

## 2019 Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time MAC Meeting Attendees Recipient Gives Thanks



### Sabrina Gorse

Before I begin, I want to thank MAC and the Emeritus Scholarship Committee for selecting me as a recipient of the 2019 Emeritus Scholarship for First-Time Meeting Attendees. I am honored to have been given this opportunity to learn from and contribute to the spring 2019 Midwest Archives Conference Annual Meeting; I enjoyed attending the sessions and listening to the innovative ways that others are contributing to the archival profession in the Midwest.

The scholarship has introduced me to new ideas on how to promote my place of work and the value of archives to the public. At the Missouri Historical Society, I am processing the 1940s materials of the Sievers Studio Collection and promoting the collection to the public. With this in mind, it was no surprise that MAC's session "Innovative Entertainment Outreach" caught my attention. It was inspiring to hear how each panelist displayed the value of their collections to the public by trying something outside the norm and by taking inspiration from unorthodox sources. Heather Stecklein of the UW–Stout Archives and Area Research Center, for example, built her Stouts Secrets Campus Walking Tours into her university's campus events, while Megan Atkinson of the Tennessee Tech University Archives and Special Collections saw the Putnam County Fair as the stage to showcase her university's highlights. I intend to use what I learned—the bravery to take a creative risk and the perception to take advantage of unusual resources—to showcase the Sievers Studio Collection to new eyes and ears.

Through the scholarship, I was also able to speak about my work with the Association of St. Louis Area Archivists (ASLAA) Serves and to attend sessions to improve my capabilities for the team. ASLAA Serves organizes archival community service projects in the St. Louis region. My colleague Rena Schergen and I presented on our projects in the panel "Transforming Outreach with Community Archives," contributing to current discussions on how to assist local institutions with their collections. Going forward, sessions like "Reach Out! I'll Be There: Four Institutional Approaches to Transparency and Access" have offered me new ideas on how to proceed in my work with ASLAA Serves. In this session, the panelists

emphasized the need to continually build trust with the host institutions and maintain open communication with them. Scott Kirycki of the University of Notre Dame, for instance, utilized records management surveys to understand what records his university's departments were keeping and to develop a plan for future consultation and outreach. ASLAA Serves has worked closely with our host institutions to determine the best ways to help them in their projects, but we need a more formal manner for gathering and recording feedback of our work. This session will be at the forefront of my mind as I collaborate with ASLAA Serves to fix this weak point.

I look forward to further interacting with and contributing to MAC's professional community. It will be exciting to see what MAC comes up with next. Thank you so much!

**LUCIDEA**

### Archives Collections Management

OUR TOOLS, YOUR CREATIVITY. UNRIVALED.

# ARCHIVERA

Archives Collections Management built for today's challenges, ready for tomorrow's

For archives of any size or budget. Traditional and digital archives collections management, now with Artificial Intelligence.

Request a free demo—see our unrivaled capabilities for yourself! [sales@lucidea.com](mailto:sales@lucidea.com)

[lucidea.com/archivera](http://lucidea.com/archivera)