Civil Rest?

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**On the cover**  

Civil Rest? . . . Activists are dragged down the wet, marble staircase in the Rotunda of San Francisco City Hall on May 13, 1960, after police turned fire hoses on a crowd of students protesting a meeting of the House Un-American Activities Committee. Read about the city’s history of counterculture movements on page 10. Photo courtesy of the San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.
You may recall these questions as they were pronounced infamously by 1992 vice presidential candidate Admiral James Stockton during his debate with Al Gore and Dan Quayle. Stockton meant to suggest his recognition that many in the audience did not know him or what he stood for. Instead, his questions came off as the befuddled expression of a man out of his depth.

Why do I cite this bit of trivia? Because I believe that archivists have long needed to ask and answer these questions about themselves as professionals. Who are we? Why are we here? Our most fundamental issues of identity have languished (dangerously, I think) while we have frantically attempted to project a stature and role of importance to society and our institutions. How can we successfully project a strong, relevant identity to others when we have failed to identify ourselves to ourselves?

This is not just an American matter. As Ian Johnston recently lamented, “There has certainly been a lack of intellectual discussion in the U.K. relating to an understanding of precisely what the ‘archival mission’ might encompass.” Nor is it a recent matter: In 1998 SAA President Bill Maher warned attendees at the annual conference that “we often do not attend sufficiently to our own professional identity as archivists.” Yet it seems clear, as SAA President Luciana Duranti observed in 1999, that the challenges of the current century require such an understanding, “require an archival profession that is confident in its role, has a strong sense of identity, and is able to contribute to the development of new knowledge using its own unique body of concepts and principles. The profession must accomplish this using its own unique perspective and world view.” We lack that strong sense of identity and agreement on a unique perspective and world view.

There are many ways in which the questions “Who are we?” and “Why are we here?” resonate within our profession—if only we would listen. Are we authenticators of institutional transactions or are we collectors of cultural material? Are we properly grounded in library science or in history? Are we required to have master’s degrees or will other education and experience suffice? Are we a profession of theory or of practice? Are we more closely related to librarians and museum curators or to records managers and auditors? Are we providers of records or documents or information? Are we here to serve society or our institutions? Is there “cultural imperialism implicit in our archival methodologies and in our desire to document the natives in our midst,” or are our traditional approaches sensitive and flexible enough to appropriately document a democratic and pluralistic society?

Are we here to be protectors of records or mediators for users? Are we here to promote social justice or be neutral practitioners? Are we here as passive acquirers, describers, and presenters or active shapers of the historical record? Are we here as crucial agents of democratic accountability or accidental preservers of material that is useful for political analysis? Are we here to seek “an informed selection of information that will provide the future with a representative record of human experience in our time” or is “in fact the real mission [of archivists]...to ensure that the essential evidence of organizations will be maintained, in whatever form is necessary...”? Are we here to tend to our own programs or actively assist in promoting the archives profession and archival issues? Are we here to congregate as ever smaller bodies of specialists or to unite as a whole profession?

How many of these questions must have “either/or” answers and how many can be answered usefully by defining a middle ground? Our answers are made complicated by the fact that different archivists in different eras have answered these questions in different ways. Who to believe? Richard Cox believes we are authenticators of transactions while Adrian Cunningham believes we are curators of culture. Terry Cook wrote that we are here to protect records while Elsie Freeman Finch argued that we are here to mediate for users. Gerald Ham stated that we are here to document society while Frank Boles averred we should be serving our institutions. Howard Zinn called on archivists to be activists; Luciana Duranti said we should be neutral administrators. The examples go on and on. But for the most part these contradictions have not been directly engaged by the profession at large.

continued on page 28
This issue of Archival Outlook is a bit later and a bit bulkier than usual because it’s being co-mailed with the 2008 American Archives Month Public Relations Kit and Poster. Since the Kit’s inception in 2006, we’ve sent it to you just in the nick of time, giving you precious little time to actually prepare one or more October events!

We hope that in 2008 you and your colleagues will make plans using the practical ideas, tips, and tools in the Kit:

**Picture This! Contest:** Because we know that SAA members have great ideas…and because some people are motivated by competition and/or cold, hard cash…. This year’s American Archives Month contest asks you to 1) show us your Archives Month / Week poster, 2) show us what you did for your “successfully implemented Archives Month campaign,” OR 3) describe the best idea you’ve had for celebrating American Archives Month. For rules, prizes, and deadlines, see page 3 of the Kit.

**13 Ideas for Reaching Out to Your Community:** Here’s my favorite: It’s an election year! Do you know where the candidates stand on issues related to access to public records? Become an “activist archivist”—ask them! See page 4 of the Kit for more ideas.

**Communication Planning 101:** Planning can be a drag, but it can also really pay off. As you consider how to participate in American Archives Month, draft a simple communication plan by asking yourself: Who? What? And then (and only then) How? See page 5 for more information.

**Say What? Talking Points on the Value of Archives:** Last year’s American Archives Month contest was to develop an elevator speech that captures in just 30 words a simple explanation of what archivists do. Turn to page 6 in the Kit for Lisa Lewis’s winning entry, Jacquelyn Ferry’s excellent “honorable mention,” and some additional talking points to incorporate into your outreach materials.

**Tried and True:** Open your doors! Exhibits, lectures, information fairs, open houses, tours—any of these ideas can introduce key audiences to your repository’s treasures and help raise awareness about the important work of archives and archivists. See page 7 to see what some of your colleagues did in 2007.

**National Treasures: Using Prized Items in Your Collection to Tell Your Story:** What are the most interesting stories in your archives? Do you have a document, photo, or artifact that always “gets ‘em”? Use that material to draw visitors, prospective donors, and public officials to your repository. See pages 8 and 9 for some wonderful examples from the Wisconsin Historical Society.

**Five Easy Steps for Ensuring Media Coverage of Your Archives Month Event:** Here (on pages 10 and 11) are some practical tips for creating a media list, sending a media alert, writing a press release, taking digital images, and securing an official proclamation. For an event planning guide, a sample press release, and a sample official proclamation and request letter, see the American Archives Month website at www.archivists.org/archivesmonth.

**Changing Channels:** For those among us who may still be a bit confused about the array of online tools available for our use in public outreach (who, me?), here’s a quick guide to wikis, blogs, photo-sharing sites, RSS feeds—the mind-boggling world of social media. See page 12.

**Celebrating the American Record with Photographs:** Visual materials play an important role in documenting the American record, and that’s why we’ve chosen to highlight in this third annual kit the care and management of photos. For the Special Section (in the center) we’ve called on the archival experts who [literally] wrote the book for their quick tips on caring for photos. Here you’ll find ideas for reaching out to your community using photo “treasures”; a tip sheet for the general public (“Lasting Impressions: Tips for Preserving Your Family’s Photos”) that can be downloaded from the SAA website for distribution to your repository’s visitors; three Resources to Note; and a quick reference guide—for archivists—highlighting the key factors involved in implementing basic strategies to preserve photos in your collections. The latter document resides (only) on SAA’s website—along with other “evergreen” public relations material—at www.archivists.org/archivesmonth.

Now, get out there and promote the value of historical records!

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 ….

**Conference Registration Rates**

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- **Advance** (postmarked or faxed between July 8 and August 1)
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- **On-Site** (after August 1)
  Member $399 / Nonmember $499

- **Student**
  Member $119 / Nonmember $169

**Hilton San Francisco Hotel Rates**

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For more information, please call 866-722-7858 or visit [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org)
How to Get More “Product” While Doing Less “Process”

JANET HAUCK, University Archivist, Whitworth University

Four years ago, I was like most of us in the archives world—I had a backlog of wonderful collections that sat unused and unprocessed in the basement. Like most of us, I had every intention of getting these collections processed and into the hands of researchers just as soon as time allowed. But unlike most of us, I was able to accomplish this by applying the “MPLP” method and cutting my processing time by more than three-fourths. Mark Greene and Dennis Meissner’s landmark “More Product, Less Process” method has rocked the field of archival processing for the past several years. I have been privileged to be involved from the start.

In the Beginning

A generous grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission in October 2004 set the stage for the Northwest Archives Processing Initiative consortium to become a test-bed for the method. Greene and Meissner were hired as consultants and I took up my duties as consortium director. Eight institutions from Oregon, Washington, and Alaska received training in the MPLP method and from July 2005 to June 2007 we used it to process a total of 80 collections comprising 1,120 linear feet. As the project neared completion, people kept asking me repeatedly: What is MPLP, anyway? How does it work in practicality? How can I implement it in my archives?

Here are the answers to your questions.

What Is it, Anyway?

Simply stated, the MPLP method applies the least number of necessary processing steps when readying an unprocessed collection for use by researchers. If the number of steps for arrangement, preservation, and description are reduced, the application will naturally reduce the amount of processing time. In an article for the Fall/Winter 2005 issue of the American Archivist, Greene and Meissner spoke to the situation: “Processing backlogs continues to be a problem for archivists, and yet the problem is exacerbated by many of the traditional approaches to processing collections that archivists continue to practice.”

As they began their research, the authors posed an “either/or” question, which you may also find helpful to pose. Would your researchers:

• Prefer to use archival collections that are fully arranged, described, preserved, and inventoried, even if it means waiting longer to access them? Or,
• Prefer to use archival collections that are minimally arranged, described, preserved, and inventoried, if it means waiting a shorter time to access them?

In order to find the answer, Greene and Meissner surveyed an initial group of 48 researchers, mainly faculty members and graduate students. They found:

• Most would accept generally lesser levels of organization in processed collections;
• Most would like to see basic descriptions for all collections in a repository, whether collections were processed or not; and,
• Not surprisingly, most would like the materials described online.

Practically Speaking

At the same time, Greene and Meissner conducted a survey of archivists to determine traditional processing practices. These included:

• Removal of metal paperclips and staples;
• Re-foldering items in acid-free folders;
• Mending torn documents;
• Photocopying newspaper clippings;
• Creating inventories at the collection level;
• Interleaving scrapbooks with acid-free tissue;
• Rearranging documents into series; and
• Sleeving photographs.

The above is a laundry list of the practices my archives was using at the time. Yet now the authors were writing about “the scope of the problem and its impact both on processing costs and on access to collections.” What’s more, they were issuing “a call for archivists to rethink the way they process collections,” [and challenging] “many of the assumptions archivists make about the importance of preservation activities in processing, and the arrangement and description activities necessary to allow researchers to access collections effectively.”

Greene and Meissner were about to make a proposal that would affect archival processing in a huge way. They were advocating a new, non-traditional method that would reduce the long-held processing figure of 15 hours per linear foot to a mere 4 hours! They based their proposal on a couple of basic assumptions:

• Most archival facilities today are climate controlled;
• The date range of a collection determines the depth of processing; and
• The origin of a collection also determines the depth of processing.

The first assumption, the necessity of controlling the climate in which archival collections are stored, is widely accepted. NISO standard TR01-1995 states that a repository with a temperature of 70 degrees Fahrenheit and a relative humidity of 50 percent, with fluctuations of plus or minus 5 degrees, meets the desired storage conditions for most manuscript.
collections. This environment allows for preservation of materials, as well as acceptable working conditions for staff.

The second assumption is a practical one. If the dates of a collection range from the 19th or early- to mid 20th century, several generalizations can be made. First of all, the fasteners (paper clips, staples, etc.) will not be stainless steel, will most likely be rusted, and will need to be removed. Second, the folders will not be acid-free, may be brittle, and will need to be replaced. On the other hand, if the materials originated in the 1980s or later, the fasteners will be stainless steel and won’t need to be removed. In addition, the folders will be acid-free and may remain in the collection.

The origin of a collection raises another practical matter. If the collection has come to the archives from a business, an institutional office, or even from a very organized individual, there may already be a logical order imposed. As the collection is processed this order might be maintained and merely inventoried at the series or box level. Again, the more recently the materials were created, the more likelihood that their original order is still intact and logical. There would be no reason to inventory at the folder level, much less the item level.

Greene and Meissner, based on the above assumptions, proposed that in order to save time and resources while processing collections, archivists should:

- Remove only rusted paper clips or staples;
- Re-folder only if original folders are brittle or damaged;
- Rearrange documents into series only in large or complex collections; and
- Create inventories at the box level only.

How Can You Implement MPLP in Your Archives?

These new recommendations were, and are still, revolutionary. Back in 2005 when the consortium was beginning its grant project, our members raised some valid concerns. How could each archives implement MPLP in its own unique institution? How could we allow for the fact that each archives functioned differently on a day-to-day basis? In other words, how could each of us implement MPLP successfully?

Because of these concerns, Greene and Meissner were led to make a definitive statement. They claimed that a "middle way" could be found for any processing project by ensuring that at least half of the processing steps were done "adequately" rather than traditionally. For instance, description of a photograph collection could be done at the item level, if desired. Or if legal documents were being processed, arrangement at the item level might be needed, so that sensitive material could be separated. The table at right was developed for the consortium and is available for anyone to use.

We have adopted our own "middle way" in our archives. We’ve stopped removing every staple and paper clip. We’ve started creating box-level inventories. In the reading room, we present the researcher with only one box of material at a time. This prevents folders from being re-inserted into the wrong box and helps maintain order within the collection as a whole. But we still re-folder, re-label, and re-box everything in acid-free enclosures. Why? Because part of our mission is to instruct undergraduates in the use of archival materials, and we strive to instill a "respect for the material." This takes a bit more time, but our average processing rate is still quite acceptable. In fact, I am proud to say that even with the application of "middle way" steps, the consortium figure during the grant period was only 2.8 hours per linear foot (on average)!

The Choice Is Yours

Is MPLP for you? Could you resist the urge to remove every staple and paper clip as you process a collection? Could you leave original folders in the collection and not re-arrange materials? Could you find a “middle way” of processing that saves time in one area while spending it where needed in another? The ultimate decision, according to the MPLP approach, will be made when you determine ways you can adapt your processing practices to your own archives and your own researchers. Good luck!

2 Ibid.
iRODS Offers Open-Source Approach to Managing Data

PAUL TOOBY, San Diego Supercomputer Center

The Data-Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) group at the University of California, San Diego, has released version 1.0 of iRODS, the Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System, a powerful new open-source approach to managing digital data. iRODS builds on ten years of experience in developing the DICE group’s widely used Storage Resource Broker (SRB) technology.

Both iRODS and SRB are used by a wide variety of digital repositories around the world, including several electronic records archives. For example, the state archives of Michigan, Kentucky, and Ohio, among others, have built electronic records repositories using the SRB. A number of state archives are now planning to develop repositories using the new iRODS system.

The Electronic Records Archives’ Research Program at the National Archives and Records Administration has implemented and supported the development of both iRODS and SRB. Both systems provide a great deal of flexibility to meet the needs of diverse repositories.

The most powerful new feature, for which the Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System is named, is an innovative “distributed rule engine” that lets users easily accomplish complex data management tasks. Users can automate enforcement of management policies by applying rules that control the execution of all data access and manipulation operations. Rather than having to hard code these actions, or workflows, into a new script, the user-friendly rules let any group easily customize the iRODS system for their specific data management requirements.

For example, when astronomers take new photographs in a sky survey and enter them into a data collection, the researchers can set up iRODS rules to automatically extract descriptive information and record it in the iRODS Metadata Catalog (iCAT), create and send a copy to another repository for backup, create a thumbnail image to include in a web-based gallery, and run an analysis program to identify related images.

A records manager can configure iRODS rules to identify and retain a collection of digital records for five years, and then move them to another site or destroy them. Archivists can develop rules to automate the migration of all the files in a particular format to a new format to prevent them from becoming inaccessible when the original format becomes obsolete.

Of interest to archivists, the DICE Group is currently developing rules to execute and validate that a repository is meeting many of the requirements found in the Trustworthy Repositories Audit and Certification Checklist (http://www.crl.edu/PDF/trac.pdf).

Participants in SAA’s Electronic Records “Summer Camps” (see http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/face_to_face.asp) will have a chance to learn how both SRB and iRODS are being used by electronic records archives.

For more information see:

• http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/supercomputer/02-08iRODS.asp

• Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (iRODS) http://irods.sdsc.edu/

• Storage Resource Broker (SRB) http://www.sdsc.edu/srb/

• DICE Group http://www.diceresearch.org/

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Facing Job Restructuring in Mid-Career

Job restructuring tends to have a negative connotation, as it’s often related to those off-putting twins—downsizing and cost cutting. Just how an unexpected job restructuring can affect professionals, who have already put in years to establish a satisfying career, was the topic of a candid discussion held at SAA’s 2007 Annual Meeting in Chicago last August.

In an ever-competitive job market that demands workers keep their skills up-to-date, listening to the experiences and methods of others who faced sudden changes in the workplace can be worthwhile. Peggy Sullivan was the moderator of the session, “The Fabulous Fifties: The Best Is Yet to Come?”, which focused on positive choices and outcomes when confronted with unexpected changes in mid-career.

“We all know of industry foremen who lost their jobs in their fifties and realized they did not have the skills, nor the resilience, to move elsewhere and eeked out lives of quiet desperation,” said Sullivan. “But our program and the reactions to it suggest that it doesn’t have to be that way. Self-directed, knowledgeable people who take the time to review their own skills and abilities can find for themselves paths to new successes.”

Sullivan, the former president and executive director of the American Library Association, is a library consultant specializing in executive job searches for public library administrators.

“An individual [at the session] said one of the most memorable things I heard that afternoon,” Sullivan noted. “After talking over the [job] change required of her with her spouse, and thinking it through herself, she realized that she was not her job. Her job was only a part of her life. Of course, that is something we all know, but it pays to think about it strongly from time to time.”

Sullivan said it also helps to determine the values most important to you when faced with such a decision. “Established roots, retirement benefits, an opportunity to learn new things in the new or restructured position, those are all things to consider. These can be the pluses that make adjustment to a changed situation productive, rather than simply acceptable,” Sullivan explained.

Resources for the 50+ Demographic

For those who decide to look for another position, there are websites and career groups specifically aimed at the 50+ demographic.

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Before we come together in San Francisco this summer for SAA’s 2008 Annual Meeting on August 26–30, let’s take a look at the city’s rich and exciting history of social activism and public demonstrations.

Summer in the City

Mention San Francisco and the first thing people tend to think of are the hippies of Haight-Ashbury. What better place to begin our exploration of the City by the Bay and its radical history than with the Summer of Love?

In 1967, thousands of young people from all parts of the country came together for a summer-long celebration of sexual freedom, creative expression, and psychedelic drugs. In many ways, the Summer of Love actually started in January when the Diggers, an anarchist guerilla street theater group, called together a "gathering of tribes" in Golden Gate Park—the first Human Be-In.

Challenging the conventions of consumption and commercialism, San Francisco’s counterculture movement sought to create a new reality based on communal cooperation and sharing. While mocked by the mainstream media as unwashed vagabonds, Haight-Ashbury activists managed to set up a free medical clinic, distribute food and clothing to those in need, publish political manifestos and poems, and establish a political theater movement that lives on today in the celebrated San Francisco Mime Troupe.

Most of the flower children who came through Haight-Ashbury that year returned home by summer’s end, bringing with them new ideas, music, and fashion that fundamentally changed American culture. Displaying the subversive humor characteristic of the activism in that period, residents of the Haight held a "Death of the Hippie" funeral parade in October, mocking the hype and mainstream co-optation of the Summer of Love.

Antecedents of the ’60s counterculture revolution can be found in the Beat scene that blossomed in San Francisco’s North Beach in the late 1950s. In fact, many of the leading Beat figures collaborated with ‘60s groups such as the Diggers and the Artists Liberation Front. Like the hippies, the Beat writers celebrated spontaneous creativity, sexual adventure, and mind-expanding drugs. The Beats also revolutionized the art of public performance and self-publishing, laying the groundwork for counterculture street theater and underground publications. Central to both activities was poetry, which moved from a solitary act of contemplation to spoken word happenings combining cutting-edge jazz and explorations of the human condition.

Allen Ginsberg’s epic poem “Howl” pushed free speech boundaries with its explicit gay sexual imagery, and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, poet and owner of City Lights Bookstore, successfully fought obscenity charges for publishing the controversial work. “Howl” eventually sold more than a million copies, inspiring the creation of independent presses throughout the country.

Visit the San Francisco History Center at 100 Larkin Street or the Beat Museum at 540 Broadway to learn more about the city’s counterculture. Or check out the Diggers’ online archives at www.diggers.org and City Lights Bookstore at www.citylights.com. You may be able to catch a performance of the San Francisco Mime Troupe while you’re in town; see www.sfmt.org for a calendar of their events.

Marching on Market Street

San Francisco has long been known as a strong union town. This reputation dates back to the Gold Rush when carpenters in San Francisco and Sacramento went on strike in 1849. They successfully negotiated $12-a-day wages,
a princely sum compared to an East Coast carpenter’s wage of $1.74 a day.

The defining event of San Francisco’s labor history remains the 1934 General Strike. For years dock workers had suffered under the brutal “shape-up” hiring system, which was rife with bribery, favoritism, and blacklists. Utilizing rights created by New Deal legislation, the maritime workers organized and went on strike in May 1934. The struggle dragged on for two months, coming to a head on Bloody Thursday—July 5, 1934. Two men were killed, hundreds were injured, and hundreds more were gassed on the waterfront by the Embarcadero.

A massive funeral was held for the slain workers, with thousands marching in silence up Market Street. This peaceful and haunting display garnered strong public support for the strikers. Outrage over the deaths and police violence sparked a general strike that shut down San Francisco for four days as 127,000 workers walked off the job July 16–19. In the end, the employers agreed to a coast-wide contract, a jointly operated hiring hall with a union dispatcher, and a 30-hour week. Under the leadership of Harry Bridges, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union went on to become one of the most powerful unions in the country.

The General Strike inspired a fresh wave of organizing and unions spread to the city’s warehouses, hotels, street cars, and department stores. Of particular note was the first successful organizing of workers in Chinatown. In 1938, the Chinese Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, Local 341, was formed. Seeking better wages, the workers went on strike against the National Dollar Stores for 105 days, which broke down stereotypes and eventually led to the integration of white-only garment shops throughout the city.

Many of you may know about (and may have participated in) a more recent labor action in San Francisco. After winning union recognition in 1996, the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees (HERE) Union, Local 2, struggled for six years to win a contract at the Marriott Hotel located on 4th and Mission. They held mass demonstrations, conducted civil disobedience actions, and waged a corporate campaign that included a boycott.

Unfortunately, the American Library Association had previously chosen the Marriott for the location of their 2001 annual meeting in San Francisco. In a show of solidarity, ALA President-Elect Mitch Freeman refused to cross the picket line, joining the workers and other ALA members on the line instead. This support by ALA members and other organizations helped HERE workers win a contract in 2002 that provided better wages and improved working conditions.

You can find out more about the Bay Area’s labor history at the Labor Archives and Research Center at 480 Winston Drive or the San Francisco History Center at 100 Larkin Street.

Taking It to the Streets

Given the progressive nature of the Bay Area, it’s not surprising that the notorious House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) held several hearings in San Francisco to investigate local political and labor activists. Although HUAC is closely tied to McCarthyism and the Communist Red Scare of the 1950s, the committee actually remained active until 1975, though not in San Francisco. The last hearing was held here in 1960, when one of the decade’s first student protests took place in opposition to the committee.

In order to keep out the protestors, the committee limited access to the hearing room in City Hall to only its supporters. Stuck outside, the students responded with loud chants of protest. In a show of unexpected force, the police turned on the fire hoses and literally washed the young activists down the steps of City Hall. Vivid images of the attack appeared on the front page of the city’s newspapers, and public outrage was so great that...
No redo, second count, or courting of superdelegates necessary. SAA’s 2008 election process went smoothly and when the ballots were counted on April 24, Wisconsin State Archivist Peter Gottlieb emerged as SAA’s next vice president/president-elect.

Gottlieb will begin his one-year term as VP this August and then will become SAA’s 65th president in August 2009. His platform emphasized strengthening advocacy efforts by building a stronger coalition with two other national organizations—the Council of State Archivists and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators—to speak with one voice about common concerns.

“I believe that SAA can lead the entire archives profession in advocating vital issues like access to historical records, improved funding for archival programs, and the development and adoption of professional standards—issues that affect SAA’s members and all archivists,” Gottlieb said in his candidate’s statement.

SAA’s increase in membership during the past five years means the association can take on a bigger advocacy role by joining with national and regional archival associations. “I would approach the leaders of these organizations to discuss a national archival agenda that we could push with our combined resources and expertise,” Gottlieb said. “Working together, we could bolster our Congressional lobbying efforts, both through our current connection to the National Coalition for History and through participation in broader groups like the National Humanities Alliance. SAA’s growing numbers and preeminent position in the archives field give us these opportunities to advocate for our members and the profession, and we should embrace them.”

Gottlieb has worked at the Wisconsin Historical Society since 1991 and for the past eight years has been the director of the Library and Archives Division. He also is an adjunct associate professor for the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He began his career as an associate curator of the West Virginia Collection at the West Virginia University Library from 1977 to 1983, and then became head of Historical Collections and Labor Archives at Penn State University from 1983 to 1990.

He earned a PhD and a master’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1977 and 1974, respectively, and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1971.

Gottlieb served on the SAA Council from 2005 to 2007, on the Council of the Midwest Archives Conference from 2001 to 2004, and is a deputy coordinator and member of the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board.

“I’m really looking forward to working with current SAA officers, Council Members, and SAA staff to help meet their current agenda and plan for the future,” Gottlieb said after his win. “The July 2008 CoSA and NAGARA meetings in Atlanta give me a great opportunity to talk to those organizations about continuing SAA’s dialogue with them, and about working together to meet the archives profession’s critical needs.”

I believe that SAA can lead the entire archives profession in advocating vital issues like access to historical records, improved funding for archival programs, and the development and adoption of professional standards.

Voter Turnout

The number of SAA members who voted for candidates in the 2008 elections was 997, for 22.5 percent of the 4,437 ballots mailed. At stake were the positions of vice president/president-elect, three Council members, and three seats on the Nominating Committee. The table shows trends in voter participation for the last five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ballots Mailed</th>
<th>Ballots Cast</th>
<th>Percentage of Voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>4,437</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4,088</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>3,677</td>
<td>1,077</td>
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</tr>
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<td>3,358</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>3,020</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This year the SAA Council will welcome the newly elected trio of Tom Hyry, Rosalye Settles, and Robert Spindler. They begin their three-year terms after the 72nd Annual Meeting in San Francisco, succeeding outgoing Council members Ben Primer, Carla Summers, and Sherry Williams.

The candidates for Council were asked to respond to the following question developed by the Nominating Committee: “As a member of Council how would you identify and advocate for member needs?”

**Tom Hyry** knows “these are exciting and challenging times to be an archivist” due to innovative and evolving technology. “A professional organization such as SAA should help us keep pace with change, innovate with our colleagues, and find solutions to the latest challenges.”

Hyry is head of the manuscript unit at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University. He has been in his current position since 2006, though he has worked for the Yale University Library since 1997.

To accomplish these goals Hyry says the Council needs to focus on communication, work with leaders within the association to benefit from their expertise, and be visible and available to the membership during the Annual Meeting.

“As a member of Council, I [will] push SAA to improve its use of new technologies to actively engage membership, solicit member feedback, and publicize issues and actions,” said Hyry.

Secondly, Hyry thinks that the “Council must also work with the leaders of sections, roundtables, and committees, where deep expertise resides, to identify pressing concerns and fashion solutions.”

Hyry joined SAA in 1996. He has a master’s degree in Information and Library Science, with a specialization in Archives and Records Management, from the School of Information at the University of Michigan.

**Rosalye Settles** says her primary duty as a Council member will be “to engender a sense of participation and collaboration among members.” To do so, she intends to address their concerns with creative and engaged leadership and advocate for new venues of communication.

“SAA needs to explore, and exploit, technology to create additional communication channels,” Settles said in her candidate’s statement. “For example, the SAA website, the organization’s electronic persona, should be maximized for member interaction, thus creating a dynamic exchange for ideas and insights.”

She has a lot of ideas herself: “Council could host periodic forums, ranging from ‘Question of the Month’ or a feature such as ‘Ask the Council.’ Periodic surveys could be posted so members can log in and provide their perspective. A blog would add more daily traffic to the website by keeping members more interested in returning. Council members could also conduct live chats with members and invite industry experts to participate.”

She has worked for the U.S. Department of the Treasury since 2001 and in her current role as Department Records Management Officer for the Office of the Chief Information Officer since 2004. Settles earned her master’s degree in Library Science from Columbia University and also holds a master’s in American History from New York University. She has been a member of SAA since 2005, and was co-chair of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable from 2000 to 2001.

**Herrada, Prom, and Wong-Smith Begin Term on Nominating Committee**

In April members elected three individuals to serve on the 2008 Nominating Committee: Chris Prom (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), who will serve as committee chairperson; Julie Herrada (University of Michigan); and Helen Wong-Smith (University of Hawai’i, Hilo).

The committee is responsible for identifying potential leaders within SAA and candidates were required to present their views on the following two questions: “What qualities are necessary for leadership in SAA? How could the Nominating Committee put together a representatively diverse slate of potential leaders with those qualities?”

**Julie Herrada** is a senior associate librarian and head of the Labadie Collection at the Special Collections Library at the University of Michigan. She said the Nominating Committee should look for candidates who are dynamic, egalitarian, tolerant, flexible, and accessible.

“Being exclusive has not benefited us as an organization. It has left us more often than not trying to explain what we
Whenever and wherever possible, the National Archives promotes the importance of preserving and managing important national records—an essential element in sustaining democracy and in creating a candid account of a nation’s history.

Developing archival skills and a recordkeeping focus were the major reasons for my recent trip to the Middle East, joined by Ian Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, and Michael Carlson, director of NARA’s Electronic and Special Media Records Services Division. This trip grew out of meetings with Dr. Wilson and other members of the global records management and archival community over the past year.

One focus of these earlier meetings was opening a dialogue with the Israel State Archives and the Palestine National Archives on the possibility of collaborative archival and recordkeeping projects. The shared documentary heritage of the two organizations and the need for practical records management training for their staffs created a unique opportunity for both NARA and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) to explore this proposal with our Israeli and Palestinian colleagues.

This effort was further discussed during the annual meeting last November of the International Conferences of the Round Table on Archives (CITRA). The Israel State Archives, with the support of the Israeli Prime Minister’s Office, invited Dr. Wilson and me to meet with its principals in Jerusalem. The head of the Palestine National Archives also agreed to a lengthy meeting with us during the visit.

What did we learn during our trip?

Although the heads of the Israel State Archives and the Palestine National Archives have never met, we were able to meet separately with each of them to discuss their respective archival situations and to elicit pledges of interest in cooperating with U.S. and Canadian archivists.

We were then able to identify collections that jointly documented aspects of the history of Israel and of the Palestinian people, such as rare and fragile Palestinian newspapers from the early-20th century and selected records from the Turkish and British Mandate periods. All are eligible for digitization so that they may be accessed on the Internet.

The Israel State Archives was established in 1949, a year after the State of Israel was formed, but the Palestine National Archives has been in existence for only about 10 years, following the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority in 1994.

A severe lack of funding and regional instability has made progress towards a truly vibrant records management and archival program difficult for the Palestinians. Training for the many records custodians they have is a priority for them, as is putting the archives on a sound legislative footing.

A wider meeting of representatives not only from Israel and the Palestinian Authority, but other Middle East countries and Europe will be held this spring in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, to establish an organizational structure and steering committee for this program, as well as to decide on strategies for funding these projects. We have identified a number of U.S. federal and Canadian funding sources as well as international sources.

This visit to the Middle East is part of NARA’s program of international outreach. We have strengthened our relationships with the world’s other great democracies and we have increased our training programs to help less-developed nations improve their archives and records management practices.

As democracy continues to spread around the world, the National Archives looks forward to taking a strong role in helping newer democracies preserve and manage the records that contain their national histories.
House Appropriations Panel Considers NARA'S FY 2009 Budget

On April 1, 2008, the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing to consider the fiscal year (FY) 2009 budget request for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein was the lead witness. In his opening statement he summarized the administration's budget request for his agency. He noted the president's FY 2009 request included $327.7 million for operating expenses, an increase of $12.7 million over FY 2008. This includes funding to prepare for the George W. Bush Presidential Library. The proposed increase would include $1.6 million to add fifteen archivist positions at the various Presidential libraries.

Another major increase was the nearly $9 million in additional funding for the Electronic Records Archive (ERA) project that is scheduled to come online this summer. Of the $67 million requested for the ERA, NARA requested that $21.2 million be made available as one-year funding and the remaining $45.7 million be available as two-year funding.

Weinstein stated that the administration had declined to seek funding for grants for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). This has become an annual battle between the administration and Congress over the survival of this small but vital agency to archivists.

Subcommittee Chairman José Serrano (D-NY) began the question-and-answer period by noting that the subcommittee had worked hard to get funding in the FY 2008 budget to restore the research hours that had been cut at NARA's facilities in 2006. Chairman Serrano expressed concern that no specific funding was included in the FY '09 request to keep them in place beyond FY 2008. He asked Weinstein if the Archives would have to cut research hours again if new earmarked funding is not provided. The Archivist said that if the FY '09 budget as proposed by the Bush Administration is adopted the research hours will not be affected or cut. The proposed base budget allows for the research hours to remain the same as when restored on April 14, 2008.

Chairman Serrano next asked about the status of the recovery of e-mails missing from the White House servers. The chairman noted that at a recent hearing before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, NARA staff had been quoted in a memo saying they had gotten no cooperation from the White House in dealing with the issue. Serrano asked if the White House had been more cooperative since the hearing. Weinstein said that they had made some progress, but there still had not been a full accounting of the missing e-mails. He said that a meeting had been scheduled among all the relevant stakeholders and that he preferred not to provide an answer until after it had taken place.

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Article Examines Bush Policy on Access

An article examining a series of policies and practices the author says is “shutting down” access to White House records was recently published in the April issue of Passport. “The White House: Off Limits to Historians?” was written by Meredith Fuchs, general counsel at the National Security Archive at George Washington University. It focuses on President George Bush’s Executive Order 13233 (issued in 2001) and how it affects The Presidential Records Act of 1978. Passport is produced by the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and the article will be available online in mid-June at: http://www.shafr.org/newsletter/newsletter.html.
—National Security Archive

Study Group Releases Report on Copyright in the Digital Age

After three years of hearings, studies and deliberation, the Section 108 Study Group has posted its final report on how to bring the special provision of the U.S. Copyright Act into the digital age. The report was sponsored by the United States Copyright Office and the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program of the Library of Congress.

The results reflect the difficulty of balancing the interests of copyright holders, libraries and archives. The Study Group recommended a number of legislative changes to Section 108 to facilitate preservation and archiving of published and unpublished material, unrestricted online content and television news programs. The report also reviewed many issues on which the members—often divided between the interests of rights holders and librarians—could not reach full agreement. To view report, visit http://www.section108.gov/.
—the Copyright Clearance Center

Interactive Site of Vietnam War Records Open to Public

The National Archives is joining with Footnote.com to make the historical records of deceased Vietnam War veterans available electronically for the first time. The interactive site has a Web re-creation of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The site allows access to thousands of pages of casualty records and agency photos. People can search by name, hometown, birthdate, tour date, or dozens of other categories.

The interactive Vietnam Wall allows people to post photographs of a deceased veteran and to add comments. The service is currently free for Vietnam War information; Footnote.com is deciding whether to charge fees for some of the 50,000 National Archives photos now digitized. The goal is to tell the stories behind the more than 58,000-plus names on the wall’s polished black granite, with information such as specialty, rank, posthumous decorations, regiment, cause of death, and whether the body was recovered.
—Associated Press

Former Mariners’ Museum Archivist Faces 20 Years for Theft

A former director at the Mariners’ Museum in Newport News, Virginia, and his wife face federal mail and wire fraud charges accusing them of selling nearly $163,000 worth of historical items, including memorabilia from the museum’s Titanic collection.

Lester F. Weber, 46, and his wife made their initial appearance in U.S. District Court on Feb. 19, 2008, and were released on $5,000 bond each. Weber was charged with 26 counts of mail and wire fraud, theft and filing false tax returns.

Weber worked as a museum archivist from 2000 to 2006 and was the director of archives for the last six months of his employment, according to a U.S. Attorney’s Office news release. According to the indictment, between 2002 and 2006 Weber stole historical materials and took them home to sell on the Internet auction site eBay.

In four years and nine months, the couple sold nearly 1,500 items, receiving $162,959 from buyers across the country, according to the indictment. Weber was fired Sept. 25, 2006. That same day, Weber and his wife terminated all of their eBay auction listings, the indictment says.

Among the most prized collectibles Weber is accused of stealing are memorabilia collected by a mother and son who survived the 1912 sinking of the famed luxury liner Titanic. In 1986 the museum acquired 115 items collected by Leah and Frank Aks, who were aboard the Titanic on their way to Norfolk to join Leah’s husband. Weber is accused of taking original Titanic photographs, lawsuit papers filed a year after the tragedy, and letters, and selling them on eBay for between $300 and $988 each, according to the indictment.

—The Virginian-Pilot

Ohio’s State Archivist Buys Rare Piece on eBay

A document involving both Edward Tiffin, Ohio’s first governor, and Thomas Worthington, the state’s sixth governor, was recently purchased from eBay by State Archivist Jelain Chubb. Chubb was quickly able to identify the document as an order of replevin—an action to recover personal property said or claimed to be unlawfully taken—issued in 1800.

The order signed by Tiffin is unique because the plaintiff whom the ruling was made in favor of is identified as “Jenny, a Negro woman” and the replevin order applies to three “Negro children in the possession of Ewell Williams.”

“The order is significant because by allowing an African-American woman the opportunity to file the complaint, Tiffin...
and Worthington were clearly demonstrating their opposition to slavery and their commitment to keep slavery banned from what would become Ohio,” Chubb said.

The state authorized Chubb to bid on the document up to a ceiling of $250 and she placed the winning bid of $224.50 moments before the auction ended. A Jan. 7 e-mail sent to a staff member of the Ohio Historical Society led the organization to the discovery of the letter. Chubb explained that unlike some states, Ohio has no law specifically prohibiting the sale of public records. She added that the purchase was a special circumstance and not typical of how records enter the State Archives’ custody.

Rhode Island to Create Statewide Database of Finding Aids

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded a grant of $228,454 to a union of Rhode Island libraries, historical societies and archives to create a statewide database of finding aids. The combined Web resource will be hosted and maintained by Brown University. The Rhode Island Archival and Manuscript Collections Online (RIAMCO) will use Encoded Archival Description (EAD) to collocate more than 300 dispersed but overlapping collections about the history of Rhode Island from the Colonial period to the present. It will cover a range of topics including business, the Civil War, slavery, literature, church history, politics, diplomatic history, art and architecture, military history, labor, health and medicine, state and local government, higher education, and Native Americans. The two-year project has been designated by NEH as a “We the People Project” for “promoting knowledge and understanding of American history and culture.” For more information, contact project director Jay Gaidmore at gaidmore@brown.edu.

—Brown University

Rare Photo of Helen Keller Hidden in Family Photo Album

Researchers in Boston have uncovered a rare photograph of a young Helen Keller with her teacher Anne Sullivan, nearly 120 years after it was taken on Cape Cod. The photograph, shot in July 1888, shows an 8-year-old Helen sitting outside in a light-colored dress, holding Sullivan’s hand and cradling one of her beloved dolls.

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ACCELERATE INTERNET ARCHIVE RESEARCH

Recommended Checklist for Archives Software

GETTING PUBLIC VISIBILITY

- Available 24/7 to anybody, anywhere
- Multiple online search options: simple keyword for novice users, advanced logic for precision searches
- Drill down with tree index; multidimensional navigation with hyperlinks
- All content types linked to metadata, from PDFs to oral history and images with watermark protection
- Historical sites meshed with Google Maps
- Indexed by search engines for worldwide exposure

See video of public access into major repositories at www.eloquent-systems.com/publicarchives

BUILDING THE DATABASE QUICKLY

- Using browser forms anywhere, anytime
- Supporting hierarchical structure for DACS, ISAD(G) and RAD standards
- Unlimited metadata text; all digital content formats
- Enter raw data only; hyperlinks created by software
- Controlled name and subject authorized vocabulary

DYNAMIC PUBLISHING OPTIONS

- HTML index accessible to search engines
- HTML of entire record group posted with style sheet
- EAD online with style sheet
- EAD for import into other systems
- Output to Excel and other 3rd party software

STREAMLINED WORKFLOW OPTIONS

- Integrated accessioning
- Storage & location management
- Linear/cubic measure reports
- All items linked to container and location
- Researchers place requests online
- Detailed invoices for reference services
- Integrated with library, museum and records for searching and controlled vocabulary

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Experts on Keller’s life believe it could be the earliest photo of the two women together and the only one showing the blind and deaf child with a doll—the first word Keller spelled for Sullivan after they met in 1887—according to the New England Historic Genealogical Society, which now has the photo.

“It’s really one of the best images I’ve seen in a long, long time,” said Helen Selsdon, an archivist at the American Federation for the Blind, where Keller worked for more than 40 years. “This is just a huge visual addition to the history of Helen and Annie.” [Selsdon is an SAA member.]

For more than a century the photograph was hidden in an album that belonged to the family of Thaxter Spencer, an 87-year-old man in Waltham. Spencer’s mother stayed at the Elijah Cobb House on Cape Cod in July 1888, where she played with Keller, whose family had traveled from Alabama to vacation in Massachusetts. Last June, Spencer donated a large collection of items to the genealogical society, which preserves artifacts from New England families for future research. It wasn’t until recently that staff at the society realized the photograph’s significance.

—Associated Press

**Bancroft Library Says Bienvenidos Gordo**

The ‘Gordo’ comic strip, which introduced millions of people in the United States to life south of the border, is part of the archive of cartoonist Gus Arriola’s work now at the University of California, Berkeley. Arriola, who died at his California home on Feb. 2, 2008, began to transfer his artwork and related materials to The Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley about a year ago.

‘Gordo’ was a regular newspaper fixture from 1941 to 1985. At its peak, the cartoon was syndicated in 270 newspapers, primarily in the West. Arriola used authentic cultural elements—such as the annual Mexican observance of the Day of the Dead—and presented them in ways that appealed to a largely non-Hispanic audience. The strip has been honored by both the Mexican government and the California Legislature for promoting international understanding. Arriola received the National Cartoonists Society’s Best Humor Strip honor in 1957 and 1965.

—The Bancroft Library

**New Journal on Managing Cultural Heritage**

Left Coast Press has announced the launch of a new global, peer-reviewed journal on *Heritage Management*. The semiannual publication will address broad societal concerns about managing cultural heritage. It will look at resource management, cultural preservation and revitalization, education, legal and legislative developments, public archaeology, and ethics. For more information, go to www.lcoastpress.com.

—Left Coast Press

**WOLA Records Go to Duke’s Human Rights Archive**

The Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) will donate its historical archives to the Archive for Human Rights at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. The archives at WOLA document its effort to put human rights and justice at the center of U.S. policy toward Latin America. Under an agreement reached in February by the two organizations, WOLA will transfer about 100 boxes of its inactive physical archives that include memoranda, correspondence, and publications dating back to its founding in 1974.

The archives contain crucial documents in the organization’s research, advocacy and monitoring roles regarding major issues and events since the 1970s, including the Contra war in Nicaragua, U.S. funding for anti-drug efforts in the Andes, the 1980’s civil war in El Salvador, and the Fujimori government in Peru. WOLA was created a year after the 1973 military coup d’état against the Allende government of Chile, when U.S. activists, church leaders and ordinary citizens came together to push for change in U.S. policies toward Latin America.

—Washington Office on Latin America

**Kent Haruf Papers Move to Huntington Library**

The Huntington Library in San Marino, California, has acquired the papers of author Kent Haruf. A native of Colorado, Haruf writes about life in a small town on the Great Plains. His first novel, *The Tie That Binds*, received a PEN/Hemingway Award and a Whiting Foundation Writers Award. He followed with three more: *Where You Once Belonged* (1990), *Plainsong* (2000), and *Eventide* (2004). The archive is a research resource on Kent Haruf and literature of the American West. The collection consists of extensive and multiple corrected drafts of Haruf’s novel, short stories, poems, and essays, as well as correspondence with editors, publishers and such authors as John Irving and Annie Proulx. There are also photographs, audio and videotapes, and ephemera.

—The Huntington Library
Academic Steals 12th Century Scottish Archives

A language expert had a “cataclysmic fall from grace” when he stole precious historical documents from one of Scotland’s most ancient archives. Oliver Fallon, 40, stole, tore and mutilated 288 records from the Scottish Catholic Archives in Edinburgh in July 2006. The financially hard-up academic was caught after a Scottish institution he tried to sell stolen documents to recognized them. On May 13, 2008, a sheriff ordered Fallon to pay the archive £16,000 ($31,118) in compensation. The graduate of London College avoided jail but will instead have to carry out 300 hours of unpaid work. Fallon, who has been released from jail in England for similar crimes, told archivists he was a postgraduate student from the University of London to con his way into the high security library in Drummond Place. Applicants who want to enter the reading room must have an interview with staff and are only allowed a pencil and notebook with them. But once in, Fallon set to work selecting valuable documents dating back to 1177, pocketing some and tearing others before sticking them in his notebook to sell later.

—Edinburgh Evening News

Cameroon Archives Left Without Staff

Prince Mbain Henry Ankia, a self-trained archivist who was the lone attendant of the Provincial Archives in Buea, Cameroon, died in February. After his retirement in 1994, Mbain stayed on as a volunteer for 15 more years, waiting to train a successor. The Provincial Archives in Buea were established in 1960 and are a jewel to intellectuals, politicians, historians, and others. No new staff have been recruited to succeed Mbain.

—the Cameroon Tribune

John Locke’s Lost Letters Found

Two 300-year-old letters by English philosopher John Locke have been discovered among an archives collection of historical papers. One of the letters dates back to 1694 and concerns the formation of the Bank of England. The other dates from 1685 and concerns Locke’s expulsion from Oxford University and his exile to Holland. The letters were “found” when an archivist recognized Locke’s handwriting and signature. The Locke letters appear within the Sanford Estate archive due to his close friendship with Edward Clarke of Chipley, Member of Parliament for Taunton from 1690 to 1710, and Edward’s wife Mary. The Sanford archives were purchased with the help of a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, and have now been fully catalogued. John Locke is known as the “father of English empiricism.”

—www.somerset.gov

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www.archivists.org
Laura L. Carroll has been appointed manuscript archivist in the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library at Emory University in Atlanta. Carroll earned her MLIS at Dominican University in River Forest, Ill., in 2007 and was an Archivist II at the American Medical Association in Chicago from 2002 to 2007.

Robin Chandler joined the University of California, San Diego, in January as the director of the Digital Library Program. Before her recent move to Southern California, Chandler spent seven years at the California Digital Library in Oakland, most recently as the director of data acquisitions. While there she worked on the development of the Online Archive of California.

Thomas Connors recently made a career change and is now the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Labor Archivist at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Connors previously worked for the National Public Broadcasting Archives at the University of Maryland.

SAA Fellow and past president Anne Kenney has been named the Carl A. Kroch University Librarian at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Kenney has been the interim university librarian since February 2007 and employed as an administrator with the Cornell University Library for more than 20 years. As the chief academic and administrative officer, Kenney will lead a research library with a budget of over $50 million, 450 staff members, and 7.5 million volumes.

Miriame Meislik has published a coffee-table book, “Historic Photos of Pittsburgh.” According to Amazon.com, the book details the historical growth of Pittsburgh from its early days to recent times and contains nearly 200 photographs. Meislik is the media curator for the Archives Service Center at the University of Pittsburgh and adjunct faculty in the university’s School of Information Science.

Todd Ellison is a freelance archival consultant in Colorado. He was formerly a professor in the Libraries at Fort Lewis College in Durango. Ellison began his career as the college’s first archivist in 1991 and established the archival and special collections program at the Center of Southwest Studies.

Kathleen M. Williams was appointed executive director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission on April 22, 2008, a post she has held on an interim basis since January. She replaces former director Max Evans, who retired in December. Williams was previously the commission’s deputy executive director. She has worked at the NHPRC and the National Archives since 2004. Prior to joining the National Archives, Williams worked at the Smithsonian Institution where she served for ten years on the staff of the institution’s archives in various supervisory capacities.

The Librarian and Archivist of Canada, Ian E. Wilson, has been elected president of the International Council on Archives (ICA). Wilson will begin his two-year term at the end of July, immediately following the 2008 ICA Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He has been involved with Canadian archival communities for more than 30 years. Wilson became National Archivist of Canada in 1999 and in 2004 was appointed the first Librarian and Archivist of Canada.

Write More! It’s a tough sell: trying to convince a group of graduate students they should actually consider writing more. However, Lance Stuchell, a graduate student at the University of Michigan School of Information, reports that American Archivist Editor Mary Jo Pugh (above) successfully accomplished that task when she visited an Archives Practicum class at Michigan in March. Pugh emphasized that “writing counts and encouraged all students to become involved in writing during and after their education,” explained Stuchell. “She said that writing helps us gain employment, keeps us engaged in the profession, and most importantly, writing is a process of thinking,” added Stuchell. Those benefits are sure to motivate even the busiest graduate student!
Two Grad Students Bring Home the Ham

Forget the bacon—two grad students recently took home the whole ham—the F. Gerald Ham Scholarship, that is. EMIKO HASTINGS of the University of Michigan (on right) and BECKY ROBBINS of Simmons College in Boston (at left) are the 2008 recipients of the award, which will put $7,500 toward their second year of archival studies at a U.S. university.

Thirteen students applied for the scholarship this year and the selection was made by a committee of SAA Fellows. Criteria include past performance in a graduate archival studies program and faculty members’ assessment of potential in the field.

The F. Gerald Ham Scholarship Fund was established in 1998 through the generosity of SAA Fellow and past president F. Gerald Ham and his wife Elsie. The fund was recently endowed and the scholarship was awarded for the first time this year. Ham served for more than 25 years at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin where he was state archivist and head of the Archives Division. He also taught archival courses as adjunct professor in the University of Wisconsin’s School of Library and Information Studies.

University Archivists — Make Your Case!

University archivists working on solutions for born-digital records can post their reports under “Campus Case Studies” on the SAA website. This portal allows quick and broad dissemination of completed projects or a work-in-progress. Seven case studies currently are available:

• Case 1 — Gaps and Inconsistencies: Issues in the Dissemination of the University Bulletin at the University of Michigan by Nancy Deromedi, University of Michigan.

• Case 2 — Defining and Formalizing a Procedure for Archiving the Digital Version of the Schedule of Classes at the University of Michigan by Nancy Deromedi, University of Michigan.

• Case 3 — Generating and Archiving Records in Digital Form of the Promotion and Tenure Process at the University of Michigan by Nancy Deromedi, University of Michigan.

• Case 4 — University Committee and Planning Records in the Digital Age by Tim Pyatt, Duke University.

• Case 5 — Developing a Recordkeeping Framework for Social Scientists Conducting Data-Intensive Research by Erin O’Meara, University of Oregon.

• Case 6 — Managing Public Affairs Records in the Digital Age by Tim Pyatt, Duke University.


These initial case studies resulted from a workshop attended by more than 24 university archivists on “The Development of Case Studies for the Effective Management of University Digital Records.” The workshop was held at the Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, in September 2007 and was funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The “Campus Case Studies” portal is launched with the support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. To view the case studies or to submit one of your own, visit www.archivists.org/publications/epubs/CampusCaseStudies/index.asp.

Newsletter Survey Says . . .

Nearly 500 members responded to a five-question survey recently conducted online to determine what the readers of Archival Outlook want in their association newsletter.

When asked how often they would like to receive the newsletter, the majority said they preferred to see it on a monthly basis. Of the 499 responses to the question, 315 said they want a monthly newsletter. This is trailed by: weekly (104); every other month (52); and quarterly (45). Twelve respondents selected more than one option.

The second question addressed the newsletter’s format. Members said they preferred to receive it by blast e-mail. With nearly 500 responses, this choice came in first with 221. This is followed by: PDF distributed via the Web (174); print copy delivered via U.S. mail (99); and “All of the above” (97). Some respondents selected more than one option.

Number three sought to find out “What type of information would you like to receive?” and offered eight selections. The top three picked by more than 350 respondents were: “Brief summaries of the latest news and developments in the field” (443); “In-depth pieces that report on developments or issues affecting the profession” (386); and “Calendar of SAA Education Offerings” (377).

Question four asked “What is your favorite section of Archival Outlook?” and gave ten choices. Ranking first by a clear margin is “Feature articles written by archivists” with a score of 308. Next up was Currents at 136, and Around SAA at 115.

The last question asked respondents to send in a free-form reply to “what is missing in Archival Outlook?” Most-requested items included more technology, timely information, job listings, and roundtable and section news.

The staff of Archival Outlook thanks those who participated in the survey. We are currently developing a plan to revamp the content, design, and format of the newsletter and will debut a new and improved publication next January.
In Memoriam

SISTERS MARGARET CATHERINE AHL, 84, of the Daughters of Charity, died Oct. 14, 2007, in Menands, New York. She served almost seven years as archivist for her religious order. She entered the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1943. She became a registered nurse and eventually earned a doctorate in education from Boston University in 1975. For 21 years she served as director of three hospital-based nursing schools in Detroit, Jacksonville [Fla.], and Boston. In 1976 she took an assignment in Palestine, where she built the foundation for a bachelor’s degree program in nursing for the Palestinian Arabs at Bethlehem University on the West Bank. The program flourished despite constant disruptions and today enrolls more than 200 students in both nursing and allied health care occupations.

LINDA JEAN HENRY, 64, died of cancer on March 30, 2008, at the John and Arloine Mandrin Chesapeake Hospice House in Harwood, Maryland.

Since joining SAA in 1977, Henry contributed to the organization in diverse and substantive ways. She chaired the Program Committee in 1983, was elected to the Nominating Committee and to the Council, and served as Treasurer from 1988 to 1991. She was an active member of many committees and task forces, notably the Status of Women Committee and the Task Force to Revise the Constitution.

Henry was named an SAA Fellow in 1987. Those who wrote in support of her nomination noted “her willingness to speak out clearly and strongly on difficult issues” and “her ability to engage diverse audiences in hard thinking” about archival principles and their application in various settings.

Her professional contributions extended beyond SAA to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference and D.C. Archivists. She was also an enthusiastic founding member of the Academy of Certified Archivists.

Henry spent almost 25 years at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), retiring in 2007 as a senior archivist in the Electronic and Special Media Records Services Division. Prior to joining NARA she worked as an archivist at the Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe College, the National Council of Negro Women, and the American Psychiatric Association.

Many colleagues remember Henry as a gifted teacher and author. For many years she directed the Modern Archives Institute at NARA and taught workshops for SAA and other organizations. As a colleague wrote when nominating her as a Fellow, she had “the ability to convey her deep-seated commitment to, and joy in, being an archivist.” Her 1998 article, “Schellenberg in Cyberspace” (American Archivist 61:2) is required reading in many archival education courses.

Henry’s friends also remember her interest in folk art and crafts. She was an accomplished seamstress who made many of her own clothes and also designed beautiful cards and jewelry. She was a lifelong cat lover.

Henry was a native of Missouri and received both a bachelor’s degree in education and a master’s in history from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

ELLEN RUTH MCCRADY, 81, died March 5, 2008, in Michigan. She earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan and later did graduate work in library science and book preservation at Michigan and Columbia University. She had an adventurous spirit and in 1951 recruited friends to build a raft from oil drums and scrap lumber, which they used to float down the Mississippi River from Pittsburgh to New Orleans.

During her career, McCrady worked for the University of Michigan, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and Brigham Young University. She invented and then distributed a simple device called the Abbey pH Pen that enabled librarians and archivists to test the paper in their collections and identify those needing immediate remedial action. From 1975 until 2004 she published the Abbey Newsletter, which went to more than 40 countries and was recognized as an important venue for sharing research about book and paper conservation. In 2002, she received the Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award from the American Library Association for her contributions to the library and archives preservation field.

LEONARD A. RAPPORT, 95, died March 17, 2008, at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C., of cardiac and respiratory arrest. A 60-year resident of Washington, D.C., he was born in 1913 in Durham, North Carolina, and later moved to Asheville. He graduated from Biltmore Junior College (UNC-Asheville) in 1932, the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1935 and joined the staff of UNC Press in 1935, where he worked until 1938. As a member of the Federal and North Carolina Writers’ Projects from 1938 to 1941, he collected and published life stories, including “The Tobacco Auctioneer,” which appeared in A Treasury of Southern Folklore (1940). He received his master’s degree in American
history from George Washington University in 1957.

A WWII volunteer, Lieutenant Rapport served with the 502nd, 82nd, and the 101st Airborne units from 1941 to 1948. After the war, he co-authored *Rendezvous with Destiny: A History of the 101st Airborne Division* (1948) with Arthur Northwood, Jr., considered definitive by many.

A distinguished archivist, historian, and author, Rapport worked for the National Archives and Records Administration from 1949 to 1984, specializing in the documentation of the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. He was particularly noted for his writings on archival subjects, including "No Grandfather Clause," first published in the *American Archivist* in 1981. After retiring from the National Archives, he collected the unpublished documents of the Federal Convention of 1787 for the American Historical Association.

The recipient of several awards and honors, he received grants from the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, among others. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference established an annual scholarship in his honor. A Fellow of SAA, he was awarded the President’s Citation for Lifetime Service to the Archival Profession in 1995. He was a member of the Cosmos Club of Washington, D.C.

Rapport bought a Civil War-era cradle for $30 in 1954 when his second child was born. When his family no longer needed it, he joyously lent the crib to archives colleagues up and down the East Coast and would personally deliver it. More than 50 newborns slept in the "archives cradle."

Ever the Eagle Scout of his youth, Rapport was a great hiker and wood chopper. He trekked the Appalachian Trail from Virginia to North Carolina to attend his 50th class reunion. From 1989 to 1993 (at the age of 80) he made five long solitary walks across the British Isles. He had a contagious love of life, humor, and companionship, complete with an astonishing memory for minute details of the past 95 years.

— The Rapport family

**LAWRENCE STARK**, 64, died Feb. 4, 2008, in Lewiston, Idaho, due to complications from multiple myeloma. He received a bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Wisconsin in 1964, a master’s in U.S. history from the University of South Dakota in 1965, and a PhD in U.S. history from Washington State University (WSU) in 1978. He also earned an Archival Management Certificate in 1976 from the University of Washington.

From 1965 to 1969, Stark was an instructor of U.S. history and government at Olympic College in Bremerton, Washington. He began working in the Manuscripts, Archives and Special Collections area of the WSU Libraries in 1970 and also worked as an editor for the Washington State Historical Records and Archives Project. From 1985 until his death, he was the assistant university archivist in Manuscripts, Archives and Special Collections at WSU.

Stark loved learning, the outdoors, vintage Ford Mustangs, and sharing his knowledge of WSU with students, faculty, and colleagues. All who knew of his nearly two-decade struggle with multiple myeloma wish him well to that place where there is no illness.

— Trevor Bond, Washington State University
Indeed.com presents an overview of what’s available in the market by collecting job postings from other well-known sites, such as Monster or CareerBuilder. A test of its capability on a Thursday afternoon in late April using the job search term “archivist” and the location of “Washington, D.C.” brought up 10 job listings from various sources. Workforce50.com—“No Pasture Here” is its tagline and the home page stresses it is “Dedicated to serving the 50+ workforce with a passion.” This website is the former SeniorJobBank, a job service founded in 1975 to match employers with older workers. It went online nationwide in 1999, then was bought and upgraded by NHC Group, Inc., in 2005. Last September it reinvented itself again under its new name. In addition to its core mission of providing job listings from employers interested in hiring those over 50, the site contains advice and articles such as “Handling Age Discrimination in Your Job Search” and ‘Avoiding Age Bias on Your Resume: 7 Do’s and Don’ts.” If you are thinking about a career change, there is an area to browse career data and obtain information on schools.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has career information for professionals over 50: its Careers Website provides information and education; the National Employer Team is a collaboration developed by the association to connect job seekers with employers that want experienced workers over age 50. The AARP also has links under “Job Search Resources and Websites for Older Workers” that will take you to: RetiredBrains; Seniors4Hire.com; and Dinosaur Exchange (for seniors looking for work in Europe). You can also review the AARP’s “2007 List of Best Employers for Workers Over 50” at: http://www.aarp.org/research/work/employment/bestemployers.html.

Labor Trends

A research report produced by the Urban Institute for AARP’s Public Policy Institute examined employment trends and how they are affecting older workers. One job trend identified in the study concluded: “[Over the last 35 years] workers 50 and older have experienced sharper declines in physically-demanding work than younger people, but steeper increases in stressful, cognitively demanding work. These jobs demand frequent training and retraining.” To read the full report “Employment at Older Ages and the Changing Nature of Work” go to: www.aarp.org/research/work/employment.

An article in AARP’s Bulletin Today titled “Labor Shortage Forces Companies to Hire Older Workers” asserts a “looming national brain drain—millions of unfilled jobs by 2010—is gradually easing the hiring market for older workers in general. If you have the right skills, or are willing to retrain, you may never have to retire until you’re ready.” Read the full story at: http://bulletin.aarp.org/yourmoney/work/articles/labor_shortage_forces.html.

Forthcoming in July: Keeping Archives, 3rd ed.

Browse or order these archives titles at . . . . http://www.archivists.org/catalog (click on “other new titles”)
It is imperative that Council members obtain input from all areas of membership, and to push for change to move the organization forward, Rob Spindler said in his candidate’s statement. “It is vitally important to reach out beyond leadership to meet and learn from new members of SAA, and from continuing members who are not yet active in SAA groups. All members should have access to Council because our cultural, geographic, and professional diversity is our strength,” he said.

Spindler is currently the university archivist and head of the Archives and Special Collections at Arizona State University Libraries, a position he has held since 1996.

“Council members also have a responsibility to help membership initiate, and feel comfortable with, change in our organization. In our work for the Electronic Publishing Working Group, we served as catalysts for many of the significant changes that SAA is now implementing in its publishing program, including digitization of the American Archivist and recent changes in management of section and roundtable web pages. Fundamental changes like these can be disruptive and uncomfortable, but constructive member input before, during, and after change is essential to our success.”

Spindler earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree in History from Boston University, and a master’s from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Member Opinion

In the January/February issue of Archival Outlook we asked members “Do you think the gender imbalance in the profession affects its appeal?” Our member response included this observation:

“I would say no, I do not think that either men or women do or do not go into the archival field based on the fact that it is a female dominated profession. What is more troubling to me is that many employers perceive it as a ‘female profession,’ much like nurses, teachers or librarians are viewed, and then use sexist and outdated logic to justify a lower salary. There often seems to be a line of thinking among archival administrators or budget-makers (who are usually not archivists) that there is another larger male-provided salary at home and therefore the archivists make little while other parts of the organization, such as Public Relations or Marketing, make substantially more. You could say that these other positions bring in more money, but without the collection work being done, they would have no job. (I should say that these are my thoughts alone and should not reflect on my current employer.)”

Christine Schmid Engels
SAA Women Archivists Roundtable Co-chair and Assistant Archivist, Cincinnati Museum Center

Nominating Committee

Continued from page 13

do and justify our value to society,” said Herrada in her candidate statement. “The slate of candidates from which SAA members will choose their leadership should include those who are open-minded, inclusive, and prepared to take the organization into new territory without being threatened by a perceived loss of power or status.”

Chris Prom is the assistant university archivist and an associate professor of library administration at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Prom said he is honored to serve on the Nominating Committee because SAA has contributed to his own professional development. He knows what to look for in potential candidates: “An SAA Councilor should be an experienced archivist who has exhibited substantial service to the Society and who thoroughly knows the Society’s members, structure, constitution, and bylaws. He or she should be respected by other archivists and have a reputation for impartiality, since Councilors decide questions concerning our policies and finances. He or she should not seek office to advocate or implement a particular agenda, but should strive to make decisions that will benefit the Society as a whole.”

Helen Wong-Smith is the librarian of the Hawai‘ian Collection at the Edwin H. Mookini Library and the Mookini Library Archivist at the University of Hawai‘i, Hilo.

“Our leadership should strive to facilitate opportunities to increase communication throughout the entire organization. This requires openness to new and alternative partnerships among the sections, roundtables, and individual members,” Wong-Smith said. She will look for leadership qualities that exhibit a commitment to integration and increased communication.

“As a member who represents several minorities within SAA—geographically, ethnically, and functionally—I am confident I would speak for many under-represented members,” she said.
the committee never returned.

Most of us associate the Civil rights sit-ins of the 1960s with the South. But in 1963, San Francisco activists took up the fight for fair employment and equal rights in a series of coordinated actions throughout the city. Led by three different groups—the NAACP, the Congress of Racial Equality, and the student-run Ad Hoc Committee Against Discrimination—hundreds of protestors staged sit-ins at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel, the Cadillac car dealership on Van Ness, and Mel’s Diners. They also conducted “shop-ins” at Lucky Supermarkets, filling up carts and leaving them scattered throughout the store. Mayor Jack Shelley, former head of the San Francisco Labor Council, helped negotiate a settlement that ended discriminatory hiring practices and opened up jobs to people of color.

The ‘60s ended with a clash that took the art of protest to a new level. The Occupation of Alcatraz began in 1969 and lasted for more than a year and a half. Native American activists reclaimed the abandoned prison as Indian Land and advocated the creation of a community and cultural center. Although fraught with controversy and forcibly ended, the occupation had a tremendous impact by raising public awareness about Native American issues and facilitating a wave of American Indian organizing. The new Red Power movement eventually led to important legislation providing more economic benefits, decision-making powers, and recognition of religious freedom for Native Americans.

San Francisco has long been the epicenter of gay rights organizing, and as early as 1964 Life Magazine hailed the city as the nation’s “Gay Capital.” Two years before the Stonewall Rebellion in 1969, the first gay uprising occurred in the Tenderloin District when transgender prostitutes fought back against police harassment in what became known as the Compton Cafeteria riot. A string of other San Francisco firsts included: the first National Lesbian Conference in 1960; the first gay business association in 1962 (formed by bar owners to fight discrimination by licensing agencies and to defend the rights of their patrons); and the first national convention of gay and lesbian groups in 1966. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community proudly took to the streets with the inaugural San Francisco Gay Pride Parade on June 28, 1970. Called a “Gay In,” the event acknowledged two significant events that helped launch the gay rights movement: the Stonewall Rebellion and the Human Be-In. Since 1972, a Pride Parade has been held every year in San Francisco and attendance has grown from a few thousand to hundreds of thousands.

San Francisco’s LGBT history is documented at the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender History Society of Northern California on 657 Mission Street. The San Francisco History Center at 100 Larkin Street is also a great resource on this topic and most everything else related to the events described in this article.

San Francisco also has earned a reputation as a hotbed of anti-war activism. As early as 1964, activists protested the Vietnam War in a march down Market Street. By the war’s end, students were occupying administration offices at San Francisco State to demand the end of ROTC, conscientious objectors were burning draft cards in Golden Gate Park, and the number of marchers swelled to more than a hundred thousand. Anti-war protests continued throughout the ensuing decades as longshore workers refused to load military cargo for Central America in the 1980s and spontaneous demonstrations swept through the city during the first Gulf War in 1991. More recently an estimated 200,000 San Franciscans participated in the February 2003 Iraq War protests that involved more than 10 million people worldwide.

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We end with a worldwide phenomenon that got its start in San Francisco in 1992: “Critical Mass.” On the last Friday of every month, bicyclists take over the streets of major cities throughout the world to celebrate alternative transportation and to protest unsafe riding conditions. Those of you in town on Friday, August 29, will have a chance to witness a Critical Mass ride firsthand—so be prepared to walk or take MUNI!
Representative Jo Bonner (R-AL) observed that the Presidential campaign of Senator Clinton had brought a great deal of attention to the need for transparency surrounding fundraising by foundations of the Presidential libraries. He asked the Archivist if he thought donors to the library foundations should be disclosed. Weinstein said he had no objection to the identity of donors being disclosed, but felt it would be more important in the early years of fundraising and less so for older libraries.

In a second round of questioning, Chairman Serrano noted that the rollout date for the Electronic Records Archive had been delayed from last September to June 2008. He asked how confident the Archivist was that there would be no more delays. Weinstein replied that when the difficulties started, NARA didn’t bury the fact and immediately contacted the Government Accountability Office and the agency’s Congressional oversight committees. He noted that the senior management staff in the agency met weekly on the status of the ERA and he was confident they would meet the June rollout deadline.

Assistant Archivist for Information Services Martha Morphy added that NARA had restructured the ERA contract with Lockheed Martin and that the contractor had improved the quality of its staff. She said payment had been tied to the achievement of specific milestones and Lockheed Martin met every one since implementing the new procedures. Morphy said the project will go online in June, and by November NARA will be ready to start accepting Bush Administration records. Weinstein said if NARA doesn’t meet its deadlines, he would take personal responsibility.

Chairman Serrano then asked about the lengthy amount of time it was taking to complete the publication of the Founding Fathers Project papers. He urged NARA to speed up the process and increase accessibility of the finished products, then noted that language had been included in NARA's FY '08 appropriation requesting a status report. Weinstein said that he testified on this before the Senate Judiciary Committee in February. He said the report to Congress would be completed by the end of April and he preferred not to talk about it while the details were still being worked out.

Ranking Member Ralph Regula noted that the Administration had once again proposed eliminating the NHPRC. Representative Regula asked whether the Archivist would support preventing its elimination if the Appropriations Committee restored funding for it. Weinstein replied, “From your mouth to God’s ears.”

Bill to Reauthorize NHPRC Introduced in House

A bill (H.R. 5582) to reauthorize the NHPRC was recently introduced in the House by Representative William Lacy Clay (D-MO). The bill would reauthorize the NHPRC at an annual level of $20 million for FY 2010-2014. The current reauthorization expires in FY ’09 at an annual spending level of $10 million. NHPRC member Representative John B. Larson (D-CT) co-sponsored the bill. A companion bill has yet to be introduced in the Senate. The Bush Administration once again requested zero funding for the NHPRC in FY ’09. Last year the NHPRC received $9.5 million in funding with $7.5 million for grants and $2 million for administrative expenses.

Government Issues Report on Declassification

The Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB) is a little-known federal advisory group promoting the declassification of historical federal records related to national security. The PIDB was authorized in 2000 (P.L.106 567) and charged with advising the President and other executive branch officials on classification and declassification policy. However, it took the Bush Administration over five years to name its appointments, and only in FY 2006 did the board receive its first annual appropriation. Following such difficult beginnings, the PIDB has begun to fulfill the purpose the late-Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan had in mind when proposing the board.

Late last year, the PIDB issued its initial report entitled “Improving Declassification,” providing detailed recommendations to the President on fifteen issues it said would improve the federal government’s declassification procedures. For anyone interested in the issues surrounding declassification of federal records, the report should be required reading. Although many thought President Bush would simply ignore the report, in January he ordered executive branch agency heads to respond to the PIDB’s recommendations by April 15, 2008.

One of the fifteen issues identified in the report is development of better procedures to identify and prioritize the declassification review of “historically significant” information. Among its recommendations is the creation of a board consisting of prominent historians, academicians, and former government officials who would be appointed by the Archivist of the United States to determine which events or activities of the U.S. Government merit expedited declassification for a particular year.

The report recommends that all departments and agencies with national security responsibilities hire an appropriate number of historians to speed declassification of classified records or to write historical accounts based upon the department or agency’s classified holdings.


NARA Seeks Comment on Rule Governing Public Use of Facility

The National Archives published a proposed rule in the Federal Register on April 4, 2008, to amend its regulations on public use of the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C., for meetings or special events. This proposal incorporates changes in available space as a result of the building’s renovation, by identifying the kinds of space available and procedures for requesting use. NARA also proposes fees for the use of public areas in the National Archives Building. To review the rule and make comments online, go to www.regulations.gov and type “NARA” in the Search box. The rule is titled “Use of Meeting Rooms and Public Space.” Comments on this rule will be accepted through June 3, 2008.
It may be that some of these dichotomies are false ones and that our true identity or mission is a “both/and” rather than an “either/or.” Take the question of documenting culture and transactions, history and accountability. One might argue that our mission as a profession encompasses both, although our mission as individual archivists may be exclusive to one or the other. This would complicate our identity—but being clear does not equate with being simple.

Or consider the ways in which individuals enter our profession: The SAA guidelines state that graduate education is required for entrance into the profession,11 but there are hundreds (thousands?) of people with archival responsibilities, individuals who are carrying out archival work based on sound archival knowledge, principles, and methods and who, for many reasons, do not have a graduate education. Where do they “fit” within our professional identity?

Yet some issues of our identity or mission may be “either/or.” If our mission is to fulfill our institution’s mandate, however narrow or broad that might be, then perhaps we cannot also have the mission of serving society. (In economic terms, however, it is considered possible to work for selfish interests and still ultimately contribute to the larger good.) It may be that archivists cannot be the neutral selectors, describers, or referents that Hillary Jenkinson described in the 1920s and also accept our subjectivity and the inescapable influence that any action (or even inaction) has on the interpretation of results (that is, that as archivists we each ineluctably shape the archival record and its interpretation).

Where does this bring us? For the moment, I hope it brings us to another point of self-reflection and discussion about our identity and mission. Which are the one-or-the-other bifurcations we must decide between and which can we meld into a both-things-at-the-same-time conception? Which of our many archival theorists and practitioners (and several who are both) do we look to for the clearest guidance, and to what degree? These questions are fundamental to our present and our future, however much they may be informed by our past. It’s uncomfortable to keep asking these questions, to not come to one conclusion and just stick to it, but that questioning is what requires us to keep alive our intellectual curiosity about the meaning of our profession even after our graduate reading requirements are a thing of the past.

Who am I? Why am I here? If we hope and expect that our resource allocators, institutional colleagues, citizens, and “society” will understand and value us, then we must be clear about whom they are valuing and what we are doing that is valuable.

3 Luciana Duranti, “Meeting the Challenge of Contemporary Records: Does It Require a Role Change for the Archivist?” (http://www.archivists.org/governance/presidential/duranti-2.asp)
11 Guidelines for a Graduate Program in Archival Studies (2002): “The importance and complexity of archival work require that individuals entering the profession receive a strong graduate-level archival education” (emphasis added). The 1994 guidelines said that graduate education was the “preferred” entry qualification for the profession.
SAA EDUCATION CALENDAR

**Basic Electronic Records**
June 2 • Baltimore, MD
November 3 • San Antonio, TX

**Grant Proposal Writing**
June 2 • University Park, PA

**Oral History: From Planning to Preservation**
June 3 • Baltimore, MD

**Project Management for Archivists**
June 12 • Denver, CO

**Digitization of Archival Materials**
June 12 • Haverford, PA

**Introduction to Digital Libraries and Digital Archives**
June 13 • Haverford, PA

**Privacy & Health Information: A Guide**
June 24 • A Web Seminar

**Security in Archives and Manuscript Repositories**
June 26–27 • Louisville, KY

**Electronic Records Summer Camp**
July 7–11 • San Diego, CA
August 4–8 • San Diego, CA

**Photography Rights, Archive Management, and Permissions**
October 17 • Albany, NY

**Encoded Archival Description**
October 30–31 • Minneapolis, MN

**Association Archives—Managing Your Institutional Memory**
October 30 • Washington, D.C.

**Financial Management Basics for Archivists**
November 6 • Knoxville, TN

**Management of Cultural Institutions**
November 7 • Knoxville, TN

**Implementing DACS in Integrated Content Management Systems: Using the Archivists Toolkit™**
January 15–16, 2009
New York, NY

**Preservation of 20th Century Visual Materials**
March 18–19, 2009
Milwaukee, WI

**Apply DACS to Single Item Manuscript Cataloging**
August 24

**Implementing “More Product, Less Process”**
August 24

**Understanding Archives: An Introduction to Principles and Practices**
August 24–25

**Financial Management Basics for Archivists**
August 25

**Driving Exhibitions with Oral History**
August 25

**Research Skills Tutorial**
August 25

**Copyright: The Archivist and the Law**
August 25–26

**Encoded Archival Description**
August 25–26

**New and Remodeled Archival Facilities**
August 25–26

**Analyzing and Improving Archival Websites**
August 26

**The Essentials of Digital Repositories**
August 26

**Preserving Your Audio and Video Assets**
August 26

**Train the Trainer**
August 26

For details or to register, visit www.archivists.org and click on Education. Questions? Contact us at education@archivists.org or 312-606-0722. We are continually planning and adding programs to our schedule; check the website periodically!
CALENDAR

May 8–10
The Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists holds their annual meeting at Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah. Keynote speaker Lyman Platt addresses "Using Hispanic Archival Records to Document the History of the American Southwest." For more info go to: http://www.lib.utah.edu/cima/.

May 15
Application deadline for the Academy of Certified Archivists 2008 Certification Exam. Visit the ACA website at www.certifiedarchivists.org or e-mail aca@caphill.org for information.

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 Archivists 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 13
The Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists will hold a meeting on "Material Culture in the Archives" in Denver. For more info, go to www.srmarchivists.org.

June 24–25
The Institute of Museum and Library Services will sponsor the forum "Collaboration in the Digital Age," to be held in Denver. This is the second in a series of four national conservation forums that are part of the Connecting to Collections initiative. Speakers will review the fundamentals of digital content creation and preservation, emphasizing practical approaches to planning digital projects, increasing access to collections, enabling digital resources to serve multiple purposes, and protecting digital investments. The forum is open and free of charge to staff and board members of museums, libraries, and archives, as well as to conservation professionals, representatives of government, funders, and the media. Advance online registration is required. Program and logistical information and online registration are available at www.imls.gov/collections/tour.

July 21–27
The 16th International Congress on Archives (ICA) will meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Congress' theme is Archives, Governance and Development: Mapping Future Society. For more information, browse www.ica.org.

July 23–26

August 27
The Academy of Certified Archivists gives its 2008 Certification Exam in San Francisco, Calif.: Buffalo, New York; Nashville, Tenn; St. Louis, Mo.; and Salt Lake City, Utah. Go to the ACA website for more information: www.certifiedarchivists.org.

FUNDING

American Association for State and Local History
The AASLH announces its 2008-2009 Save Our History Grants, available to provide funding to history organizations that partner with schools on local community preservation projects. The History Channel launched the program in 2004 and in partnership with the AASLH, has awarded over $1 million in grants. During the 2008-2009 school year, The History Channel will award grants of up to $10,000 to fund hands-on, experiential educational projects. For guidelines and criteria, and to apply, go to: www.saveourhistory.com/ and click on grants. Application deadline: June 6, 2008.

The Council on Library and Information Resources
The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) is creating a national program to identify and catalog hidden special collections and archives. The records and descriptions obtained through this effort will be accessible on the Web. The program is designed to overcome the pervasive lack of knowledge about special collections and archives held by libraries, archives, and cultural institutions and to make information about these materials accessible to teachers and scholars.

Institutions of higher education and cultural organizations that hold important collections that are difficult or impossible to locate through finding aids are invited to submit proposals for funding. CLIR will issue a formal request for proposals by early June 2008 and the deadline for proposal submission will be late July. The typical size of a project grant will vary. Because the first round of grants will entail both the inauguration of a new approach to the hidden collections problem and a test of some basic assumptions, 2008 grants are expected to range from $100,000 to $500,000. Awards will have a three-year term. Each award recipient will be required to submit an annual report to the review panel.

For the purposes of this project, special collections are rare, often unique materials generally housed in secure, monitored environments. Archives are unique collections associated with a specific individual or organization. By not defining these terms prescriptively, we hope to encourage a process that is encompassing and revelatory. Go to www.clir.org/ for more information.

American Institute of Physics
The Center for the History of Physics announces grants to process Physics, Astronomy and Geophysics collections. Past recipients range from small archives to major science repositories in the U.S. and abroad. Grants are competitive and awarded annually. For more information, go to: www.aip.org/history/grants_archives.html. Application deadline: August 1, 2008.

The Academy of Certified Archivists 2008 Certification Exam. Visit the ACA website at www.certifiedarchivists.org or e-mail aca@caphill.org for information.
ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST
Trinity Wall Street
New York, New York
Located at the head of Wall Street, Trinity Church has been part of New York City’s and our nation’s history since its charter in 1697. Today, the organization has grown to include many important areas of focus and is collectively known as Trinity Wall Street. Most importantly, we are an Episcopal parish offering daily worship services and faith formation programs at Trinity Church, St. Paul’s Chapel, and online at trinitywallstreet.org.

In addition, Trinity Wall Street includes Trinity Real Estate, which manages the parish’s 6 million square feet of commercial real estate in lower Manhattan; Trinity Grants; John Heuss House, a 24-hour drop-in shelter; St. Margaret’s House, providing subsidized housing to the elderly; Trinity Preschool; Trinity Institute, an annual theological conference; Trinity Archives, where records of long-term value are organized, preserved, and maintained; and an extensive arts program presenting more than 100 concerts each year through Concerts@One, the Trinity Choir, and the Downtown Youth Choir. Our Archives houses approximately 2000 linear feet of records generated by the Parish and programs of Trinity Wall Street. In addition to documenting the activities and growth of the Parish from its 1697 founding, the collections are a unique resource on the history of New York City. We are seeking an Assistant Archivist to work with the Archivist in every facet of archival practice including administering the records management program. Description: Arrange and describe records. Assist Archivist in administering records management program. Ensure the preservation of records. Facilitate access to and understanding of archival holdings for all users, both internal at Trinity and for the general public. Respond to reference requests. Help with outreach projects including talks, tours, exhibits, and workshops. Represent Trinity Wall Street in professional historical and archival organizations. Assist with other archival and administrative duties as assigned. Requirements: M.A. or M.L.S. degree required, concentration in archives from an ALA-accredited, library school preferred. Equivalent coursework and experience will be considered. Thorough understanding of archival principles and practice required. Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills. Proficient skills and strong technical experience in relevant computer applications, including website management, digital imaging, and electronics records management. Special attention will be given to candidates who are knowledgeable about New York City and religious history. We offer a competitive salary along with a comprehensive benefits package. To apply, contact: Human Resources, Trinity Wall Street, 74 Trinity Place, Room 503, New York, NY 10006, USA; fax 212-602-9649; hr@trinitywallstreet.org; www.trinitywallstreet.org

PUBLIC SERVICES POSITIONS (2)
Princeton University
Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library
Princeton, New Jersey
A Public Services Librarian and an Assistant University Archivist for Public Services. These positions are responsible for the delivery of public services to researchers using the Rare Books and Special Collections of the Princeton University Library. Complete job can be viewed by going to: http://library.princeton.edu/hr/positions/jobspro/admin.html

To apply, contact: http://www.princeton.edu/jobs.

REFERENCE AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN
New York University—Institute of Fine Arts
New York, New York
Responsible for administering the Institute of Fine Arts Library’s rare book, manuscript, archival, and other special collections including supervision of the Special Collections reading room, providing user services, doing collection development, planning preservation, and contributing to bibliographic control. Other responsibilities include creating and maintaining user access resources through research and writing, developing an exhibits program, and publications in support of use of the collections. The Librarian will also be responsible for educational outreach to the professors, graduate students, and undergraduates who do or may potentially use Special Collections materials. This outreach will take the form of direct contact with faculty whose research interests overlap with the holdings of the Special Collections and IFA Archives, instruction to students in the use of special collection and archival materials, and the development of other venues (such as blogs and wikis). Specific duties include: enhances and exploits the archival and special collections for the purposes of research and the historical record, and develops effective aids for their use, including electronic finding aids, guides, and exhibitions; provides public service to Library users, including reference, instruction, and outreach; provides guidance and access to information resources, both inside the library and beyond the library; through databases, telecommunications networks and cooperative arrangements; sets policy and levels of practice for special collection and archival matters in the IFA; provides direction on the processing and preservation of IFA special collections and archival records; participates in strategic planning, collection development, general reference, and the library instruction program; maintains and implements a records management policy for IFA records having archival value for items in all formats, including print and digital; provides archival, records management, and preservation expertise to IFA offices and departments; and advises IFA faculty on the disposition of their professional papers. Maintains a current knowledge of development in both relevant subject fields (particularly art history, archaeology, and object conservation) and librarianship through individual study, research, attendance at professional meetings, seminars, conferences, etc. Requirements: an MLS and a background in art history or associated field (advanced degree preferred and required for tenure); specialized training in or professional job experience in reference service and special collections management for scholarly use, and a working knowledge of at least one modern European language. New York University’s Institute of Fine Arts is dedicated to graduate teaching and advanced research in the history of art, archaeology, and the conservation and technology of works of art. From its advantageous position on New York’s Museum Mile, the Institute plays a vital role in the public dissemination and discussion of art historical research through an active program of lectures and conferences. The Institute offers the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy, the Advanced Certificate in Conservation of Works of Art for those M.A. students choosing to specialize in Conservation, and the Certificate in Curatorial Studies issued jointly with the Metropolitan Museum of Art as part of the Ph.D. program. Interested candidates are requested to submit a letter of application that specifically states how background and experiences are relevant to the position responsibilities and qualifications; current resume; and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references to: Ms. Janet Koztowski, Libraries Human Resources Director, New York University Libraries, 70 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012, (fax) 212-995-4070, or e-mail: jobs.library.nyu.edu. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. NYU IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.

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Successful Internships Start Here!

Archival Internships
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Jeannette A. Bastian and Donna Webber

Examine the world of archival internships from several perspectives: that of supervisors and sites offering internships; of students preparing to take internships; and of faculty advisors facilitating internships. This book provides useful and practical guidelines for successful internships through discussions of pertinent issues, case studies illustrating problems and solutions, and an array of sample forms and procedures.

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