committee included a student membership coordinator who is a graduate student as well as being employed in the profession. A publicity campaign has targeted schools that have programs in ar-

chives or related fields. At present, there is no special student membership status, but students are encouraged to join as associate members (at the reduced rate of \$10 per calendar year.) The society's leadership has placed discussion about increased opportunities for students to serve and ways in which the STA can better offer support to students on their agenda for the coming year.

Although the primary focus of the STA is currently on archivists and students in Tennessee, students and practicing archivists from other states, as well as people from allied professions who believe they may derive benefit or have something to offer, are welcome. Those interested in the student scholarships or other STA activities can check out their Web site at <http://www.geocities.com/tennarchivists>.

Jim Havron

## 2006 Pratt Summer Institute in Florence

From May 21 through June 11, the Cultural Informatics Program at Pratt Institute's School of Information and Library Science brought 16 graduate students and professional librarians and archivists to Florence, Italy, for three full weeks of immersive study in Florentine art and culture.

Now in its third year, the Pratt Summer Institute in Florence has earned some celebrity among students of library science, archival studies, and art history. Last winter, applications for the 2006 Institute poured in from students across the country. In addition to select Pratt students based in New York, this year's participants also included scholars from Arizona, Massachusetts, Michigan, Oregon, and Texas.

The course was conceived and designed by Dr. AnnaMaria Poma-Swank, associate visiting professor at Pratt-SILS and librarian at the Italian Academy at Columbia University. A native of Florence and scholar of Medieval and Renaissance art, Dr. Poma-Swank devised and facilitated a rigorous agenda of tours and a series of lectures by Florence's preeminent authorities in art, conservation, librarianship, curatorship, publishing, and Renaissance history. She was assisted by Pratt-SILS graduate student Ilaria Papini, also a native of Florence.

Activities included guided tours of Florence's most renowned research libraries and archives, including the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze, the Uffizi Library, the Alinari photo archives, the Biblioteca dell'Accademia della Crusca, Michelozzo's Library in the Convent of San Marco, and the Library of Bernard Berenson, located at Harvard University's Villa I Tatti in the lush hills of Fiesole northeast of Florence.

The course, however, was not limited in scope to Florentine libraries and offered a refreshingly interdisciplinary approach to library studies. The class visited the Galileo Galilei Institute for Theoretical Physics to hear a lecture by Professor Alberto Righini on the history of astronomy in religion and art. Students attended a seminar by Barbara Casalini and enjoyed lunch at the hillside-villa offices of Italian-publication vendor Casalini Libri. They also received intimate expert lectures held at Florentine landmarks, including Orsanmichele,

the Museo del Bargello, and, of course, the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, with its famous Dome designed by Brunelleschi.

Yet, among the most exciting activities were the private, behind-the-scenes tours of Florence's cultural treasures made possible through Dr. Poma-Swank's strong rapport with her international colleagues. These events included a walk through Vasari's Corridor, the private elevated walkway of the Medici connecting the Uffizi to the Pitti Palace; a backroom, after-hours lecture at the Gabinetto Disegni e Stampe, the Uffizi's collection of sketches, architectural drawings, and prints; and a guided tour of the secret apartments and sanctuaries of the Medici Grand Dukes, hidden in the walls of the Palazzo Vecchio, Florence's seat of government.

In addition to the scheduled lectures, each student developed and worked on an individual project in exhibition development and resource documentation. Students received library cards in order to conduct research at Florentine institutions when time permitted, as well as a pass allowing free entrance into Florence museums.

This pass was the prize possession of every student while in Florence; not only did it grant free admission into museums such as the Uffizi, the Pitti Palace, and the Galleria dell'Accademia, but it also allowed the carrier to forgo long museum-entry lines accompanied by waits of up to three hours. For most visitors to Florence, a trip to one of these institutions would be a daylong activity, but for the Pratt class, all it took was a short walk from the hotel and a quick flash of the pass to the museum attendant to see Michelangelo's *David* one more time or to spend an leisurely afternoon strolling the paths of Boboli Gardens.

Indeed, the history, culture, and art of Florence were inspirational and awe-inspiring. But, as every Summer Institute scholar discovered, so was the ambient beauty of Florence — the bells, the hills, the Arno River, the Tuscan sunshine, the songbirds at dusk. The 2006 Pratt Summer Institute in Florence was not only an excellent course; it was also an unforgettable life experience.

Sarah Rhodes, MLIS student, University of North Texas

# Life, Learning, and Fulfillment

Shortly after obtaining my BA I hopped in my trusty vehicle, which I affectionately called "Space Ghost", and began my journey from Detroit to the pipe-dream called Hollywood. Freshly armed with background in media arts and film, I decided to go straight to the source of the industry. Fast forward to my cubicle in the IT department of an insurance company a few years later; the film industry can be a harsh mistress. It was time for some serious re-evaluation. There must be something out there that would unify my still beating fervor for film with my technical skill set. My academic, professional and extracurricular focus has always included technology and media.

Through research and introspection, I came across a field that would blend these interests into a meaningful and rewarding career. The craft of a moving image archivist was the synthesis of everything I enjoy doing professionally with

the subject matter I am passionate about. With my new found drive to have a hand in preserving, cataloging and making accessible these kinds of materials, I needed a conduit to bring it together.

I had the enthusiasm and the beginnings of a skill set, but no direction to combine them into marketability for myself. I found San Jose State University's MLIS archival studies path an excellent foundation to ready me for the world of archiving.

Since my career as a MLIS student has begun I have immersed myself in the field as much as possible. Student groups such as SAASC provide valuable feedback and advice to help steer my goals. Organized trips to archives also provide a look into working conditions I would not ordinarily have the opportunity to see.

I recently had the opportunity to tour NARA's Pacific Region archives. The feeling pro-

voked by walking though the building was strong and elating. I cannot image how this would feel if I knew I would be stepping into an atmosphere such as the Margaret Herrick Library every morning. As for my off-time from work, I find myself going through each email from ListServes such as The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) and exploring the topics I was not previously aware of. Imagine actually wanting to continue work research after you are home from work.

In the few months I have been in the San Jose State University MLIS program, so much has solidified for me in terms of my goals and focus. I am eager to take advantage of every opportunity to build my skill set, network and discover what it takes to become a moving image archivist.

Heather Fulcinari

*I had the enthusiasm and the beginnings of a skill set, but no direction to combine them into marketability for myself.*

## University of Washington student archivists group

Although the Archives and Preservation Club (APC) is not an official SAA student chapter, we are a particularly active group. The APC is based within the University's Information School, where officers and active members are usually students in the MLIS program. Membership is open to all students at the University of Washington, regardless of department or program.

Last spring, we sponsored a panel discussion on digital music archiving and a presentation by Samuel Brylawski, the former head of the Library of Congress' Recorded Sound Division, on policies and trends in audio preservation. As such, we have been able to reach out to students in the University's music department. We are actively trying to forge stronger ties with students in the history and museology departments as well.

Our other recent events include a discussion with SAA past president Rand Jimerson, a tour of the

Seattle Municipal Archives, and several presentations by rare books and visual materials curators from the Special Collections Division of the University of Washington Libraries. In addition APC hosted an annual panel of professional archivists as part of the Information School's Career Week.

This year, the APC is participating in the Archives Fair as part of Archives Week in Washington State, and is scheduling tours, workshops, and presentations designed to meet the needs of students who are interested in a very broad range of archives, special collections, and preservation issues.

Because the University of Washington offers the MLIS through a traditional on campus program and via a distance-learning mode, APC membership includes students in several states. We are always looking for creative ways to reach out to and encourage students in the distance mode to take part in APC programs and events. We would certainly appreciate hearing from other archives groups that include off-

campus members.

We are also interested in talking to student archives groups about the process of becoming SAA student chapters, as this is an ongoing topic of discussion among club officers.

Officers for the 2006-2007 year are:

Abigail Bass, Secretary  
David Junius, Distance Liaison  
Spencer Lamm, Webmaster  
Melinda Snarr, Co-Chair  
Colleen Stevenson, Marketing & Publicity Officer  
Michelle Vallance, Co-Chair

Visit our website at <http://students.washington.edu/archpres/>. Contact us at [archpres@u.washington.edu](mailto:archpres@u.washington.edu).

--Melinda Snarr & Michelle Vallance





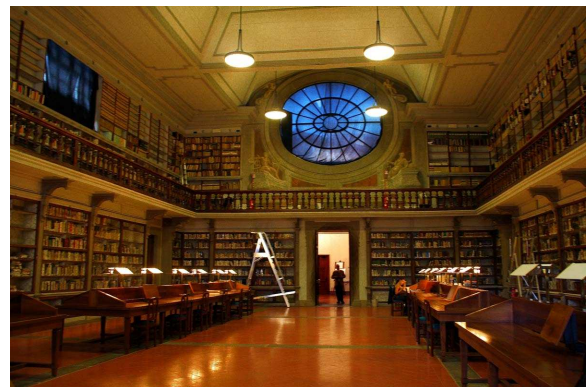
Students attending the 2006 Pratt Summer Institute in Florence attended an intimate lecture given by Dr. Claudio di Benedetto, Director of the Uffizi Library, and spent their free time conducting research using the Uffizi Library collections, which include books dating back.

Photo courtesy Jeanette O'Keefe.



Students attending the 2006 Pratt Summer Institute in Florence had the rare opportunity to witness a demonstration of colotype printing during a visit to the Fratelli Alinari Archives in Florence, Italy.

Photo courtesy of Jeanette O'Keefe.



Students attending the 2006 Pratt Summer Institute in Florence attended an intimate lecture given by Dr. Claudio di Benedetto, Director of the Uffizi Library, and spent their free time conducting research using the Uffizi Library collections, which include books dating back.

Photo courtesy Jeanette O'Keefe.