

# MAC midwest archives conference

## n e w s l e t t e r

*Preserving the Documents of the Past and Making Them Accessible to the Future!*

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### President's Page

## MAC midwest archives conference

January 2023

Dear MAC members,

Happy New Year! As the calendar switches to January, we start to think of what will come during the year. At Ohio State University Archives, that includes an addition to our stacks after years of planning. As I watch the construction crews build the new space, I wonder—what collections will fill it up? Even the big new space will not last forever. What will we choose to include? Can we add to the voices in the stacks? Where can we find those voices?

Outreach is part of that growth. After the Fall Symposium on outreach and engagement, I returned to Columbus after two amazing days in Indianapolis and wondered what outreach activities should be on my list. The workshop helped me focus on a key program that has the potential to bring in new collections from underrepresented student organizations. What could it look like if those voices started to fill the stacks? What resources do we need to be successful? Who can help? While I am still in the planning phase as I write this column, I want to thank the speakers (Carey Champion, Carrie Schwier, and Carol Street) and the organizers (Bethany Fiechter and Jackie Shalberg) for creating a wonderful opportunity for members of MAC and the Society of Indiana Archivists. I learned so much from them and from the other attendees. I can't wait to continue the conversations in Chicago!

Speaking of Chicago and the Annual Meeting, I am very excited to announce that the Mark A. Greene Award for First-Time Meeting Attendees has been fully funded. This would not have been possible without the generosity of our members and especially of Kathy Marquis who provided matching funds so we



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could reach our goal. One of the many donors to the fund stated in an email, “Mark’s passion and impact on our industry in terms of how we now define archival processing and procedures to get more with less process has been amazing.” I think we can all agree! In addition to Kathy and the other donors, I would also like to thank Natalia Gutiérrez-Jones MAC’s development coordinator, who has been crucial to this campaign. Natalia wrote about fund-raising for the Greene Award, “it’s been moving to hear about the impact Mark had on his colleagues as well as the field.”

With the Greene Award fully funded, Council took the opportunity to review our other two awards—the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship and the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Students of Color. Due to MAC’s financial stability and your continuing support, Council voted to increase both scholarships to \$1,500 per award. I am extremely pleased that we are able to provide these additional funds to worthy students in our field. Please watch for a call from the awards committees and encourage those you know to apply.

Expanding our support for new archivists is a worthy goal for the new year. What is on your 2023 list? I hope you are including time to engage with MAC and that a trip to Chicago is in your spring plans.

If you have ideas for MAC, or any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me ([chute.6@osu.edu](mailto:chute.6@osu.edu); 614-292-3271). I always welcome a MAC conversation!

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in the spring.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tamar Chute". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tamar Chute

President, Midwest Archives Conference

## Vice President's Column

*By Benn Joseph, Northwestern University*

Well, I just got back from the MAC Fall Symposium in Indianapolis! This was actually my first Symposium, and it was such a great experience. I was surprised at how few attendees I knew—but that actually worked out great since the smaller nature of the Symposium is such that you have plenty of opportunities to speak one-on-one with new folks. Plus, you don't have to worry about getting overwhelmed by sheer numbers or by needing to figure out where your next session is going to be. I am definitely planning to attend the Symposium next year—maybe I'll see you there? Thanks once again to presenters Carey Champion, Carrie Schwier, and Carol Street, and cochairs Bethany Fiechter and Jackie Shalberg.

### **2023 Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois**

I hope you're looking forward to the Annual Meeting in Chicago as much as I am. Among other things, I have to say that I'm incredibly excited about the plenary speaker the Program Committee (PC) was able to bring on board. Not sure if there's officially a contract yet though, so I won't say more at this point (other than: get excited!). There is one big change in the works that is something of a departure from the norm over past years, which is that Thursday evening's all-attendee reception will be held IN THE HOTEL. Why, you ask? The reason is cost, like anything else, and, as inflation unfortunately continues to be a component of each aspect of event planning, the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) and I agreed that, since the main benefit of the all-attendee reception is the opportunity to connect with colleagues, we'd be able to have a much nicer event in the hotel than we would breaking the bank contracting with an external organization. We hope you'll still have time to explore the city while you're there.

I'd also like to add that the LAC, PC, and I are very excited to be in contact with the Black Metropolis Research Consortium (BMRC) to host an event during the upcoming Annual Meeting as part of the conference itself. The MAC Education Committee is also hard at work soliciting workshop proposals and planning for a

DEIA Unconference to be held in connection with the Annual Meeting at a separate location. Look for news about this shortly if you haven't heard about it already. And, as I always like to point out, you won't be reading this until January, so who knows what new developments will have taken place by then?

One less exciting piece of news to report is that the number of session proposals received this year did not break any records, and I would wager this is due in part to the elevated amount of work many of us are grappling with and possibly even some level of burnout. This certainly isn't unique to the archives field, as I've been reading about how widespread this has become for a while now. I hope everyone reading this is able to take some time for self-care. Might this be something to submit a pop-up session about soon?

### **2023 Fall Symposium, Louisville, Kentucky**

The theme for 2023's Fall Symposium will focus on disaster preparedness and recovery. I actually hadn't realized that disaster recovery is a training topic until recently—it sounded kind of like a training session where you toss some boxes of records into a pool and then "retrieve" them. As I later discovered, that's not too far off the mark. If this is indeed one of the components of the workshop for the 2023 Symposium, it will certainly be a very "hands-on" approach!

### **2024 Annual Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa**

The site and date for the Des Moines Annual Meeting are under negotiation as I type this, but I can say that the plan is to aim once again for having the reception at the World Food Prize Hall of Fame (as was the plan for the cancelled 2020 Annual Meeting), which honestly you just can't top as far as names for food establishments go. I don't even know what they have there, but it doesn't matter!

### **Future Meetings**

Meeting sites beyond Des Moines are in your hands. If you want to make a case, send me a message!

## Midwest Archives Conference Fall Council Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 2:00–4:00 pm (Eastern Time Zone)

**Attendance:** Tamar Chute, Benn Joseph, Anne Thomason, Jerice Barrios, Jennifer Audsley-Moore, Sammie Morris, Laurinda Weisse, Jennifer Ho, Lynn Smith, Daria Labinsky

### President's Report (Chute)

#### *DEIA Statement*

Council discussed the DEIA statement. Morris recommended adding a statement about belonging and ensuring our statements about diversity are not leaving anyone out. Thomason recommended adding a statement about belonging to the fourth sentence of the statement.

Chute will edit the statement regarding belonging and share it with Thomason, and Thomason will upload to the shared Google Drive for final Council edits and approval.

During the discussion, we discovered not everyone received all the emails sent to the MAC leadership list. Thomason will confer with Greg Brooks to make sure the leadership list is accurate.

Josh Ranger is writing short blurbs about the various MAC positions available to members and what the work entails beyond the position description, so potential volunteers will know what they are volunteering for.

### Vice President's Report (Joseph)

Joseph recapped the report for the Madison meeting. One strong recommendation is that for hybrid Annual Meetings, we need more people on the PC to cover the additional responsibilities.

#### *MAC 2022 Fall Symposium (Indianapolis)*

At the time of the meeting, we had 18 registrants and registration was capped at 35.

The committee asked about having cakes or cupcakes to celebrate MAC's 50th anniversary. The consensus was that cupcakes should be ordered, and Council expressed delight over the thought of cupcakes.

#### *Chicago 2023*

Joseph mentioned that the reception would be more affordable at the hotel and that the cochairs would join us later to discuss.

#### *MAC 2023 Fall Symposium and 2024 Annual Meeting Update*

Fall Symposium 2023 will be held in Lexington, KY.

Danielle Spalenka was already selected as cochair, and she recommended that Rusty Heckerman be the fall 2023 cochair.

**Motion:** Approve Rusty Heckerman as Fall Symposium 2023 cochair.

- Council approves Rusty Heckerman as Fall Symposium 2023 cochair.

**Motion:** Approve the topic of disaster recovery for the Fall Symposium 2023.

Council discussed the proposed topic of disaster recovery.

- Council approved the topic of disaster recovery for the Fall Symposium 2023.

#### *Annual Meeting, Spring 2024: Des Moines, Iowa*

The cochairs for Des Moines in 2024 are getting started on selecting the Program Committee.

We will begin considering future meeting locations. Everything is scheduled through spring 2024.

### Treasurer's Report (Barrios)

- No requested actions

Barrios highlighted that we made \$1,500 at the Annual Meeting, making it a financial success. Barrios encouraged Council to be ambitious as our finances are looking good. Barrios walked us through the treasurer's report.

### Secretary's Report (Thomason)

- No requested actions

Thomason continues to work on the Google Drive and to ensure the leadership email lists are up to date.

### Nominating Committee Report Election Slate Report (Labinsky)

The committee is waiting to hear from two more potential candidates; the slate should be ready for a Council vote within two weeks.

*Review and Discuss Bylaws Wording Regarding Filling Vacant Council Seats*

Our bylaws state:

**III. TERMS OF OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS (EXCLUDING OFFICERS)**

Council members shall be elected from the voting membership for staggered terms of three (3) years and shall take office immediately after the annual business meeting. The five (5) members of the council shall be ineligible to succeed themselves, except those appointed to fill unexpired terms.

Jennifer Audsley-Moore was appointed by Council to serve on Council after Donica Swann resigned in 2022. At the time, there were two years left on the term. Based on the constitution, Audsley-Moore's term was until the next election (2022). Thus, she was appointed for one year with an election to be held for the final year of the term in 2023. The bylaws were discussed in regard to whether someone who was appointed for one year and then won the election to finish out the term would be eligible to run again for a three-year term. Council discussed this thoroughly, and instead of voting now, Labinsky, Chute, and Thomason will look closely at the bylaws and decide if we need to make a change. If so, Council will vote over email, and the membership will need to be informed of this change 60 days in advance of the Members' Meeting and vote on the change then.

Council then decided to vote on a motion to run the Council election with the top two vote getters receiving the three-year term, and the person coming in third offered the one-year term. The candidates will all be informed ahead of time of this plan, and the information will be on the ballot. Anyone can decline a position after being elected. When that happens, the next highest vote getter will be offered the position.

***Motion:** The top two vote getters in the Council election will receive a three-year term, and the third-place person will be offered the one-year term.*

- Council approved that the top two vote getters in the Council election will receive a three-year term, and the third-place person will be offered the one-year term.

**Scholarship Awards—Bowen and Motley (Smith and Braun)**

Increasing the scholarship amounts and updating the Bowen guidelines were discussed.

Council discussed whether we need to change the language in the Bowen and Motley scholarship guidelines. Council decided as long as we do not change the amount to below the minimum stated in the guidelines, we do not need to vote on a language change, though we do need to vote on the amount.

***Motion:** Increase both Bowen and Motley scholarships to \$1,500.*

- Council approved an increase to both the Bowen and Motley scholarships to \$1,500 each.

**Annual Meeting in Chicago (Bullington, Hackbart-Dean, Gorzalski, Herzinger)**

*Increasing Plenary Honorarium from \$500 to \$750*

Council discussed raising the honorarium to \$750. In the course of the discussion, Council members recommended going up to \$1,000 considering the time and effort put into the plenary session. Council discussed the \$1,000 only being for 2023; many Council members suggested making \$1,000 the recommendation moving forward.

***Motion:** Increase the plenary honorarium from \$500 to \$750.*

During discussion, Morris moved to amend the motion from \$750 to \$1,000, which passed.

- Council approved increasing the plenary honorarium to \$1,000.

*Budget and Reception Location*

Council discussed holding the reception at the hotel, which will save us money. We will need an addendum to the hotel contract. LAC will work on this, and the final vote will take place over email.

Council discussed the in-person rate compared to the virtual rate. Several Council members pointed out that the virtual rate should be lower than the in-person rate. Many people cannot afford to travel. Council discussed many options for the virtual rate, and Council will vote over email on the prices.

**Fund-raising Campaign (Gutiérrez-Jones)**

*Greene Award Update*

We met our fund-raising goal. Chute will talk about the excellent fund-raising and will use her president's column to promote the scholarship. Chute received some excellent quotes from several donors and will use those in

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the promotion. In the column, Chute will also discuss the Motley and Bowen scholarship increases.

**Education Committee (Leimkuehler and Schwier)**

The Education Committee asked Council if we want to raise the workshop fee for Annual Meeting workshops.

Council discussed what served and benefited the membership best. We decided to keep the workshop fee at \$50 to make it as affordable as possible.

**Motion:** *Keep Annual Meeting workshop fee at \$50.*

- Council approved keeping the Annual Meeting workshop fee at \$50.

The Education Committee asked about the return of \$2,200 that was in the budget to support in-person Speakers Bureau events.

Council informed the Education Committee that \$2,200 was already in the budget for Speakers Bureau events as a regular item.

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm Eastern Standard Time.

**MAC 2023 Candidate Slate,  
Approved by MAC Council**

*Submitted by Daria Labinsky,  
MAC Nominating Committee Chair*

**President (2-year term)**

- Joshua P. Ranger, *University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh*
- Jennie Thomas, *Rock & Roll Hall of Fame*

**Secretary (2-year term)**

- Ryan Leimkuehler, *Kansas State University*
- Anne Thomason, *Knox College*

**Council (two 3-year terms, one 1-year term to fill vacancy)**

- Cara S. Bertram, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*
- Scott Grimwood, *SSM Health & Franciscan Sisters of Mary*
- Jennifer Head, *Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- Kyna Herzinger, *Presbyterian Historical Society*
- Marcella Huggard, *University of Kansas*
- William Modrow, *Miami University*

**Nominating Committee (two 1-year terms)**

- April K. Anderson-Zorn, *Illinois State University*
- Shiraz Bhatena, *University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee*
- Sarah Lebovitz, *Wayne State University*
- Megan Mummey, *University of Kentucky*

## Archival Issues Update

By Brandon T. Pieczko, Archival Issues Editorial Board Chair, Indiana University

I hope this update finds you all well. As a reminder, the current issue of *Archival Issues* (vol. 41, no. 2) was published in August and can be viewed online through Iowa State University Digital Press at <https://www.iastatedigitalpress.com/archivalissues/issue/1167/info>.

Our next issue, volume 42, number 1, is in progress. One article has been accepted by the Editorial Board for publication, three additional submissions are currently undergoing peer review, and eight publication reviews are in the editing phase. We anticipate the issue will be published in winter 2022.

Also, a brief update on the ongoing project to make our journal content more accessible and discoverable through Wikidata. Thanks to the generous work of MAC member Eric Willey, in addition to creating Wikidata entries for all articles that have been published in *Archival Issues* and its predecessor, *The Midwestern Archivist*, we have also

added entries for all authors who have published articles in *Archival Issues* up to the current issue (41.2). These new entries can be viewed using this Wikidata Query Service link: <https://w.wiki/5rmB>. In the next phase of the project, Willey will be creating author entries for articles published in *The Midwestern Archivist*, as well as topical subject heading entries for each article published in the journal.

As always, we welcome article submissions on a wide range of topics related to archives and special collections and are always looking for new authors. If you have an idea for an article you would like to discuss or have a manuscript ready to be reviewed, please consider submitting to *Archival Issues*. You can contact me directly at [bpieczko@iu.edu](mailto:bpieczko@iu.edu) or visit our online submission portal (<https://www.iastatedigitalpress.com/archivalissues/submissions>) for details.

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### **Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship**

The Midwest Archives Conference is soliciting applications for its annual Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration. The scholarship provides financial assistance to a resident or full-time student in the MAC region pursuing graduate education in archival administration and encourages the study of archival administration. The 2023 scholarship will be \$1,500. Application deadline is March 31, 2023. More information is on the MAC website at <https://www.midwestarchives.org/bowen>.

### **Mark A. Greene Award for First-Time Meeting Attendees**

Thinking of attending your first MAC meeting this spring? Would you like some financial assistance? This scholarship can provide that help. Applications are due March 3, 2023. This early deadline enables the successful applicant(s) to receive the scholarship committee's decision in time to make travel plans for the spring Annual Meeting.

The Greene Award provides a one-time travel stipend of up to \$500, or two \$250 stipends, to graduate students or practicing archivists who have not previously attended a MAC meeting. The award may be used to cover registration, travel, lodging, workshop fees, and any other meeting expenses. MAC membership is not required, nor do applicants need to reside in the MAC region. The scholarship was envisioned by emeritus member Tim Ericson, and initial funding was provided by other MAC emeriti. In 2019, the award was named for Mark A. Greene for his many contributions to the archival profession.

Applications for the scholarship may be downloaded from the MAC website at <https://www.midwestarchives.org/mark-a-greene-award>. Applications must include an essay of no more than 500 words and one letter of support and should be submitted to Committee Chair Barbara Floyd at [Barbara.floyd@utoledo.edu](mailto:Barbara.floyd@utoledo.edu).

The award will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Award winner(s) are also expected to write an essay for the *MAC Newsletter* on their experiences at the meeting and its importance to their professional development.



## Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship Applications Solicited

MAC is soliciting applications for the 2023 Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Students of Color (<http://www.midwestarchives.org/motley>). The scholarship is designed to provide financial assistance to students of color pursuing graduate education in archival administration and to encourage ethnic diversification of the MAC membership and of the archival profession. Two \$1,500 scholarships, accompanied by one-year memberships to MAC, will be awarded.

To be eligible for a scholarship, the applicant must be of African, American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander, or Latinx descent; must be a student currently enrolled in or accepted in a graduate, multicourse program in archival administration; and must have a grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in their academic program. If the program is not listed in the SAA “Directory of Archival Education,” <http://www2.archivists.org/dae>, the applicant must provide proof of the multicourse standard by submitting copies of course descriptions from the institution’s current departmental catalog.

Applications are due March 1, 2023, and must include the following documents:

- Completed application form, available at <http://www.midwestarchives.org/motley>
- Transcript from the applicant’s most recent academic program (unofficial transcript is acceptable)
- Essay of not more than 500 words outlining the applicant’s interests and future goals in archival administration
- Two letters of recommendation

Completed applications should be sent to:

Jolie Braun  
Curator of Modern Literature & Manuscripts  
The Ohio State University  
[braun.338@osu.edu](mailto:braun.338@osu.edu)

*Applications must be emailed by March 1, 2023.*

*Awards will be announced no later than June 1, 2023.*

# News from the Midwest

*Assistant Editor: Lois Hamill, Northern Kentucky University.  
Please submit News from the Midwest items to Lois at hamilll1@nku.edu.  
Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!*

## ILLINOIS

### Principia College

The Principia Archives and Special Collections' exhibit, *The Principia Cadet Corps: 30 Years of Noble Character (1905–1935)* was on display in the Marshall Brooks Library May through December 2022. Fourteen display cases and the third-floor gallery housed items ranging from uniforms to photographs commemorating three early decades of Principia's 125-year history. The exhibit told the story from inception to closure of the Cadet Corps, highlighting

two beloved commandants, and showcasing student uniforms, daily routines, student governance, WWI, involvement of girls and women, and the annual Military Ball. It was a time when student life had regimented structure and daily involvement with the institution's founder, Mary Kimball Morgan, and family. The viewer was invited to imagine their student life in a very different setting and on the first campus location in St. Louis, Missouri. For more information about the exhibit, you are invited to visit <https://library.principiacollege.edu/Archives/Exhibits> and <https://principia.contentdm.oclc.org/digital>.



## MINNESOTA

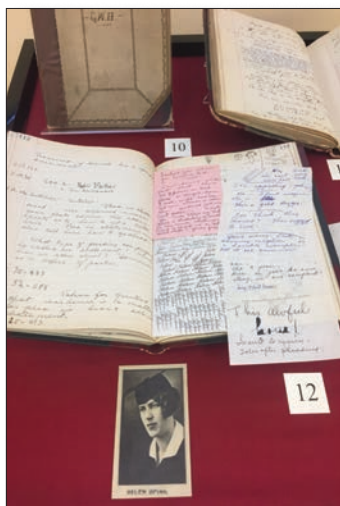
### Red Wing Shoe Company

Red Wing Heritage tapped into the Corporate Archives for the brand's ad campaign that launched in early September 2022. The campaign, called "Same Old," ingeniously used older ads from the archives to promote the brand's sustainable values. The Corporate Archives was the lead source for the campaign's upcycled ads. Commercials from the 1980s and beyond were reformatted into reels on Instagram and Facebook. Check out Red Wing Heritage—YouTube to see all nine upcycled videos. Photography prints were digitized to find new purpose as asset imagery, while radio spots tucked away in the archives were put front and center in a global ad campaign. The ads appeared in digital format across the brand's social channels, website, and a special exhibit at the Red Wing Shoe store in Manhattan in New York City. The exhibit featured vintage TV consoles broadcasting period-appropriate commercials, 35mm slides viewable with a magnifying glass, reproduction postcards for customers to write their Red Wing stories, and artifacts on loan for a pop-up museum experience.



## University of Minnesota

In September 2022, the University of Minnesota Law School's Stefan A. Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center opened two exhibits on the history of legal education. *Tools of the Profession* showcases the reciprocal nature of legal literature and legal education through a trove of historical books illustrating transformative developments in legal education over several centuries. An accompanying exhibit, *Law Books in Legal Education at Minnesota*, drawn from the Law Library's rich archives, highlights course books, lectures, exam prep materials, and early exams that shed light on the history of legal education at Minnesota. Selections from the growing student notebook collection reveal how students engaged with the law through a rigorous, dynamic education. The exhibits were curated by Ryan Greenwood, Pat Graybill, and Lily Eisenthal. Both *Tools of the Profession* and *Law Books in Legal Education at Minnesota* will be up through the end of the 2022–2023 academic year.



A favorite among current law students, Helen Spink's 1924 pleading notebook is full of relatable doodles and passed notes. Photo Credit: Ryan Greenwood.

## MISSOURI

### Missouri Historical Society

Thanks to the support of the Institute of Museum and Library Services' (IMLS) Museums for America grant program, the Missouri Historical Society (MHS) is overseeing *Picturing Postwar St. Louis: The Sievers Studio Collection, 1950–1969*, a two-year processing and digitization project that began in late 2021. The project's mission is to fully process, rehouse, and selectively digitize the Sievers Studio Collection's Series 5 and Series 6 photographic materials and open the series to the public. The collection itself comprises the surviving work of Sievers Studio, a commercial photography studio active in St. Louis from 1917 to 1989. MHS is pleased to announce that Series 5, which documents the studio's work in the 1950s, is now available for viewing. Encompassing over 32 linear feet, Series 5 provides an in-depth view of daily life in 1950s St. Louis. See <https://mohistory.org/collections/item/P0403> for more details about the collection, its available series, and its digitized images.



Bikes for Ike group posing with bicycles at the intersection of Third and Walnut Streets, St. Louis, Missouri. P0403-56430-01-4a. Photo by Sievers Studio, July 21, 1956. Missouri Historical Society Collections.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

### South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society Museum in the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre opened its new exhibit titled *The Great and the Small: Selections from the Collections* on Sunday, November 6. The exhibit runs through Memorial Day weekend in 2023. Historical Society Museum director David Grabitske says, "Museums—in general and the state, too—collect a vast range of things to represent South Dakota from popcorn wagons to political pins that come in a wide variety of sizes. Each object has a unique story to tell about the state. Some objects might be familiar, and others might be a surprise." Artifacts in *The Great and the Small* will range from the *Captain 11* television show set to a tiny cat cookie cutter.



# Archival Resources on the Web

*Assistant Editor: Erin McBrien, University of Minnesota.*

*Contact Erin at emcbrien@umn.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.*

## Improving Researchers' Experience with Online Finding Aids

*By Natalia Gutiérrez-Jones, McCormick Library, Northwestern University Libraries, and Frank Sweis, Assessment and Planning Department, Northwestern University Libraries*

### The Project Impetus

As many of us have experienced firsthand in recent years, pandemic-related restrictions on safe travel and in-person research have significantly impacted archives users' dependence on our online resources. Furthermore, the pandemic's impact on archives staff's evolving duties and workloads may have limited our ability to take the time to guide individual users through these online resources. Archives professionals have long recognized the importance of providing clear and rich description in public finding aids and are currently working through the intertwined need for our online search systems to be as navigable and intuitive as possible so that researchers can discover materials suited to their needs. A beautifully arranged and described collection that researchers cannot easily discover and read about online is a missed opportunity for both archival institutions and patrons. For those of us in the field with a background in information science, archival language and organization, and internet use, it is crucial to periodically assume the perspective of an unfamiliar user to see where we can clarify the systems and concepts we know intimately to make our collections more accessible and discoverable to a broader audience. In this effort, our indispensable partners are our colleagues who manage our databases, search engines, and websites, and who specialize in user experience (UX) design.

To this end, Northwestern University's User Experience (UX) librarian Frank Sweis has been leading a user experience review of our patron-facing finding aids web pages since early August 2021. Our finding aids are searchable through the public user interface (PUI) of our information management application, ArchivesSpace.<sup>1</sup> Through the PUI, researchers can search across multiple repositories: the McCormick Library of Special Collections and University Archives, the Music Library, the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, the Galter Health Sciences Library & Learning Center, the Transportation Library, and the Pritzker Legal Research Center. Members of the review team come from departments across Northwestern University Libraries (NUL) and bring a variety of perspectives on user needs, as well as degrees of

familiarity with the PUI: from the McCormick Library of Special Collections and University Archives, Head of Collections Services Benn Joseph, Assistant University Archivist and Head of Public Services Dana Lamparello, Digital Archivist Kelsey O'Connell, and Archival Processing Specialist Natalia Gutiérrez-Jones; from Metadata Services, Monographic Cataloger and Metadata Specialist Karen Miller; from Access Services, Interlibrary Loan Assistant Drew Clower; from IT Infrastructure, Developer Alice Tippit; from Academic Engagement, User Spaces Coordinator Anne Marie Sticksel and Herskovits Library Assistant Gene Kannenberg Jr.; and from the Galter Health Sciences Library and Learning Center, Special Collections Librarian Katherine Lattal and Special Collections Library Assistant Emma Florio.

### The Project Goal

The scope of the assessment involved searching across finding aids, browsing within specific collections, accessing collections (integrated with Aeon request system), and utilizing the site's functions (e.g., create citation, generate PDF). The overarching project goal was to develop a greater understanding of how the PUI is used to inform decisions for future customization. The project team's evaluation of our online finding aids, measured against user requirements and goals, was the initial step of the review project. The first part of this process was conducting a peer analysis. Next, the project team completed a heuristic evaluation. Finally, we undertook an accessibility audit. Each assessment was launched by a group meeting that introduced those of us less familiar with UX testing to the concepts and guidelines necessary for each stage. After these meetings, project team members reviewed the experience of using the website against the given criteria independently, with optional periods of group work. We each submitted documentation of our assessment to the project leader; often individuals on the review team would narrow in on a different aspect of using the website (e.g., searching via the homepage, browsing collections, or browsing digital materials). Each assessment period concluded with a group discussion of our findings.

## Peer Analysis

For the first assessment, we oriented ourselves with a review of the finding aid websites of our peer institutions to better understand their approach to the experience of searching, browsing, and using finding aids and to identify opportunities to differentiate ourselves. We each chose a peer institution (not limited to an ArchivesSpace PUI instance) and aimed to identify how it positioned itself as an institution and promoted its collection strengths; who its target audience seemed to be and what its overlap was with our audience; particular strengths or areas for improvement in its website; and what opportunities there were to adopt its good practices or take a different approach. Appealing traits to emulate in our website design included simple and visually digestible search bars and results pages, icon indicators for different material types, a direct and apparent way to request materials, obvious connections to digitized materials, and a clear explanation of finding aids and archival organization as well as links to additional resources.

## Heuristic Evaluation

The second assessment we conducted was based on Jakob Nielsen's (a Danish usability expert and human-computer interaction researcher) "10 Usability Heuristics for User Interface Design."<sup>2</sup> Worth diving into further, they are listed here: visibility of system status; match between system and the real world; user control and freedom; consistency and standards; error prevention; recognition rather than recall; flexibility and efficiency of use; aesthetic and minimalist design; help user recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors; help and documentation. In conducting a review based on these criteria, the project team identified areas for improvement (some systemwide, some relevant only to certain pages or facets, and some that require contacting the ArchivesSpace software team directly). These proposed changes include using more meaningful language to explain errors and suggest subsequent actions, refreshing our branding and color scheme, clarifying confusing or jargony language, adding image thumbnails to digital object search results, and providing a visualization of the hierarchical structure of finding aids.

## Accessibility Audit

For our audit of the website's accessibility, the team went over key user needs such as navigating with assistive

visual tools like screen readers, keyboard-only navigation, legibility (e.g., adjustable text size), and a clear color palette. To conduct this evaluation, the project team used templates provided by project leader Frank Sweis based on two accessibility guides, NUL's own "Digital Accessibility Self-Review Checklist"<sup>3</sup> and interaction designer Karwai Pun's "Dos and Don'ts on Designing for Accessibility" (2016).<sup>4</sup> The audit based on Pun's work involved evaluating our website's design in stages, going through the needs of users on the autism spectrum, blind or low-vision users, users with physical or motor disabilities, D/deaf or hard-of-hearing users, and users with dyslexia. The audit based on NUL's checklist moved through types of content (text, images and multimedia, and interactive elements) on the website to ensure we were meeting our own best practices. Among the areas for improvement noted were lack of meaningful alt-text for images, instances of low-contrast text and background, fields getting clipped when text was resized, parts of webpages that were not navigable with keyboard only, cluttered page layouts, and long blocks of text.

## User Testing and Next Steps

Next, we expanded the review beyond the library review team to include students, faculty, and researchers in testing. We recruited five users to participate in our usability tests and provide us contextual data about themselves. The tests involved attempting various assigned tasks (e.g., search a digital collection, request to view materials) using the PUI while narrating their observations and thought processes and a Q&A with the observing review team members. After the user testing, the review team met and compiled their observations, organizing them by which aspect of the PUI they related to using a digital whiteboard tool (Miro) and discussing potential solutions to implement, which were compiled in a spreadsheet. Significant takeaways were that user experience would be improved by streamlining the website and eliminating redundant navigation paths, and clarifying descriptive language to be more consistent, user-friendly, and less jargony. UX librarian Frank Sweis has created a summary of our findings and new wireframes (webpage schematics). The implementation of these findings will occur with the help of NUL's IT Infrastructure Developers over the course of the next year, in coordination with an upgrade to the new version of ArchivesSpace, which will resolve some

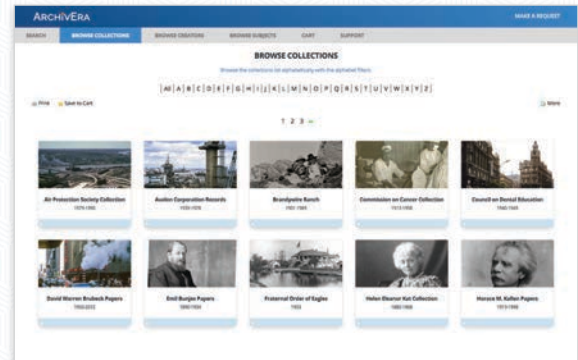
*(Continued on page 14)*

(Continued from page 13)

existing bugs. Implementation of these improvements also presents opportunities for bulk-updating of standardized description fields using the ArchivesSpace API and future conferrals between the finding-aid producing Collection Services Unit and the user-facing Public Services Unit on how to best create user-friendly description. Our team at NUL welcomes questions about the project or feedback, particularly from readers who have conducted similar assessments.

Notes

1. Northwestern University, Archival and Manuscript Collections, <https://findingaids.library.northwestern.edu>.
2. Jakob Nielsen, “10 Usability Heuristics for User Interface Design,” Nielsen Norman Group, April 24, 1994, <https://www.nngroup.com/articles/ten-usability-heuristics>.
3. “Digital Accessibility Self-Review Checklist,” Northwestern University Libraries, <https://libguides.northwestern.edu/digitalaccessibilityguide>.
4. Karwai Pun, “Dos and Don’ts on Designing for Accessibility,” *Gov.UK Accessibility in Government* (blog), September 2, 2016, <https://accessibility.blog.gov.uk/2016/09/02/dos-and-donts-on-designing-for-accessibility>.



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## Mixed Media

*Assistant Editor: Carol Street, University of Kentucky.*

*Contact Carol at [carolstreet@uky.edu](mailto:carolstreet@uky.edu) if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.*

### Unfurling and Preserving: Using Photogrammetry to Digitize Oversized Materials

*By Crystal Heis, University of Kentucky Libraries Special Collections Research Center*

As a cultural heritage imaging specialist at the University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center, I frequently like to paraphrase the unrelenting optimist Forrest Gump by saying that digitizing archival collections is “like a box of chocolates; you never know what you’re going to get,” because any given day will surprise and present unique challenges. This holds true for subject matter, media, and even determining how to get clear, reliable images. A recent project to digitize the University of Kentucky Department of Military Science Collection spurred some creative DIY innovation, lots of trial and error, and an eventual across-campus collaboration before we achieved successful results.

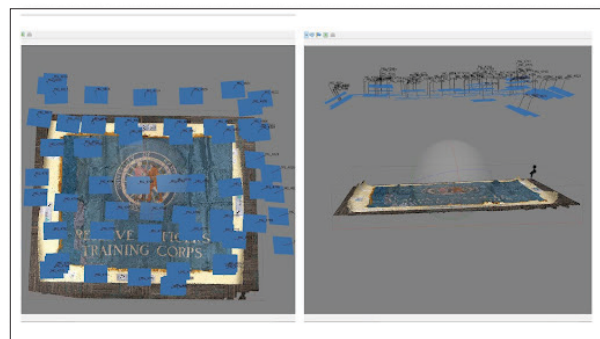
This project originated when the commander of the University of Kentucky (UK) Air Force ROTC unit requested to view items from our collection in the Special Collections Research Center. The artifacts included a variety of materials such as pennants, flags, and two very large banners that we believe formerly hung in the historic Buell Armory on campus. When pulling the materials, we discovered that they had not been stored properly; the two large banners, one dating from World War I and the other from World War II, had unfortunately been rolled up into a ball and stuffed in a box. Some of the items made of silk had become extremely fragile, and even minimal handling would cause further damage. Due to their fragile and deteriorating nature, plans were made to rehouse and document these items before placing them back into storage.



*Unboxing and imaging preparation of WWI and WWII banners from the University of Kentucky Department of Military Science Collection. Photos courtesy of Ruth Bryan, UK Libraries.*

Digitizing these items presented several challenges. The first and most obvious challenge was the oversized dimensions of the two larger banners, which were each approximately 14 feet by 8 feet. While digitizing oversized materials is not uncommon in our digital lab, we traditionally use a wall-mounted vacuum easel with a stationary camera meant for digitizing paper objects. We capture multiple photos by repositioning the artifact and then digitally stitch the images together using Photoshop. However, due to the fabric media and decorative elements, such as fringe, on the banners and flags, our established approach was not going to work for these items. Repositioning the item while the camera remained stationary was not an option for oversized fabric with fringed edges that was difficult to lay completely flat. But, most important, handling these large pieces of fabric was going to be unwieldy and likely to cause further damage. We needed a way to digitize them that would keep them stationary while the camera could be repositioned. Enter photogrammetry.

Oversimplified, photogrammetry is a technique that involves taking a series of carefully captured, overlapping images. The photos are loaded into Agisoft Photoscan software that looks for corresponding points between the images, creates geometric coordinates, and builds a point cloud that creates a three-dimensional representation from two-dimensional images. While creating 3-D models for these artifacts wasn’t the primary objective, once a model is generated, a 2-D (orthomosaic) image can be easily exported. In short, photogrammetry is basically a way to digitally stitch images together using computational photography.



*Photoscan interface. Photo courtesy of UK Libraries.*

*(Continued on page 16)*

**MIXED MEDIA**—Continued  
**Carol Street, Assistant Editor**

*(Continued from page 15)*

Since the software uses geometry to align the images, there is a greater tolerance for minor irregularities in the camera positioning compared with more traditional stitching practices. The camera doesn't need to be perfectly aligned or level to the subject. In the photo, you can see a demonstration of this with one of the smaller artifacts, where the camera was simply handheld. Each blue square corresponds to a photo and shows the camera placement for that image. Looking at the cross-section, you can see that the camera alignment isn't totally perfect, but still within the tolerance level for the software to align the images. This technique is simple and worked well for the relatively small items in the collection.

For the large banners, we needed to find a method to extend the camera out over the middle of at least an eight-foot span. Working with materials we had on hand, we created a basic DIY camera arm by mounting a camera bracket onto a wooden two-by-four and clamping that down to a staple found in every library, a book cart. To prevent the cart from tipping over, we counterweighted the cart with heavy sheets of masonite. A ring flash illuminated the objects, and the camera was fired by remote control. Not knowing how well this setup would work, we tested our camera rig on the sturdier WWII banner made of canvas.



*DIY camera cart in action documenting WWII-era banner. Photo courtesy of Crystal Heis, UK Libraries.*

This setup worked reasonably well, but it wasn't perfect. Maneuvering the book cart was cumbersome and required a lot of guesswork on the camera position. Frequently, the flash batteries exhausted before the entire capture process was complete. Certain photos could not be aligned within the 3-D software. In some cases, this was due to insufficient overlap between images or issues with specular highlights from the background material. Also,

the cantilevered nature of the camera arm caused the wood to flex and a general lack of stability in the camera rig, which resulted in images that were out of focus. We performed several iterations using this setup, making various adjustments in the focal length of the lens and the lighting, shortening the camera arm, and working with smaller model sections that could be subsequently merged. After significant trial and error, we eventually established a technique that we knew would work, and we could attempt to photograph the larger and more fragile silk banner.

Our digitization process for these large banners sparked a lot of interest from coworkers within our department. One day, a colleague visiting our Digital Lab watched us struggle with our DIY setup and suggested reaching out to a unit on campus that provides media project support to students to see if it had any equipment that could make our process easier. The head of the Student Media Depot was rather intrigued by our unusual request and readily offered the depot's assistance. It turned out to have numerous pieces of camera equipment used in video production that could help us with our image capture issues. One item of particular interest was its camera dolly. A dolly is traditionally used to create cinematic effects, such as smooth panning shots, by way of a camera mounted to a cart, rolling along a dolly track. If we could position the dolly track above an object and reorient the camera so that it pointed downward, this would allow us to re-create a much more stable version of our DIY camera rig and allow for precise camera positioning. Working together with Student Media Depot personnel, we brainstormed a way to invert the mount for the camera so that it hung below the rail system. Then they lent us the dolly system to test our configuration on the fragile WWI silk banner.



*Camera dolly with modified camera mount. Photo courtesy of Crystal Heis, UK Libraries.*





*Evolved digitization setup using a camera dolly and dolly track for documenting the fragile WWI-era banner. Photo courtesy of Crystal Heis, UK Libraries.*

The addition of this tool was a game changer. It added precision to our camera placement and gave us more accurate results. We still had to overcome a few hurdles like devising a way to move the camera without disturbing the banner. This was accomplished by starting with the banner rolled on its storage tube and moving the camera with a push stick to photograph the unrolled portion. Then we carefully unrolled the fabric a little at a time during the image capture. This setup was relatively easy for one person to accomplish working alone, but a fair amount of manual labor was involved. After every pass, the carrier had to be removed for the rail system to reposition the rails and the lights, but this was significantly easier and much more accurate than our initial attempts with the book cart system. By applying the lessons learned from the previous banner and the addition of the new hardware, the resulting images provided the data necessary, and the entire process was accomplished on the first attempt.

The final 2-D renderings generated from our 3-D processing using photogrammetry are included here. (You can see both the book cart and camera dolly setups in action by visiting <https://bit.ly/3DtXqML>.) While both

images took a considerable amount of ingenuity using unconventional methods and tools, both demonstrate that creative and collaborative approaches are often necessary to achieve goals that at first seem insurmountable. If your digitization project throws you a curveball like ours did, you just might find your magic tool in an unlikely place. Or, in other words, don't be afraid to think outside of that box of chocolates.



*Final orthomosaic rendering of the silk WWI-era banner. Photo courtesy of UK Libraries.*



*Final orthomosaic rendering of the canvas WWII-era banner. Photo courtesy of UK Libraries.*

## Up-and-Comers

*Assistant Editor: Meredith Lowe, University of Wisconsin–Madison.*

*Contact Meredith at [mclowe@wisc.edu](mailto:mclowe@wisc.edu) if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.*

### **The Wangensteen Unbound, and Discoveries Abound: An MLIS Practicum Experience in Practical Book History**

*By Anna Opryszko, University of Minnesota*



*Anna Opryszko*

“Practical book history” might seem like a bit of an oxymoron. Most people I know think about what I do as one of the *least* practical paths possible: working with physical books that are old, fragile, and often in a language I don’t understand and can’t read, in an academic discipline I never studied and have little foundational knowledge about. But in my work, I found that the most impractical thing is to *not* know about book history, so I sought to change that for myself.

In the most general terms, I am a library assistant 3 at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. But that barely describes what I do! More capaciously, I am the public services supervisor at the Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine, the history of medicine collection embedded within the Health Sciences Libraries department on the U of M’s East Bank in Minneapolis. I am also a graduate student, nearly finished (at time of writing) with my MLIS program at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, specializing in archives and special collections.

I have about 10 years of experience working in libraries (academic, private, and special collections), all of which have taught me so much about the reality of the profession. I’ve met wonderful colleagues, assisted on some fascinating projects, and steadily taken on more responsibilities in my positions. I also have (nearly) two graduate degrees: my first, an MA in American studies, taught me how to perform historical research and what types of support graduate students need; and my second, my MLIS, has shown me the foundations and theory behind so much of my work experience. But here is where I’ve struggled: up until recently, I had no formal education in book history, printing history, materiality, paleography, reading studies—the list could go on! As a library assistant, I felt comfortable shifting book history–related questions to the curators, but as the end of my MLIS program loomed nearer and I started seeing myself get closer and closer to that amorphous identity “professional,” I got nervous. What is the difference between chain lines and wire lines, again? Why is some paper a faint bluish color? And how on earth does anyone tell typefaces apart?

In my first year working at the Wangensteen, while thinking about this knowledge gap, I started to notice how curious students were about the exact features of book history that I felt so ignorant about. The Wangensteen teaches around 70 course-integrated instructional sessions every school year, reaching over 1,700 students (most of whom are undergraduates) from a wide range of academic disciplines. But, no matter what students we were working with, or what the class topic was, students asked me questions that I dearly wished I had the answers to. They would point to a page, or an illustration, or the binding, and ask me why exactly it looked the way it did. They wanted to know what hints the physical form of the book gave us about how and why it was used, and by whom, and when. They wanted to know about format and printing and why a page might be uncut and why a certain word might be crossed out. Their instructors didn’t always initiate these questions, either: the students sincerely wanted to know. I’m not a subject expert in the history of medicine by any stretch of the imagination, but I desperately wanted to be an expert in these books as objects.

Soon after, I realized that the course History of Print, Early Books and Manuscripts would not be taught in my MLIS program anymore, and I started thinking seriously about how else I could go about learning what I needed to know. I wanted a foundation in the history of early printed books specifically, knowing that that would serve me best, given the collection I worked with. I also wanted to focus on how I could directly impact the students I worked with. How could I construct a crash-course for myself that covered the scholarly side of book history *and* its practical applications in rare books libraries?

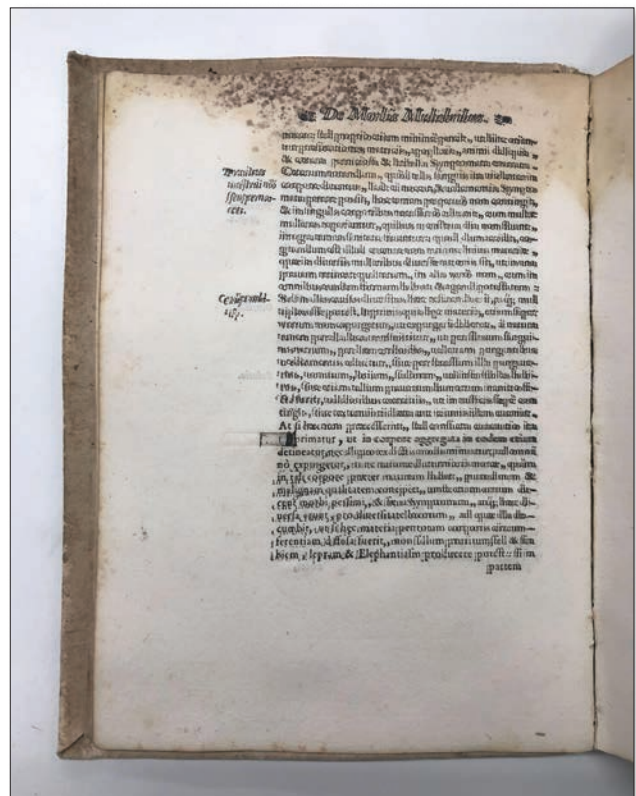
I chose to dedicate the summer of 2022 to a practicum course, centered at the Wangenstein, that would also give me credits toward my MLIS. I structured the course as a cross between an independent study and a true practicum and developed three “units,” moving from theoretical to practical. I started on the purely academic side, reading introductory scholarly texts on the study of book history and attending the week-long course the Printed Book in the West to 1800 at Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. That unit covered the first six weeks of the summer semester, almost exactly half of the time I had allotted to this project. For the next three weeks, I turned my attention to networking, exploring projects of other book historians and rare books librarians that I looked up to, and reaching out to professionals I felt I could learn from. The final four weeks were dedicated to synthesizing all I had learned and performing research on materials held at the Wangenstein, eventually developing a publicly accessible resource to promote wider interest in book history.

Ultimately, I think it all amounted to time well spent. I can now teach our students and visitors with a lot more confidence, and breaking into this realm of expertise has helped me craft a new vision for myself and the rare books professional I want to become. Beyond my own personal gain, the work I put into learning book history has already started benefiting the collection I work for as well. For example, I was recently able to help a Design School faculty member craft an assignment that required students to visit the Wangenstein and work with books that showed exemplary elements of early printing practices, features I would not have known how to look for at the beginning of the summer.

I also truly had a lot of fun exploring the books at the Wangenstein through this lens, and I found so many

interesting things. My final project is publicly available online ([z.umn.edu/WangensteinUnbound](http://z.umn.edu/WangensteinUnbound)), but I’d like to highlight my favorite discovery.

I found it entirely by chance. As part of my exploration of the collection, I walked up and down our stacks, pulling volumes essentially at random, seeing what I could find. This volume looked unassuming; I couldn’t say what inspired me to pick it out of any of our other tens of thousands of books. But when I flipped through it, I found the pictured page.



*Albertino Bottoni, De morbis muliebribus, 1585. Wangenstein Historical Library WZ240 B751m 1585.*

It stopped me in my tracks. It felt like I was seeing double! Despite the headache it might give, this page is a great reminder of the human effort that went into printing books and how every single early printed book is truly unique. This specific page was probably pulled twice on the printing press, creating the double-vision effect seen here. In a whole run of this book, this might be the only copy that has a page that looks like this!

*(Continued on page 20)*

**UP-AND-COMERS**—Continued  
**Meredith Lowe, Assistant Editor**

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(Continued from page 19)

What caused this mistake? A closer look at a certain spot on the page gives us a clue.



*Close-up view of the page*

To my eyes, this mark indicates that a piece of type became dislodged from its spot, lying across the set bed of type during the first pull and causing an uneven first printing. The printers would have needed to stop the press, replace the piece of type, re-ink, and try again. It would have been far too costly to dispose of this damaged sheet, so it was still included in the pile of printed sheets and ended up being bound in a copy that eventually made its way to the Wangenstein.

Of course, we can't really know *exactly* what happened. But noticing these types of unique features and filling in the gaps creates a fuller picture of the creation of these books and the experiences of the people who made them, and I love being able to provide even a hypothetical glimpse into the hands-on work that produced this text.

I feel incredibly grateful to have had the support and opportunity to pursue a project like this. It granted me the freedom to determine exactly what I wanted to learn and to hold myself accountable to my own goals and deadlines. As my time as a student comes to a close, I look forward to seeking out more learning opportunities to continue my education in book history and to find even more practical applications of this knowledge in my professional work. You never know what the material form of a book might teach you!

# People and Posts

*Assistant Editor: Greg Bailey, Iowa State University. The MAC Membership Committee invites members to share positions, appointments, and honors in the People and Posts column. Please send items to Greg at [gtbailey@iastate.edu](mailto:gtbailey@iastate.edu). Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!*

## People

### ILLINOIS

Kristin Jacobsen  
Frances Willard House Museum  
& WCTU Archives

Lindsey O'Brien  
Galter Health Sciences Library &  
Learning Center

### INDIANA

Samantha Bruer

### MISSOURI

Sabrina Gorse  
Missouri Historical Society

### OHIO

John Joseph  
Nationwide Children's Hospital

### WISCONSIN

Sarah Finn  
Milwaukee Public Library

Anthony Morgano  
Milwaukee Art Museum

### OUTSIDE REGION

Julie Rosier (student)  
University of Albany

## Posts

**Rebecca Wells** joined the Special Collections and University Archives at Iowa State University as the student life archivist in August 2022. She comes to Iowa State with nearly a decade of experience in the archival field, most recently working at the Harry Ransom Center since 2018. Wells holds an MSIS with endorsements of specialization in archival and preservation administration from the University of Texas at Austin and a certificate from the University of North Texas in advanced management in libraries and information agencies. As student life archivist, Wells helps students, past and present, collect and preserve their legacy at Iowa State by teaching them how to care for their records and by facilitating the donation of materials that express a range of perspectives, people, and formats produced by ISU students.



*Rebecca Wells*

**Joel Thoreson**, archivist at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, was recently elected president of the Lutheran Historical Conference, an inter-Lutheran organization of archivists, librarians, and historians. The Lutheran Historical Conference fosters effective cooperation among people and institutions concerned with research, documentation, and preservation of the resources revealing experiences of Lutheranism in North America. The conference meets biennially, publishes a journal, and awards grants to those pursuing research in Lutheran topics.

**Sally Childs-Helton**, MLS, PhD, announces her retirement from Butler University on December 31, 2022, where she has been the head of the Special Collections, Rare Books, and University Archives department of Irwin Library for over 22 years. She retires as the first librarian to receive full professor status at Butler. She was at the Indiana Historical Society Library for 15 years and the Archives of Traditional Music as a graduate student for 8. She is a past president of SIA and past MAC Council member. All told, Childs-Helton has spent 45 years working in archives and has loved every minute of it. She is grateful to MAC for many years of excellent professional support and networking. She and her husband will move to her native North Carolina, where she looks forward to involvement with the North Carolina archival community, enjoying time with family, traveling, playing music, doing book arts, and sleeping in.

*(Continued on page 22)*

**PEOPLE AND POSTS—Continued**

**Greg Bailey, Assistant Editor**

*(Continued from page 21)*

**Laura Godden**, University of Wisconsin–La Crosse Murphy Library Special Collections/Area Research Center, received the Heritage Award from the Preservation Alliance of La Crosse (PAL) at their 43rd annual banquet. Every year since 1978, PAL has presented this prestigious award to honor and showcase exceptional efforts in historic preservation in the city of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

In May 2022, **Timothy S. Binkley**, CA, received a Silver Pilgrim Medal from his undergraduate alma mater, Defiance College (Defiance, Ohio). Pilgrim Medals are the most prestigious awards offered by Defiance College. The college recognizes people who have demonstrated the ideals of “reliance in self, pride in work, courage in conscience, strength in education, and faith in God” by presenting a bronze medal to a graduating senior and a silver medal to an alum or other citizen. Binkley is the first person to receive both recognitions: bronze in 1985 and silver in 2022. He is a 1993 graduate of Bethany Theological Seminary (M.Div.), a 2005 graduate of Wright State University (MA, public history), and a member of the 2016 Archives Leadership Institute cohort. Binkley has served as head of Special Collections and Archives at Berea College (Berea, Kentucky) since March 2020.

**Joyce Lopez** began a new role as digitization supervisor for the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) in June 2022. In this position, Lopez leads a growing digitization team working with collections including archives, library, media, art, and 3-D. MNHS has a robust digitization program using a wide range of equipment and software to increase online access to collections. Lopez has several years at MNHS, working initially in the library as a reference assistant and moving to digitization, first for newspapers and then for archival and library collections.



*Joyce Lopez*

On September 1, **Bryan Whitledge** moved into the Clarke Historical Library’s public services librarian role, managing the Clarke’s researcher services and helping to set the agenda for the Clarke’s reference, access, and outreach activities. Whitledge was recently recognized by the Society of American Archivists with a Council Exemplary Service Award. As SAA president Courtney Chartier noted

when announcing the award, “We thank Bryan Whitledge for his long-standing and passionate commitment to advocating for a better world for archives, archivists, and the public. In his tenure on the Committee on Public Policy, he has served in many representative roles, sought out opportunities to raise SAA’s profile, and educated SAA leadership on the nuances of public advocacy.”

University of Louisville’s Archives and Special Collections is happy to welcome two new colleagues. **Hannah Pryor** joined us in June 2022 as archivist for university records. She holds an MLIS from the University of Alabama, where she worked as a graduate assistant in the Hoole Special Collections Library. Most recently, she served as senior archivist for the Commissioners of the Land Office, an Oklahoma state agency.



*Hannah Pryor*

**Emma Beck** joined University of Louisville Archives and Special Collections as metadata librarian in December 2022. She holds an MLIS from the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign and a BA from Mount Holyoke College and has worked in Access Services at Mount Holyoke College's Library, Information and Technology Services as an undergraduate and full-time staff member.



*Emma Beck*

**Paul Greenland** ([www.paulgreenland.com](http://www.paulgreenland.com)) has authored *Victory on Ice* (ISBN: 978-0-9659128-1-5), a new book that recounts the epic battles, fatal sacrifices, and highly improbable circumstances behind the Chicago Blackhawks' 1934 and 1938 Stanley Cup championships, which evoked a sense of triumph and jubilation

during the darkness of the Great Depression. By combining tales of old-time hockey with rare photos and broader elements of history, *Victory on Ice* teleports readers to a bygone era when the Blackhawks' earliest heroes played a brutal game against bitter rivals. Greenland wrote an authorized history of the team called *Hockey Chicago Style* (Sagamore Publishing) in 1995, and his essay on the Blackhawks appears in *The Encyclopedia of Chicago* (University of Chicago Press, 2004). Several MAC members provided source materials for the book, which includes a foreword by retired Northwestern University Professor Emeritus Virgil C. Johnson, son of defenseman and 1938 Stanley Cup team member, Virgil Johnson.

**Barbara Floyd**, formerly director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections and professor emerita at the University of Toledo, recently authored the book *An Institution for the Promoting of Knowledge: The University of Toledo at 150*. The book, published by the University of Toledo Press, is a comprehensive history of the university from 1872 to 2022. All royalties from the sale of the book are being donated by Floyd to the Canaday Center in support of the work of university archives to preserve the institution's history. The hardcover, 328-page book is for sale at [www.utoledopress.com](http://www.utoledopress.com).

**Hilary Severyn** joined the Special Collections Research Center at the University of Michigan Library on September 1. In her capacity as collection services librarian, Severyn will provide leadership and oversight for the accessioning, processing, description, and management of SCRC collections in all formats and across all collecting areas, and coordinate collection-related activities with staff in Technical Services, Digital Content & Collections, Preservation & Conservation, and other library units. In her previous positions, Severyn was the processing archivist at The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation and the Sloan Museum and Longway Planetarium and was a student assistant in the Special Collections Research Center while she was earning her MSI degree from the U-M School of Information.



*Hilary Severyn*

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