

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
SOCIETY OF
AMERICAN
ARCHIVISTS

SAA

JAN/FEB 2008

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archival outlook



Pay Attention!

- New F. Gerald Ham Scholarship
- Key Elements to Great Workshops
- Get Involved in SAA
- *American Archivist* Goes Online

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Pay Attention! . . . "Teacher Telling Story to Children, ca. 1928." Preschoolers photographed by the Institute of Child Welfare Research in New York City. Keep your mind young with new ideas. Learn what it's like to host or teach an SAA educational seminar in "Key Elements to Creating Great Workshops" (page 10) and get a perspective on archives and ethics (page 12). Photo courtesy of The New York State Archives.

archival outlook

The Society of American Archivists
serves the education and information needs
of its members and provides leadership to
help ensure the identification, preservation
and use of the nation's historical record.

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E Pluribus Unum

There's no contesting the fact that we are a diverse profession. We can be distinguished professionally in many ways—by institutional type, by functional specialty, by educational background, by the type of material we primarily handle, and so on. The question that I have is whether we are a united profession. I've come to worry that some of our distinctions are becoming divisions, fragmenting an already small profession. We can hardly project a strong and confident image to our resource allocators, users, and (if it's in your institution's mandate) public without first identifying ourselves to ourselves. And, I would add, we are unlikely to advance and succeed as a profession,

I believe that everything that tends to drive wedges into an already tiny profession is a source of insupportable weakness, and that we must push back energetically toward a common center.

whether within our institutions or within society, if we fragment into ever smaller subsets on the basis of perceived differences.

One of the fault lines that seems to hinder a solid archival identity is that between institutional "archivists" and manuscripts "curators." (Never mind that those who deal with manuscripts—record groups donated to a repository rather than transferred to an internal archives—often carry the title of "archivist.") As several scholars have pointed out, our profession in the U.S. stems from two distinct threads: the public records tradition and the historical manuscript tradition.¹ Some observers (including me) believe that the two traditions are successfully and increasingly merging, that our commonalities are much greater and more important than our differences.² But there is equally significant evidence that the traditions are fragmenting.

The belief that the two traditions are merging rather than fragmenting rests on "curators" and "archivists" having learned a great deal from each other. Curators have learned that in dealing with 20th-century collections they, too, should rely on provenance and original order, the importance of series, and collection—rather than item-level cataloging. Archivists gradually have come to adopt subject access, cataloging in addition to creation of finding aids, and concern for cultural—not just transactional—documentation.

Arrangement and description, appraisal, reference, preservation, even outreach became topics that, when treated by later SAA manuals, did not distinguish to any significant degree between archives and manuscript collections.

Our Canadian colleagues even developed the theory of "Total Archives," which posited (among other things) that private and public *fonds* (the rough equivalent to our record group or collection) should be administered under the same roof and in the same manner. The National Archives of Canada, for example, acquired substantial quantities of manuscript collections, from personal papers to business records. More recently they have extended the notion of commonalities even further, merging the national library and national archives (but that is an issue for another column). In the U.S., however, the landscape evolved much differently.

Government records archivists went so far as to form their own professional organization because they believed that SAA was dominated by academic archivists, many of them curators, some of whom considered government archivists as "drudges" (as one put it to me). Founded in 1970, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) has had a dramatic impact on the representation of government archivists within SAA. Only 60% of NAGARA members are also members of SAA. A *CENSUS reveals that within the profession as a whole, academic archivists and government archivists represent essentially equal percentages; within SAA, however, academic archivists outnumber government archivists two-to-one.³ This was a major crack in the unity of a small profession, and one that persists to this day despite such substantial efforts at rapprochement as the Joint Annual Meeting of the Council of State Archivists, NAGARA, and SAA in 2006 and collaboration on various advocacy initiatives.

In the mid- to late-1990s prominent members of SAA argued that American archivists had been led from the true path of government and institutional archives by mixing with manuscript curators and their perspectives, but that emerging concern about electronic records would bring the profession back to its proper role of maintaining evidence of transactions for parent organizations. Those in the profession who collected personal papers or acquired organizational

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Therefore Be It Resolved

We approach each new year with the best of intentions. And yet (she noted ruefully) we often fall short of our best intentions. SAA's 2007 was notable for many reasons—including welcoming our 5,000th member!—but we didn't accomplish everything on the list. As I look at a very full plate for 2008, I'm pretty sure we won't accomplish everything on the following list either. But we intend to give it a good shot!

Therefore be it resolved that we will:

Launch *American Archivist Online*.

Stick to our ambitious schedule for developing and offering a **wide variety of continuing education workshops** throughout the country. New topics in 2008 include Project Management for Archivists, Applying DACS to Single-Item Manuscript Cataloging, Using Oral Histories, and Managing the Digital University Desktop. Last year's popular Electronic Records Summer Camp will be reprised, with week-long offerings in July and August. For more information about SAA's face-to-face, online real-time, and online on-demand offerings, see www.archivists.org.

Support passage of the "**Preserving the American Historical Record Act**," a fine bit of legislation introduced in the House of Representatives in December that would "authorize the Archivist of the United States to make grants to States for the preservation and dissemination of historical records." The legislation is the fruit of significant labors of the Joint Task Force on the Partnership for the American Historical Record, driven largely by our partners at the Council of State Archivists. For more information, see www.statearchivists.org.

Complete editing and production of **new books** on "Legal Issues for Archives," "Archival Internships," and "College and University Archives: Readings in Theory and Practice," and add to the SAA website **two new e-publications**: the proceedings of the Summer 2006 colloquium on "New Skills for a Digital Era" and a new series of case studies on effective management of university digital records.

Investigate options for a more robust and integrated **Web content management system** and begin to enhance the navigation and content of SAA's website. We'd like to develop directories for archival education, archives consultants, and the mentoring program for starters, and also create consumer- and media-friendly

destinations on the site.

Identify competencies and standards and **collect, review, and clarify best practices relating to areas of archival practice that are affected by electronic records and digital asset issues**.

Promote greater participation in MayDay, an effort that SAA launched in 2006 to raise awareness about disaster preparedness. **Mark May 1, 2008, on your calendar now as a day on which you do something—even if it's something simple—to save your archives!**

Develop and publish the **2008 American Archives Month Public Relations Kit** in conjunction with the May/June issue of *Archival Outlook*, so that archivists nationwide have adequate time to prepare materials and work toward a more coordinated American Archives Month in October.

Select the first awardee(s) of the newly endowed **F. Gerald Ham Scholarship** for students in their second year of graduate archival education. (See page 7.) And complete the work of the newly formed **Minority Scholarship Task Force**, which will recommend to the SAA Council a program structure for a new scholarship that we hope to launch in late 2008.

Complete the transition of the SAA "Special Funds" to the **SAA Foundation**. (For more information, see <http://www.archivists.org/membership/funds.asp>.)

Get ready for **ARCHIVES 2008: Archival R/Evolution & Identities at the Hilton San Francisco, August 26–30**. We hope you're planning to attend. Be sure to wear some flowers in your hair....

And as I say every year at about this time: I'm going to clean my office and **lose 20 pounds**....

Actually, this time I AM going to clean my office...

and so is everyone else on staff. Our 10-year lease is up in January and we took this opportunity to look for more efficient space that would also give us the opportunity to grow a bit. Effective January 28, 2008, SAA is moving to new office space in the historic Charles A. Stevens Department Store Building, 17 North State Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602. And after several years of resolving to add a toll-free phone number for your convenience, we've done it: 866-SAA-7858.



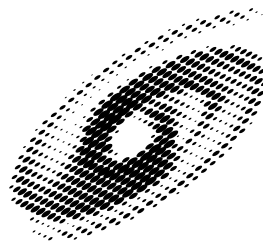
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Survey Takes a Closer Look at Trends in the Profession

HELEN JANOUSEK, SAA EDITORIAL AND PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Results of the data collected in the Archival Census and Education Needs Survey conducted in 2004 were summarized in a special section of the *American Archivist*, Vol. 69, No. 2. Here we take a closer look at some of the statistics and trends revealed in Part 3 of the A*CENSUS analysis produced by Victoria Irons Walch, the principal research consultant on the project. The expanded version of the General Data Analysis is available online at: www.archivists.org/a-census.

The A*CENSUS project was developed and shaped by more than 60 national, regional, state, and local archival associations, several educators and educational institutions, and a number of colleagues in related professions. The survey collected 5,620 responses from a mailing list of 12,000 for an overall response rate of 47.2%.

Who We Are and What We Do

Nearly half of all respondents were 50 years old or older and more than one-third were between the ages of 45 and 60.

Only slightly more than half of the A*CENSUS respondents (52.6%) chose "Archivist or Manuscript Curator" to describe their Current Position in the field. The number who identified themselves as working in another capacity varied by region. In the West, Southwest, and Northwest, the percentage of A*CENSUS respondents who selected Archivist or Manuscript Curator as their Current Position dropped below 50%, while those indicating "Another Profession" or "Other" rose accordingly.

The largest proportion of respondents work in academic settings (36%), followed closely by government (32%). Most surveys of individual archivists done during the last two decades focused on members of various archival associations and, because these surveys heard from significantly fewer employed in government than in academia, it was assumed

Figure 3.1.1. Current position (Q1)—first question in the survey

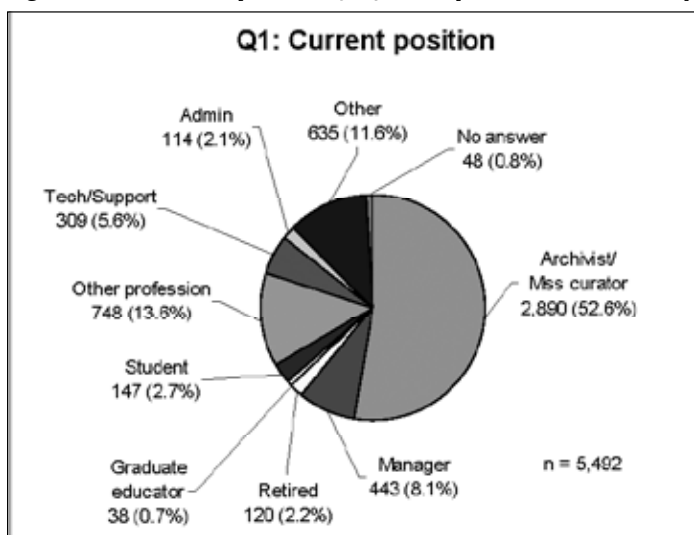


Table 3.1.1. Current position, all respondents

Option #	Please indicate if you are:	Count	Percent
1	Archivist or manuscript curator	2,890	52.6%
2	Managing a program that employs archivists	443	8.1%
3	Retired from employment as an archivist	120	2.2%
4	Teaching in a graduate archival education program	38	0.7%
5	Studying to be an archivist	147	2.7%
6	Working in another profession or occupation, but with archives-related responsibilities	748	13.6%
7	Working as a technical or support staff member with archives-related responsibilities	309	5.6%
8	Administering a program serving archival interests but not working directly with archival records	114	2.1%
9	Other	635	11.6%
10	Rather not say/no answer	48	0.8%
Total		5,492	100%

Source question: Q1 (current position)

that government workers were a relatively smaller group within the profession at large. The A*CENSUS reveals that government archivists do not affiliate at the same rate as archivists working in other sectors, so these membership surveys did not reflect their overall numbers accurately.

The low number of government archivists among SAA members (21.5%) is a distinct change from the first decades of the organization. Former SAA President Nicholas Burckel presented a historical analysis of SAA in his 1997 address to members, noting that in 1940 more than half of SAA's membership worked for the National Archives and Records Administration. As late as 1965, government archivists from state and federal agencies together still comprised more than half of SAA's membership. But in 1970, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) was formed, which had a dramatic impact on the number of government archivists in SAA and by 1990 college and university archivists were the largest member sector at 25%. This trend continues today and is discussed further in Section 9, *Professional Identity and Affiliation*.

Gender Proportions Do a Flip-Flop

One of the most striking findings of the A*CENSUS is the gender shift that has occurred in the last 50 years. Of respondents, 65% were female and 34% were male (1% chose not to answer). The new profile is a reversal of the proportions that Ernst Posner found in his 1956 survey of SAA members, in which 67% were male and 33% were female. In the younger generation just entering the field, the proportion is about 4:1 women to men, with the trend likely to continue or even

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CALL FOR APPLICANTS

F. Gerald Ham **SCHOLARSHIP**

In 1998, SAA Fellow, past president, and long-time member F. Gerald Ham—and his wife Elsie—established the F. Gerald Ham Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the recently endowed fund is to provide financial support to graduate students in their second year of archival studies.

Up to two awards of \$7,500 each will be made in 2008. The scholarship funds must be used to support the graduate archival education of a second-year student who is studying at a United States university that meets the criteria for graduate education set forth by the Society of American Archivists. (For more information, see http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/ed_guidelines.asp.)



Selection of Recipients

Criteria for selection of the award recipients include the applicant's past performance in her or his graduate program in archival studies as well as faculty members' assessment of the student's prospects for contributing to the archives profession. Selection will be made based on merit.

A committee comprising three distinguished Fellows of the Society of American Archivists will select the award recipients.



Application Requirements

Application for the award must be made in the final semester of the applicant's first year of graduate study. The award supports graduate students in their second year of archival studies.

Applications must include the following:

- A cover letter stating interest in the scholarship and providing background on the applicant's interests.
- A current curriculum vitae.
- An official transcript of the applicant's grades since entering the graduate program.
- Three letters of recommendation, including at least one from an instructor in the applicant's graduate program in archival studies.
- An attachment (no limit on length) that demonstrates the applicant's ability to "think like an archivist." The submission may include a summary of research conducted as a student, a seminar paper, a published article, or a project description.



Application Deadline

Applications must be received at SAA headquarters on or before March 3, 2008.

Applicants will be notified of the committee's decisions on or before April 15. Send your application and materials to: Society of American Archivists, Attn: Ham Scholarship Award Committee, 17 North State Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602.

Make a Difference by Sharing Your Talents with SAA

DANNA BELL-RUSSEL, Chair, 2008–2009 Appointments Committee

I remember my first SAA Annual Meeting nearly 15 years ago. I knew maybe one or two individuals from my regional archival organization, but essentially felt alone in a sea of people who appeared to have known each other for years. I wondered how to fit in, how to become involved, and how I could volunteer to help with the organization.

It is an age-old question within SAA: How do you become a member of SAA's standing committees, boards, working groups, or task forces? It's a question I've been asked by both new and "veteran" members. Some think there is a mysterious process associated with being in the right place at the right time. Others think that in order to become a committee member, you have to be a friend of a friend of a friend...

Since my first SAA Annual Meeting, I have volunteered for and served in a variety of posts—and I can attest that it's actually a very simple process: Let the leadership know about your interest in volunteering to serve SAA by filling out the form available at www.archivists.org/membership/volunteer. The form includes places to indicate your volunteer interests (i.e., which committee, board, working group, or task force you'd be interested in serving); previous and current activities in SAA and other archives organizations; and current and previous work experiences. You may apply for more than one position, but it is helpful if applicants indicate first, second, and third choices for positions.

How is the information used? It's given to the Appointments Committee, selected each year by the Vice President/President-Elect to review applications and make recommendations for appointment. Frank Boles, who will become the SAA President in 2008–2009, will consider the Committee's recommendations and make appointments to fill more than 50 available positions during his tenure as President. The members of this year's Appointments Committee are all senior-level archivists with long-term membership in SAA, and we represent different geographic regions: I work at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC; Herb Hartsook is at the University of South Carolina; Scott Schwartz is at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and Kathryn Neal is at the University of California, Berkeley. Our task is to recommend a diverse group of members to serve in the available posts.

The Appointments Committee always receives many more applications than there are positions, so if you are not selected, please consider other ways in which to support SAA. Think about becoming active in a section or roundtable, writing an article for *Archival Outlook* or *American Archivist*, developing an Annual Meeting session proposal or a half- or full-day workshop, becoming a mentor to a new archivist, or helping a student with a National History Day project. There are a variety of ways to serve your profession and SAA. Find a way to use your talents and get involved. You can make a difference!

If you have questions about the appointments process, please contact Appointments Committee Chair Danna Bell-Russel at dbell@loc.gov. ❖

Appointments Available in 2008–2009

For a description of the groups listed below, see www.archivists.org/saagroups/index.asp. The number in parentheses indicates available posts. To volunteer to serve, visit www.archivists.org/membership/volunteer.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2008.

American Archivist Editorial Board (2)

Publications Editorial Board (4)

Awards Committee (Co-chair)

C.F.W. Coker Award Subcommittee (1)

Colonia Dames/Donna Cutts Scholarship Subcommittee (1)

Distinguished Service Award Subcommittee (1)

Philip Hamer-Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award
Subcommittee (1)

Oliver Wendell Holmes Subcommittee (1)

J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award
Subcommittee (1)

Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P., Memorial Award
Subcommittee (2)

Waldo Gifford Leland Award Subcommittee (2)

Theodore Calvin Pease Award Subcommittee (2)

Donald Peterson Student Scholarship Subcommittee (1)

Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award Subcommittee (3)

Fellows' Ernst Posner Award Subcommittee (1)

Preservation Publication Award Subcommittee (1)

Spotlight Award Subcommittee (1)

Committee on Education—Graduate Education Subcommittee (1)

Committee on Ethics and Professional Conduct (3)

Diversity Committee (3)

Host Committee—Austin, Texas (10)

Membership Committee (5)

Program Committee—Austin, Texas (10)

Standards Committee (3)

Technical Subcommittee on Descriptive Standards (3)

ARCHIVES 2008



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If there is a single American locale that evokes creative soul searching, it's San Francisco. From revolutionary counterculture movements to ever-evolving political and demographic identities, it's a city that inspires questions of who we are, where we are, and where we're going

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Conference Registration Rates

- **Early-Bird** (postmarked or faxed by July 7)
Member \$299 / Nonmember \$399
- **Advance** (postmarked or faxed between July 8 and August 1)
Member \$349 / Nonmember \$449
- **On-Site** (after August 1)
Member \$399 / Nonmember \$499
- **Student**
Member \$119 / Nonmember \$169

Hilton San Francisco Hotel Rates

- \$149 Single / \$169 double
Executive level - \$189 single / \$209 double
Hotel Reservation/Conference Rate Deadline: July 26, 2008

Key Elements to Creating Great Workshops

Successful education workshops are a combination of the right ingredients—leave one out and the results could fall flat. SAA Education Director Solveig De Sutter says it takes just the right amount of content and instruction, a good co-sponsor, and an appropriate location and format. *Archival Outlook* presents two perspectives. First, the former president of Louisiana State's student chapter, Russell James, talks about his involvement as a workshop co-sponsor. Then, seasoned instructors Jessica and Greg Colati share their first experience teaching a virtual seminar. Upcoming issues of *Archival Outlook* will explore other elements of planning and organizing a workshop for SAA members.

Hosting an SAA Workshop: The Experience of One Student Chapter

RUSSELL D. JAMES

There are 29 student chapters of the Society of American Archivists, residing within library science, history, and public history programs, from Massachusetts to California and from Washington to North Carolina. These students constitute 20 percent of SAA's membership, the fastest growing segment of members in the association.

The student chapters organize diverse activities—from brown bag lunches to guest speakers to repository visits. Co-sponsoring an SAA continuing education workshop seemed like a cool possibility for the student chapter at Louisiana State University, which was chartered in July 2006. The officers of SAA-LSU began the process of organizing just such an event a year ago.

First, the chapter contacted SAA Education Director Solveig De Sutter, who encouraged pursuit of the idea and shared logistical requirements, the biggest of which is a location for the workshop. The chapter secured complimentary space to host the event at the Louisiana State Archives in Baton Rouge. State Archivist Dr. Florent Hardy and his staff offered their classroom/auditorium facility for the event—thus becoming the second co-sponsor.

The next step was choosing one of the many workshops offered by SAA. After a strategy session with chapter advisor Dr. Elizabeth Dow, the possibilities were narrowed to a one-day workshop and a variety of topic options were presented. The student chapter then solicited specific feedback from Louisiana archivists—out of 76 responses received, 68 favored the "Building Digital Collections" workshop. With the topic decided, it was then agreed that the date for the workshop would be April 12, 2007.

One of the requirements for hosting a one-day workshop is offering beverages during breaks. The chapter could not provide the necessary "minimal beverages" on its limited budget, so another strategy session was held and other groups were invited to co-sponsor the event. The Louisiana State University Libraries and the Louisiana Archives and

Manuscripts Association agreed to provide beverage breaks in the morning and afternoon. In addition, since making archivists aware of the event was key to its success, the Society of Southwest Archivists provided additional marketing.

Through the five co-sponsors, the essential elements for hosting an SAA workshop were lined up: funds, space, beverages, and advertising. As the workshop date approached, the student chapter officers began preparations for the final stages of planning. The group decided to provide "goody bags" to all participants. SAA and the Academy of Certified Archivists provided give-aways, such as pens, pencils, notepads, bookmarks, and postcards to put in the bags—if we only had bags! Once again, the chapter solicited assistance, this time from the LSU Foundation. In addition to bags, the foundation also generously provided door prizes for the event and some funding for the student chapter, so that it could present the best face possible during the workshop.

Of course, much more goes into organizing a workshop than just scheduling and putting together goody bags. Co-sponsors are asked to recommend nearby hotels and restaurants and to provide directions to the hosting facility. The student chapter provided an online map with directions to the state archives, a hotel with discounted rates (negotiated by SAA), and a list of restaurants. With the groundwork completed, the workshop was ready to be held. The big question loomed: Would enough people register for the event so that it could be held?

A few weeks before the event, the SAA Education Office declared the event a "go" because the minimum number of registrants had been surpassed. Plans were then finalized for the instructors, Jessica Branco Colati and Gregory Colati, to come to Baton Rouge.

The big day—April 12—arrived. The student chapter members met at the state archives and welcomed 24 participants

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From Screen to Shining Screen: The Instructors' Tour of an SAA Webinar

JESSICA BRANCO COLATI and GREGORY C. COLATI

When SAA Education Director Solveig De Sutter asked us to prepare a "webinar" for live broadcast last June, it seemed a natural way to extend educational opportunities to a wider audience. Since we were veteran SAA presenters, who frequently travel around the country presenting "Building Digital Collections" workshops, we thought we knew the ropes.

We found that creating and presenting the "Thinking Digitally" webinar, where you never come face-to-face with your students, had both opportunities and challenges. We wondered how we would translate our very informal style of teaching to an unseen audience. In our seminars we find that facial and body language clues often inform us of how we are doing and when we need to stop and clarify certain points. We typically set a quick pace for the day, and provide detailed handouts as reference take-aways. Would all of this be lost as we spoke to a computer screen through a telephone headset? How would we know when people had questions and when we needed to repeat or clarify what we were trying to say? How would the participants be able to communicate to us when they wanted more information or more explanation?

On the other side of the coin, by taking the education to the participants instead of having them come to us, we had an opportunity to reach a far larger audience than we could in a single face-to-face seminar. The cost of travel and time off are often huge obstacles for archivists who wish to pursue continuing education, and this seemed to be a way to more easily bring the benefits of SAA's educational programs to a broader audience. More than once we've heard how people wished a colleague also could have attended one of our seminars, and here was a way to open wide the virtual doors to the classroom!

Luckily, we were not left on our own to puzzle out this transformation. The SAA Education Office and the "virtual seminar" host—KRM Information Services of Eau Claire, Wisconsin—provided support and training on how to use the tools available to the best advantage. In training sessions, we learned how to manipulate the presentation environment, called WebEx, and to work with the KRM staff to craft a presentation that as closely as possible simulated the classroom experience and, in some ways, allowed us to do things not possible in the classroom.

Rather than just delivering the slides of the seminar and our commentary on them, the presentation environment provided a number of interactive opportunities. Participants were able to submit questions at any time during the presentation. These questions appeared on our screens, and we could choose to answer them as time permitted. Although it took a bit of getting used to, soon we were able to talk and watch the question

area at the same time and we were able to work in answers to questions without having to interrupt the flow of our presentation. We also included planned question-and-answer points that allowed participants to phone in questions, much like a radio talk show. These phone-in segments were controlled and moderated by KRM staff so that we could concentrate on our presentation and not on managing the environment.

Although we did not use it extensively during our first time out, the environment also allowed for polling of the participants at various points along the way. Again, moderation was by the KRM staff so that we could focus on what we had to say. We can envision polling as another means of receiving feedback about what we are communicating well, and what we need to revisit and clarify. We will use this feature more often in future webinars.

The combination of the presentation environment and the support of the hosting service made it possible for us to conduct an interactive seminar that was "attended" by more than 120 people in 22 different locations around the country and in Canada—more people and more places than we could possibly have covered if the participants had to travel to one location. It also required us to alter our presentation style to fit into this new format. We learned that while lots of interactivity is possible in this environment, we need to use the new tools available to consciously plan and encourage that interactivity, instead of expecting that we can recognize from faces and body language when people need to talk or when they have questions. It was quite an educational experience for us, too!

Extending its educational offerings in this way is an exciting development for SAA, and we were happy to be a part of it. We encourage both presenters and participants alike to consider SAA webinars for future learning opportunities.

Jessica Branco Colati currently serves as the project director of the Alliance Digital Repository, a Fedora-based consortial digital repository project underway at the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries, located in Denver, Colorado. At the Alliance, she coordinates the administrative, functional, and user interface development of the newly established digital repository service.

Greg Colati was appointed Digital Initiatives Coordinator for the Penrose Library in December, 2005. In this position he directs the expansion of digital resources and content at Penrose Library and oversees the library's overall technology systems and Systems Department. He is charged with identifying, evaluating, and recommending software solutions, standards-based methods and best practices related to access to digital resources, web design and web-based applications and the development of digital preservation strategies. ❖

Records Roundtable Wants Your History of SAA

ALISON STANKRAUFF, Records Management Roundtable Vice Chair

Would you like to keep the collective memory of your professional association strong and vivid? There is a new opportunity for archivists around the country who have been active with SAA to add to that collective memory.

Recently, SAA's Records Management Roundtable established the Section/Roundtable Records Retention Compliance Working Group. The working group was created to assist the SAA Council in carrying out policies regarding the collection of the records of sections and roundtables, and to make sure that all sections and roundtables are in compliance with existing records retention schedules.

The group is working in conjunction with the SAA Archives at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The online finding aid for the SAA Collection (www.uwm.edu/Library/arch/findaids/uwmms172/index.html) states that:

The records of the Society of American Archivists are held in the collection, which holds records dating from 1936 to the present. The main record groups document the activities of the SAA officers; councilors; executive directors; the editorial offices of the *American Archivist*; and SAA committees, roundtables, sections, and task forces. Although the bulk of the collection consists

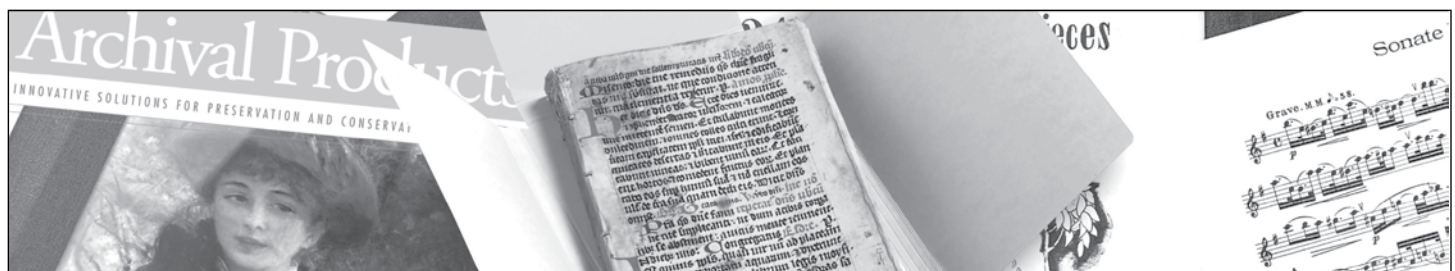
of paper records, the history of the SAA is also documented in a wide variety of other record formats, including photographs, microforms, cassette tapes, and publications.

The working group is soliciting and collecting from all SAA sections and roundtables—past and present. There are a number of sections and roundtables that no longer exist or that have been subsumed into newer and present versions.

The Archives Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries, under the direction of Michael Doylen, who is part of the working group, is piloting a system for receiving electronic records. If you have e-records, please contact him at doylenm@uwm.edu or 414-229-6980.

If you have paper-based SAA-related records that you would like to contribute to posterity—and, perhaps, clear out of your office!—the Working group would appreciate receiving those records. Contact Alison Stankrauff at astankra@iush.edu or 574-520-4976.


Please assist your professional association with this important effort—it's our chance, both as individuals and as members of the archives profession, to document our history as a national organization. ❖



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2008 Awards Competition and Fellows Nominations

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Fellows: www.archivists.org/recognition/fellows.asp.

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Colonial Dames of America Scholarships
- Donna Cutts Scholarship
- Donald Peterson Student Scholarship
- Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award
- Oliver Wendell Holmes Travel Award

Call for Participants * Call for Presentations

2008 Research Forum "Foundations and Innovations"

Tuesday, August 26

10:00 am–4:30 pm

Hilton San Francisco



Participants' response to the 1st Annual SAA Research Forum in August 2007 confirmed that the full spectrum of research activities—from "pure" research to applied research to innovative practice—is of great interest and value to the archives community. The 2008 Research Forum will build on last year's success by expanding the presentations portion to a full day.

If you're:

- Engaged in research...
- Seeking to identify research-based solutions for your institution...
- Willing to participate in the research cycle by serving as a beta site for research trials
- ...or
- Simply interested in what's happening in research and innovation....

Then join us for SAA's 2nd Annual Research Forum: "Foundations and Innovations"!

Researchers, practitioners, educators, students, and the curious across all sectors of archives and records management are invited to participate. Use the Forum to discuss, debate, plan, organize, evaluate, or motivate research projects and initiatives. Major goals of the Forum are to facilitate collaboration and help inform researchers about what questions and problems need to be tackled.

The 2nd Annual SAA Research Forum will be held at ARCHIVES 2008 to acknowledge current—and encourage future—research and innovation from across the archives community and for the benefit of the archives profession.

Research Forum Events at ARCHIVES 2008

The following events are planned for 2008:

- **Research Workshop** (Monday, August 25, 9:00 am–4:00 pm): A one-day session that will provide guidance and advice for conducting research, from defining the scope to presenting the results.
- **Research Presentations and Posters** (Tuesday, August 26, 10:00 am–4:30 pm): Here's your chance to present, discuss, listen to, or view research reports and results on a variety of topics. The final 30 minutes of this session will seek input for SAA's 2009 Research Forum.
- **"Office Hours" in the Exhibit Hall** (Thursday, August 28, and Friday, August 29): 2008 Forum organizers will be on hand to hear your ideas about the Forum and for *ad hoc* discussions about specific research projects.
- **Poster Sessions**: Be sure to make time to visit the poster sessions, which in 2008 will include practice innovation and research topics.

Call for Platform and Poster Presentations

SAA invites submission of abstracts (of 250 words or less) for either 10-minute platform presentations or poster presentations. Topics may address research on, or innovations in, any aspect of archival practice or records management in government, corporate, academic, scientific, or other setting. Presentations on research results that may have emerged since the SAA Call for Proposals deadline in October 2007 are welcome, as are reports on research completed within the past 3 years that you think is relevant and valuable for discussion. Please indicate whether you intend a platform or poster presentation.

Abstracts will be evaluated by a review committee co-chaired by Nancy McGovern (Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan) and Helen Tibbo (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill).

Deadline for submission of abstracts: May 15, 2008. You will be notified of the review committee's decision by June 15.

Submit your 250-word abstract no later than May 15 via email to researchforum@archivists.org.

Archives and Ethics Explored in Seminar

KATIE BLANK, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee SAA Student Chapter

"In the hurley burley of archival work I have found [codes of ethics] to be entirely useless."

That was the opening shot fired by Verne Harris during the *Archives and Ethics: Reflections on Practice* conference sponsored by the Center for Information Policy Research at the School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Harris, project manager for the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory at the Nelson Mandela Foundation in South Africa, was the keynote speaker at the November 30 conference, which drew some 70 attendees.

He was joined by co-presenters Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, general counsel at American Girl, Inc., in Madison, Wisconsin, who is also a Certified Archivist; and David Wallace, lecturer at the University of Michigan School of Information. All have published extensively on the topic of ethical issues in the archives profession.

Harris focused on the division between the personal and professional self that codes of ethics produce. He believes that the "call for justice is the most important call for archivists."

According to Harris, archivists can reply to the call for justice by discrete or obvious actions, depending on their circumstances. He insisted that there needs to be an articulation of *praxis*, the combination of theory and practice, in questions of ethics and archives.

Harris ended his address with an example from his own life, working with documents concerning Nelson Mandela, and how they are using comic books to bring Mandela's story to the general public.

Behrnd-Klodt spoke about the issues of ethics, privacy, access, and third-party access to records. In particular, she discussed the attempt to balance privacy and access, but stated that this is not always possible. She brought up two key laws that affect privacy in U.S. archival institutions: the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

In a vein similar to Harris's discussion, she noted that: "Archivists are in a situation where they are prohibited from doing certain things, but there is not necessarily a penalty that will affect them directly or immediately if they do this [provide access to health information]."

Behrnd-Klodt concluded her presentation with a summary of the intricate issue of attorney-client privilege—specifically, who owns the legal files, and how archivists can balance privacy and access in those situations.

Wallace discussed how different professions' codes of ethics can potentially inform our own use of an archives code of ethics. He rejected the idea of a single code for the archival profession, stating that codes of ethics alone provide a form of escape from reality and therefore they must be interpreted by others in society. Archivists need—and must respond to—the

input of a much wider community of archivists and users of archives when approaching situations that call for ethical interpretation, Wallace noted.

"Archivists everywhere are dealing with difficult ethical issues, whether they are apparent to us or not," Wallace stated. He also questioned why personal and professional ethics are at times separated, and called for a renewed discussion that addresses a "bottom-up" approach for an archival code of ethics.

The conference discussion elicited diverse reactions from attendees. "While I appreciated David Wallace's criticisms of the current SAA code, I left the conference thinking that even a flawed code is better than no code at all," observed Bill Fliss, project archivist at Marquette University Special Collections and Archives.

On the other hand, Jody Hoks, a MLIS/MA-Literature student at UWM "really liked David's notion of needing to have a dialogue with people who work in and use archives, rather

continued on page 28

SAA Student Chapter Hosts Lunch Discussion

WILL DODDS

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee SAA Student Chapter

"What I teach is ethics. You can call it archives if you like," David Wallace expressed during a brown bag lunch discussion November 29, sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's School of Information Studies SAA Student Chapter.

Verne Harris and Menzi Behrnd-Klodt joined Wallace in sharing their expertise on the subject of ethics with students and professionals, who participated in the discussion both onsite and online. Between bites, they touched on the main points of their presentations for the "Archives and Ethics" conference being held the next day. An engaging question-and-answer session was also included.

The increasing interest and importance of ethics in the archival profession is very much warranted as ethics affect almost every action an archivist undertakes. A dominant theme of the discussion was the need for open dialog and analysis of ethics in the archival profession, and the value of a code of ethics. The speakers discussed the framework of ethics and how privacy, access, professionalism, and special interests affect the usefulness of a universal professional code of ethics.

The lunch discussion by Harris, Wallace, and Behrnd-Klodt was lively and contributed many ideas to the professional discourse on the topic, in an informal setting.

Both the brown bag and conference presentations are available at <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SOIS/cipr/archive.html>.



The National Archives and the World

Each year the National Archives' Washington, D.C., Headquarters receives more than one million visitors who come for a variety of reasons: to view the Charters of Freedom and the unique Public Vaults U.S. history exhibit and/or to engage in genealogical and other research projects using the more than two billion pages of documents found in this building alone.

Add to this number the additional hundreds of thousands of visitors to our 12 presidential libraries, 14 regional archives, and other facilities in the Washington, D.C., area. A substantial number of these visitors are from other countries, and the staff of the National Archives takes pride in welcoming them from virtually every corner of the globe.

We share with some countries—for example, Canada and the United Kingdom—a range of programs attesting to close collaboration with our counterparts there. At the same time, NARA is the largest single dues-paying member in the major organization of national archivists and records keepers, the International Council on Archives, and remains active in efforts to strengthen the programs and prospects for that body.

The National Archives has played a special leadership role in the past three years in forging strong bonds among the archivists of the world's great democracies, helping to create informal links among the national archivists of the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Scotland, France, Germany, Japan, Australia, Switzerland, and others.

The National Archives has also increased its training programs to assist less-developed nations in improving their archival and records management practices, including multiple sessions of the Modern Archives Institute.

We also launched in the past few years a Distinguished Foreign Visitors Program that welcomes heads of state and government, foreign ambassadors, and other high-ranking officials to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., or to any of our four dozen facilities elsewhere in the country.

These visits often include a special tour involving original documents related to U.S. relations with their own country's government and citizens. Government leaders from every continent have visited the National Archives as part of this program, and we recently welcomed United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for a unique tour.

Groups of ambassadors representing various regions of the world, including Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, have found their way to the Archives, visits that have involved nearly every country in the diplomatic corps. The Distinguished Foreign Visitors Program led the State Department's newly designated chief of protocol, Ambassador Nancy Brinker, to request that the National Archives host her first reception last October for the entire diplomatic corps—an event usually held at the State Department.

I should note that many of the Archives' foreign visitors come primarily not to view our archival treasures but to inspect our buildings. The modern, well-equipped National Archives facility in College Park, Maryland, has become the more-or-less "gold standard" among modern archives. A number of foreign government officials come specifically to study its construction and operation.

In turn, several members of our senior staff travel abroad periodically to participate in mutually valuable conferences and seminars in order to share our knowledge of records management and preservation issues with our international colleagues.

I will close this brief survey of the National Archives' global outreach by returning to an earlier subject. Our closest partner in these transnational efforts remains Library and Archives Canada (LAC).

A visible example of that partnership will be the opening in Ottawa in May 2008 of a major exhibit (with work by the archives curators of both Canada and the United States) on the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War and formally recognized the United States of America as an independent nation. The exhibit will move to the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C., later this year.

The head of Canada's LAC, Ian Wilson, and I, as well as members of our senior staffs, exchange visits regularly and are otherwise in close cooperative contact. We are in the process of developing similar partnerships with the national archivists of the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Australia, and other countries.

The National Archives of the United States proudly conveys its vast documentary resources on American history to interested people throughout the world, both at home and abroad, and will continue to welcome our visitors with creative exhibits and programs. ♦



NCH Washington Year-In-Review

December 1, 2007, marked my first anniversary as the executive director of the National Coalition for History (NCH). It is hard to believe that 12 months have passed since my predecessor Bruce Craig spent a month prepping me for what has been the most rewarding year of my professional career.

NCH has accomplished much in the past year. Perhaps the most noticeable change was our redesigned website that debuted last April. Thanks to the generosity of the History Channel, we were able to create a state-of-the-art Internet presence. As a result of the blogging ability the site offers, there were literally times this year that I was able to post agency funding levels from a House or Senate appropriations subcommittee markup within an hour of the end of the hearing.

It was with some initial trepidation that I made the decision to change the format and length of NCH's flagship weekly *Washington Update*. However, I've received a great deal of positive feedback about allowing readers the choice of either a shorter news summary or full-length articles. And, subscribers to our new RSS feed have risen steadily.

It has been a very busy year on Capitol Hill and with the federal agencies of interest to the history and archives communities. Here is a wrap-up of some of the major stories of 2007.

For the first time in over a decade, the Democrats had full control of the Congress and with it came the ability to use congressional committees to impose meaningful oversight on the Bush administration. Unfortunately, partisan bickering reached new heights, resulting in inevitable gridlock. And, as 2007 draws to a close the inter-party squabbling generated by the presidential campaigns has only made things more complicated.

Presidential Records

Perhaps no issue affecting the history and archives communities benefited from the ascendancy of the Democrats to power more than the now six-year battle to overturn the Bush Administration's Executive Order (EO) 13233. Under the Presidential Records Act, presidential records are legally required to be released to historians and the public 12 years after the end of a presidential administration. In November 2001, President George W. Bush issued EO 13233 giving current and former presidents, their heirs or designees, and former vice presidents broad authority to withhold presidential records or delay their release indefinitely.

Less than a month after EO 13233 was issued, a lawsuit was brought by Public Citizen on behalf of itself, the American Historical Association (AHA), National Security Archive (NSA), Organization of American Historians (OAH), Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, American Political

Science Association (APSA), and historian Stanley Kutler against the federal government questioning the order's legality.

After years of filing and counter-filings, on October 1 a federal district court judge gave historians and researchers a partial, but significant, victory in the suit. Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly struck down the section of the EO that allows a former president to indefinitely delay the release of records. However, the judge did not rule on the constitutionality of the Executive Order itself, narrowly crafting her decision to address only specific provisions in the order.

Unfortunately, Judge Kollar-Kotelly did not rule on the legality of the sections of the Executive Order allowing heirs and designees of former presidents and former vice presidents the authority to control the release of documents, calling them "unripe" since no records have yet been withheld pursuant to those provisions. However, the judge left open the right for the plaintiffs to challenge these provisions in the future.

In late November, the administration chose not to appeal the decision.

On Capitol Hill, a bill (H.R. 1255) to overturn Executive Order 13233 overwhelmingly passed the House by a vote of 333-93 in March. At the time the legislation was considered in the House, the Bush administration issued a threat to veto the bill, but it passed the House by a veto-proof margin.

Similar legislation cleared the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee by voice vote this past summer. However, when the Democratic leadership sought to bring the bill to the floor on September 29, Senator Jim Bunning (R-KY) objected to consideration of the bill.

Unfortunately, the Senate bill remains in limbo. However, a renewed push to pass the legislation before the current Congress adjourns will resume in 2008.

On March 1, 2007, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and the National Archives held a hearing to consider presidential records, and specifically the impact that EO 13233 has had on the disposition of those materials.

Four NCH member organizations testified at the hearing: Steven L. Hensen, past president of the Society of American Archivists; Dr. Anna K. Nelson, representing the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations; Tom Blanton of the National Security Archive; and Dr. Robert Dallek, representing the American Historical Association. Also testifying was Scott Nelson of the Public Citizen Litigation Group, the lead counsel in AHA's lawsuit in federal district court noted above.

continued on page 26



Nixon Library Releases Previously Withheld Documents

On Nov. 28, 2007, the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum released nearly 123,000 pages of historical materials from the Nixon presidency at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. The release includes 10,000 pages of documents that were previously withheld from public access and re-reviewed for release or declassified under the provisions of Executive Order 12958, as amended, or in accordance with Public Access Regulations. The library also opened 4,800 pages of documents from the White House Central Files, Name Files. This system was used for routine materials filed alphabetically by the name of the correspondent and the release contains files on Mark Felt (Deep Throat), Robert Byrd, Bob Hope, Elvis Presley, Ronald Reagan, Vice President Dick Cheney, and Frank Sinatra. A selection of 15 documents from the release is posted on the Nixon Presidential Library website at www.nixon-library.gov.

—the National Archives and Records Administration

NYU Creates Masters Program in Archives and Public History

Recognizing how a rapidly changing global and technological environment is affecting the work of public historians and archivists, New York University's Graduate School of Arts and Science has established a master's program in Archives and Public History. The program's curriculum is designed to

provide students with a theoretical grounding in such topics as memory, heritage, commemoration, historic preservation, and the role of archives in humanities scholarship. Students will work collaboratively with NYU's Division of Libraries in the areas of digital librarianship, preservation, and collection development. In addition, the program fosters close involvement with New York City's array of archival and public history institutions. The new program combines two previous certificate programs in archives and public history that have existed for more than 25 years.

West Virginia's State Archivist Hires Attorney to Fight Dismissal

The former director of the West Virginia State Archives has decided to fight his dismissal, which came without explanation from administration officials. Attorney Jim Lees said Nov. 26 he notified West Virginia Culture and History Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith and the state Public Employees Grievance Board that he would represent Fred Armstrong in a legal challenge of his Nov. 1 termination. Armstrong was fired by Reid-Smith after nearly 30 years of apparently exemplary service to the state, including the past 22 years as state archivist. Reid-Smith's letter of termination stated that, as a will and pleasure employee, Armstrong could be terminated at any time without cause. However, Lees said he may challenge Armstrong's firing on the grounds that it was a retaliatory discharge. Under state law, he said, it is illegal to fire a state employee for attempting to faithfully enforce the law. Armstrong believes he was fired preemptively, since the Gov. Joe Manchin administration anticipated he would publicly oppose plans to convert the current state archives library in the Cultural Center into a café and gift shop. Lees said that under state law, one of the duties of the director is to "operate and maintain a state library for the preservation of all public records, state papers, documents, and reports from all three branches of state government." Armstrong's firing has drawn a firestorm of protests.

—Charleston (West Virginia) Daily Mail

Three Schools Form Martin Luther King Archival Collaborative

Archivists Courtney Chartier and Bridget T. Lerette are combing through 10,000 pages of the Martin Luther King Jr. Collection at Morehouse College's Robert W. Woodruff Library in Atlanta. When finished they will have developed, along with Boston University and Stanford University, the MLK Jr. Archival Collaborative, a searchable Web-based database. A researcher would be able to type in, for example, "Ralph David Abernathy 1966" and get a list of everything that Woodruff and Boston University have on King's top aide from that year. The researcher would then be able to visit either library to get more detailed information. Boston University's collection contains more than 80,000 pages of King-related items. The Atlanta collection includes original manuscripts, writings

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and sermons, as well as King's personal library of books. The schools will create their combined collections by using a new open-source program named Archivists' Toolkit, which was developed by a team of universities led by the University of California at San Diego. The project is being paid for by more than \$1 million in grants provided to both archives by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

—The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Plan Will Close Research Library at Sandia National Laboratories

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) has asked Sandia National Laboratories to reconsider its plan to close its research library due to budget reductions. In a letter to Sandia's president, SLA urged Sandia to reconsider its decision and take into account the potentially harmful effects of scientists conducting important research without access to the most up-to-date and relevant information available. Since 1949, Sandia National Laboratories has developed science-based technologies that support the country's national security. Sandia is a government-owned/contractor operated (GOCO) facility. Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin company, manages Sandia for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.

National Archives Opens Political Cartoon Exhibition

The National Archives in Washington, D.C., will open "Running for Office: Candidates, Campaigns, and the Cartoons



of Clifford Berryman" in the Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery on Feb. 8, 2008. Berryman was the staff political cartoonist for *The Washington Post* and the *Washington Evening Star* during the first half of the 20th century. His 53 years of front-page drawings commented on presidential and congressional candidates, campaign issues, and elections of his era. The "Running for Office" exhibition includes 41 pen-and-ink drawings that highlight the American

campaign and election process. The original cartoons on display are part of the official Records of the U.S. Senate housed in the National Archives Center for Legislative Archives. The exhibition will be on display until August 1, 2008, and is free and open to the public.

Georgia Archives Launches "Virtual Georgia"

The Georgia Archives has created a way for its citizens to help preserve the history of the state through "Virtual Georgia." Anyone with photographs related to everyday life

in Georgia may nominate images by uploading them at: www.GeorgiaArchives.org. Archives staff will review all submissions and place their selections in the state's permanent collection. The deadline to submit items is March 1, 2008.



CoSA Past President Timothy Slavin [standing, left] gets an autograph from Medal of Freedom recipient Benjamin Hooks, a pioneer of the Civil Rights movement and a leader of the NAACP.

Photo credit: Conley Edwards, III

CoSA Members Attend Medal of Freedom Ceremony

A delegation from the Council of State Archivists attended the 2007 Medal of Freedom ceremony held Nov. 5, 2007, at the White House. CoSA past presidents Kathleen Roe, Timothy Slavin, and Karl J. Niederer, along with current CoSA President Conley Edwards, observed as President George W. Bush presented medals to 7 individuals who have made meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, or world peace, or cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. Among those honored was Brian P. Lamb, founder of C-SPAN, who was a keynote speaker at the 2006 Joint Meeting of CoSA, NAGARA, and SAA.

Anne Thurston Receives Emmett Leahy Award

The Emmett Leahy Award for outstanding contributions to information and records management was presented to Anne Thurston at the annual meeting of the Institute of Certified Records Managers on Oct. 7, 2007. The award committee selected Thurston because of her sustained campaign over three decades to introduce major records management programs in more than 30 developing countries. Thurston is the director and founder of the International Records Management Trust and a former faculty member of the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies at University College in London. The Emmett Leahy Award honors its namesake for his development of the lifecycle approach to managing records and information. For more information: www.leahyaward.com. ❖

SAA Around the Globe

MARK GREENE, SAA President

This year, first as vice president and then as president of SAA, I have had the privilege of making three international trips to conferences representing the Society. This is three times the number of international meetings I have ever attended before. I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to meet and learn from colleagues around the globe, but more importantly I believe my trips have served to heighten SAA's visibility and stature on the world stage. Elizabeth Adkins made increasing participation in world archival activities one thread of her presidency. As with other initiatives begun by Elizabeth and her immediate predecessors, there is great merit in continuity. As the world's largest archives organization with members from 20 nations, it is incumbent on SAA to have a global presence (within the constraints of our budget, of course).

Japan-U.S. Symposium

My first international conference this year was a symposium in Tokyo, organized to bring together Japanese and U.S. archivists to discuss access to various types of records. (My paper dealt with access to college and university records and manuscript collections.) Although both are modern industrialized nations, our different histories have meant the evolution of much different attitudes toward openness, particularly to government records. Our Japanese colleagues were hopeful that the U.S. experience in freedom of access to government records would assist them in pressing for changes in access regimes at home. Access was the focus of our discussions, but our conversations ranged from collection development and records management to processing and preservation.

ICA Section of Professional Associations

In October I represented SAA at the first-ever independent conference of the International Council of Archives (ICA) Section of Professional Associations (SPA). I was asked to present a paper on SAA's recent efforts at outreach and advocacy. I was approached by colleagues from Australia and France who expressed envy at SAA's broad activities in both areas; by contrast, I learned that our colleagues in Scotland are much more successful at gaining direct access to legislators than is SAA. We discussed varying national approaches to education and certification of archivists. (There is no further agreement internationally about certification than there was 20 years ago in the U.S.) I was asked to serve on a working group to attempt to develop globally applicable archival competencies—a possibly impossible task given the different interpretations of the role and purpose of archivists that I heard expressed at the conference.

CITRA Meeting

And in November I traveled to Quebec to the International Conference of the Round Table on Archives (CITRA). The conference consisted of prepared papers (no

concurrent sessions, and no question/answer periods) and breakout discussion groups. I attended the breakout group discussing the competencies project, at which we heard varying perspectives from around the world on what such a document should look like and what the competencies should be. We seem to have reached consensus that we would focus on core archival competencies rather than more generic success competencies (e.g., management and communication skills). We did not get very far on defining competencies. We agreed that appraisal was a universal competency, but there was considerable debate about whether the knowledge of theory or the ability to practice was more important (or whether the two were inextricably linked).

The ICA congress consisted of a business meeting, much of which seemed directed to ensuring that reforms inaugurated four years ago—aimed at making the organization more transparent and responsive to members—were being implemented. The possibility of dues increases also took some time. I must admit that in general I enjoy both SAA conferences and business meetings more, but then I know more about the ins and outs of SAA. There were a few occasions on which SAA's organization and procedures were cited as commendable examples that ICA might wish to follow.

On all three trips I had the good fortune to be in the company of Trudy Huskamp Peterson, SAA's and the Academy of Certified Archivists' diplomat in residence. Trudy has been active in ICA for many years and is known and respected internationally. She was kind enough to give me consistently valuable information about the protocols, personages, and perspectives of our international colleagues. As her 2007 SAA Council Exemplary Service Award recognized, "She has served as an unofficial ambassador for SAA and the American archives profession in the global archives community, exercising her considerable talent for communicating with colleagues both eloquently and diplomatically."

SAA has not always had a strong or visible presence internationally, at least not officially. (Many individual SAA members have been active in ICA.) There have to be limits, of course, to this international participation. For example, ICA is meeting next year in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, a venue that is too expensive for SAA to visit. On the other hand, we may have the opportunity to engage with our colleagues in the International Federation of Library Associations conference next year in Canada. To quote my friend Diane Vogt-O'Connor, "There is a lot to be learned from our colleagues in IT, libraries, museums, [records management,] and other professions, as well as from archives abroad. There are many exciting challenges ahead that should help us generate some adrenaline, develop some exciting new solutions, and allow us to test our ideas against the world. There are...solutions to be studied from elsewhere, and other opportunities, so that all can be part of the new 21st century world of archives." ♦



ICANN, ITU and UNESCO to Establish Universal Standards for Multilingual Cyberspace

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and UNESCO will collaborate on global efforts to forge universal standards toward building a multilingual cyberspace.

The three agencies organized a workshop on this subject during the second Internet Governance Forum in November in Rio de Janeiro. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) recognized the importance attached to linguistic diversity and local content and gave UNESCO the responsibility to coordinate implementation of the Summit Action Line.

ICANN evaluated Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) so Internet users can access wiki pages with the domain name "example.test" in the 10 test languages: Arabic, Persian, Chinese, Russian, Hindi, Greek, Korean, Yiddish, Japanese and Tamil. The wikis will allow Internet users to establish their own sub-pages with their own names in their own language, such as "example.test/yourname." Domain names, which are currently mainly limited to characters from the Latin or Roman scripts, are seen as an important element in enabling the multilingualization of the Internet, reflecting the diverse and growing language needs of all users.

UNESCO, joined by both ITU and ICANN, seeks to convene all major stakeholders around the world toward an agreement on universal standards regarding language issues in cyberspace.

CITRA Conference Held in Québec City

The annual International Conference of the Round Table on Archives was held November 12-14, 2007 in Québec City. The conference is known as CITRA, its French acronym. This year's theme was "Cooperation to Preserve Diversity." The opening ceremony was addressed by Mitsuoki Kikuchi, Archivist of Japan; Ian Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada; and Lise Bissonnette, CEO of Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec. The first session explored professional theory and practice in archives, libraries and museums and the second looked at cooperation between archives and government agencies. Prospects for international cooperation, with particular discussion of the World Digital Library and the European Digital Library, was the subject of the third session. CITRA social activities included visits to various Québec City museums and to the L'En-Tailleur Sugar Shack and the Village-des-Hurons, outside of Québec City.

Canada Returns 1796 Playbill to Australia

An 18th-century playbill believed to be the oldest surviving document printed in Australia has been repatriated to the Australian National Library. At a special luncheon at Government House in Canberra on September 11, 2007, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper presented the playbill to Australian Prime Minister John Howard. Dated July 30,

1796, the playbill had been mounted in a 150-year-old scrapbook held by the Library of Parliament, which turned it over to Library and Archives Canada. The playbill announced a play titled *Jane Shore* written in the early 1700s.

Confidential KGB Documents Can Now be Viewed Online

In September 2007, the Lithuanian Genocide and Resistance Centre launched a website that allows visitors to view formerly confidential KGB documents online. Kgbdocuments.eu displays documents from various KGB departments, as well as articles detailing the activities of Soviet agencies in Lithuania from 1940 to 1991. The documents are in the original Russian but are also summarized in English. The Lithuanian Genocide and Resistance Centre manages the project, which is a cooperative effort among historians from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. For more information, go to www.kgbdocuments.eu.

British Security Service Watched Orwell

In September 2007, the National Archives of UK released a file pertaining to the British Security Service's surveillance of George Orwell, author of *Animal Farm* and *1984*. The file consists of reports on Orwell's activities from 1929, when he lived in Paris, to his death in 1950. One report comments that Orwell held "advanced Communist views" and that he dressed as a bohemian. That Orwell was a Communist was disputed by a Special Branch officer who cited a left-wing magazine survey Orwell had answered.

The Security Service also kept a file on American folk music archivist and collector Alan Lomax. Lomax first came under scrutiny in 1952 when he made contact with a Romanian press attaché in London. Lomax was then working on a series of folk music broadcasts for the BBC. The file contains a record of Lomax's activities while in Britain, including a police report on the Songs of the Road concert at St. Pancras in December 1953. For more information on British intelligence surveillance activities: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/2007/september/communists.htm?homepage=releases.

ICA's Pacific Region Meets in New Caledonia

The Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (PARBICA) held its 12th annual conference at Nouméa, New Caledonia, October 1-6, 2007. The theme was "Archives without Boundaries: Cooperation and Shared Solutions." Pre-conference activities included two workshops sponsored by AusAid on Recordkeeping for Good Governance, plus workshops on Archival Basics and Digital Archiving. The main conference session explored how Pacific institutions can support traditional oral memory and expand the meaning of 'archives' through their programs. Other sessions looked at experiences with cooperation to support archives in the region and areas for future collaboration. ❖

Around SAA . . .

American Archivist in Print and Online

Jack Frost may still be nipping at your nose in mid-February so stay indoors near your brightly lit PC monitor and revel in the notion that you can look online at the most recent issue of the *American Archivist* (Fall/Winter 2007). The issue will be available both online and in print for the first time in its 70-year history. The print version should be in members' mailboxes in February around the same time the online version will be accessible at www.archivists.org.

American Archivist Online will be identical to the print edition. Articles will be delivered as PDF files with embedded searchable text. Access to *American Archivist Online* is limited to SAA members and journal subscribers for a period of three years, at which time it becomes publicly available at no cost. Non-members and non-subscribers who wish to print an article from those issues may do so for a small fee (\$18 per article).

Initially the Fall/Winter 2000 issue (volume 63, number 2) forward will be available online. Paper-only volumes of the journal (i.e., those from volume 1 through volume 63, number 1) will be converted to digital form in several phases over the next few years.

Sunshine Week Alliance Begins Year-long Campaign

In late November the Sunshine Week alliance kicked off its year-long Sunshine Campaign project to bring the discussion of open government issues to election campaigns. Specific

events are planned for Sunshine Week, to be held March 16–22, 2008. Sunshine Week is a non-partisan open government initiative led by the American Society of Newspaper Editors and is primarily funded by a challenge grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Journalists and others are encouraged to ask every candidate for public office to explain his or her positions on open government and Freedom of Information issues. Replies sent in to Sunshine Week

will be used to develop a database of presidential statements, positions, votes, and views across a variety of open government issues as a running reference. Independent research on previous statements, votes and other available relevant FOI data also will be in the database. Resources such as suggested questions and links to additional material to help get people involved in the project are on the Sunshine Week website at



www.sunshineweek.org/. Significant support for the Sunshine Campaign's online database of candidates' positions on open government is being provided by the National Security Archive at George Washington University. The SAA Council has publicly expressed its support for Sunshine Week and will explore ways SAA members can become more involved.

Ballot to be Mailed in February

Candidate statements for the 2008 election will be posted on the SAA website in mid-February at www.archivists.org/election2008. The ballot will be mailed via first class to all eligible members by the end of February. If you have not received a ballot by mid-March, please contact Lee Gonzalez at 312-922-0140 or email lgonzalez@archivists.org. The deadline for returning ballots is April 14, 2008.

Photographs on the IMLS Bookshelf

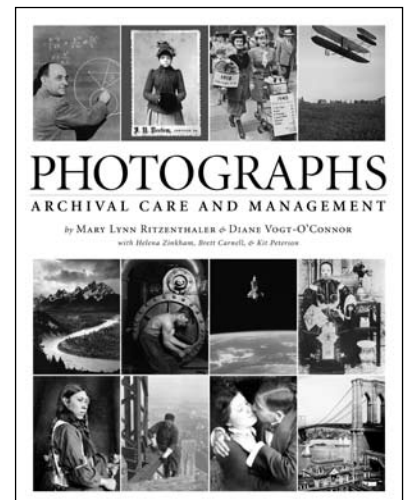
The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is offering 2,000 free copies of the *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, a set of books,

DVDs, and online resources for the care of collections. IMLS Director Anne-Imelda Radice calls it "a set of power tools that will provide immediate answers to conservation issues faced by museums, libraries, and archives."

One of the selections in the set is *Photographs: Archival Care and Management*, by Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler and Diane Vogt O'Connor and published by SAA in 2006. The upcoming application period for the IMLS Bookshelf is March 1–April 15, 2008, with recipients announced in July 2008. An electronic application is available at www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf.

Pratt Institute Joins SAA as 29th Student Chapter

The Pratt Institute in New York City joined SAA as its 29th student chapter in October. Patricia Glowinski is the chapter's new president, with Cynthia Tobar and Aaron Yarbrough serving as officers. Members include: Sarah Acheson, Rebecca Brauer, Chet Elkind, Lesley Espenship, Samantha Cordaro McCoy, Louis Muñoz, Jr., Dyani Scheurman, Jessica Stockton, and Greg Zeichner. Pratt offers studies in architecture, art and design, and information and library science. ❖





ALISON BRIDGER is the new senior manuscripts cataloger at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. Bridger previously worked as the manuscripts cataloger and processing archivist at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.



VANESSA CAMERON has joined Columbia University's Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library as the project archivist for the Emery Roth and Sons Collection. She previously worked as an archivist for the New York Yacht Club.



MARCEL CAYA has been elected the International Council on Archives (ICA) first-ever Fellow. He was appointed its Deputy Secretary General in September 2000. Since 1994, he has taught records and archives management at the Université du Québec à Montréal. Caya is one of the

founding members of the Bureau of Canadian Archivists. His archival research work has dealt mainly with the monetary appraisal of archives and archival standardization, with an emphasis on descriptive standards. Marcel continues to be active in ICA through his leadership of the Archipaedia project, which will develop a multi-lingual glossary of key archival terms.

MAGGIE DICKSON recently began a two-year project as the Watson-Brown Project librarian at the University of North Carolina. Dickson will oversee digitization of the Thomas E. Watson papers. She most recently worked for the university's Manuscripts Department and the Carrboro Cybrary.



FREDERICK L. HONHART retired as director of the University Archives and Historical Collections at Michigan State University in January. He will work on a research project throughout 2008 and fully retire from MSU in January 2009. Honhart joined the MSU Archives as the assistant director in 1974 and was named its director in 1979. He is an SAA Fellow.



WAVERLY LOWELL recently was honored with the 2006-2007 Distinguished Librarian Award by the Librarians Association of the University of California. The bi-annual award recognizes excellence in librarianship that furthers teaching and research missions at UC Berkeley. She is an SAA Fellow.



AARON D. PURCELL is the new director of Special Collections at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg. Purcell previously served for seven years as university archivist at the University of Tennessee.



ALIX ROSS is the new manager of the Mellon Graduate Interns Program for Columbia University Libraries. Ross is an experienced project and processing archivist who recently co-directed the processing of the Spanish Refugee Aid records at New York University.

JULIE TOZER recently was appointed project archivist for the Platt Collection at Columbia University's Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library. She previously worked as a bibliographical assistant at Avery while studying for her MLS degree at Queens College in New York City.

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President's Message

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records for non-business or accountability purposes were not simply ignored, they were dismissed as less relevant and less authentic than institutional archivists.

One of SAA's most respected scholars reported Werner Muensterberger's opinion that collecting "is an exercise intended to overcome certain personality disorders." "I wonder," he muses, "whether many of the characteristics he [Muensterberger] identifies are not also applicable to archives, historical manuscripts repositories, and special collections whose leaders have expressed unbridled enthusiasm for collecting...."⁴ (Personally, I'd like to think that any of my "personality disorders" are unrelated to having been a collection development curator for a historical society during a whole decade.) Little wonder, then, that in 2004 a colleague at an Ivy League school told me that most of the manuscript curators at her university would not attend or join the Society of American "Archivists" because they felt "archivists" looked down on "curators."⁵

I believe that everything that tends to drive wedges into an already tiny profession is a source of insupportable weakness, and that we must push back energetically toward a common center.

The limits of space prohibit me from refuting more fully the validity of these efforts at fragmentation. But my perspective, strongly held, is that (forgive me, Thomas Jefferson) we are all curators, we are all archivists. This is why so many of us transition so easily from one position/title to another during our careers. Archivists and curators are two sides of the same coin.

What is that coin? What is that broad identity that encompasses not only public records archivists and manuscripts curators, but also business archivists, sound and visual archivists, religious archivists, C&U archivists, archivists with graduate degrees and those without, lone arrangers and specialists—in fact, all forms and flavors of archivists, curators, special collections librarians, and even some records managers and some conservators? This is, it seems to me, a crucial issue for the profession to consider.

I will propose my own answer to the question of our common identity in my Presidential Address at ARCHIVES 2008: Archival R/Evolution and Identities in San Francisco next August. My answer begins, but does not end, with the conviction that all archivists, of whatever stripe, preserve the primary documentation that sustains cultural and institutional memory. I agree with the Canadian archivist who is able to say with conviction that "the distinctions between different kinds of collections and documents...had blurred to the point where they were no longer justifiable to our end users, or to the institutions themselves."⁶ We are, as the Canadian archivists' code of ethics states, all working for "the benefit of present users and future generations"—regardless of the institutions that we serve or the titles that we hold.

We preserve and disseminate cultural and institutional memory, which broadly defined encompasses accountability, academic and popular "history" (itself broadly defined to mean an historical perspective on any endeavor), family genealogy, and more. Such a definition deliberately brings the identity of archivists close to that of librarians and museum curators on the one hand and records managers on the other.

Before I expand this definition in August, I would urge all members of SAA, and any other members of our profession who might read this, to consider their own answers to this question. Are we one profession or many? There are few things more important to us as a profession than a clear, coherent, and (I hope) inclusive identity. ♦

If you build it, they will come...



**To order this book,
or browse other archives titles,
visit www.archivists.org/catalog**

- ¹ Richard C. Berner, *Archival Theory and Practice in the United States: A Historical Analysis* (University of Washington Press, 1983); Luke J. Gilliland-Swetland, "The Provenance of a Profession: The Permanence of the Public Archives and Historical Manuscripts Tradition in American Archival History," *American Archivist* 54:2 (1991), pp. 160–175.
- ² One of the earlier statements to this effect was that of Lester J. Cappon, "Historical Manuscripts as Archives: Some Definitions and Their Application," *American Archivist* 19:2 (April 1956), pp. 101–110.
- ³ A*CENSUS (Archival Census and Education Needs Survey in the United States) reports and statistics are available in *American Archivist* 69:2 (Winter 2006) and online at www.archivists.org.
- ⁴ Richard J. Cox, *No Innocent Deposits: Forming Archives by Rethinking Appraisal* (Scarecrow Press Inc., 2004), p. 51.
- ⁵ This assault by "archivists" on "curators" was felt as far away as Australia. Adrian Cunningham, "Beyond the Pale?—The 'flinty' relationship between archivists who collect the private records of individuals and the rest of the archival profession in Australia," *Provenance, The Electronic Magazine* 1:2 (March 1996); <http://www.netpac.com/provenance/vol1/no2/features/paleconf.htm>
- ⁶ Michelle Doucet, "Library and Archives Canada: A Case Study of the National Library, Archives, and Museum Merger," *RBM* 8:1 (Spring 2007), pp. 62, 65.

Survey Takes a Closer Look

continued from page 6

Table 3.3.2. Gender distribution by employer type

Employer type	All respondents	Men	Women	Ratio Female to Male
Academic	1,687	575	1,096	1.91
Government	1,485	606	849	1.40
Nonprofit	1,085	318	757	2.38
For-profit	236	84	146	1.74
Self-employed	63	18	45	2.50
Total	4,556	1,601	2,893	1.81

Source questions: Q2 (gender); Q21 (employer type)

increase over the next decade. This could be a result of the greater number of individuals who enter the profession from library schools. In 2004, 80% of all Library and Information Science graduates were women. While women outnumbered men in all employment sectors, their predominance was found to be less common in government settings and more common in nonprofit settings. There was some regional variation across the country, with a higher proportion of women in New England (69%) but more balance in the Mountain states and especially in the Lower Mid-Atlantic—home to the headquarters of the National Archives. Federal archival jobs are held by men at higher rates than in other employment sectors.

Show Me the Money

A*CENSUS respondents were asked to disclose their salary level for Fiscal Year 2003. A total of 3,979 individuals provided data, for about 92.7% of the 4,291 respondents who said they were employed full-time. The mean salary in FY 2003 for all survey respondents was \$49,329, up from an average of \$40,876 in 1982 (in 2003 dollars).

In May 2004, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that archivists in the U.S. earned an average wage of \$36,470. This estimate is significantly lower than the \$46,544 mean calculated for the archivists and manuscript curators who responded to the A*CENSUS. The approximate mean salary of \$49,329 for all A*CENSUS respondents was higher than that

Table 3.6.1. Approximate mean salaries, all respondents

	All respondents n = 3,817	Men n = 1,408	Women n = 2,372
Mean age	48.7	49.4	48.4
Mean year started first archival job	1990	1988	1991
Approx. mean salary, all respondents	\$49,329	\$54,787	\$46,151
Approx. mean salary, archivists/ ms curators	\$46,544	\$50,665	\$43,947
Approx. mean salary, managers	\$57,387	\$62,371	\$52,850

Source questions: Q1 (current position); Q2 (gender); Agefinal; Q30 (year started first archival job); Q34a (salary range); and combination of Q1=2 (current position); Q27=8 (current position); Q28=17 (current position, nonarchival); M1 (managers)

for archivists and manuscript curators alone because it included individuals in managerial positions and other occupations.

A comparison of A*CENSUS salary data with data reported by David Bearman in 1982 shows overall progress. Bearman calculated the spread between men's and women's salaries and found that men were making an average of 25% more than women in 1982. In 2003 that differential had dropped to 15%.

Among those starting their first archival jobs within the last five years, men reported earning only 2% more than women. Except among the very youngest respondents (under age 25) salary equity between genders was more balanced among younger workers, then grew more disparate with increasing age, with a big jump after age 60. Men in the age group 60-64 reported a mean salary of \$71,061 while women in the same age group reported an average of \$49,484.

Table 3.6.11. Approximate mean* salaries, by employer type

Salary range	All respondents n = 4,185	Academic employees n = 1,518	Government employees n = 1,440	Nonprofit employees n = 872	For-profit employees n = 226
Approx mean salaries	\$49,315	\$48,576	\$52,732	\$42,037	\$61,256

Source questions: Q21 (employer); Q34a (salaries)

*See Appendix D for process used to calculate approximate means for questions using ranges in the A*CENSUS.

There is also a disparity from region to region regarding pay equity between genders. The A*CENSUS shows the greatest spread in the Midwest, particularly in the Plains states, where men reported earning an average of 29% more than women. In the Pacific and Southwest states, however, the spread was only 11% and in New England it was 12%.

Salaries mirror regional cost-of-living differences throughout the country. The highest approximate mean salaries were reported in the South Mid-Atlantic states, which include Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. This is due to a large number of high-paying federal jobs in the region. Overall, archival salaries appear to be lower across the South than elsewhere.

From 2003 through 2006, Walch led a team that consisted of staff from Market Strategies, Inc. (the survey research firm that conducted the survey), the A*CENSUS Working Group, and six special consultants to analyze and interpret the data. The special consultants and their areas of focus were: Elizabeth Yakel of the University of Michigan and Jeannette Allis Bastian of Simmons College (graduate archival education); Nancy Zimmelman Lenoil of the California State Archives (continuing education); Brenda Banks of Morehouse College (diversity); Susan E. Davis of the University of Maryland (leadership); and Anne P. Diffendal, consulting historian/archivist, Lincoln, Nebraska (certification). Upcoming issues of *Archival Outlook* will highlight more details of survey results. If there is a particular issue that you would like to see explored in-depth, send an e-mail to hjanousek@archivists.org or tbrinati@archivists.org, or call 866-SAA-7858. ❖

Missing White House Emails

In November, a federal district judge issued a temporary restraining order to prevent the White House from destroying back-up copies of millions of deleted emails while a lawsuit is pending to gain access to them. The judge also consolidated two separate suits filed by the National Security Archive and Citizens for Ethics in Washington against the Executive Office of the President, including the White House Office of Administration, and the National Archives and Records Administration.

The two groups are seeking the recovery and preservation of millions of email messages that apparently were deleted from White House computers between March 2003 and October 2005. White House officials have acknowledged in press and Congressional briefings that emails are missing from the White House archive. However, they have maintained that while some emails might not have been archived automatically, they may still exist on backup tapes. In 2002, the Bush administration abandoned the electronic records management system put in place by the Clinton White House.

Earlier in the year, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee launched an investigation into whether White House officials violated the Presidential Records Act by using email accounts maintained by the Republican National Committee and the Bush-Cheney '04 campaign for official White House business.

Federal Appropriations

As this newsletter goes to press in mid-December, the Congress and the White House remained deadlocked in their annual game of chicken over the passage of the Fiscal Year 2008 federal budget. Although the federal fiscal year began on October 1, the government has been operating on a series of stop-gap continuing resolutions that funds agencies at last year's spending levels. To date, only the Defense appropriations bill has been enacted into law.

The current continuing resolution expires on December 14 and adding to the contentiousness over the budget is the related issue of providing additional funding for the war in Iraq. The president has remained adamant that discretionary spending in the eleven remaining appropriations bills should not exceed \$933 billion. The Democrats originally came in at a level of \$954 billion and have offered to split the difference with the White House in an effort to reach a compromise. The Democratic leadership in both houses will attempt to pass an omnibus spending bill that includes all eleven appropriations bills.

The Democrats have their backs against the wall. They used the Republicans' failure to pass budgets while they were in control of Congress as one of the rationales for electing a Democratic majority. So if the Democrats don't pass a budget, it will provide the Republicans with an election year issue.

The agencies of interest to the history and archives

communities all received modest increases in the initial appropriations bills that have passed the House, so it remains to be seen whether these gains will be lost in the consolidation process. Hopefully, we will have the final numbers for you in the next column.

Smithsonian Institution

This was perhaps the most tumultuous year in the history of the Smithsonian Institution. On March 26, 2007, Roger W. Sant, chairman of the Smithsonian's Board of Regents Executive Committee, announced that Secretary Lawrence M. Small, had resigned thus ending the controversy-filled, seven-year reign of the 11th secretary of the institution.

Cristián Samper, director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, was named Acting Secretary while the Regents conduct a nationwide search for a permanent replacement.

Small was finally brought down by a series of articles published in March in the *Washington Post* exposing questionable expenses incurred by the Smithsonian secretary. Most damaging to Small was an allegation made to the *Post* by the former Smithsonian Inspector General Debra S. Ritt. She alleged that Small tried to steer her audit of Smithsonian financial dealings away from his own compensation and the controversial Smithsonian Business Ventures operation, and towards construction programs.

Later in the year, Deputy Secretary Sheila Burke and the Chief Executive Officer of Smithsonian Business Ventures, Gary Beer, also resigned.

Beer was brought down by many of the same business practices that led to Small's departure, such as questionable expenses and charges of excessive compensation. However, an article in the *Washington Post* detailed allegations that Beer had a personal relationship with a subordinate who received five promotions and four raises over the last six years.

In the fall the Smithsonian television channel quietly made its debut on satellite provider DirecTV. Ironically, development of the channel was one of the contributing factors to the departures of Small and Beer. It generated a great deal of controversy when the Smithsonian Institution first announced its exclusive deal with the Showtime Networks, Inc., to develop a television network nearly two years ago.

The Smithsonian claims that the fears that access to their holdings by filmmakers would be impacted have proved unfounded. From Jan. 1, 2006, to Aug. 3, 2007, the Smithsonian says it received more than 210 requests to film at the institution. Of these, only two were declined due to the creation of Smithsonian Networks.

Comings and Goings

On August 30, the National Park Service (NPS) announced the long-awaited selection of Dr. Robert K. Sutton as Chief Historian of the National Park Service. Dr. Sutton has been Superintendent of the Manassas National Battlefield Park since 1995. Dr. Sutton assumed his new position on October 1, 2007. The Chief Historian position had remained vacant for more than

two years since the retirement of Dr. Dwight Pitcaithley in June 2005.

At the National Archives and Records Administration, three senior officials announced their departure or retirement and one important vacancy was filled.

J. William Leonard, Director of the Information Security Oversight Office, who retired from the post at year's end, agreed to become Senior Counselor to Archivist Allen Weinstein beginning in January 2008.

On October 1, Executive Director Max J. Evans announced that he will be retiring from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) on January 31, 2008. Mr. Evans, who was appointed in January 2003, will be assuming a new position with the Latter Day Saints Church Historical Department in Salt Lake City, Utah. No timetable has been given for the naming of a replacement.

In April, John Constance, Director of Congressional Affairs and Communications, departed after serving as the National Archives liaison to Capitol Hill for 14 years.

Terri Garner was named as the new director of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, Arkansas. From 2005 to the present, Ms. Garner served as Executive Director of the Bangor Museum and Center for History. Garner assumed her duties on November 5, 2007.

NCH Collaborative Efforts

Because of our small size, the National Coalition for History engages in collaborative efforts with other like-minded groups to achieve results on Capitol Hill and with federal agencies.

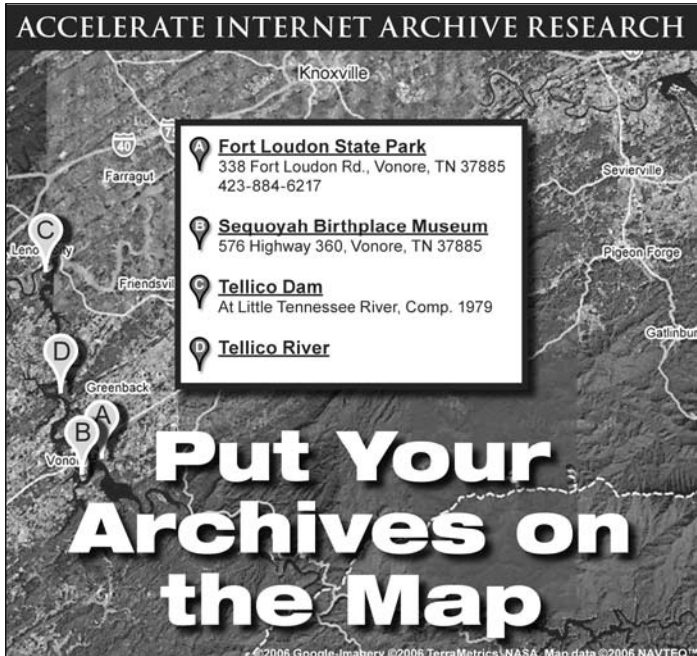
In April, the National Coalition for History, the American Historical Association, and eighteen other organizations wrote to U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein to express concerns about the possible destruction of records relating to the cases of detainees being held at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The organizations' letters asked the Attorney General and the Archivist to ensure that a complete set of the records is retained, as a set, in order to ensure an accurate historical and legal record.

Throughout 2007, NCH has been part of a coalition seeking passage of comprehensive reform of the Freedom of Information Act. While similar legislation has passed both the House and Senate, differences between the two bills still must be reconciled. ❖

We Want to Hear from You!

Send your comments, story ideas and photos to Helen Janousek at hjanousek@archivists.org

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Tellico River

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Hosting an SAA Workshop

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from 7 states, from as far away as Indiana and Pennsylvania. Participants were archivists and librarians from academia, government, public and corporate libraries, and independent public archives. Imagine their faces when they were handed a goody bag along with their registration materials.

I am happy to report that the workshop went off without a hitch! The multi-media system at the state archives is top rate and the staff was available to troubleshoot. Evaluations of the event were positive, and participants thanked the student chapter organizers. Two participants received commemorative books as door prizes, as did the instructors for the excellent job they did in presenting the workshop.

The LSU student chapter is the first chapter to work with SAA to organize a workshop, and we could not have done it without the help of our fellow co-sponsors. If you wish to host and co-sponsor a workshop, SAA recommends at least four months to market the event appropriately. SAA-LSU began in late November for an event hosted in April. In addition, we decided to go beyond SAA's requirements by also providing food, securing give-aways, and supplementing SAA's marketing efforts, in addition to securing space.

SAA co-sponsors are asked to provide classroom space, AV equipment, and minimal beverage breaks. Most are institutions that provide their space in return for a complimentary registration, a discount off the non-member rate, and the savings realized by keeping staff in-house. SAA provides materials including badges, rosters, pre-readings, workbooks, publications, registration, marketing, and instructors.

Any group can co-sponsor and host an SAA continuing education professional development workshop. It takes time and effort from all parties involved to make the offering a success. Hosting such a workshop can be a valuable experience in public programming, especially for archives students and others who can build their resumes and make strong professional contacts with the SAA staff, workshop instructors, and participants. More importantly, workshop attendees receive knowledge to help them professionally, as well as earn continuing education credits. Serving the archives profession is the best part about hosting a workshop.

Russell James is past president of the SAA student chapter at Louisiana State University, where he also served as editor of the combined student chapters' newsletter, Chapters and Loose Papers, during 2006–2007. Currently he is the chair of the SAA Records Management Roundtable. ❖

Archives and Ethics

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"Archives and Ethics: Reflections on Practice" was the subject of a Nov. 30 conference at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee (UWM). Participants included (back row, from left): Verne Harris, the Nelson Mandela Foundation; David Wallace, the University of Michigan; Michael Doyle, the UWM Archives; Amy Cooper Cary and Johannes Britz, both of UWM's School of Information Studies. Front row, from left: Elizabeth Buchanan, the Center for Information Policy Research at UWM, and Menzi Behrnd-Klodt of American Girl, Inc.

than the typical top-down approach."

Others found the panel discussion by Behrnd-Klodt, Harris, and Wallace to be particularly engaging. "It was a good example of how archival theory and practice is still being shaped and reminded me that as future archivists, the students in the audience may play a role in shaping the future of archival practice," noted Jeff Ksiazek, MLIS student at UWM.

The conference left attendees with much food for thought: the usefulness of codes of ethics, archivists' responsibilities to social justice, how privacy laws affect archives, and how to represent marginalized groups in archives are only a few of the issues that will continue to confront the profession.

"The speakers raised the bar on what it means to be an ethical professional," said Elizabeth Buchanan, associate professor and director of the Center for Information Policy Research. "They pushed us all to think in a critical and responsible way, and for that, we owe them great thanks."

That is why it was so important for the School of Information Studies at UWM to host this conference, according to the school's dean, Dr. Johannes Britz. "Budgets, digitization, and other practical things facing archives are important, but underlying everything is ethics."

Now it is up to the profession to continue the discussion about archives and ethics to be sure that these critical issues do not fade away. ❖

CALL FOR STUDENT PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

ARCHIVES 2008: Archival R/Evolution & Identities

The Society of American Archivists' 2008 Student Program Subcommittee is accepting proposals for two special sessions dedicated to student scholarship to take place at ARCHIVES 2008, SAA's 72nd Annual Meeting in San Francisco, August 26–30.

Graduate Student Paper Session

The work of three current archives students will be selected for presentation. Each speaker will be allotted 15 minutes to present a paper. Thirty minutes will be reserved for audience questions. Proposals may relate to any research topic of interest to the student and to the larger archives community. The Subcommittee will select participants based on the quality of proposals. Presenters and topics will be listed in the Preliminary Program.

8th Annual Student Poster Session

The Student Poster Session showcases the work of both individual students and SAA Student Chapters.

Individual posters may describe applied or theoretical research that is completed or underway; discuss interesting collections with which students have worked; or report on archives projects in which students have participated (eg, development of finding aids, public outreach, special database construction, etc). Submissions should focus on research or activity conducted within the previous academic year.

Student Chapter posters may describe chapter activities, events, and/or other involvement with the archives profession. A single representative should coordinate the submission of each Student Chapter proposal.



Submission Instructions and Deadlines

Submissions must include the following:

- Your name, postal address, telephone number, and email address;
- The name and address of your college or university;
- For paper proposals: Your paper title and a 250-word abstract;
- For poster proposals: A brief description of your poster topic (not to exceed 250 words); and
- A one-sentence statement attesting to your commitment to attend SAA's 2008 Annual Meeting and present your paper/poster in person if selected by the Subcommittee.

Proposals must be received no later than Friday, February 15, 2008, and must be sent electronically to:

2008 Student Program Subcommittee
studentsessions@archivists.org

If you have questions, please contact Subcommittee Co-chair Su Kim Chung (Special Collections, UNLV Libraries) at 702-895-2241 or sukim.chung@unlv.edu.



SAA EDUCATION CALENDAR

**Understanding Archives :
An Introduction to
Principles and Practices**

March 6-7, 2008-San Antonio, TX

**Applying DACS to Single-Item
Manuscript Cataloging**March 10, 2008-New Haven, CT
May 16, 2008-Provo, UT**Project Management for Archivists**

March 14, 2008-Chicago, IL

**Preservation of 20th Century
Visual Materials**

March 18-19, 2008-Princeton, NJ

**Understanding Photographs:
Introduction to Archival
Principles and Practices**

April 10-11, 2008-Baltimore, MD

Archives Leadership Institute

April 21-28, 2008-Madison, WI

Encoded Archival DescriptionApril 22-23, 2008
University Park, PA**Style Sheets for EAD: Delivering
Your Finding Aids on the Web**April 24-25, 2008
University Park, PA**Building Digital Collections**

May 19, 2008-University Park, PA

**An Introduction to
Archival Exhibitions**

May 23, 2008-Frankfort, KY

For details or to register, visit www.archivists.org and click on Education. **Questions?** Contact us at education@archivists.org or 312/922-0140.

We are continually planning and adding programs to our schedule; please keep up to date by checking the website periodically!

CALENDAR

January 25

Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein will host an "American Conversation" with former First Lady Barbara Pierce Bush at 4 p.m. in the William G. McGowan Theater of the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. It is free and open to the public. For more information, e-mail public.program@nara.gov or call (202) 357-5000.

April 10-11

The Centre for Archive and Information Studies at the University of Dundee, Scotland, will hold an interdisciplinary conference, "The Philosophy of the Archive" in Edinburgh. This conference is part of a project, "Investigating the Archive: An Interdisciplinary Enquiry into the Concept and Role of Archives," funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Keynote speakers include Verne Harris (Nelson Mandela Foundation, South Africa), Terry Cook (University of Manitoba, Canada), and Elizabeth Shepherd (University College, London). For more info: <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/cais/cais-project.htm>.

April 17-19

The Midwest Archives Conference will hold its annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme is "Racing toward the Future (while distilling the past)." For more information, see <http://www.midwestarchives.org/2008Spring/>.

April 21

The 36th Annual Meeting of American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works in Denver, Colorado. Theme: "Creative Collaborations." For more info: <http://aic.stanford.edu/>.

April 30-May 3

The 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Society of California Archivists at the Beach Resort Monterey in Monterey, California. For more information, go to: www.calarchivists.org.

May 1-3

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archivists Conference will meet in Chautauqua Institution, New York for its Spring 2008 conference "Education Outside the Box." For more information, go to: <http://www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/conferences/conferences.html>.

May 21-24

Society of Southwest Archivists annual meeting in Houston, Texas. Theme: "Magnolias and Megabytes: 21st Century Stewardship." For more info: <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Meeting.htm> or contact Shelly Kelly at Kellysh@uhcl.edu.

May 27-31

The Northwest Archives Conference will partner with the Greater Anchorage (Alaska) Chapter of ARMA for a joint conference in Anchorage, Alaska. For more information, go to: <http://www.anchoragearma.org/>.

May 28-30

2008 Annual Meeting of the New York Archives Conference at the State University of New York in Potsdam. For more info, contact Jenny Rosenzweig at jenny@upstatehistory.org.

June 15-27

The **22nd Annual Western Archives Institute** will be held at San Diego State University in San Diego, Calif. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials; those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction; and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career. The Institute also features site visits to historical records repositories and a diverse curriculum that includes history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management, appraisal, arrangement, description, manuscripts acquisition, archives and the law, photographs, preservation administration, reference and access, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions. Tim Ericson will serve as the 2008 Principal Faculty Member. With more than 20 years of experience, Professor Ericson is extensively involved in archival education, including coordinating and teaching as Senior Lecturer Emeritus for the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Tuition for the Institute is \$700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Additional fees are charged for program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost. **Application deadline: March 15, 2008.** For additional program information, contact: Administrator, Western Archives Institute, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; Tel 916/653-7715; Fax 916/653-7134; ArchivesWeb@ss.ca.gov. The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists, the California State Archives and San Diego State University Library and Information Access. The application package will be available on the California State Archives website at http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/level3_wai.html and on the Society of California Archivists website at <http://www.calarchivists.org>.



FUNDING

Harry Golden Visiting Scholars Award

The University of North Carolina, Charlotte announces the opening of competition for the Harry Golden Visiting Scholars Awards for 2008/2009. Two grants of \$500–\$1,000 will be awarded to researchers using materials held by the Special Collections Department at the Atkins Library. Preference will be given to projects that focus on the history and culture of the 20th-century South. For further information on resources available in the department, link to http://dlib.uncc.edu/special_collections. **Deadline for applications: February 15, 2008.** Candidates will be notified by March 15. **To apply**, researchers should send a letter to Mr. Robin Brabham, Rare Book Librarian & Archivist, Atkins Library, UNC Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223 or e-mail him at rbrabha@email.uncc.edu. The letter must include a vita; a description of the research proposal and the extent of research already completed; an estimate of the research remaining; a summary of how the project will benefit by using resources in the UNC Charlotte Special Collections; and a projected budget. Doctoral students doing dissertation research, independent scholars, and journalists are encouraged to apply.

U.S. Capitol Historical Society Fellowship

Applications are invited for the 22nd year of the United States Capitol Historical Society Fellowship. This fellowship is designed to support research and publication on the history of the art and architecture of the U.S. Capitol and related buildings. Graduate students and scholars may apply for periods ranging from one month to one year; the stipend is \$2,000 per month. **Deadline: applications must be postmarked by March 15, 2008.** For more information, contact: Dr. Barbara Wolanin at 202/228-1222 or www.uschs.org.

The University at Buffalo Libraries Special Collections Fellowships

The University at Buffalo Humanities Institute, in collaboration with the University at Buffalo Libraries, is offering three fellowships for visiting scholars and graduate students for use of the Libraries' Special Collections. Included are The Poetry Collection, The University Archives, and the 20,000-volume Rare Book Collection. The fellowships provide stipends of up to \$4,000 to cover the cost of travel to Buffalo, accommodations, and expenses during the stay. Fellows are expected to give one public lecture on their research. The timing and duration of residence in Buffalo is flexible, though a minimum stay of two weeks is anticipated. Both graduate students at an advanced stage of dissertation research and more senior scholars are invited to apply.

- The James Joyce Fellowship: For scholars and graduate students whose research is centered on the writings of James Joyce, Modernism,

Joyce-related research, research on Sylvia Beach, Modernist publishers, Modernist genetic criticism, Joyce's literary circle, his literary colleagues, or his influences.

- The David Gray Fellowship: For scholars and graduate students whose research is centered on 20th and 21st century English language and poetry and poetics. This fellowship must be held during the academic year, not during the summer.
- The Charles D. Abbott Fellowship: For scholars and graduate students whose research would be enhanced by any of the books, manuscripts, or unique documents in the UB Libraries special collections, which includes materials from the Poetry Collection, University Archives, The Polish Collection, The Collections of the Music Library, and the History of Medicine Collection. Brief introductions to some of the more notable UB library collections can be found below or online at <http://humanitiesinstitute.buffalo.edu/fellowshipsresearch/index.shtml#LibraryFellows>.

Application deadline: April 1, 2008.

Applications must include the following: Cover letter; Brief two to three page, single-spaced research proposal, including length and approximate timing of proposed visit; Current CV, which should indicate in detail previous and upcoming research support (grants, fellowships, leaves, etc.); Letter of support from department chair or dissertation director. Applicants must submit six copies of all application materials in a single envelope to: Michele Bewley, Assistant Director, Humanities Institute, University at Buffalo, 810 Clemens Hall, Buffalo NY 14260. For more information, contact ub-humanitiesinstitute@buffalo.edu or call 716.645.2711.

Archie K. Davis Fellowships

The North Caroliniana Society offers on a competitive basis Archie K. Davis Fellowships to assist scholars in gaining access to collections. Stipends vary in size and are intended to cover a portion of travel and subsistence expenses while fellows conduct research. **Deadline for proposals for 2008-2009 is March 1, 2008.** For more information, go to www.ncsociety.org/davis or contact Dr. H.G. Jones, North Caroliniana Society, Wilson Library, UNC Campus Box 3930, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890.

Ian Maclean Research Grant

The The National Archives of Australia has established a new award open to archivists from all countries who are interested in conducting research that will benefit the archival profession and promote the important contribution that archives make to society. To encourage innovation in research, partnerships between archivists and allied/other professionals are eligible. Joint applications from archivists residing in different countries are also encouraged. Stipend will be to AUS\$15,000 (approximately US\$11,000) at

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- 60% for Sustaining Institutional Members (or 39¢ per word)

For more information on submission deadlines and editorial policies visit www.archivists.org and go to "About SAA," Advertising and Sponsoring Opportunities. You can also e-mail jobs@archivists.org. Job announcements can be submitted online at www.archivists.org/forms/jobs.asp.

DIGITAL PRESERVATIONIST

The Science and Technology Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is looking for a full-time Digital Preservationist. The successful candidate will participate in the development of archival and preservation practices and standards for digitally created theatrical motion pictures. Candidates should have digital motion picture asset management and archiving experience, knowledge of film preservation practices, proficiency with software tools such as database managers and asset management systems, and a bachelors degree in a related field. To apply: Send résumé and salary history via fax to 310/247-3611. NO TELEPHONE CALLS, PLEASE. We are an equal opportunity employer.

the discretion of the judging panel. Additional funding will be available to overseas applicants for travel to Australia if necessary. Prospective applicants should contact Derina McLaughlin at (+61 2) 6212 3986 or derina.mclaughlin@naa.gov.au before applying to discuss the scope of their research project. Further information: www.naa.gov.au

CALL FOR PAPERS

Organization of American Historians

The Organization of American Historians (OAH) invites you to submit a session or single paper proposal for the 2009 OAH Annual Meeting, to be held in Seattle, Wash., March 26–29, 2009. The call for papers is available on the OAH website at www.oah.org/2009. Direct questions to Amy Stark at 812/855-9853.



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SAA Is on the Move . . .



Our 10-year lease is up and SAA is moving to new office space in the historic Charles A. Stevens Department Store building on State Street. The white terra cotta building depicted in this vintage postcard was designed in 1912 by D.H. Burnham and Company. Effective January 28, 2008, our new address will be: Society of American Archivists, 17 North State Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL 60602. Our phone and fax numbers will remain the same. For your convenience, we've added a toll-free number: 866-SAA-7858.