

archival outlook

JUICY HOT DOGS AND FRUITY D

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New Year's Forecast

- **Members Talk About Economy**
- **Coalition Contacts Obama's Team**
- **Learn How SAA Works**



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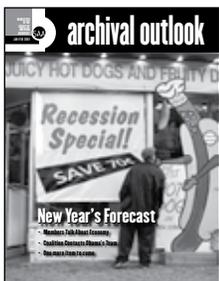
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New Year’s Forecast . . . A man peeks past the “Recession Special” sign to look at the length of the line inside Gray’s Papaya hot dog stand on New York’s Upper West Side in November 2001. Gray’s Papaya, well-known for its juicy franks and tropical drinks, recently raised the price of its Recession Special—two hot dogs and a drink—to \$4.45. Find out what members have to say about the current economic downturn in “Archives Feel the ‘Big Chill’” on page 6. Associated Press photo by Beth A. Keiser.

archival outlook

the society of american archivists serves the education and information needs of its members and provides leadership to help ensure the identification, preservation and use of the nation’s historical record.

NANCY P. BEAUMONT

Executive Director
nbeaumont@archivists.org

TERESA M. BRINATI

Director of Publishing
tbrinati@archivists.org

SOLVEIG DE SUTTER

Director of Education
sdesutter@archivists.org

BRIAN P. DOYLE

Director of Member and Technical Services
bdoyle@archivists.org

RODNEY FRANKLIN

Service Center Representative
rfranklin@archivists.org

LEE GONZALEZ

Service Center Representative
lgonzalez@archivists.org

HELEN JANOUSEK

Editorial and Production Assistant
hjanousek@archivists.org

TOM JURCZAK

Director of Finance and Administration
tjurczak@archivists.org

RENÉ MUELLER

Project Assistant
rmueller@archivists.org

VERONICA PARRISH

Education Coordinator
vparrish@archivists.org

CARLOS R. SALGADO

SAA Service Center Manager
csalgado@archivists.org

JEANETTE SPEARS

Service Center Representative
jspears@archivists.org

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Yes, We Can. Yes, We Do.

Many of you, I am sure, heard President-elect Barack Obama's victory speech on the evening of November 4. In that speech he devoted several paragraphs to Anne Nixon Cooper, a 106-year-old resident of Atlanta who had voted earlier in the day.

Obama cited Cooper's life as a way to personalize the changes that have come to America over more than a century. As the transcript of the speech I have in my hand reads:

. . . tonight, I think about all that she's seen throughout her century in America—the heartache and the hope; the struggle and the progress; the times we were told that we can't, and the people who pressed on with that American creed: Yes, we can.

At a time when women's voices were silenced and their hopes dismissed, she lived to see them stand up and speak out and reach for the ballot. Yes, we can.

When there was despair in the Dust Bowl and depression across the land, she saw a nation conquer fear itself with a New Deal, new jobs and a new sense of common purpose. Yes, we can.

When the bombs fell on Pearl Harbor and tyranny threatened the world, she was there to witness a generation rise to greatness and a democracy was saved. Yes, we can.

She was there for the buses in Montgomery, the hoses in Birmingham, a bridge in Selma, and a preacher from Atlanta who told a people that "We Shall Overcome." Yes, we can.

A man touched down on the moon, a wall came down in Berlin, a world was connected by our own science and imagination. And this year, in this election, she touched her finger to a screen and cast her vote, because after 106 years in America, through the best of times and the darkest of hours, she knows how America can change. Yes, we can.

Left unsaid by the President-elect was that not only did Cooper remember, her memories are preserved by archivists. Cooper's papers, as well as those of her late husband, have been arranged,

described, and made available for research at the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African-American Culture and History, a component part of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System and an institutional member of the Society of American Archivists.

Like many personal collections, the papers of Ms. Cooper are a relatively small body of material. But because of the foresight of an Atlanta archivist, when Cooper is no longer with us, when she herself cannot bear the witness that the President-elect of the United States found so moving, the staff of the Auburn Avenue Library will bear that witness for her.

- When she cannot speak of a time when women could not vote and racial minorities were banned from the ballot, they will give her voice.
- When she cannot speak of the despair of the Depression and the hope of the New Deal, they will give her voice.
- When she cannot speak to the terrors and triumphs of the Second World War, they will give her voice.
- And when she cannot speak of the civil rights movement or the marvels of technology, they will give her voice.

As does the staff of the Auburn Avenue Library, all of us, through our work, transcend generations, transcend space, and transcend time itself. The work we do today will go forward into the future for as long as Cooper is with us, for as long as the daughters of the President-elect are with us (even if the measure of their years is as full as those of Ms. Cooper), and beyond. We, too, have a fierce hope and a timeless creed: That our labors will inform the future and that the future will be better—in ways that we perhaps cannot imagine—because of what we do.

Take a moment to be proud, and then get back to work! America needs you and what only you can do. ❖



Rushing Toward You

Sometimes Teresa has all the fun. In November, SAA's director of publishing had three memorable encounters that remind us—as if we need reminders—of why we're here.

Rachel Schneiderman is a new member of SAA, a recent MLIS grad with an MA in Spanish Literature, Paleography, and Translation (whew!) who had begun her job hunt in late October. Rachel was interested in obtaining a copy of the very-fresh-off-the-press fifth printing of *Describing Archives: A Content Standard* so that she could be particularly "smart" in an upcoming interview. Teresa expedited dispatch of the book and Rachel responded: "Most excellent, Teresa! You are a peach! Goethe said that when you commit yourself to your path, people and things come rushing toward you to help your cause. Your kindness is certainly an example of that support. I will let you know what happens."

We hope that all went well with you, Rachel.

Mara Ziegler, who recently joined SAA as a student member at the recommendation of her professor at Dominican University in Chicago, is currently interning at the Oak Park Library and working on the Frank Lloyd Wright collection. She is in the first blush of her professional life and her enthusiasm is something to behold. She used her initiative to set up an appointment with Teresa, who spent nearly two hours with Mara, introducing her to the many informational, educational, and networking resources now available to her as a result of joining SAA. (Twenty percent of SAA's members are students, and we're firm believers in doing what we can to assist them. We see it as an investment in cultivating career-long loyalty to the Society.) Mara's thank-you note concluded: "P.S. I feel honored to be a member of SAA!"

Doesn't get much better than that, right, Teresa?

We're always pleased to answer members' questions and point them to resources—but many times the very best thing that we can do is connect members (and prospective members) with you.

Lisa Whiting dropped by the SAA office one Monday morning at the suggestion of a librarian at the Harold Washington Library just down the street. Lisa, who has a BFA in sculpture and paperworks,

thinks she may be interested in pursuing an MLIS degree and also is interested in learning more about the archives and conservation professions. It's not uncommon for us to receive three or four email requests a week from individuals soliciting advice about a career in archives, but drop-ins are far less frequent—and a lot more fun!

Because we know that the best professional advice comes from peers, Teresa contacted three Chicago-area archivists to ask if they might be willing to spend some time talking to Lisa about their career paths and answering her questions. Within an hour or so of Teresa's email requests, all three busy archivists—Martha Briggs at the Newberry Library and Mary Woolever (Art and Architecture Archivist, Ryerson and Burnham Libraries) and Bart Ryckbosch (Glasser and Rosenthal Archivist) at the Art Institute of Chicago—responded enthusiastically that they would be delighted to speak with Lisa.

What a group! That's mentoring at its finest.

We hope that Rachel, Mara, and Lisa—and all of you—find good people and good things rushing toward you in 2009! ❖

SAA, Coalition Partners Meet with Obama Transition Team

The presidents of SAA, the Council of State Archivists, and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators were invited to meet with members of the Obama transition team in Washington on January 13 to discuss qualifications for a new Archivist of the United States. SAA President Frank Boles, NAGARA President Tracey Berezansky, CoSA President David Haury, and SAA Executive Director Nancy Beaumont took the opportunity to mention other matters of concern to the nationwide archives and records management community, including the Presidential Records Act Amendments and Executive Order 13233, reauthorization of and increased funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and the "Preserving the American Historical Record" legislation. The outcome of the meeting will be reported in SAA's *In the Loop*.

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More information coming soon at <http://ils.unc.edu/digccurr/institute.html>

Archives Feel the “Big Chill”

Members Across U.S. Affected by Economic Downturn

HELEN JANOUSEK, SAA Editorial and Production Assistant

It's 32 degrees (or below) outside in many regions of the country—and apparently it's a bit chilly inside, too. SAA members working in various environments say budgets are being cut and hiring freezes are in effect.

They recently participated in a survey, “How Has the Economy Affected Your Archives?” conducted by SAA to find out how the economic recession is affecting archivists and related professionals in the workplace.

Members were notified of the survey in the November/December 2008 issue of *Archival Outlook* and through announcements listed in *Online News*. It was available on SAA's website from Nov. 5 through Dec. 5, 2008, and respondents were asked two questions:

1. How are these tough times affecting your institution and your workplace?
2. Does a budget crunch mean you have fewer resources, human or otherwise?

Fifty-nine people responded to the survey in locations from coast to coast. The types of workplaces they represent include: colleges and universities (29); corporations (3); government (5); local and national organizations (13); and museums (5).

These members are employed in the following states: California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

While the results of this survey come from just a very small fraction of SAA's 5,400 individual and institutional members, the comments

given by participants provide a snapshot of what some archivists are currently facing in the workplace.

What They're Saying Out There

The United States economy entered a recession in December 2007, according to the Business Cycle Dating Committee of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) in a Dec. 1, 2008, news release. The committee defined a recession as “a significant decline in economic

activity spread across the economy, lasting more than a few months, normally visible in production, employment, real income, and other indicators.” The committee maintains a chronology of the beginning and ending dates of U.S. recessions. (For more information, go to www.nber.org.)

The survey's first question, “How are these tough times affecting your institution and your workplace?” was primarily answered by those who are experiencing hiring freezes, staff layoffs, and budget cuts. Only 7 of the 59 respondents said they have not been affected by the economy's downturn, though some did qualify their response with a “not yet.” In their own words, from those working for:

- The Champaign County Historical Archives in Urbana, Illinois: “For now our operation has not been affected.”
- A small private college in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania: “The institution is in a good place. We are looking at ways to cut back our budgets for the next two years, but we foresee no employee cuts.”
- The California State Archives in Sacramento, California: “Not yet, but we will be affected soon.”
- A national church organization in Austin, Texas: “The downturn has not yet had a measurable effect on my institution or workplace except as a sense of foreboding of future cuts.”

Doing Less, With Less

But others are feeling the big chill. Eighteen report being under a hiring freeze and ten tell of staff layoffs. Some are taking cuts in salaries or work hours. “We are considering laying off staff and reducing our hours of operation,” says a special collections librarian at a state university in Plattsburg, New York.

At SAA, the number of job ads dropped 40 percent during the first five months of Fiscal Year 2009, according to Brian Doyle, SAA's director of member and technical services. Online jobs ads placed between July 1 and November 30, 2008, totaled 84. The same period in 2007 saw 144 job openings posted.

“It perpetuates a climate of fear,” observes a special collections staff member at a state university in Boone, North Carolina. “Our organization is having to consider an austerity budget that calls for a 5 percent decrease in salaries, staff reduction, and the elimination of certain programs,” says the archivist at a foundation in Lexington, Virginia.

There are cutbacks in discretionary spending. Many report that they cannot purchase equipment or supplies (20); projects have been halted (6); travel has been cut (4); programs or hours have been eliminated (3); and there is no money for training or professional development (2).

The second question asked members, "Does a budget crunch mean you have fewer resources, human or otherwise?" Forty-four of the 59 respondents answered "Yes." The stone-cold numbers reflect what members are saying at:

- A small organization in Wheaton, Illinois: "Our headquarters staff has been reduced by 10 percent."
- A university in Santa Barbara, California: "Five to ten percent staff cuts."
- A corporate office in Minneapolis, Minnesota: "Head count cut by 33 percent."
- A museum in Los Angeles: "No budget to keep the archivist."
- The Department of Archives and History in Jackson, Mississippi: "A hiring freeze means three empty positions left unfilled."

Frustration and Hope

The mood of the survey's respondents reflects a mixed-bag of emotions: frustration at doing more with less, hope that it will get better coupled with anxiety that it won't.

An employee at a historical society in New York says: "Our entire institution staff is being furloughed starting January 1, 2009—lasting until the end of our fiscal year on June 30. We will all reduce [our hours] from five days a week to four days a week. The hope is to be reinstated to full time at the start of FY 2010."

Another individual at a museum in Colorado Springs, Colorado, was frank: "Our staffing levels are already below minimum levels, but public expectations of our services have not decreased. It is a very frustrating climate to be working in."

A *Washington Post*-ABC News poll showed 63 percent of Americans say they have been hurt by the downturn—with two in ten saying they or someone in their household recently lost a job, and more than 25 percent have had their pay or hours reduced.

To address these concerns, on December 16, 2008, the Federal Reserve lowered its benchmark interest rate to virtually zero and announced it would print as much money as necessary to revive the frozen credit markets. President-elect Barack Obama's economic team met in Chicago to map out their strategy for an economic recovery plan.

The turbulent news affects the remaining proportion who express anxiety over the gloomy forecast. "This fiscal year seems to be okay, but we're all worried about next fiscal year . . . everything seems very unstable," says an SAA member working at a private university in Cambridge, Massachusetts. ❖

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The Mechanics of SAA Governance: An Overview

RENÉ MUELLER, SAA Project Assistant

As a new member of the SAA staff—and one with task assignments related to the Society's governance processes—I was particularly attuned to questions that arose from members at the 2008 Annual Meeting in San Francisco about "how things work within SAA." New members especially wanted to know how various SAA groups function and how members might participate most effectively in their professional association. Having heard members suggest a series of brief articles about "The Mechanics of SAA Governance," I now find myself with the assignment to prepare them! So, here goes . . .

What can you do? Figure out what needs doing, then volunteer to do it!

The SAA Council. The SAA Council, which is the Society's main governing body, is composed of twelve members, nine of whom serve staggered three-year terms. Council members are elected each year by the general membership based on a slate of candidates put forward by an elected Nominating Committee. Also serving on the Council are a treasurer (who has a three-year term), a vice president/president-elect (elected each year for a one-year term), and a president (who serves for one year immediately after serving as vice president). The Council typically meets three times a year and reports its actions to the SAA membership via articles in *Archival Outlook* and *Online News* and in minutes that are posted on SAA's website and printed in the *American Archivist*. SAA's governance policies and procedures are outlined in an online document—often referred to as the "Council Handbook"

—that you can access at <http://www.archivists.org/governance/handbook/index.asp>. To assist in its work of furthering SAA's mission, goals, and strategic priorities, the Council relies on two types of groups: 1) appointed groups, including committees, boards, task forces, and working groups, and 2) component or special-interest groups, including sections and roundtables.

Appointed Groups. Committees (e.g., Education or Standards) and boards (e.g., *American Archivist* Editorial Board and Publications Board) have ongoing responsibility for a key area of the Society's interest. Task forces (e.g., American Archives Month Task Force) typically are created to complete a defined task or set of tasks within a specific period. And working groups (e.g., Intellectual Property and Government Affairs) are composed of experts who advise the Council and who may serve for an unlimited period. The SAA vice president appoints new members to committees and boards and, in most cases, designates the annual chair. For more information about appointed groups, go to SAA's home page (www.archivists.org). Click on "Groups" on the menu bar, and select "Committees," "Boards," or "Task Forces."

Component Groups. Sections and roundtables are organized by SAA members to advance professional practice within common areas of interest and affiliation. Whereas they must officially be created by the SAA Council and respond to it when specific tasks are assigned, these groups are largely self-governing (i.e., they elect their own leaders—or "steering committees"—and determine their own agendas). For more information about component groups, go to SAA's home page (www.archivists.org). Click on "Groups" on the menu bar, and select "Sections" or "Roundtables."

It helps to think of all of these groups as vehicles for communication and action. The intention behind this governance structure is to help organize action within the profession and to serve the membership.

Communication with and among groups. Each SAA group, from the Council to the newly formed Latin American Caribbean Cultural Heritage Archives Roundtable, has a responsibility to collect ideas from members, do good work on behalf of the profession, and share information and insights with members through effective communication. Keep in mind that all of SAA's group leaders (from steering committees to Council members) are volunteers—people with regular jobs, families, and lives to juggle! All group leaders are connected via an email list called the SAA Leader List. And each SAA Council member is assigned a handful of SAA groups to which he or she serves as a liaison—a conduit for information.

continued on page 29

SAA 2009 Election Features Online Voting

SAA will make its own election history in 2009, with members casting their votes online for the first time. Eighteen candidates are on the ballot, vying for these offices: vice president/president-elect, treasurer, Council member (3 slots), and 2010 Nominating Committee (3 slots). The top job of vice president/president-elect will be a contest between Megan Sniffin-Marinoff (Harvard University) and Helen Tibbo (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill). Any eligible member of SAA may be placed on the ballot by submitting a petition signed by 50 individual members. Petitions must be received at the SAA office by February 10, 2009. Voters may also write-in candidates on the ballot. See the slate of candidates at: <http://www.archivists.org/governance/election/2009/index.asp>.



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DICE Group Releases iRODS Version 2.0

Features Include Federation Capability for Collaborative Research

PAUL TOOBY, University of California, San Diego

The Data-Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) group has announced the release of version 2.0 of iRODS, the Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System. The new version of the award-winning software adds a number of important features, including federation of independent iRODS installations which lets them “talk” to each other, supporting large-scale collaboration by giving users seamless access to data distributed across different iRODS systems.

Core development of the open-source iRODS data system is led by the Advanced Center for Data Intensive Cyber Environments at the Institute for Neural Computation at the University of California, San Diego, and the National Center for Data Intensive Cyber Environments at the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC). Download of version 2.0, user information, and release notes are freely available as open-source software from the iRODS wiki at <http://irods.org>.

“A major new feature in iRODS 2.0 is the ability to federate two or more independent iRODS data grids,” said Reagan Moore, director of the Data-Intensive Computing Environments group and professor at UNC. “Federation lets communities maintain independent iRODS installations, while choosing to share some or all of their data under explicit management policies.” iRODS does this by mapping the policies to computer-actionable rules that control all remote operations as well as data exchange between separate iRODS systems or “zones.” Additional federation iRODS rules are applied on top of the local rules at each iRODS data grid.

iRODS moves beyond the single-site repository model, which is based on the traditional hard copy paradigm, to implement a new paradigm that harnesses the full power of cyberinfrastructure and the virtual world to free digital data collections from the constraints of space—whether physical, administrative, or disciplinary—and time, through long-term preservation. This approach gives users an adaptable and extensible system with the integrated capabilities required for the full range of digital data management applications, from highly customizable sharing in data grids, to publication of data in digital libraries, sensor stream aggregation for real-time data systems, and long-term preservation of digital data for use in standard reference collections.

New features in iRODS version 2.0 include:

- iRODS Zone Federation. Each separate iRODS installation or “iRODS Zone”—which consists of one or more iRODS Servers, a single associated iRODS Metadata Catalog, and multiple Clients—can share data and metadata.
- Master/Slave iCAT. An iRods Zone can be configured to run with a single Master iCAT metadata catalog plus

optional Slave iCATs synchronized with the Master catalog. This can reduce latency, speeding up metadata queries across wide area networks.

- iRODS Explorer for Windows client provides a rich Graphical User Interface and fast navigation and operations to manage data.
- SRB to iRODS Migration Tool. This preliminary version of a migration tool helps convert an SRB instance to an iRODS one, letting the iRODS system access the data formerly under SRB management without the need to move the physical files.
- A new bundling feature gathers large numbers of small files into structured files such as tar files for efficient uploading, downloading, and archiving.

iRODS version 2.0 is supported on Linux, Solaris, Macintosh, and AIX platforms. The iRODS commands are also supported on the Windows operating system, and there is a Windows GUI client. The iRODS Metadata Catalog will run on both the open-source PostgreSQL database (which can be installed as part of the iRODS install package) and Oracle. And iRODS is quick and easy to install—just answer a few questions and the install package automatically sets up the system for you.

iRODS was first released in late 2006. Version 1.0 of the software was released under a BSD open-source license in January 2008. As a second generation data grid development effort, iRODS leverages more than 10 years of user-driven experience with the Storage Resource Broker. With a grant-funded core developer team, the iRODS system is growing rapidly as collaborating projects contribute code to the open-source software.

The iRODS team is working with partners in a number of projects to apply the technology, including the Transcontinental Persistent Archives Prototype for the National Archives and Records Administration, the Ocean Observatories Initiative, the NSF Temporal Dynamics of Learning Center, the NHPRC-supported Distributed Custodial Archival Preservation Environments project, and the French National Library. Project collaborators include the French Institut National de Physique Nucléaire et de Physique des Particules, the Sustaining Heritage Access through Multivalent Archiving project, the UK e-Science Data Management Group at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, and the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization, KEK, in Japan.

For more information on the project, go to <https://www.irods.org>. iRODS is funded by the National Archives and Records Administration and the National Science Foundation. ❖

Archivists Are in Control!

Or, What I Learned at Electronic Records Summer Camp

JANIS HOLDER, University Archivist, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"You're so lucky!" "I'm so jealous!" These were some of the comments I received when other Electronic Records Summer Camp attendees found out that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's School of Information and Library Science would be the future home of part of the Data-Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) group.

In light of the fact that the primary movers and shakers of DICE, Reagan Moore and Richard Marciano, were two of our summer camp instructors for the week, the news of their impending move from California to North Carolina definitely seemed to give the four North Carolina campers an edge. After all, if our questions were not answered by the end of the week, or problems cropped up when we tried to put our new knowledge into practice back home, we thought we would probably be able to arrange some on-site assistance.

Unlike Any Other Summer Camp

Electronic Records Summer Camp, held during the past two summers at the University of California, San Diego, was unlike any summer camp I have ever attended—far removed from my childhood camping experiences in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, but with the intensity of a week-long Encoded Archival Description workshop at Rare Book School. Sponsored by the Society of American Archivists, the week-long camp was taught by a team of instructors that included Mark Conrad from the National Archives and Records Administration's Electronic Records Archives, Mike Smorul from the University of Maryland, and Moore, Marciano, Chien-Yi Hou, and others from the DICE group.



Photo: Chien-Yi Hou

Twenty-two people attended SAA's Electronic Records Summer Camp at the University of California, San Diego, in La Jolla in August 2008.

I expected to be completely immersed in digital preservation issues, and I was. I expected to learn a lot about iRODS (Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System) technology, and I did. (See story on page 10.) What I really didn't expect was just how much I would enjoy the process!

When response to the 2007 ER Summer Camp far outnumbered the seats available, SAA expanded its offerings to two sessions in 2008. I attended the second session in August, along with twenty-one other participants from universities, state libraries and archives, federal agencies, commercial archives, and non-profit organizations.

Most of my fellow campers were archivists with a mutual need to understand more about digital preservation, institutional repositories, and the technology underlying digital repository development; a few had information technology backgrounds and work experience. This made for quite an interesting group dynamic and sparked some lively discussions throughout the week, particularly after the IT campers took exception to one of the recurring themes of the workshop: "Archivists in Control!"

Having struggled through three years of planning meetings at UNC-Chapel Hill with no working digital repository yet in sight, I was ready for someone to help me clarify my role in the digital preservation process, and ER Summer Camp delivered. The instructors emphasized daily that archivists should be driving the development of policies in the preservation environment, assuring that provenance is upheld, file naming conventions are followed, and archival principles and requirements are communicated to repository programmers.

Each day the instructors focused on particular archival principles and reinforced the discussion with a homework assignment to develop a list of possible policies based on the archival principles covered that day. We began each day with a "postmortem" of the previous day's sessions, reinforcing what we had learned and discussing any remaining questions.

Hands-on Learning Experience

With the instructors' help, campers loaded iRODS and other software programs on their laptop computers and practiced ingesting some of the records they brought to camp. Lecture and discussion sessions were interspersed with hands-on practice and demonstrations of cutting-edge technological solutions to digital preservation problems and digital repository

continued on page 27

All About Books

Online and Print Publications at SAA

PETER WOSH, New York University

Professional communication and networking venues are experiencing a revolutionary transformation. Sweeping technological changes have altered the pace and productivity of news outlets and book publishers. Listservs, e-journals, blogs, and the various collaborative and interactive media that we often refer to as "Web 2.0" provide new opportunities for information sharing and community building.

Economic pressures have stimulated academic and commercial publishers to explore new business models. E-books constitute a new phenomenon, but many publishers and funding agencies question their sustainability. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's 2007 Annual Report on "Scholarly Publishing Initiatives," for example, offers a cautionary note concerning the long-term viability of electronic publishing projects. Conferences, articles, and white papers question how scholarly exchange and professional discourse might be preserved or enhanced in an exciting but unstable environment.

ePublishing and SAA

The Society of American Archivists recognized the need to alter its enterprise-wide approach to publishing in 2006,



Safe Sound Archive
"Preserving the Sound of History"
www.safesoundarchive.com/references.cfm
May we add you to the list?
audio
preservation • conservation • restoration
archival storage
georgeblood@safesoundarchive.com
21 West Highland Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19118-3309
(215) 248-2100

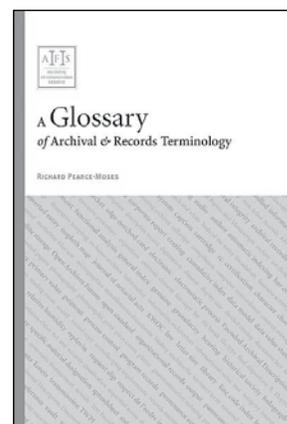
when the SAA Council created the position of "Editor, Print and Electronic Publications." As the first person to occupy this position, I have found it a fascinating challenge to cultivate more online informational resources, while also working to strengthen SAA's traditional print program.

Our initial approach to ePublishing proved more opportunistic than planned. Richard Pearce-Moses's *A Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology* (2005) offered an ideal pilot project for simultaneous print and electronic publication, with its searchability, links to related terms, and potential for easy updatability.

We soon began to post PDF files from significant archival conferences, such as *New Skills for a Digital Era* (2007) and *Access to Archives: The Japanese and American Practices* (2007), in an effort to make this literature broadly accessible in a timely manner. Another recent effort along these lines emerged from the joint SAA/RLG symposium to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Encoded Archival Description, which was held in San Francisco in August 2008. *EAD@10* includes both PDF and MP3 files so that site visitors can sample and listen to presentations and panel discussions from that very stimulating conference.

Plans are now underway to expand these types of ePublications by posting papers from the annual SAA Research Forum, as well as capturing the intellectual content from the Annual Meeting through an edited and electronically accessible conference proceedings. Kate Bower's *College and University Archives Thesaurus* is in production and should be posted soon. These products, along with our inclusion on the SAA website of classic archival books, such as Sir Hilary Jenkinson's 1922 *A Manual of Archive Administration*, Theodore Schellenberg's *Modern Archives: Principles and Techniques* (1956), and Joan D. Krizack's *Documentation Planning for the U.S. Health Care System*, provide a fairly traditional "Web 1.0" approach to professional communication. Interested readers essentially can use our site to retrieve information and view static texts that have been vetted according to standard academic conventions.

We have also begun to experiment with more user-generated and interactive publication possibilities. The Bentley Historical Library first stimulated our thinking along those lines in 2007, when that organization received a Mellon grant to bring together a couple dozen college and university archivists to grapple with the issue of born-digital records. Papers



from this conference formed the basis for our "Campus Case Studies" series. Our goal is to provide timely access to ongoing projects, works-in-progress, and preliminary reports from academic archivists who are engaged in the work of addressing electronic records issues. The ten studies that already have been published in this series illustrate the way in which we can provide easier access to current and practical archival information with a minimum of editorial delay.

"Campus Case Studies" already has served as a model for other forthcoming products. Gordon Daines and Cory Nimer from Brigham Young University recently submitted a successful proposal to the SAA Publications Board entitled, *The Interactive Archivist: Case Studies in Utilizing Web 2.0 to Improve the Archival Experience*. The authors will explore the ways in which archivists are using tools, such as blogs, tagging, wikis, and RSS feeds, to interact with users and colleagues. This electronic publication will be available on the SAA website next year and we hope will provide a forum for discussion about these issues.

Ideas to expand the "case studies" format into other areas of member interest, as well as to create more truly interactive publications, are welcome and warmly received.

Traditional Book Publishing

Finally, although the emphasis here has been on our emerging ePublications, SAA is committed to a print program as well. Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler's much-anticipated Archival Fundamentals II manual, *Preserving Archives and Manuscripts*, will be moving into production shortly and is slated for traditional book publication later in 2009.

We hope to have available in time for the SAA Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, in August a new book by Randall Jimerson, *Memory, Justice, and Accountability: The Role of Archivists in Society*, as well as *Archival and Special Collections Facilities: Guidelines for Archivists, Librarians, Architects, and Engineers*, by Thomas Wilsted and Michelle Pacifico.

In addition, exciting new books concerning archives and social justice, advocacy, personal digital records, interactive technologies, women's archives, exhibits, and labor records have been approved and are working their way through the publications process. This spring we will begin issuing requests for proposals from interested authors for the Archival Fundamentals Series III.

We Would Like to Hear from You!

We welcome proposals from members and hope to hear from you with suggestions for SAA's publishing program. SAA's ventures into ePublications thus far have been driven largely by suggestions and products from members and partners. During a time of transition for all communication outlets, we especially need to hear from members to learn how we can serve you more effectively. As SAA's Editor of Print and Electronic Publications, I eagerly await your messages at pw1@nyu.edu. ❖

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The Evolving Workforce

The commitment and talent of our employees at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) keep the agency running and serving our customers. Without their skills, the National Archives could not be successful in its efforts to evolve and improve operations.

Demographic factors now influence the Archives' workforce, as they also threaten the entire U.S. economy. How? Baby Boomers are retiring; the loss of veteran staff members through retirement and death are seriously impacting NARA's "institutional memory"; competition for the best talent in government and the private sector; and employee difficulties in balancing professional and personal responsibilities.

Many of these factors challenge the Archives' ability to fulfill its mission. However, we are taking steps to address these forces on an agency-wide scale.

The Strategic Human Capital Plan, now being developed by the Workforce Strategy Branch in NARA's Human Resources Division, is a plan to transform "how we hire, deploy, develop, motivate, retain and manage the workforce." The plan provides the following "hows":

- How to attract employees by showing them that the National Archives is an interesting, exciting—and important—place to work, unique among all government agencies;
- How to find and hire individuals with the right skills that we will need in the future, not just historians and archivists, but specialists in information science and technology to guide us in the world of electronic records;
- How to retain those individuals by demonstrating that their work will be recognized and rewarded and that they can advance their careers in many different ways at the National Archives; and
- How to show them that their work can be challenging and groundbreaking—a strong motivation for individuals looking for advancement—as we seek innovative ways to preserve records on newer media, make them maximally accessible, and educate the citizenry on why and how to use these records.

The National Archives is an interesting, exciting—and important—place to work, unique among all government agencies.

More than two years ago, the Archives took a major step to attract more qualified candidates for archivist jobs. Since then, we have seen better qualified candidates for archival positions because we are now able to target students in archival studies and information science. The qualifications were changed for the GS-1420 occupational series—the archivist series. This change expands the type of history coursework that can be credited toward qualification as an archivist—and classes in archival science were added to the list of qualifying courses.

The old standard was set in 1965, and today SAA reports that all but five of the eighteen archival education programs listed on its website are located in schools of library or information science—illustrating the fact that American history departments are far from the only source of qualified archival professionals.

One example is the Graduate School of Information (GSI) at the University of Michigan. Each year, Michigan's GSI has a special spring break program that sends graduate students to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., for weeklong internships. Their specializations include archives and electronic records management, library information services, information economics, management and policy. This program's prominence today is due in large part to the work of the late Dr. Robert Warner, who became GSI Dean after serving as Archivist of the United States from 1980 to 1985.

This is one way we will be able to attract well-trained archivists in the future. And the Strategic Human Capital Plan will take us further, addressing issues such as: closing mission-critical skills gaps and achieving the right mix of skills; leveraging technology to support how we recruit, develop, and retain employees; and becoming more data-driven and accountable in how the Archives manages its workforce.

At NARA, we are fortunate that many employees work well beyond the typical retirement age, some into their 70s and 80s. Many retirees return as volunteers and for this we are grateful. But it is still critical that we find and implement new ways to attract, hire, challenge, reward, and advance the new generations to whom we will pass the stewardship of the invaluable holdings of the National Archives.

Work on the Strategic Human Capital Plan will continue through this winter, with a final version ready by next spring. ❖

U.S. Archivist Allen Weinstein Resigns

National Archives and Records Administration

On December 7, 2008, Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein submitted his resignation to President George W. Bush, effective December 19, 2008. Professor Weinstein, who has Parkinson's disease, cited health reasons for his decision.

Deputy Archivist of the United States, Adrienne Thomas, will serve as Acting Archivist until a new Archivist is appointed, in accordance with the National Archives governing statute, 44 USC 2103(c).

In his letter to the president, Weinstein said "During my tenure as Archivist, my team of colleagues and I have made substantial progress in achieving virtually all of our goals. Moreover, we at the National Archives have worked diligently and successfully on our primary mission of maximizing public access to the records of all three branches of government while protecting at all costs this agency's rock-solid non-partisan integrity." The Archivist says that the time has come for him to address fresh challenges.

Weinstein was nominated by President Bush on January 24, 2005, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on February 10, 2005. Under the National Archives statute there is no specific term of office and the position is not intended to change hands automatically with the election of a new President.

The National Archives has seen many major accomplishments under Weinstein's leadership over the past four years, including:

- An increase in the annual appropriated budget for the National Archives from \$318.7 million for Fiscal Year 2005 to \$411.1 million for Fiscal Year 2008;
- Successful deployment of two National Archives Electronic Records Archives systems, including the EOP (Executive Office of the President) system, launched on December 6, 2008, which enables the transfer, ingest and reliable storage of unprecedented volumes of presidential electronic records;
- Restoration of public trust through the declassification and release of interagency agreements, an audit of purported reclassification activity, the return of previously withdrawn materials to public access, and the implementation of stringent new procedures to stem withdrawal of previously declassified and released records, reducing the number of withdrawn documents from more than 25,000 between 1995 and 2006 to only 7 to date;
- Preparation for the move of George W. Bush Presidential materials to Dallas, TX;
- Implementation of plans to replace the National Personnel Records Center, which houses four million cubic feet of records, in St. Louis, MO;



- Establishment of the National Declassification Initiative to begin to address the very serious challenges the National Archives faces with the policies, procedures, structure, and resources needed to create a more responsive and reliable executive branch-wide declassification program, particularly with respect to referrals of classified equities between executive branch agencies;
- Inclusion of the once-private Nixon Library into the National Archives system of Presidential Libraries. Approximately 320,000 pages and 363 hours of audio recordings related to the Nixon presidency have been opened for research since 2005. ❖

SAA, Coalition Develop "Qualities of a Successful Candidate" for Archivist of the United States

Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein resigned for health reasons, effective December 19, 2008. Since his resignation was made public on December 9, SAA has worked with "sister" national organizations to develop a statement of "Qualities of a Successful Candidate" for forwarding to the Obama transition team.

A host of organizations already have agreed to join SAA, the Council of State Archivists, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, the Academy of Certified Archivists, ARMA International, and the National Coalition for History in endorsing the document. SAA expects that many more organizations may sign on as word spreads about the document.

To view the coalition's message to the Obama transition team, go to: <http://www.archivists.org/statements/AUSQualitiesLetter.pdf>.

To view "A New Archivist of the United States: Qualities of a Successful Candidate," see: <http://www.archivists.org/statements/aus-criteria08.asp>.

As additional organizations endorse the document, SAA will update it. Endorsements should be forwarded to nbeaumont@archivists.org.



Founding Fathers Papers Pilot Program Gets NHPRC Grant

On November 18, 2008, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) met in Washington, D.C. The biggest news to emerge from the meeting was the announcement of a \$250,000 grant awarded to the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities for a new pilot project that will transcribe and encode documents for online and print from the Founding Era of the nation.

This new effort will prepare verified and XML-encoded versions of unpublished documents and develop a workflow that can help the Founders editorial projects in their publishing process. The pilot project is the result of a report to Congress by the Archivist of the United States on how to provide online access to the papers of the Founding Era. The state of the Founding Fathers project had been the subject of a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in February 2008.

Leadership of Two Key Congressional Committees Determined

In late November the leadership of two congressional committees that oversee the programs of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the NHPRC was determined.

In the 111th Congress, Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (ID-CT) will retain his chairmanship of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee after efforts to oust him from the job because of his outspoken support of Senator John McCain (R-AZ) for president failed. In the end, a request from President-elect Barack Obama that Lieberman be spared made the difference. By a vote of 42-13, the Democratic Caucus voted not to strip Lieberman of his chair.

In the 110th Congress, Senator Lieberman was a stalwart supporter of legislation (H.R. 1255, S. 886) to revoke the Bush executive order on presidential records. Senator Lieberman pushed the bill through his committee and worked tirelessly behind the scenes negotiating with the Republicans to lift their hold and to allow the legislation to come to the floor for a vote. Lieberman will play a key role in the future of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission whose programs need to be reauthorized in 2009.

In the House, Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Henry Waxman (D-CA) won his battle to take the helm of the Energy and Commerce Committee, leaving his current post vacant for now.

Chairman Waxman was perhaps the most vocal advocate of openness and transparency in the House and his leadership will be missed. Representative Waxman introduced the bill (H.R. 1255) to revoke President Bush's Executive Order 13233, which has made it more difficult to gain access to presidential records. Chairman Waxman then shepherded the bill through the House with a

veto-proof margin. Waxman also took the lead on investigating millions of emails missing from the White House computer system and pushed legislation through the House to strengthen the preservation of federal and presidential records. Waxman was also a leader in efforts to prevent the over classification, and to speed declassification, of federal and presidential records.

No clear successor to Waxman has emerged—especially since seniority is no longer the guarantee that it once was—that the member next in line will ascend to the chair. Representative Edolphus Towns (D-NY) is next in seniority. However, it is not yet clear whether Representative Elijah Cummings (D-MD) will challenge Towns.

National Coalition for History Urges Obama Administration to Increase Executive Branch Transparency

The National Coalition for History recently urged the incoming Obama administration to reverse the secrecy trend of the last eight years and to restore openness in the executive branch. Three separate proposals call on President-elect Obama to restore efficiency and openness to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) process, reform the classification system to reduce over classification and facilitate greater declassification, and ensure presidential records are handled in accordance with existing law and Congress' intent.

A diverse coalition of 60 organizations, convened by the National Security Archive, developed the three proposals. If adopted, the recommendations would establish a framework for accountability, integrity, and greater effectiveness in the federal government. The proposals call on the president-elect to take the following actions during his first days in office:

- Revoke President Bush's executive order on the Presidential Records Act, which undermined the Act by purporting to create new constitutional privileges for the family members and descendants of former presidents and for former vice presidents; commit to working with NARA and Congress to ensure necessary oversight for the transfer and processing of the Bush presidential records; and establish a policy for the new administration to preserve all presidential records of administrative, historical, informational, or evidentiary value.
- Issue a memorandum on the Freedom of Information Act that establishes a policy of maximum possible public disclosure of government records and directing an attorney general memo that re-institutes the presumption of openness under FOIA, calls on agencies to use technology to engage with and inform the public, and commits to creating a more collaborative and less

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2009 Awards Competition and Fellow Nominations

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN
ARCHIVISTS ANNUALLY
RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING
ACHIEVEMENT IN THE
ARCHIVAL PROFESSION
THROUGH AN AWARDS
COMPETITION AND THE
NAMING OF FELLOWS. SAA
OFFERS 18 OPPORTUNITIES
FOR PROFESSIONAL
RECOGNITION, SCHOLARSHIPS,
AND TRAVEL ASSISTANCE IN
THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARCHIVES FIELD

- Distinguished Fellows
- Distinguished Service Award
- Sister M. Claude Lane, OP, Memorial Award
- Spotlight Award

PUBLIC AWARENESS

- J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award
- Philip M. Hamer – Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award

PUBLISHING EXCELLENCE

- C.F.W. Coker Award
- Fellows' Ernst Posner Award
- Preservation Publication Award
- Theodore Calvin Pease Award
- Waldo Gifford Leland Award

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mosaic Student Scholarship
- F. Gerald Ham Scholarship
- Colonial Dames of America Scholarships
- Donna Cutts Scholarship

TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

- Donald Peterson Student Scholarship
- Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award
- Oliver Wendell Holmes Travel Award

For more information on
selection criteria and nomination forms, go to:

Awards: www.archivists.org/recognition/awards.asp

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

Completed forms must be postmarked
by Feb. 28, 2009, with exceptions noted.



Apply for “Connecting to Collections Bookshelf”

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is offering a third distribution of the “Connecting to Collections Bookshelf” for 1,000 qualifying institutions. The bookshelf is a set of resources selected by conservation and preservation experts throughout the country. It contains informative, practical materials to help institutions improve the care of their collections, including a copy of the excellent SAA book, *Photographs: Archival Care and Management*. The application period begins Jan. 5, 2009, and ends March 9, 2009. Applications may be submitted to the American Association for State and Local History at www.aaslh.org/bookshelf or by contacting Terry Jackson at jackson@aaaslh.org.

Project Team Releases Version 1.5 of the Archivists Toolkit

In mid-November the Archivists Toolkit Project Team released version 1.5 of the Archivists’ Toolkit (AT), an open-source collection management and metadata-authoring application.

The project team, with the assistance of many AT users, has identified and fixed many bugs over the last several months. The history of this activity is distilled in the AT 1.5 release notes located in the directory where the AT is installed. All bug descriptions and actions can be viewed at <https://jira.nyu.edu:8443/jira/secure/Dashboard.jspa>. New bugs can be reported using the same tool or by using the bug-reporting function within the AT application.

This version includes new features that provide improved searching, support for combining resource records, customized rapid data entry screens, improved drag-and-drop (re-arrangement) tools, and support for Java 1.6.

Additional innovations are new stylesheets for HTML and EAD to PDF, improved name import, printable and saveable import/export logs, improved import/export of EADs, intermittent “Save” function, reloading of reports without closing the AT application, and improved feedback throughout the application.

For more information about version 1.5, visit <http://www.archiviststoolkit.org/downloads/download1.5.0.shtml>. The project is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The team is comprised of Brian Hoffman, Arwen Hutt, Lee Mandell, Rachel Onuf, Annie Ross, Sibyl Roud, Nathan Stevens, Jason Varghese, and Brad Westbrook.

Nixon Library Releases Additional Tapes and Records

The Nixon Presidential Library recently released approximately 198 hours of tape recordings from the Nixon White House recorded between November and December 1972 and consisting of approximately 1,398 conversations. The conversations cover topics such as the 1972 presidential and congressional elections, reorganization of the executive branch, creation of a “New Majority” for a reinvigorated Republican Party or



Photo: Iman Khan / Los Angeles Times

Meghan Lee, archivist at the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace, holds some of the Jeb Stuart Magruder papers recently added to the library’s holdings. The library also released about 198 hours of tapes from the Nixon White House dating to November and December 1972 and consisting of nearly 1,400 conversations.

new conservative third party, the late stages of the peace negotiations to end the Vietnam War, and the decision to bomb the Hanoi and Haiphong areas in North Vietnam.

This is the twelfth opening of Nixon White House tapes since 1980 and with this release approximately 2,217 hours of tape recordings from the Nixon White House are now available to the public.

All 198 hours of tape recordings are available at the Nixon Presidential Library’s website. They are also available at both the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, California, and at the National Archives’ College Park, Maryland facility.

Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History Reopens

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History reopened its doors to the public last November, providing a new look at the almost 200-year-old Star-Spangled Banner. The museum reopened after a two-year, \$85 million renovation that was paid for by \$45.9 million in federal funding and \$39.1 million in private contributions.

The renovation project focused on three areas: architectural enhancements to the center core, including a grand staircase and skylight; construction of the new Star-Spangled Banner Gallery; and updates to the 44-year-old building’s infrastructure.

President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura



Photo: The Smithsonian

First known photograph of the Star Spangled Banner, taken at the Boston Navy Yard on June 21, 1873.



Bush dedicated the Star-Spangled Banner Gallery during a ceremony on November 19. A special enclosure, fronted by a 35-foot floor-to-ceiling glass wall, protects the fragile wool and cotton Star-Spangled Banner while providing maximum visibility to visitors. The new viewing gallery cost \$19 million and restoration of the flag cost \$8.5 million. The 30-foot-by-34-foot banner is displayed at a horizontal orientation and, in order to reduce stress to the textile, at a 10-degree angle of elevation. The room has low light levels to protect the flag and a separate environmental system that keeps the temperature and humidity in the chamber constant.

Georgia University to Offer Graduate Archival Program

The U.S. Department of Education awarded Clayton State University in Morrow, Georgia, a \$310,479 grant to establish a master's degree program in archival studies. The program, which will be the first in the Southeast, will prepare graduates to work in university libraries, state archives, historical societies, corporate and institutional archives and local governments, history professor Randall Gooden said. "A master's degree program in archival studies will position Clayton State University to become a national leader in educating future archivists and records managers," he added.

—*Atlanta Journal Constitution*

42nd Annual Georgia Archives Institute
June 8-19, 2009
Atlanta, Georgia

Sponsored by
 The Georgia Archives
 Society of Georgia Archivists
 Friends of the Georgia Archives
 Auburn Avenue Research Library

Designed for beginning archivists, manuscript curators, and librarians, the Institute provides general instruction in basic concepts and practices of archival administration and management of traditional and modern documentary materials. The two-week program includes a three-day internship in an area repository.

\$500 tuition, limited enrollment. Deadline is April 1, 2009 for receipt of application and \$75 application fee (refunded if not admitted to institute).

Tuition scholarships are available from: The Society of Georgia Archivists (www.soga.org) and The Friends of the Georgia Archives (www.fotga.org)

For an application to the Institute or additional information, please visit www.georgiaarchivesinstitute.org or contact:

Georgia Archives Institute
 P. O. Box 279
 Morrow, GA 30260-0279
GeorgiaArchivesInstitute@yahoo.com

Brooklyn College Starts Campaign to Preserve Hank Kaplan's Boxing Mementos

A Brooklyn College professor has started a campaign to preserve and display the boxing mementos of the late Hank Kaplan (pictured at right). Kaplan was considered boxing's preeminent historian. The two-car garage in his Florida home became a library to thousands of boxing archives. Boxing writers, authors, researchers, filmmakers, or anyone with an affinity for the sport marveled at Kaplan's collection of books, newspaper and magazine clippings, and other boxing memorabilia.



Photo: Brooklyn College

Kaplan donated the library's archives to Brooklyn College in his will. Kaplan was born in Brooklyn before settling in South Florida in the early 1950s. An estimated 2,000 boxes of items were removed from Kaplan's home and transferred to the college in February 2008. Now a Brooklyn College professor, who befriended Kaplan, is leading the effort to preserve the items and eventually open the library for public use and research. Anthony Cucchiara, who teaches archival management at the college, coordinated the transfer of items from Kaplan's home and estimates the project will cost \$250,000. Cucchiara said once the upgrading of the items is complete, an archivist will be hired to oversee the library. A fund-raising committee consisting of writers and boxing historians has been established and the project already has generated \$3,500 in donations. According to Cucchiara, an independent appraisal done after the items were transferred to Brooklyn lists the library's value at \$2.94 million.

— *The Miami Herald*

Vogue Collecting Back Issues for Archives

French *Vogue* wants your old issues of the magazine, preferably in a vintage older than 1975. The magazine placed a want ad in its December/January issue to invite readers to send in old copies to rebuild its archives in time for its 90th anniversary next year. The ad promised to compensate readers with an exclusive gift. The payoff may not provide much incentive for collectors to part with their magazines. Its archivists, reached at Condé Nast in Paris, offered a choice of a French *Vogue* beauty book or *Vogue à la Mer*, a compilation of beachside images from the magazine.

—*The New York Times*

A Hero Speaks

Afghan Film Head's Response to Receiving Spotlight Award from SAA

Editor's Note: The staff at Afghan Film received SAA's 2008 Spotlight Award for risking their lives to save films that chronicle Afghanistan's culture and history. The award was accepted by Eng. Latif Ahmadi, Head of Afghan Film, during a ceremony at SAA's 72nd Annual Meeting in San Francisco last August. Here is his response to receiving the award.

I wanted you to know what a privilege it was to gather with people who understand the value of cultural heritage and of the Afghan Film archive.

It was a great honor for me to receive the Spotlight Award in August. First of all, from the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank SAA and the Awards Committee. Also,

I would like to thank former president Mark A. Greene and committee members Diane Dimkoff and Lorraine A. Stuart for the invitation, and their guidance and assistance during my trip to San Francisco.

I brought three documentary films from our archive that were on display during the SAA conference. One documented the visit made by the King and Queen of Afghanistan to the United States at the invitation of President John F. Kennedy. Another film depicted the opening ceremony of Afghan Film. The third one showed

how the Taliban burnt release prints on the premises of Afghan Film, and it also included some pictures of our archive.

This Spotlight Award is dedicated to all Afghan people, especially those who saved the archive in the difficult times of the civil war in our country. I witnessed the establishment of the new regime in 1992. Bullets struck my office door and later my office furniture was looted by unknown armed men. The Afghan Film compound was hit by many rockets, which destroyed the still photography room on the second floor and caused extensive damage to original negatives, the sound archive and other equipment, and vehicles.

Our History

Afghanistan is known as one of the greatest countries in Asia, with its rich history and cultural heritage that date back 5,000 years. But in the past 30 years of civil war most of our cultural heritage



Afghan Film staff during the Taliban regime.

has been lost. Our museum has been plundered, the Great Buddhas of Bamiyan destroyed, our historical places have been bombed, our monuments have been destroyed and many other historical antiques have been smuggled out of the country.

Prior to the Ministry of Information and Culture in Afghanistan, an organization known as the Independent Presidency of Media in Kabul was fully functional. Afghan Film was a department in that organization. During those days, once the film was shot, all material was sent to the U.S. for processing and developing. Release prints were then sent back to the department.

Afghan Film was established in 1968 with the cooperation of U.S. AID and operated for 40 years. Afghan Film covered all events that happened in Afghanistan in different periods of time up to the Taliban regime.

Our Plight

After the new regime was established in 1992, the air conditioning system at Afghan Film was damaged and failed during the Taliban regime. Due to lack of electricity—as you know, the archive needs suitable air—negatives were under severe conditions. The Taliban wanted to turn Afghan Film into a weapons depot. Fortunately, they did not reach their aim. Only 11 out of 120 technical personnel remained at Afghan Film. In extremely harsh conditions, we found a way to save more than 6,000 news reels, more than 600 documentaries, and more than 50 feature films.

How the archive was saved by these people is an amazing story. You can get a sense of our actions

continued on page 21



Eng. Latif Ahmadi, head of Afghan Film, accepts SAA's Spotlight Award. At right is Diane Dimkoff of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Photo: Rob Ortner

Photo: Courtesy of Afghan Film



Dead Sea Scrolls To Be Available Online

Last August the Israel Museum in Jerusalem began digitizing the Dead Sea Scrolls. The initial intent was to capture precise digital photos of the scrolls for conservation purposes. Though maintained in a highly controlled environment, the most fragile pieces of the scrolls are deteriorating. Due to constant access requests from scholars and requests from other museums to display the scrolls, it was decided to make the digitized collection available online. Six specialists have been assigned to the two-year digitization project. The Israel Antiquities Authority is the custodian of the original scrolls. The Israel Museum has several of them on permanent display in its Shrine of the Book.

United Kingdom Holds Fifth Annual Archive Awareness Campaign

The British National Archives, the National Council on Archives, and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council of the United Kingdom recently held their fifth annual Archive Awareness campaign. The theme for 2008 was "Take Your Place in History" and campaign activities and events focused on the importance of communities and their role in the making of English history. During the campaign, British archives teamed up with community groups, organizations, and artists to bring local history to life. To see the range of Archive Awareness events, visit www.archiveawareness.com/events.

Find Aussie Relations Using Australian Immigration Records

The National Archives of Australia is digitizing millions of documents relating to Australian immigration. The project, known as "Making Australia Home," is capturing passenger records, case files, naturalization and citizenship records, alien registration forms and, in some cases, photographs. Post-war displaced persons and people travelling on assisted passage schemes are included in the files being digitized. Users simply have to enter the family surname in NAA's RecordSearch database and select "Immigration and Naturalization Records" from the drop-down list. A short video and textual introduction to "Making Australia Home" is available at www.naa.gov.au/records-releases/making-australia-home.aspx.

Archives New Zealand Creates Exhibit on World War I Items

On November 11, 2008, Archives New Zealand opened an exhibit titled "An Impressive Silence: Public Memory and Personal Expression of the Great War." The opening coincided with the 90th anniversary of the end of World War I. The exhibition is comprised of letters and documents, posters, pamphlets, photographs, poems and artifacts organized under the general themes of Off to War, Home Front, Facing the Cost, Coming Home, and Remembrance. An online version of "An Impressive Silence" is available at [http://exhibitions.archives.gov.nz/An Impressive Silence/](http://exhibitions.archives.gov.nz/An%20Impressive%20Silence/). ❖

A Hero Speaks

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when you watch the documentary "Heroes of Saving Afghan Film Archive" at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0jmcfq_Vqg.

Our Gratitude

I was so happy to receive the Spotlight Award, but from the other side I also felt a pain in my heart because our archive will decay soon. Our country has many needs and there are just not funds available for the needs of the archive.

Even though Afghan Film is a governmental institution, I went to the SAA meeting in San Francisco at my own expense. I wanted to share the documentaries I brought with me and to explain the reality of our situation at Afghan Film. I will never forget the ovation that you gave me when I received the award during the ceremony. I was too overwhelmed to speak at that time. So I thank you for this opportunity now and I wanted you to know what a privilege it was to gather with people who understand the value of cultural heritage and of the Afghan Film archive—people who perhaps can help and guide an institution which was established by U.S. AID.

Thank you again. ❖

Eng. Latif Ahmadi welcomes your emails at eng_latif_film@yahoo.com.



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Wedded Bliss in San Francisco

KATHY MARQUIS, Albany County (Wyoming) Public Library

Last August's SAA Annual Meeting brought archivists from all over the world to San Francisco. It also provided a happy coincidence for gay and lesbian SAA members who realized that they could combine their conference trip to the City by the Bay with a chance to be legally married.

"Oh, we would have been married long ago if we could have—we've been together 15 years!" noted Sammie Morris, head of Archives and Special Collections at Purdue University Libraries in West Lafayette, Indiana. "But didn't think it was possible until we realized that SAA was going to be in San Francisco." She and her now wife Blythe Lee were married, with an archivist friend as a witness and photographer.

I became aware of this phenomenon when traveling to China this October with a group of archivists, including David McCartney, university archivist at the University of Iowa, and his husband, James Petersen. I sent an inquiry to the e-list of the Lesbian and Gay Archivists Roundtable (LAGAR) to find out if others had tied the knot at the annual meeting. David wrote to me, "James and I were married on August 28 at Oakland City Hall. Two of our closest friends [joined us to be] witnesses. James and I have been together for 23 years. Still, we never dreamed this would be possible and it was a day of great joy for us."

Jim (last names withheld by request) wrote that, "Wally and I got married in San Francisco City Hall, 26 August. A few friends, all from SAA, attended and served as witnesses. My family are staunch Mormons. Though Wally and I celebrated our twelfth anniversary a couple of weeks after our marriage, none of my family ever ask about



MAKING IT OFFICIAL Gay and lesbian SAA members and their significant others married in San Francisco in August 2008. From top: David McCartney and James Petersen; Robin Chandler and Waverly Lowell; Wally and Jim (last names withheld by request).

him or mention him in conversation with me. I have not announced our marriage to them."

Waverly Lowell, a curator at the University of California, Berkeley, and Robin Chandler, director of the Digital Library Program at the University of San Diego, are both SAA members and were also married just before the meeting. They are Bay Area residents, but were married at a time when visiting friends could celebrate with them.

My inquiry about couples who wed at the SAA Annual Meeting elicited congratulatory emails on the LAGAR listserv from as far away as Australia—including exhortations for all in California to go out and vote against Proposition 8, a ballot proposition that would change the state constitution to restrict the definition of marriage to a union between a man and a woman and eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry. However, on Election Day in November, California voters passed this constitutional amendment by 52 percent.

This marks the first time that a state has rescinded the right to marry after same-sex marriages had already taken place. Protests concerning the passage of Prop 8 have taken place from Boston to Los Angeles. California Attorney General Jerry Brown said the initiative would not invalidate the marriage of the 18,000 couples who had married in the state since May. The California Supreme Court also has said that it would take up the case of whether a voter-approved ban on same-sex unions was constitutional.

Congratulations to all who made this meeting a historic joining of minds—and hearts. What a handy way to remember your anniversary in years to come! ❖

Around SAA . . .

Call for Student Paper and Poster Presentations

SAA's 2009 Student Program Subcommittee is accepting proposals for two special sessions dedicated to student scholarship at ARCHIVES 2009—the joint Annual Meeting of SAA and the Council of State Archivists in Austin, Texas, August 11–16. For submission instructions, go to: <http://www.archivists.org/conference/austin2009/AM09-call-students.asp>. Proposals must be

received no later than January 30, 2009, and must be sent electronically to: studentsessions@archivists.org.

Task Force Will Study Feasibility of SAA Values Statement

At its August 25, 2008, meeting the SAA Council adopted a motion to create a three-person task force, "composed of one Council member, one senior member of the profession, and one junior member of the profession, to discuss and make the following recommendations to the Council at its Spring 2009 meeting: 1) whether SAA should formally undertake a process of debating and defining a set of professional values and 2) if so, what process should be used to accomplish this end, including the recommended composition of a second task force, timeline for completion, ideas about how to engender wide participation in the discussion, and recommendations about how to vet and/or approve a final product. . . ." SAA Vice President Peter Gottlieb has appointed Council Member Rosalye Settles, past President Rand Jimerson, and Tamar Evangelestia-Dougherty to the task force.

University of Tennessee Forms Student Chapter

The University of Tennessee in Knoxville recently formed a student chapter headed by Faculty Advisor Jennifer Benedetto Beals. The "Volunteers" have scheduled archives tours, held preservation workshops during American Archives Month, and are lobbying to form an archives track at Tennessee's School of Information Sciences.



Pictured above, from left: Greg Hall, Sarah Shippy Copeland, Justin Eastwood (treasurer), Laura Starratt (president), Nancy Williams (vice president), and Christopher Caldwell (secretary). Not pictured are: Carla Poore, Jason Roberts, and Tim Vasser.

Disaster Fund Grant Goes to Rosenberg Library in Galveston

The National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives has given a \$2,000 award to the Rosenberg Library Association in Galveston, Texas. The Rosenberg Library was hit hard by Hurricane Ike floodwaters in September and will use the award to purchase dehumidifiers to stabilize its collections. For more information about the National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives, or to make a contribution, go to <http://www.archivists.org/membership/funds.asp>.

Has the Digital Millennium Copyright Act Stymied Your Work?

Are the anti-circumvention provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA; Title 17, Sec. 1201) getting you down? SAA's Intellectual Property Working Group wants to know if your work has been stymied or inhibited by the DMCA. Every three years the Library of Congress determines special exceptions to the Act. By specifically providing rules for exceptions, Congress recognizes that these bans could prevent the legitimate actions that archivists need to take to collect, preserve, and make works available. You can review Section 1201: Circumvention of Copyright Protection Systems at: <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/openlaw/DVD/1201.html#a> and send your response to Aprille McKay of the University of Michigan at aprillem@umich.edu.

Schellenberg's Modern Archives Now Online

Modern Archives: Principles and Techniques is a classic collection of writings from 1956 by Theodore R. Schellenberg that provide the very basis of theory and practice for the American archival profession. It is now available as an e-Pub on SAA's website and includes an introduction added in 2003 by former North Carolina State Archivist H.G. Jones, who was a student of Schellenberg's. You can download the pdf at <http://www.archivists.org/publications/epubs/ModernArchives-Schellenberg.pdf>.

New Campus Case Study Looks at DSpace Institutional Repository Software

In Case 10 of SAA's Campus Case Studies series, Julia Hendry of the University of Illinois at Chicago reports that using the DSpace institutional repository software is an effective solution for the submission, search, and retrieval of a set of vital university records. The case study—"Managing UIC Medical Center Policies Using Dspace"—discusses the process of using the software to manage the Medical Center's electronic policies and procedures documents.

In addition, on the Campus Case Studies index page, there's a link in the left column under "Other Resources" to the recent e-Records symposium on "Managing University Digital Assets and Resources," which was co-sponsored by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation University Archivists Group and Michigan State University's Office of Libraries, Computing and Technology.

Find both of these additions at: <http://www.archivists.org/publications/epubs/CampusCaseStudies/casestudies.asp>.



ELIZABETH ADKINS was among several employees worldwide honored in November by the Ford Motor Company at the "2008 Global Diversity and Inclusion Summit" held in Dearborn, Michigan. Adkins was nominated by a colleague for the "Building a Respectful and Inclusive Environment" award category. She is the manager of Global Archives and Audiovisual Assets at Ford and served as SAA President in 2006–2007.



LUCY BARBER has been named deputy executive director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), effective November 5, 2008. Barber is an archivist specializing in electronic records and digital technology. She will oversee the commission's grant-making programs and general operations and serve as deputy to Executive Director Kathleen Williams. Barber is the author of *Marching on Washington: The Creation of a National Political Tradition* (University of California Press, 2003). In 2006 she was named director of technology initiatives at the NHPRC, overseeing policy and grants for archival projects.



BRENDA BURK recently received an honorary Future Farmers of America (FFA) degree from the National FFA Organization for her contributions in helping to advance agricultural education and the FFA. Burk is an archivist for the University Library at Indiana University and Purdue University in Indianapolis. She is a member of the Ruth Lilly Special Collections and Archives Team. Her name will be added

to the organization's permanent records and appear in the Archives of the National FFA Award Winners database, a resource that she helped create.

ELIZABETH DELMAGE recently joined the The Georgia Historical Society (GHS) in Savannah as a project archivist. She will conduct a backlog survey of the Society's archival collection and then process the materials. The project is funded by a recent grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Delmage earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Rhode Island. Prior to joining the GHS, she worked for the Rhode Island Historical Society.



KEVIN B. LEONARD has been named university archivist for the Northwestern University Archives in Evanston, Illinois. Leonard holds degrees in history from Northwestern and began working in the University Archives as an undergraduate student assistant in the mid-1970s. He returned to the staff as a full-time employee in 1980, serving as assistant, associate, and acting university archivist.



SUSAN MALBIN has joined the American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) as its new director of library and archives. Malbin is charged with boosting online access to archives and acquiring materials born digital. The AJHS archives include more than 20 million documents and 50,000 books, photographs, art and artifacts that reflect the Jewish presence in the United States from 1654 to the present. Malbin most recently was a senior program officer at the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

KEN THIBODEAU received the 38th Emmett Leahy Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Information and Records Management Profession at the Annual Business Meeting of the Institute of Certified Records Managers in October. Thibodeau is director of the Electronic Records Archives Program at the National Archives and Records Administration. The award committee noted that Thibodeau had a major role in the development of DoD 5015.2 and conceptualization of ISO 14721, the Open Archives Information System. In conjunction with computer scientists and engineers at the San Diego Supercomputer Center, he established a conceptual architecture for the persistent preservation of electronic records. This architecture includes an archival system that is independent of its information technology infrastructure so that hardware or software components can be replaced with minimal impact on the system as a whole and negligible impact on the records preserved in it.

In Memoriam

SAMUEL SCHOPPEE SILSBY JR., 80, died November 17, 2008, at his home in Augusta, Georgia, after a long illness. Silsby was born in Bangor, Maine, and received his bachelor's degree in 1949 from the University of Maine. He earned a law degree from Boston University in 1952, and served in the U.S. Army until 1954. Silsby had a long career in state government, and later as Maine's first state archivist from 1966 until he retired in 1978. He was nationally recognized for his expertise in the management and preservation of public records. Silsby was an avid student of American and English history, and of the Silsby family genealogy. He was a passionate and lifelong collector of books and old hand tools. He was devoted to his family and to his pets.

— *Bangor Daily News*

Colleagues Honored in Washington, D.C.



On Dec. 8, 2008, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library was honored in Washington, D.C., with a \$100,000 Mellon Award for Technology Collaboration. The award was given for its leadership and development work on Archon, a set of web-based tools for describing archives and manuscripts collections, and for providing online access to related digital objects, such as photographs and electronic records. **Chris Prom** (pictured above on right), assistant university archivist and associate professor of library administration, accepted the award on behalf of the university. Prom and Archon Project co-director **Scott Schwartz** (archivist for fine and applied arts and director of the Sousa Archives and Center for American Music) developed the software with three of their students: **Chris Rishel, Kyle Fox, and Paul Sorensen**. The software was first released in August 2006 and has gone through several refinements.



President George W. Bush conferred the Presidential Citizens Medal on **ROBERT S. MARTIN**, former director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, on November 17, 2008. Bush made the announcement at an East Room ceremony honoring 23 recipients of the 2008 National Medals of Arts and National Humanities Medals. Martin was named director of the IMLS in June 2001 and served in the post for four years. He is now a professor of library science at Texas Woman's University. "As leaders of our government's cultural institutions, each of today's recipients has made lasting contributions to American life and civic culture and each is greatly deserving of this honor," Bush said in his remarks. The medals recognize contributions to art, music, theater, literature, history, and general scholarship. According to the White House, the Presidential Citizens Medal was created nearly four decades ago to recognize Americans who have performed exemplary service to our nation.

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Call for Participants ★ Call for Presentations

2009 RESEARCH FORUM “FOUNDATIONS AND INNOVATIONS”



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Participants' response to the first two annual SAA Research Forums confirmed that the full spectrum of research activities—from “pure” research to applied research to innovative practice—is of great interest and value to the archives community. The 2009 Research Forum will build on previous success by continuing with a full day of presentations.

If you're:

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

Then join us for the 3rd Annual SAA Research Forum: “Foundations and Innovations”!

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

The 3rd Annual SAA Research Forum will be held at ARCHIVES 2009 to acknowledge current—and encourage future—research and innovation from across the archives community and for the benefit of the archives profession.

RESEARCH FORUM EVENTS AT ARCHIVES 2009

The following events are planned for 2009:

- **Research Workshop** (Monday, August 10, 9:00 am–4:00 pm): A one-day session that will provide guidance and advice for conducting research, from defining the scope to presenting the results.
- **Research Presentations and Posters** (Tuesday, August 11, 9:00 am–5:00 pm): Here's your chance to present, discuss, listen to, or view research reports and results on a variety of topics. The final 30 minutes of this session will seek input for SAA's 2010 Research Forum.
- **“Office Hours” in the Exhibit Hall** (Thursday, August 13, and Friday, August 14): Research Forum organizers will be on hand to hear your ideas about the Forum and for *ad hoc* discussions about specific research projects.
- **Poster Sessions**: Be sure to make time to visit the poster sessions, which will include practice innovation and research topics.

CALL FOR PLATFORM AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

SAA invites submission of abstracts (of 250 words or less) for either 10-minute platform presentations or poster presentations. Topics may address research on, or innovations in, any aspect of archival practice or records management in government, corporate, academic, scientific, or other setting. Presentations on research results that may have emerged since the SAA Call for Proposals deadline in October 2008 are welcome, as are reports on research completed within the past three years that you think is relevant and valuable for discussion. Please indicate whether you intend a platform or poster presentation.

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

Deadline for submission of abstracts: May 1, 2009. You will be notified of the review committee's decision by June 15.

Submit your 250-word abstract no later than May 1 via email to researchforum@archivists.org.

Archivists in Control

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management issues. Some of the concepts introduced were not new, but had never been explained to me in such an archivist-friendly manner. No wonder our colleagues at DICE were the recipients of SAA's 2008 J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award!

So, what did we do each day in summer camp?

- Day 1 began with Electronic Records 101, a review of the challenges inherent in capturing, appraising, describing, and preserving electronic records. We continued with discussions of the components of an electronic records program, an introduction to iRODS, and the concept of infrastructure independence.
- Day 2 covered the appraisal and disposition of electronic records. Discussion was followed by a demonstration of automatic file type identification and report creation, a demonstration of PAWN ingestion software with a hands-on component, and a demonstration of social appraisal and automated accessioning.
- Day 3 focused on the arrangement and description of electronic records. We discussed SIPs, AIPs, and DIPs, and the policies required for each; the concept of logical vs physical arrangement; and how to turn policies into rules. Then we had demonstrations of automated arrangement and description and hands-on practice with adding metadata to individual items in iRODS.
- Day 4 continued with the preservation of and access to electronic records. We discussed the components and mechanisms of the preservation environment and the advantages of federated networks. The afternoon was filled with demonstrations of the SRB Replication Monitor and ACE Audit Manager; the Fedora client connected to an iRODS data grid; email notification; workflow technology; NARA archival information locator files; and indexed access to genealogical material (Reagan's hobby).
- Day 5 was the conclusion of a very full week. We talked about scalability and policy development, with the class reviewing and expanding the list of required policies developed by the July summer camp attendees. The day concluded with a discussion of preservation technologies, costs, and required expertise for establishing and maintaining a digital repository.

The Setting and Other Discoveries

UC San Diego is located in beautiful, pricey La Jolla, California, a coastal town more known for its upscale dining and shopping than for its affordable hotel rooms. In order to enhance the "summer camp" experience, workshop attendees shared dormitory suites in Asante House on the UC San Diego campus and took an easy walk to the San Diego Supercomputer Center every day for classes. Meals were provided in the cafeteria three times a day, but if you wanted



A walk down a steep cliff led to the beach in La Jolla, California. From left: Margo Young, Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Helen Tibbo, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and Becky Schulte, University of Kansas.

snacks or beverages in-between you had to either know someone with a car who could take you to a local grocery store or suffer the high prices at the little convenience store in the university's conference office.

The cafeteria experience was made especially memorable by sharing each meal with hordes of junior police academy cadets-in-training ("Sir, yes sir!") and other summer school students who, for the most part, were extremely respectful of our group of "mature adults." There was something so decadent about having meals provided by merely picking up a tray and pointing at the desired selection that, by the end of the week, some of us had actually begun to dread returning home to grocery shopping and meal preparation. While living on a college campus reminded us of all the things we hated about dormitory life in our younger college years, any perceived or actual discomfort could be remedied by attending "Club Asante," an after-hours drinking venue in the dormitory courtyard invented by the 2007 ER Summer Camp attendees and gamely continued by our 2008 group.

Summer camp evenings were spent exploring La Jolla and San Diego, including dining out and experiencing the local nightlife, hiking to the coast, and exploring the UC campus. The Torrey Pines Gliderport was a popular destination for beautiful sunset views of the Pacific Ocean, and a strenuous hike down rugged cliffs rewarded some campers with a walk on West Coast sand.

The Control Issue . . .

Electronic Records Summer Camp was a fantastic experience, and yes, my fellow campers were right to be jealous. Reagan and Richard have joined our Carolina Digital Repository Steering Committee here at UNC Chapel Hill, and we are already benefiting from their expertise.

And when I'm feeling particularly frustrated by institutional bureaucracy and increasingly scarce resources, I happily remind myself that "Archivists [are] in Control!" ❖

Make plans to attend the 2009 Electronic Records Summer Camp in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, in July. Details to come.

adversarial relationship with the public on issues involving access to information.

- Issue a presidential directive rejecting prior abuses of the classification system and tasking the relevant executive branch agencies to develop a new executive order on classification that will reduce over classification, add internal mechanisms to prevent classification abuses, ensure consideration of the public interest throughout the lifecycle of classified information, and improve the declassification process and information sharing.

Senate Panel Issues Report on New NHPRC Grant Programs

As we reported in our last column, Congress recently enacted into law, the "Presidential Historical Records Preservation Act of 2008" (PL 110-404, S. 3477) to promote funding to preserve, digitize, and provide online access to documents of historical significance that may not have received funding in the past.

In November, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee issued a report making it clear that the new programs created under the law should not supersede existing categories of grants in competing for National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) funds. The report language alleviated concerns that funding for the new programs would threaten the existence of long-standing existing projects that rely on NHPRC money.

The committee report states NHPRC should have the discretion to determine what eligible programs are given priority out of existing funds. The Committee also supported providing the fully authorized amount of \$10 million in annual appropriations for the commission.

The National Coalition for History opposed the original version of the Presidential Historical Records Act and in a letter to the Committee called for many of these same changes that were made in the bill before it was enacted and in the final report language. NCH argued that the new grants initiatives would put further strain on the already severely limited financial and human resources that the NHPRC has at its disposal. In addition, NCH argued that unlike NHPRC's existing authorization statute, the bill as introduced removed the discretion of the Archivist and the Commission in making grants to non-federal entities in possession of presidential documents with historical value.

The law creates two new NHPRC grant programs. The first would provide funding to institutions to preserve documents associated with presidents who do not have presidential libraries under the existing National Archives Presidential Library system. Through the Presidential Libraries Act of 1955, the National Archives and Records Administration currently manages and maintains 12 Presidential libraries (from President Hoover to President Clinton). However, there are many historically significant documents associated with presidents that preceded President Hoover which are not maintained by federally owned archival depositories.

The new law sets stringent requirements for entities seeking funding under the new "Grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence" program. Activities conducted under the grant process would have to be included in the National Archives annual budget filings.

Under the new law, the NHPRC could award grants on a competitive basis to public-private partnerships to enhance preservation and public access to historical presidential records that are owned by private libraries. Institutions applying for funds under this process must be either not-for-profit or owned by a state or local government. Entities competing for grants under the law would be required to receive matching grants from non-federal sources; ensure a plan is in place to preserve and provide public access to the historical documents; provide a facility that is capable of appropriately preserving the documents; and provide free public access to the documents.

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs requires the NHPRC to issue a report identifying current entities that fit the requirements and would be able to apply for grants.

Under the second program, the National Archives could create an electronically searchable database of historic records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction contained within federal agencies for genealogical and historical research and to assist in the preservation of these records. The bill gives the NHPRC the authority to provide grants to states, colleges and universities and genealogical associations to preserve records and establish databases of local records of such information. ❖

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Mechanics of SAA Governance

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Okay, so now you have the beginning of a big picture of SAA and how it works. You're itching to participate, right? What can you do?

Read. Read the SAA website. It's a rich source of information and we're always working to add to its content. Read the *American Archivist*, which will make you smarter! Read *Archival Outlook* (published every other month) for information about connecting with others and *Online News* (published every other week) for quick tips, deadlines, and other information about SAA. Sign up for membership in two sections and two roundtables (included in your membership dues), and start tracking what's happening on their listservs. Subscribe to the Archives & Archivists List, which is open to anyone and is a great place to eavesdrop or contribute to what archivists are talking about.

Network within SAA groups. Get in touch with your section and roundtable leaders. Introduce yourself. Tell them you want to participate. Both sections and roundtables provide an informal link with people who share your interests—and an opportunity to develop your leadership skills.

Volunteer. Figure out what needs doing, then volunteer to do it! Answer the "Call to Service in SAA" (see page 11 of the November/December 2008 issue of *Archival Outlook*) or contact your section or roundtable leaders to offer your help.

Attend the Annual Meeting. Many SAA groups meet just once a year—at the Annual Meeting. Many group elections take place once a year—at the Annual Meeting. This is the one time a year when everyone has the opportunity to "put a face with a name." The Annual Meeting is a critical networking opportunity for professionals from every archives environment. Whether you're a student, starting a new career, or well-established in the archives profession, attending the Annual Meeting is one of the best investments you can make in your career. (See page 17 for more information about travel awards for which you may be eligible.) Make yourself visible: Present a poster. Serve on a session panel. Attend a pre-conference workshop. Bring your professional challenges with you, and chances are you'll at least view them differently after the meeting—and probably make some new friends in the process!

Join. Join a local or regional archives association (<http://www.archivists.org/assoc-orgs/directory/index.asp>) to keep your finger on the pulse of archives issues in your geographic area. And if you're a student, join—and get active in—your institution's student chapter. (See http://www.archivists.org/students/chap_dir.asp for a list of SAA student chapters and for information about forming one.) ❖



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Green Facilities

April 21 • 1:00 CST

Upcoming Workshops:**Arrangement and Description of Manuscript Collections**

March 5–6 • Newport News, VA

An Introduction to Archival ExhibitionsMarch 6 • Chicago, IL
June 22 • University Park, PA**Understanding Photographs: Introduction to Archival Principles and Practices**March 9–10 • Philadelphia, PA
May 7–8 • New York, NY (date change)**MARC According to DACS: Archival Cataloguing to the National Content Standard**March 11–12 • Durham, NC
April 2–3 • Kent, OH (date change)**Analyzing and Improving Archival Websites**

March 16 • Princeton, PA

Preservation of 20th-Century Visual Materials

March 18–19 • Milwaukee, WI

Business Archives: Establishing and Managing an Archives

March 25–27 • Boston, MA

Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities

March 26–27 • Morrow, GA

Moving Images:**An Introduction to Archivists**

April 13 • University Park, PA

Using Oral Histories:**Publications, Exhibits, Internet**

April 15 • Portland, OR (date change)

Management of Cultural Institutions

April 16 • Portland, OR (date change)

Archivists' Guide to Balancing Legal Issues in Photographic Collections

May 11 • University Park, PA

Style Sheets for EAD—Delivering Your Finding Aids on the Web

May 14–15 • Ithaca, NY

Association Archives: Managing Your Institutional Memory

May 15 • Minneapolis, MN

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

May 15 • San Antonio, TX

Archives Leadership InstituteJuly 19–25 • Madison, WI
*Application Deadline: January 20!*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****April 1–3**"DigCCurr 2009: Digital Curation Practice, Promise, and Prospects" at School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. For more info, www.ils.unc.edu/digccurr/institute.html.**April 30–May 2**The Midwest Archives Conference 2009 Annual Meeting in St. Louis at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis Riverfront. The conference will be a joint meeting of MAC, the Association of St. Louis Area Archivists and the St. Louis Area Religious Archivists. For more info, go to: www.midwestarchives.org or contact Scott Grimwood at Scott_Grimwood@ssmhc.com.**June 3–5**The New York Archives Conference will host their 2009 Annual Conference at LeMoyne College in Syracuse, New York. Program includes workshops, a plenary speaker, conference sessions, Thursday evening reception, Friday luncheon, and tours. On-campus housing available and scholarships for attending the conference will be offered. Information including the detailed program and scholarship information will be available in early 2009 at <http://www.nyarchivists.org/>.**July 19–25**

The University of Wisconsin will hold its second leadership institute for archives professionals in Madison. The week-long event will feature presentations by dynamic people in the archival field and relevant leaders outside the profession. The goal of the project is to examine the leadership needs of the archives profession and to prepare participants to influence policy and effect change on behalf of the profession. The program is directed primarily at mid-level to senior staff and archivists who aspire to leadership roles in their organizations and/or professional associations.

Twenty-five archivists will be selected to spend the week at the university's lake-shore conference center and guest house. Most costs are covered by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and the registration fee of \$550 includes tuition, instructional materials, lodging and some meals. A number of scholarships for travel and tuition will be awarded. Application materials can be downloaded at <http://www.slis.wisc.edu/continued/archivesinst/>. **Application deadline: January 20, 2009.**For additional information, contact: Jane Pearlmutter, associate director, UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies, at 608-262-6398 or jpearlmu@wisc.edu.



FUNDING

Archive Internship (Summer 2009) Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian Archives

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Archives is pleased to offer a 10 to 12 week Archive Internship for the summer session at its Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Maryland. The NMAI Archives preserves the history of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation (MAI), the predecessor of the NMAI, and special collections. Internships are available in both the Paper Archives and Photo Archives. For details on each type and information on the NMAI Archives, go to: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/naa/siasc/nmai.htm>. The session begins the first full week in June 2009. The Smithsonian Institution welcomes the opportunity to work cooperatively with schools seeking to grant academic credit for internships. The Smithsonian does not grant academic credit. Travel, housing, and stipends may be provided to students on a limited basis. Students receiving stipends must work full time (forty hours per week). **Application Deadline: February 6, 2009.** Find the application form at: http://www.nmai.si.edu/collaboration/files/NMAIProgramGuide_ENG_interns.pdf.

Research Travel Grant—Duke University

The Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture, part of the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library at Duke University, announces the availability of Mary Lily Research Grants for research travel to our collections. The Sallie Bingham Center documents the public and private lives of women through a wide variety of published and unpublished sources. Collections of personal papers, family papers, and organizational records complement print sources such as books and periodicals. Particular strengths of the Sallie Bingham Center are feminism in the U.S., women's prescriptive literature from the 19th and 20th centuries, girls' literature, magazines, artist's books by women, gender and sexuality, and the history and culture of women in the South. Mary Lily Research grants are for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and independent scholars conducting research using collections held by the Sallie Bingham Center. Applicants must live outside of a 50-mile radius from Durham, NC. The maximum award per applicant is \$1,000. **The deadline for application is January 30, 2009,** and recipients will be announced in March 2009. For more info: <http://library.duke.edu/specialcollections/ingham/grants>.

Lemelson Center Special Project: Online Archival Practices Internship (Summer 2009)

The Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, offers a full-time (40 hours per week) special project internship

opportunity for 10 weeks. The internship stipend is \$6,000. Housing and benefits are not provided. **Scope of Internship:** The internship is located in the Lemelson Center, an interdisciplinary unit dedicated to documenting, preserving, and disseminating information about the history of invention. The intern will collaborate with the Lemelson Center archivist and historians to develop the Documenting Invention section of the Lemelson Center's website: <http://invention.smithsonian.org>. Documenting Invention will serve as a guide for archivists, museum curators, oral historians, and other researchers studying or collecting in the field of the history of invention. The site will disseminate information about the center's ongoing work, findings, and resources on documenting inventors and the invention process; will offer guidelines and present current thinking on documenting invention beyond the paper record; and will bring together diverse sources relevant to the center's documentation work in an easy-to-navigate site.

Qualifications: Knowledge of archival theory and practices; Experience organizing, writing, and preparing materials for the Web; Knowledge of most of the following: Adobe Dreamweaver, Photoshop CS3, Acrobat, Adobe Audition; Experience with databases; Experience with handling audio-visual materials and editing video a plus; Experience with blogging or setting up a blog; knowledge of TypePad a plus; Ability to work in both PC and Mac platforms; Ability to work independently, take initiative, and problem solve; and Must be hardworking, meticulous, dedicated, accountable, and time-conscious.

Duties: Apply archival concepts to establish an intellectual framework and organize materials for presentation on the web; Format, edit, and prepare documents and images for web; Assist in laying out the website; and Other duties as assigned.

Application Process: Applicants must be enrolled in a graduate degree program and have completed graduate course work in archival, library, or information management, and/or graduate course work in American history, or another area that relates to the history of invention and innovation in American society. Coursework or relevant experience in graphic design a plus. Recent graduates may also apply. Applicants should submit one copy of the application form, available online at: http://invention.smithsonian.org/downloads/archives_intern_app.doc; two letters of recommendation; official academic transcripts (undergraduate and graduate); example(s) of Web work, including writing, information design, and/or graphic design, with the URL; and an essay discussing their interest in this internship and how it will benefit them. Mail or email completed application form and all materials requested to Alison L. Oswald. **All materials must be postmarked by March 2, 2009 for consideration.** Offers will be made by April 6, 2009. The internship begins on or after June 1, 2009. Contact: Alison L. Oswald, Archivist, National



Freelance Archival Project in Connecticut May–July 2009

Objective: Preparation of Survey of Family Papers

Time Period: May 16–July 11 (8 weeks)

Location: Stonington Borough, Conn
(Mystic/New London train stations)

Stipend: Freelance - \$300 per week, private housing provided with Internet connection

Qualifications: Prior archival experience preferred. Applicants should have a BA in a relevant Humanities field as well as at least one year of training in a archival management degree program or employment as a professional archivist. **Project:** The aim is to prepare a survey of family papers belonging to Ernie O'Malley (1897–1957), Helen Hooker O'Malley (1905–1993) and Cormac O'Malley (1942–) to help identify their content, nature, period, location (within system of drawers and boxes) and size (shelf space) in sufficient detail so that the survey can be used to consider options for retention or disposition by sale or donation to relevant archives. Subjects covered include 20th-Century Irish history and international arts and letters. **Application: Submit expression of interest with cv by February 28, 2009, to:** Cormac O'Malley [comlaw@inch.com]. Interview and personal references are required. Selection decision should be completed by April 15.

Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Archives Center, P.O. Box 37012, Room 1110/MRC 601, Washington, DC 20013-7012, Phone: (202) 633-3726, Fax: (202) 786.2453, Email: oswalda@si.edu; <http://www.si.edu/lemelson/lemelson/internships.html>.

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives Offers Research Grants

The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in Nashville, Tennessee, is sponsoring a program that will offer grants to support research in the archives. The Lynn E. May, Jr. Study Grants provide a maximum of \$750 to cover research expenses, including travel and lodging, photocopies, mileage, and other items. University professors, students, historians, and other researchers may apply for the grants. Applicants should state the research topic, chronological period to be covered in the study, the length of research time to be spent, and a list of possible resources for study (names of Baptist publications, archival collections, etc.). Grant recipients must agree to place in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives a copy of their dissertation, monograph, paper, or article developed from the project the grant helps fund. An application is available for download at http://www.sbhla.org/sg_info.htm. Send to Bill Sumners, SBHLA Director. **Application deadline: April 1, 2009.**



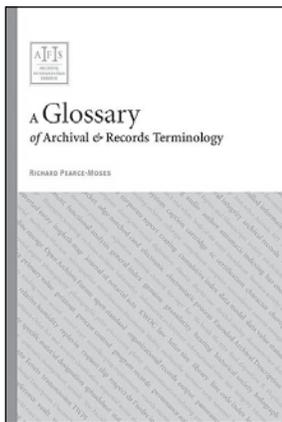
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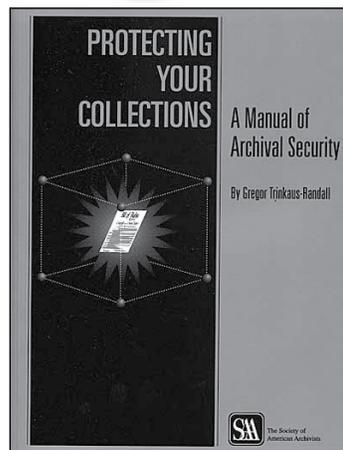
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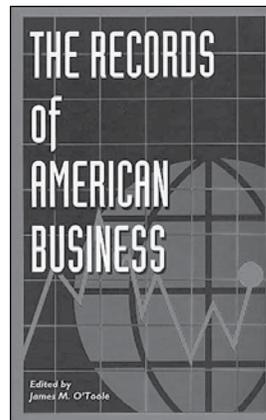
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