

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!

Volume 48, Number 3 (190)

www.midwestarchives.org

January 2021

In This Issue...

President's Page	1
MAC News	2
Preservation Essentials	12
News from the Midwest	15
Archival Resources on the Web	21
Electronic Currents	24
Mixed Media	27
Up-and-Comers	30
People and Posts ..	34
MAC Contacts	36

President's Page

January 2021

To the MAC community:

Happy 2021! I am sure that you, like me, have a guarded optimism about the year ahead. It feels like a long time since I've been able to share something positive with you over the past year. But, I believe we have several things that we, as an organization, can begin to look forward to.

At our Council meetings in October, we were able to make future plans that will benefit MAC.

First, MAC Council approved our slate of candidates for the 2021 election. I am so appreciative of the work of the Nominating Committee for putting together an excellent list of candidates. MAC will be well-served by each and every one. Thank you, Dina Kellams, Heather Fox, and Rachel Seale.

Next, we launched a Code of Conduct Working Group that will pick up the recommendations prepared in 2018 and finalize a Code of Conduct for Council's approval. This will apply to all of MAC's spaces, including in-person, online, and in any other way, MAC comes together.

We approved a Social Response and Advocacy Committee. Inspired by the events of 2020, including the global pandemic, unemployment, loss of funding sources, and the clarity of systemic racism in our society as is evident in the murder of George Floyd, this new working body will be led by an appointed Council member and will include the president, secretary, and two individuals from the general membership including one who is currently a student member. The committee will address issues or events that affect our membership as archivists and as members of our communities to help MAC leadership respond more quickly and efficiently.

Council also approved the new role of volunteer coordinator. At any given time, MAC has dozens of members serving in leadership roles, as committee or working group members, and planning and preparing our meetings. How do we find all of these people? Some self-nominate, but others are suggested or recruited, yet no one ever has a good idea of how many people there are or what roles need to be filled. This new role will allow for a point person to connect volunteers to open positions on existing committees, recruit members to serve in soon-to-be vacant positions, and assist the vice president in recruiting members for Local Arrangements and Program Committees.

(Continued on page 3)

Vice President's Column MAC Meetings and Symposia Update

By Michelle Sweetser, Bowling Green State University



One of my first tasks after election to the vice presidency was to write a column for the *MAC Newsletter*. We were still early in the pandemic, and MAC had just decided to cancel the Des Moines meeting and postpone the Fall Symposium. Nothing was known and everything was up in the air. Three months later, in August, we were pretty much in the same position, not able to fully undertake planning due to our hotel contract for the 2021 Annual Meeting. I dreaded writing those columns. After all, how was I to fill a page when nothing was set in stone?

Now, though, it is my great pleasure to report some concrete news! MAC will be hosting its first all-virtual Annual Meeting on May 13–14, 2021! Although we are disappointed that we will not be gathering in person, too many health risks, travel concerns, and budgetary restrictions remain for us to responsibly host an in-person meeting in the spring. But out of these limitations, our Program Committee has developed a fantastic and timely theme. “Archivists Respond” will give us opportunities to reflect upon and share our experiences of archival work in times of pandemic, shutdowns, and civic unrest. Just as we’ve adapted to cultural, societal, and environmental changes in our daily life, MAC is adapting to a new programming reality. As we continue to work out logistical details, know that many of the Annual Meeting’s highlights will remain a part of this virtual meeting, including presentations, posters, a plenary, and more.

Our ability to plan a virtual meeting for May 2021 is a direct result of having been able to negotiate a new contract with the Madison Concourse Hotel. For those of you who were looking forward to Wisconsin beers, cheese curds, a stroll through the State Capitol, research at the Wisconsin Historical Society, treats from the Farmer’s Market, or whatever else floats your boat, know that MAC will head to Madison in spring 2022. Count on getting your fix then!

Settling these matters has had a domino effect, but it has enabled us to follow up on additional proposals for meetings and symposia. Council approved a 2021 Fall Symposium proposal from Tara Laver, Lindy Smith, and Amy Moorman. The symposium will be held in

Kansas City if we are able to meet in person. The organizers are reaching out to presenters to determine whether they are willing to participate virtually.

We anticipate deciding a format (in-person or virtual) at the beginning of March and will communicate that decision to members at that time.

Looking further ahead, we are reviving our partnership with the Society of Indiana Archivists to hold a Fall Symposium in Indianapolis in fall 2022, and MAC will celebrate its 51st birthday in its birthplace of Chicago in spring 2023. As we become more experienced with virtual programming and as we better understand member needs and interests, we may find that these events have a unique mixture of in-person and virtual components.

Finally, MAC leadership recognizes that our planning committees and our members expect that we, like our peer organizations around us, have a Code of Conduct in place to ensure that we operate in and create an environment of cooperation and collaboration. MAC aims to provide an environment in which all participants learn, network, and enjoy the company of colleagues in an environment of mutual respect. I will be leading a small working group to finalize a Code of Conduct and reporting mechanisms to bring to Council by its spring meeting. If you have questions or concerns that you would like to share, please get in touch!

Between-Meeting Council Actions

On October 15, 2020, Council unanimously approved the minutes for the first of three fall meetings.

On October 23, 2020, Council unanimously approved the minutes for the second of three fall meetings.

On October 30, 2020, Council unanimously approved the minutes for the final of three fall meetings.


President's Page

(Continued from page 1)

Finally, MAC is moving forward with annual meeting planning, which you can learn more about in the vice president's column. But, suffice to say, meetings are important, whether virtual or in-person. They are the heart of MAC and the reason we were organized in the first place.

Please do remember to renew your membership. There is still time before the MAC 2021 election begins.

Sincerely,



Erik A. Moore
President, Midwest Archives Conference



2021 Spring Annual Meeting

May 13–14, 2021, virtual

While we are disappointed that we won't be able to see one another in person this spring, we hope you'll join us for the MAC 2021 Spring Annual Meeting to be held virtually on May 13 and 14. The year 2020 brought both challenges and opportunities to archivists. How have archivists responded to the pandemic, budget cuts, remote work, shutdowns, and civic unrest? What opportunities were presented to archivists, such as community engagement, working on backlogs, and focusing on digital projects? What other clouds and silver linings have archivists encountered in their work? What work and projects have archivists undertaken that adapt to cultural, societal, and environmental changes?

Look for registration later this spring!

**MAC 2021 Candidate Slate
Approved by MAC Council**

President

- Tamar Chute,
The Ohio State University
- Mary Ellen Ducey,
University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Secretary

- Sarah Lebovitz,
Wayne State University
- Anne Thomason,
Lake Forest College

Council (1 position)

- Rebecca Kuske,
University of Wisconsin–Stout
- Donica Martin,
The Urbana Free Library

Nominating Committee (2 positions)

- Jessica Ballard,
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Becky Dampitz,
Decatur Public Library
- Ryan Leimkuehler,
Kansas State University
- Lauren White,
Ford Presidential Library

*Submitted by Dina M. Kellams, MAC Nominating
Committee Chair*

MAC Fall Council Meeting Minutes Virtual Meeting 1 of 3 Friday, October 9, 2020 2:00–4:00 PM (Central)

*In attendance: Erik Moore, Jennie Thomas, Jennifer Ho, Daria Labinsky,
Jerice Barrios, Michelle Sweetser, Sammie Morris, Tara Laver, Katie Blank*

Welcome and Introductions; Review of Online Procedures (Moore)

Action item: Agenda was unanimously approved by Council. All members voting.

Update on Spring Meeting (Moore/Sweetser)

Contract status, new dates

A graceful departure was negotiated from the original contract with the Madison Concourse Hotel for the Spring Annual Meeting in April 2021. There would have been a \$72,000 penalty if MAC cancelled the reservation, but the hotel finally agreed to scrap the 2021 plans and restart negotiations for 2022 with no penalty on either side, keeping in mind that no one knows what 2022 will look like. Proposed dates for 2022 are May 4–7.

Labinsky has a document that Society of Georgia Archivists did of an assessment of online conference platforms that she will share with Council in regard to 2021 planning.

Action item: Spring Meeting dates of May 4–7, 2022, were unanimously approved by Council. All members voting.

Check-ins with PC, LAC, and Education Committee

Planned speakers for the 2020 Annual Meeting were encouraged to resubmit or make papers/presentations available through Iowa State site.

LAC cochairs are ready to get back to work for 2022, but some members may not be able to participate any longer.

The Education Committee has a proposal for live quarterly webinars on topics that came out of the summer's survey. The 2020 workshop on digital preservation will potentially be done as a live webinar, instead. There are two Speakers Bureau events still planned in 2020/2021.

Council asked the PC for a virtual event proposal for spring 2021; not much structure was provided, the

proposal is to be based on their available commitment and time; the first meeting for which was held last week. A primary concern of Council is ways to bring out the social aspect of MAC because people are so burned out from Zoom and other virtual presentation formats — don't forget the people-part of it all. Moore mentioned the gamification-style of the platform used by Archive-It for a workshop earlier in the week as promising. Sweetser et al. will try to get as much as possible clarified over the next two weeks.

Need to go back to spring 2022 Chicago proposal to ask if they want to resubmit for 2023. Fall 2021 Kansas City is still up in the air. There are fewer issues with canceling in-person, as this is an on-campus proposal. Could be a hybrid of in-person local presenters and remote. Laver and Sweetser will meet on this further.

Nominating Committee Report

Action item: The Nominating Committee slate was unanimously approved by Council. All members voting.

MAC Strategic Plan 2020–2025 (Moore)

Moore reviewed the previous strategic plan, which focused on five major functional areas of MAC with objectives for each: membership, education, publications, marketing and outreach, and administration. Membership work involved a member census, for which the resulting data was difficult to understand and parse. It is hoped that A-Census II will fill the void. Education work included the elevation of the Speakers Bureau. No formal task force was created to explore alternative ways to make educational opportunities available. Publications work involved the redesign of *Archival Issues* and update to author agreements. A digital version of the *MAC Newsletter* did not occur, however. Marketing/outreach included the “Got *Archival Issues*?” ad campaign and the website redesign. Masters program outreach to students did not happen. Administrative work included updates to the Constitution and bylaws, an evaluation of symposia, and some work done on records retention, though it's

unclear how it's followed. The relationship with AMC remains productive, but is difficult to assess in terms of return on investment. MAC now operates at a level where it cannot provide these services and possibly others on its own, however is MAC making the most of its relationship with AMC?

Discussion around a redesign of the strategic plan revolved around brainstorming for *three to five* core principles/values/themes that can guide work going forward for the next five years, rather than the former functional approach. Terms that were mentioned included: Welcoming, Accessibility, Diversity, Inclusivity (why do BIPOC see themselves in SAA but not MAC?), Friendship, Equity, Affordable, Valuable, Connections, Community, Financially solvent, Mentoring, Networking, Opportunities, Belonging, Advocacy, Encouraging, Sharing, Collegiality, Receptive, Available information, Affinity,

Common ground, Down to earth, Stronger together, Approachable, Practical and practicable, Concrete results/outcomes, Leadership in the profession, Fun. The need for a vision statement so MAC knows where it's going in addition to how it will get there was discussed. Thomas will set up a Trello board for Council to continue grouping terms to determine the three to five themes that will drive the 2020–2025 strategic plan.

Council's next meeting will be Tuesday, October 20, focusing on officer reports.

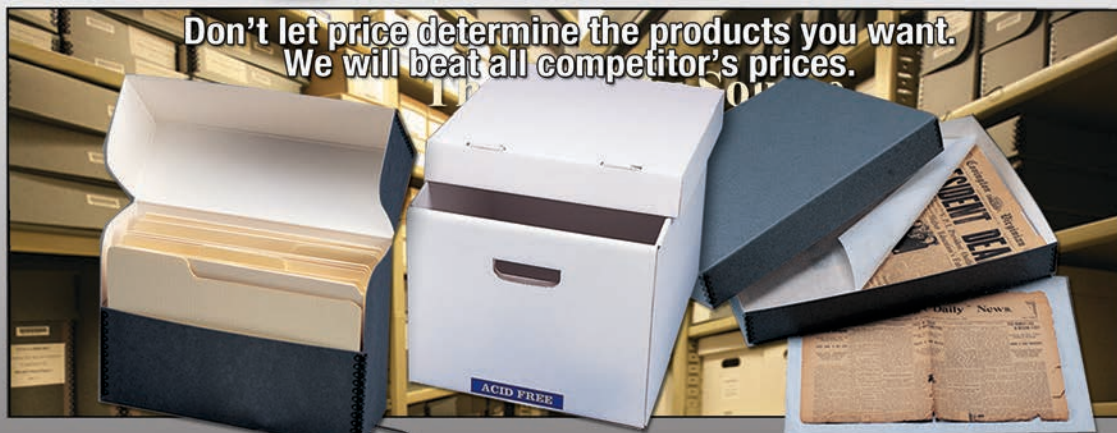
Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Jennie Thomas
Secretary



HOLLINGER METAL EDGE

Archival Storage Materials



hollingermetalede.com 1-800-862-2228 1-800-634-0491

MAC Fall Council Meeting Minutes Virtual Meeting 2 of 3 Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:00–4:00 PM (Central)

In attendance: Erik Moore, Michelle Sweetser, Jerice Barrios, Jennie Thomas, Katie Blank, Jennifer Ho, Daria Labinsky, Tara Laver, Sammie Morris

Welcome and Introductions; Review of Online Procedures (Moore)

Action item: Council unanimously approved the meeting agenda. Daria Labinsky was not present to vote.

Vice President's Report (Sweetser)

Annual Meeting, Spring 2021, Virtual

Cochairs want to go for very straightforward formatting (keynote, regular sessions, breaks—possibly social, dependent on software platform), Thursday–Friday with shortened days to accommodate time zone differences. Program Committee wants to rethink the theme to better suit the times. Sweetser has a call set up with AMC to discuss their experience with virtual conferencing. December call, January deadline for proposals. What are expectations for income and attendance (30%)?

Discussion: Since there are no physical boundaries to attendance, could get more attendance than usual, but have to keep in mind some platforms have limits on attendance. A shorter and condensed schedule makes more sense for people's schedules; maybe even condense it further? Is there a way to incorporate vendors (How do we pitch it? What do we charge? How are others handling this?) Can we provide content available afterward for a reduced fee like SAA is doing; if, so how (speaker agreement form would have to include release; have participant video off)? Tiered pricing (SGA: If you're a member, the meeting is free).

Action item: Council unanimously approved the Spring 2021 Annual Meeting as a virtual conference. All members voting.

Kansas City Fall 2021 Symposium

Newly proposed dates November 4–5, 2021. Decision on whether this would be a virtual conference to be made in March. Laver has only heard from two of the eight presenters about whether they would be willing to participate virtually. The hotel that was in discussion (the meeting would be held at UMKC) has since closed,

but there may be other options, and we'll lean on Debbie at AMC for those answers.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the Fall 2021 Symposium proposal for Kansas City. Tara Laver abstaining.

Action item: Council unanimously approved Lindy Smith and Amy Moorman as LAC cochairs and Tara Laver as program chair for the Fall 2021 Symposium in Kansas City. Tara Laver abstaining.

Indianapolis Fall 2022 Symposium with SIA

Presenters are now on board whether in-person or virtual. SIA wants us to formalize the arrangement before they revise their proposal.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the Fall 2022 Symposium in Indianapolis, hosted in conjunction with SIA. All members voting.

Madison Spring 2022 Annual Meeting

No new information, but will need new committee chairs. Council to send Sweetser ideas offline for potential volunteers, possible members from 2020 Annual Meeting committees?

Chicago Spring 2023 Annual Meeting

Action item: Council unanimously approved LAC cochairs Mike Bullington and Doug Bicknese for a Spring 2023 Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Annual Meeting Manual and Timeline

Big thanks to Joshua Ranger and Daria Labinsky on the edits.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the updated Annual Meeting Manual. All members voting.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the updated Annual Meeting Timeline. All members voting.

Sweetser will have updates to the Symposium Manual and Timeline for the next Council meeting. She will also ensure that virtual conferencing documentation is created for future use.

Code of Conduct Working Group

Sweetser will create a charge and suggestion of membership for vote at Friday's Council meeting.

Treasurer Report's (Barrios)

We are in good financial shape considering we had to cancel our 2020 meetings; we have a credit with Sched from 2020 Annual Meeting cancellation. Membership and publication income is on par with that of 2019 thus far. If 2020 is similar to 2019, most of the current deficit we have (\$9,623.74) should be offset by end-of-year membership renewals and subscription income. Will need to determine how to continue to fund the Greene Award, as it is not currently large enough to endow. Still waiting for Barrios to be added as a signatory on the Bank of America account, though they have the necessary paperwork. Barrios, as Rademaker before her, noted she would like to see better reporting to the treasurer from AMC on sources of incoming funds.

The Financial Task Force has begun its work. Council will look at that report at its next meeting on Friday.

Action item: *Unanimous approval of the proposed 2021 budget. All members voting.*

Secretary's Report (Thomas)

Bank of America has the paperwork it needs to update signatories to the account. MAC's Google Drive was updated for new MAC leadership members, and a couple of new working folders were created for committees as requested. Between-meeting Council actions were listed.

Council's next meeting will be Friday, October 23, 2:00–4:00 PM (Central), and will include the President's Report, committee and chair reports, and follow up on MAC's 2020–2025 strategic plan.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Jennie Thomas
Secretary

Serving Clients Nationwide

Conservation Treatment

For books, photographs, manuscripts, maps, parchment, and works of art on paper

Imaging Services

Digitization of cultural heritage collections.
Careful handling of fragile materials

Audio Preservation

Digitization of audio media using traditional and optical-scanning technologies

Preservation Services

Assessments, training, consultations, disaster assistance



100 Brickstone Square | Andover, MA 01810 | (978) 470-1010

www.nedcc.org

MAC Fall Council Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting 3 of 3
Friday, October 23, 2020
2:00 – 4:00 pm (Central)

In attendance: Erik Moore, Michelle Sweetser, Jerice Barrios, Jennie Thomas, Katie Blank, Jennifer Ho, Daria Labinsky, Tara Laver
Not Present: Sammie Morris

Welcome and Introductions;
Review of Online Procedures (Moore)

Action item: Council unanimously approved the meeting agenda.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the minutes from the second Fall Council meeting on October 20, 2020.

President's Report (Moore)

Negotiations with Madison Conference Hotel

Council has already discussed the negotiations in regard to the Madison conference hotel, but where things stand right now is that MAC has a proposed contract from the hotel with MAC's proposed dates; the room block is currently the same as the original contract, but Moore would like to bring that number down, which could affect costs of food and beverage, rooms rates, etc., and likely result in further negotiation. There are a lot of other choices in Madison for hotels, however, if members don't like the final cost of the hotel or available amenities. Moore is comfortable with the cancellation clauses in the current contract.

Social Response Committee

Moore would like a process and committee that allows Council to determine whether MAC will make a response to issues or events that affect membership as archivists and as members of communities, and, if Council chooses to make a response, to help craft that more quickly and efficiently. The Nominating Committee may need to consider the needs of these committee liaison roles in Council member nominations in the future.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the establishment of a to-be-named committee related to MAC's social response and advocacy needs that will consist of the president, secretary, one appointed Council member who would serve as chair / liaison during their term of service, and two MAC members, one of whom will be a student member. The role of the committee will be to

set parameters and a process for these types of responses to evaluate when a response is appropriate and to respond to issues that affect us as archivists and as members of our communities. Issues of concern may be raised by members of the committee or directed to the committee.

Proposed Council Volunteer Coordinator

Is there a way to track member history of service to help better inform some of this work going forward?

Action item: Council unanimously approved the creation of a Council liaison position of volunteer coordinator, who will be appointed by the president, and whose charge is to respond to members who submit MAC's volunteer application form, to connect volunteers to open positions on existing committees, to work with chairs of committees and Council liaisons (e.g., Publications and Education Committees) to recruit members to serve in open positions or soon to be vacant positions, and to assist the vice president in recruiting members for Local Arrangements and Program Committees.

Code of Conduct (Sweetser)

Discussions on a MAC Code of Conduct began in 2015, and Sweetser brought it back to Council's attention in 2018. It is an expectation now of both our members and Annual Meeting and Symposium committees that we enact a Code of Conduct for the organization. Thomas remembered that a roadblock to approving the code in 2018 had been questions regarding enforcement of such a code and peer organization examples of enforcement.

Action item: Council unanimously approved the establishment of a Code of Conduct Working Group consisting of the vice president, one member of Council (Jennifer Ho), and one MAC member appointed by the president. The working group will review the 2018 draft of the Code of Conduct brought before Council, respond to previously documented concerns represented in the draft, and prepare an updated draft for Council consideration. The group may seek input from members and review the work of other organizations, as appropriate. The working

group will present its findings to Council for consideration no later than the Spring 2021 Annual Meeting. Katie Blank not voting.

Committee and Chair Reports (Moore)

(no action requested)

Archival Issues *(no action requested)*

Bowen Scholarship *(no action requested)*

Development Coordinator *(no action requested)*

Education Committee *(webinar proposal discussion)*

Would an April/May webinar coinciding with the 2021 Annual Meeting make more sense? Sweetser was wondering what platform the Education Committee is planning to use for these offerings, and if that changes the timeline for obtaining a platform for the MAC Annual Meeting, because something may be needed earlier or throughout 2021 by the Education Committee? Blank will follow up with the committee on the proposed schedule and additional questions.

Financial Task Force *(discussion, no action requested)*

The task force is still very much in the information-gathering stage. They plan to meet with Lincoln Financial in the second week in January 2021. There will likely be a recommendation to change the fiscal year.

Greene Award *(discussion, no action requested)*

For a virtual meeting, the committee is recommending to offer the award to a first-time attendee to cover registration fees up to the maximum \$500 amount.

Membership *(discussion, no action requested)*

Current membership is 740, a 5% increase from April 24. Most of that growth has happened in individual memberships. The 2021 membership campaign starts November 2.

Motley Scholarship *(no action requested)*

Newsletter *(discussion, no action requested)*

Alison Stankrauff is starting with the Detroit Police Academy beginning Monday, but she has agreed to continue as *MAC Newsletter* editor through April 2021. An apprentice to the editor has been identified, Adriana Harmeyer from Purdue University, to work with Stankrauff through April 2021.

Moore and Sweetser will work on a news blast with the PIO and Program Committee to go out across our social channels earlier than the January newsletter to announce that the 2021 Annual Meeting will be virtual and ask membership for feedback on virtual conferences they've been to, good and otherwise. What things mean the most to membership, and do they have thoughts as to how MAC might carry out those things in a virtual environment?

PIO *(no action requested)*

Publications Coordinator *(discussion, no action requested)*

Labinsky wondered whether now would be the right time to move in the direction of completely digital publications. Moore would like to see a proposal of the benefits to MAC and to subscribers from the publication editors.

Vendor Coordinator *(discussion, no action requested)*

How might MAC attract vendors to attend/sponsor a virtual MAC meeting? What happens to donations from 2020 that were to carry over, since we are not having an in-person meeting in 2021? Moore to recommend the vendor coordinator create a gmail account that can be passed onto future coordinators to solve communication issues with vendors.

Webmaster *(no action requested)*

MAC Strategic Planning (Moore)

Council to review the MAC Council Trello Board and Statement of Values to continue work on the strategic plan between now and a January meeting.

Upcoming Meetings: January 2021, continuation of strategic planning discussions

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Jennie Thomas
Secretary

Calling all MAC Members!

Have You Renewed for 2021?

MAC membership is based on the calendar year, so to maximize your benefits and ensure eligibility to vote in the 2021 MAC election be sure to renew before January 31. Membership comes with benefits that keep you in touch with colleagues across the Midwest through the *MAC Newsletter*, abreast of current trends in the field with *Archival Issues*, and ahead of the class with educational opportunities and other services.

Renewing online is easy. Simply go to midwestarchives.org, and select the Membership Renewal Form located under the Membership dropdown menu. Log in with your username and password to complete the form, making sure your contact information is up to date. From there, you can pay online or with a check in the mail.

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Jerice Barrios for Fall 2020 Council Meeting

2020 Budget Update

- We are in good financial shape considering we had to cancel all meetings for 2020. Income from memberships is on par with fall 2019, and income from publications (subscriptions and royalties) is meeting expectations.
- An unusually high \$10,867 scholarship expense included a \$3,000 donation to the SAA Archival Workers Emergency Fund and a transfer of \$5,617 in earmarked donations to establish the Mark A. Greene Emeritus Scholarship Fund.
- So far in 2020, expenses have outpaced income by \$18,240.74, but as noted above, \$8,617.00 of that is accounted for by the SAA AWE donation and the Mark Greene Fund transfer. This leaves a deficit of \$9,623.74. If 2020 proves similar to previous years, then end-of-year membership renewals and subscription income will offset that deficit to some extent.

2021 Budget

- Conference income and expenses for 2021 are difficult to predict at this time because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Financial Task Force has begun its work of analyzing our current financial practices and looking for ways to streamline bookkeeping and improve stewardship of invested funds.

Archival Issues Update

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

I hope this update finds you all healthy and well in these trying and uncertain times. Work on our next issue, volume 41, no. 1, is well underway. Ten publication reviews and one accepted article are in the editing phase, and two additional article submissions are currently being reviewed for consideration by the Editorial Board. We anticipate issue 41.1 will be published in late winter or early spring 2021.

I am also pleased to announce that MAC has partnered with Iowa State University to provide open access to *Archival Issues* (and the *MAC Newsletter*) via ISU's Digital Press website: <https://www.iastatedigitalpress.com/archivalissues/>. This new site is now live and includes all available back issues of *Archival Issues* (1976–2019). The site also allows authors to directly submit article manuscripts for consideration and will improve the efficiency of the subsequent peer review and editing processes. For details, or to submit your article, please visit <https://www.iastatedigitalpress.com/archivalissues/submissions/>.

I would like to thank Harrison Inefuku for shepherding us through this transition to a new and improved publishing platform for *Archival Issues*.

Finally, the MAC Style Guide was updated in August 2020 to include a new section on the use of “Bias-Free Language” that reflects current editorial best practice and MAC’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Thank you to Council member Daria Labinsky, *MAC Newsletter* editor Alison Stankrauff, and Harrison Inefuku for their assistance and feedback during the revision process.

As always, we welcome article submissions on a wide range of topics related to archives. If you have questions, ideas for articles, or manuscript submissions, please contact me at bpieczko@iu.edu, or visit the new online submission portal referenced above.

Preservation Essentials

Assistant Editor: William Modrow, Miami University. Please contact William at modrowwm@miamioh.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Getting Your Start in Library Preservation

*Kim Hoffman, Preservation Librarian, Miami University
Contact Kim at hoffma84@miamioh.edu*

The field of library preservation contains within it a broad range of skill sets and responsibilities. Digital files, dog-eared textbooks, rare manuscripts, and even the library building itself may all fall under the jurisdiction of the preservation librarian. With such a varied purview, it can be difficult for students or emerging professionals to enter the field. Building a well-rounded resume is a daunting task when it seems that preservationists need to know a little bit of everything.

As the new preservation librarian at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, I now have the pleasure of reporting that my own preparation has paid off. I still have much to learn about my new position, and I will continually grow as a practitioner. However, my background, my education, and my experiences during graduate school have given me the tools I will reach for on the job.

As a recent graduate, much of my journey took place in the context of my masters' programs. However, emerging professionals coming from a different context can apply some of the same considerations as they look for opportunities. If you are interested in a career in library preservation, or if you are advising a student who would like to become a preservationist, I hope my journey gives you some ideas for your own. I'll break down how my experiences have served as building blocks for a successful career as a preservation librarian.

Mentorship

During my time as a graduate student at Syracuse University, I worked as a graduate assistant in the library preservation lab. The department focused on safeguarding the library's circulating collections, including environmental monitoring, disaster preparedness, emergency response, and book repair.

As a student worker, my primary responsibility, at least at first, was to identify and complete appropriate repairs to circulating material. Our role balanced the need to return materials to the stacks quickly with the importance of making sturdy repairs that would withstand many years of use.

It was here that I began to understand the considerations that govern preservation management. Before books ever made it to our shelves for students to repair, the preservation librarian had to advocate for the departmental budget, apply for grants, liaise with other departments to agree on a workflow, order supplies, and write training manuals. Once I expressed my interest in the field, the preservation librarian made sure to include me whenever possible in the many activities that kept the lab running. She took the time to explain her projects and the many aspects of her job that would normally be all but invisible to a student worker.

The opportunity to work in a preservation lab was invaluable to me: I developed specific hands-on repair skills and added many relevant projects to my resume. However, if you or your students lack a similar opportunity, hope is not lost. Finding a mentor was ultimately at least as beneficial to shaping my career as the work itself. Librarians and archivists tend to be a helpful group. Look for practitioners who may have experience in the areas you need to develop. Reach out, ask questions, and take advantage of networking opportunities. Making connections in the preservation community can help you to understand current challenges in the field and prepare accordingly.

Internships

As a part of my graduate education, I looked for internships, short-term positions, and grant-funded projects that would supplement my studies. In my experience, internships in preservation or conservation departments aimed at students with a library or archival background are relatively rare. Collections management or curatorial internships, however, are much more common. Because collections care is an important aspect of preservation work, these types of internships are also important building blocks for a preservationist. Look for projects that will allow you to handle fragile materials, manage collections storage, or maintain appropriate museum or library environments. Thanks to the demands of a rotating exhibit schedule, many museums will also need help with gallery prep or exhibition work, which can also be a useful skill in the preservation toolbox.

For me, these kinds of short-term commitments increased my familiarity with the daily concerns of museum and library collections care. Through an internship at a National Park Service site, I learned about environmental monitoring and physical security. At an art museum, I conducted a condition survey to assess whether the private library collection could withstand increased student and researcher use. At a historic house museum, I used my experience to advocate for improved library conditions. On campus, I volunteered to install and uninstall exhibits and learned about mounts and book cradles.

Throughout, the common thread was my preservation mindset. By making my career interests clear and identifying projects that could build my skills or grow my experience, I was able to tie each position together to create a cohesive personal narrative. I also continued to build the broad toolbox of skills that a preservation librarian requires.

Creativity

As I grew my expertise in circulating repair and collections care in general, I remained aware of the gaps in my knowledge and watched for opportunities to fill them. In particular, I wanted to learn more about the conservation of rare and special materials. Though I was able to take a course covering the basics, I needed a more extensive introduction. When traditional avenues, like internships, did not offer the hands-on training I was looking for, I got creative. I learned that I could use an independent studies credit to fulfill requirements of my degree and got support to complete a project in special collections under the supervision of the conservation librarian. At Syracuse University, conservation and preservation are completely separate departments, so this was an important chance for me to work with special collections and understand how another lab functioned.

For a further skills boost, I looked to conferences, workshops, and other professional development opportunities. I often found that I was the only student in attendance. Although these events can be expensive, they are always valuable, and funding sources are often available for students and early career professionals. Through workshops, I learned to care for leather bindings, began exploring digital preservation, and interacted with other professionals in the field.

Putting It All Together

Beyond the obvious—classroom experience, internships, and the other activities we engage in as library and archival professionals—we all have other life experience and interests. Before I decided to change careers and enter graduate school, I worked as a technical writer for various software and hardware products. As a technical writer, my job required me to continually learn the ins and outs of new technology, often while it was still under development, then explain that technology in a way that users could understand. I also managed both projects and people. Along the way, I developed core skills that easily translate to a career in libraries: problem-solving ability, writing and communication, and project management, to name a few. More important, I had evidence that I could quickly learn new technologies. My time in the tech industry prepared me to jump into digital preservation, even though my direct experience was relatively limited.

Although my earlier career was in another industry in a different part of the country, it is still a part of my personal history. Just like my internships, student



The author operating the board shears at the Syracuse University Preservation Lab

(Continued on page 14)

PRESERVATION ESSENTIALS—Continued

William Modrow, Assistant Editor

(Continued from page 13)

work, and classroom experience, my work in the tech sector shapes my perspective and is another tool in my toolbox. Once I understood the broad responsibilities of a preservation librarian, I was able to see how my own experience supported those functions and to seek out further development as needed.

For most people, there is no easy path to a career in preservation. Even other librarians or archivists may not always know what the job entails or be able to advise aspiring students who face few relevant course offerings. However, with a bit of creative personal development and a firm grasp of preservation essentials, it really is possible to build expertise in library preservation.



YOU HAVE A JOB TO DO. WE HELP YOU DO IT.

Researchers want to **find it, request it, see it.**

So now, more than ever, you might need to make the case for Aeon.

By enhancing services for users, increasing staff efficiency, and improving security of valuable collections, Aeon customers say that

“**Aeon pays for itself.**”

THAT'S WHY MORE THAN
100 INSTITUTIONS
NOW USE AEON.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THEM, VISIT
WWW.ATLAS-SYS.COM TO REQUEST AN AEON DEMO OR SIGN UP FOR
AN AEON ONLINE EVENT OR COURSE.

HOW WILL AEON HELP US ENHANCE SERVICE?

Integration with your institution-wide systems makes it easy for researchers to place online requests in advance and order and pay for digital images online.

HOW WILL AEON HELP US INCREASE STAFF EFFICIENCY?

Aeon automates tasks that were previously done manually, eliminating the need for paper call slips, enabling remote management of requests, and facilitating the gathering of meaningful statistics.

HOW WILL AEON HELP US IMPROVE SECURITY?

No more manual recording of your items since Aeon provides robust tracking of where items are at a specific time and who used them last. Plus, Atlas hosting provides PCI compliance and added security for payment processing.

News from the Midwest

Assistant Editors: Alexandra Bisio, University of Oregon, and Lois Hamill, Northern Kentucky University. Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Alexandra at bisio@uoregon.edu and items from Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Lois at hamilll1@nku.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

ILLINOIS

Chicago Province of the Society of the Divine Word Archives

The Archives of the Chicago Province of the Society of the Divine Word is pleased to announce its new digital exhibit, *Empowered by the Word: 125 Years of the Society of the Divine Word in North America* (<https://scalar.usc.edu/works/svd125>). Founded by St. Arnold Janssen, the Society of the Divine Word has more than 6,000 members worldwide who serve in 80 countries. The congregation is the largest Roman Catholic order to focus on missionary work. On October 15, 1895, the first SVDs landed in New Jersey. Since then, Divine Word Missionaries have been champions of racial equality and trailblazers in religious intercultural living. *Empowered by the Word* includes information about the 1920 founding of the first Catholic seminary for African American men; the foundation of immigrant ministries in Canada; the welcoming of Vietnamese refugees during the 1970s and 1980s; and the missionaries' impact in Appalachia's poorest communities. Please contact archives@uscsvd.org with any questions or comments.

Illinois State University

Milner Library at Illinois State University is participating in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging Wikidata Pilot Project (https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikiProject_PCC_Wikidata_Pilot/Illinois_State_University) as part of its collaborative work with the Ringling Archives and Circus World Museum on the

Step Right Up: Digitizing Over 100 Years of Circus Route Books (<https://library.illinoisstate.edu/collections/circus-route-books/>) CLIR Grant. For this portion of the project, Name Authority Records and Wikidata items will be created for prominent performers and circuses in the digitized route books, with a focus on performers from historically underrepresented and marginalized groups. This will disambiguate performer names and create linked data that can be used by patrons and scholars in their research. PCC Wikidata Pilot team members are Angela Yon as PI, Liz Hartman, Pete Steadman, Mariah Wahl, and Eric Willey.



Cover of the route book for the Carl Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus for the 1916 season.

Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

In December, the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) of Southern Illinois University Carbondale

was awarded the 2019 SIU System Diversity Excellence Award for its Reclaiming the African American Heritage of Southern Illinois Project. The project works with individuals and organizations in the African American community to document their lives, interests, concerns, activities, and history. So far, a dozen archival collections and several oral history interviews have been deposited in SCRC as part of the project. The original project team members were Pam Hackbart-Dean, director of Special Collections; Walter Ray, political papers archivist; Dr. Pamela Smoot of the SIU Department of History; and Carbondale community member Pepper Holder.



Pepper Holder, Pam Smoot, and Walter Ray receive the 2019 SIU Diversity Excellence Award from SIU Board of Trustees president Phil Gilbert, December 4, 2019. Photo by Steve Buhman.

IOWA

University of Iowa

University of Iowa Libraries recently wrapped up its Summer Seminar Series, a summer series where Special Collections and Archives staff talked about what they know best: the collection! The talks, ranging from science fiction fans, women's suffrage, Prohibition, racial injustice in Iowa, and Peter Rabbit, were all

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

given live Wednesdays and Fridays over Zoom in June and July. They were recorded and put on Special Collections' YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmZiU7S5QFNsZlqgVuvXA>.

Iowa Women's Archives' blog post series on Black Women in Iowa continued through the summer, ending with graduate assistant Erik Henderson's blog on Esther Walls (<https://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/iwa/2020/06/15/esther-walls-the-role-of-a-black-leader/>). Walls was one of five women who integrated Currier Hall at the State University of Iowa in 1946. After graduation, she became a librarian and built a career with international reach. Her papers are available in their entirety on the Iowa Digital Library (<https://digital.lib.uiowa.edu>).



Esther Walls. University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa Women's Archives.

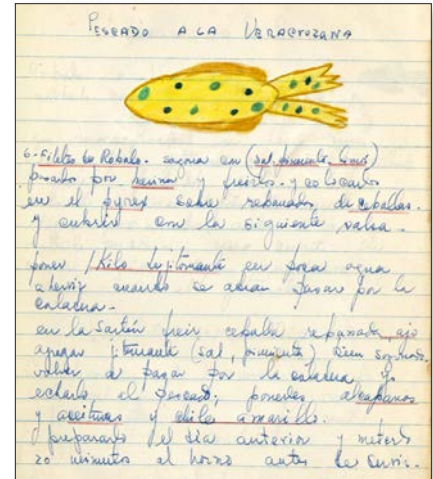


KANSAS

Kansas State University

The Richard L. D. & Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections at Kansas State University Libraries is working with volunteers to transcribe some of its more than 250 manuscript cookbooks, which date from the late 1600s to the 21st century and are in a variety of languages including German, French, Spanish, and Hebrew. Using From the Page (<https://fromthepage.com/kstatelibraries/manuscript-cookbooks>),

the project is being made possible by the department's Jean F. Caul Access to Cookery endowment. Associate Professor Roger Adams (rcadams@ksu.edu), cookery collection curator and project lead said, "A key goal of this project is to share the wealth of cooking knowledge over the centuries for anyone in the world to view. The information in these cookbooks is too important to not make widely available." Crowdsourced transcription of additional digital images from the department's manuscript collections is a long-term goal, and the cookbooks are the initial project.



A page from a Spanish manuscript cookbook, written between the 1940s and 1960s, features a recipe for *Pescado a la Veracruzana*, or Veracruz-Style Red Snapper, a classic dish that incorporates Spanish and precolonial Mexican ingredients and cooking methods.

Pittsburg State University

The Special Collections and University Archives at Pittsburg State University (Kansas) is holding a digital and on-site exhibit of artwork by the late and noted sports artist Ted Watts (1942–2015). Watts, an alumni of PSU (1966), created game-day program covers and sports media guide covers for universities across the United States, as well as portraits of famous coaches and athletes. He also produced western art works and non-sports art; however, he is likely best remembered for the many team program covers and artworks for posters that featured team schedules. To view the online exhibit, please visit <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/watts/>. This exhibit serves as the annual Gene DeGruson Memorial Lecture for 2020, in honor of the original head of the Special Collections & University Archives at PSU.



Ted Watts's program covers for various collegiate football teams. Photo by Steven Cox.

KENTUCKY

Northern Kentucky University

The Special Collections and University Archives has been working to write new finding aids for and deliver new resources via the NKU Digital Repository at <https://dspace.nku.edu/>. The newest digital collection is the MS-40 Bruce Family Papers, with finding aid, which discusses the life of a large, nineteenth-century Covington, family involved in business, banking, agriculture, and the Roebling Bridge construction. This is a very rich collection with depth in a number of areas including enslavement; the Civil War; national politics and presidential elections; women's writing about their daily lives raising families, sick children, gardening, preserving food; health issues including cholera outbreaks; and funeral arrangements for a family member in Linden Grove Cemetery.

MICHIGAN

Mid-Michigan Digital Practitioners

The Mid-Michigan Digital Practitioners (MMDP) continues to do what it does best: connecting archivists, librarians, curators, historians, digital humanities experts, and other professionals and students across Michigan. Because of the public health

emergency, the MMDP didn't hold a spring meeting, but it did hold a couple of virtual meet-ups through the spring and summer to bring the MMDP community together and share experiences about working from home, dealing with job cuts at members' institutions, or returning to a physical workspace. On December 3, the MMDP hosted its first-ever fully virtual meeting and welcomed newcomers who might not have been able to travel to past MMDP meetings. This past September, four years after winning an NDSA Innovation Award in 2016, the MMDP was interviewed by NDSA as part of a series of check-ins with past award winners. Find the write-up on the NDSA blog at ndsas.org/news.

MINNESOTA

American Swedish Institute

In 2019, the American Swedish Institute (ASI) received a two-year grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to fully preserve and make accessible its archival collections. This project will allow complete access to materials in the archives for the first time in ASI's 90-year history, encouraging research on Swedish American life and the universal nature of the immigrant experience.

Although the past year has been challenging, the project archivists are on track to finish processing collections encompassing ASI's history and founding by newspaper magnate Swan J. Turnblad. In the next year, the team looks forward to processing personal and heritage collections, which pertain to the lives of Swedish immigrants, and document the dozens of Scandinavian cultural groups founded in Minnesota.

MISSOURI

University of Missouri–Kansas City Special Collections and Archives

Photographs from the Children's Mercy Hospital Collection are now available in UMKC's Digital Special Collections. The not-for-profit hospital was founded in Kansas City in 1897. The collection features photos of patients, staff, and volunteers throughout the hospital's history. An exhibit cocurated by the American Jazz Museum and UMKC Libraries' Special Collections and Archives celebrated the 100th birthday of KC native and jazz legend Charlie Parker in August. Finally, an interdisciplinary team of scholars (Virginia Blanton, English; Yugi Lee, computer science; Chu Li, computer science; Nathan Oyler, chemistry; and Jeffrey Rydberg-Cox, English) at UMKC received a \$324,317 NEH grant for their project "Unlocking the Mysteries of a Medieval Chant Book with Multispectral Imaging," which will analyze, among other documents, the collection's Adair Chant Book.



Nurses, Children's Mercy Hospital Collection, UMKC Libraries, LaBuddle Special Collections.

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

NEBRASKA

University of Nebraska–Omaha

The UNO Libraries recently welcomed the Omaha Magical Society’s library to Archives and Special Collections. The club’s members had built a collection of books, periodicals, pamphlets, and organizational records, some of which date back to the nineteenth century and cover topics including magicians, sleight-of-hand techniques, and the history of magic. The 1,200-volume library makes the historical study of regional, national, and international magic increasingly accessible. Researchers in the study of recreation and leisure activities, the evolution of local and international entertainment and performance, gender roles, gambling, and other topics will find the collection of interest. The donation from the Omaha Magical Society to the UNO Libraries was not just conjured out of thin air. According to the Omaha Magical Society president Dave Arch, “By housing the library at UNO, the Omaha Magical Society hopes that many others will now be able to also access this resource.”



1953 version of Annemann’s Practical Mental Effects by Theodore Annemann

OHIO

University of Cincinnati

University of Cincinnati Libraries is in the process of digitizing the James B. and John J. McNamara papers, part of the Archives and Rare Books Library’s Urban Studies collections. Three of the sixteen boxes are now available, and several more will be ready soon. The collection includes correspondence, newspaper articles, ephemera, and photographs of the two brothers who were early twentieth-century radical labor activists. Originally from Cincinnati, the McNamara brothers gained notoriety for the deadly bombing of the Los Angeles Times Building in 1910 in protest against the newspaper’s virulently anti-union publisher Harrison Gray Otis. They were represented by the attorney Clarence Darrow. Found guilty, the brothers were sentenced to San Quentin Prison. The collection includes correspondence with many important figures such as Clarence Darrow, Upton Sinclair, Mother Jones, Samuel Gompers, and Alexander Berkman. You can access the collection on the UC Libraries Digital Resource Commons.



SOUTH DAKOTA

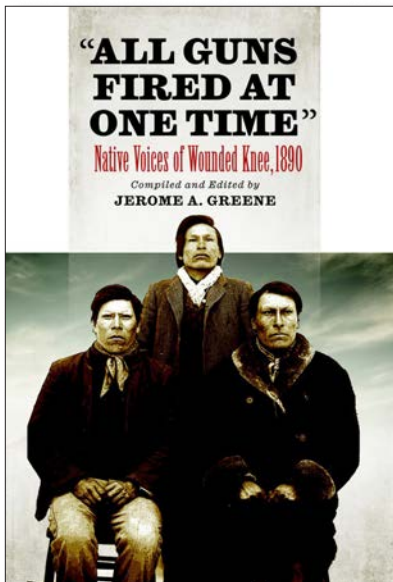
Augustana University, Center for Western Studies

The Center for Western Studies (CWS) at Augustana University recently collaborated with university faculty, Flandreau Indian School (FIS), and the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls on a unique archives-based exhibition project called *Re-Presenting Native American Archival Histories*. High school students from FIS and two university undergraduates researched in the center’s Native American photograph collections and selected materials to repurpose into new artworks, culminating in a public exhibition at the Washington Pavilion, South Dakota’s premier arts center, from August to November 2020. A primary goal of the project was giving the students an opportunity to “re-present” historical Native American photography from their own perspectives—the vast majority of the center’s Native American materials were created by white missionaries. Assistant Professors Carolyn Ly-Donovan (sociology) and Anna Reich (art) guided the students in critical analysis and art production. This project was funded by a \$10,000 Humanities Research for the Public Good grant from the Council of Independent Colleges.

South Dakota State Historical Society

The society’s latest book, *“All Guns Fired at One Time”: Native Voices of Wounded Knee, 1890*, compiled and edited by Jerome A. Greene, sets aside official narratives of what was once called a “battle” and centers instead on the voices of survivors and witnesses. Historians and others have long debated events surrounding the Wounded Knee Massacre

of December 1890, which followed decades of conflict between American Indians and the United States Army in the West. Government officials, reporters, and white Americans quickly appropriated the tragedy that took place on Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota, creating narratives that echoed long-standing federal Indian policy. In addition to extensive first-person accounts, Greene assembles an array of little-known newspaper stories, interviews, correspondence, and testimony, setting them in the context of the days and moments leading to the massacre and the landscape on which it occurred. Together, these sources add a new dimension to the story of what really happened at Wounded Knee. “These accounts, largely dismissed shortly after the event and overshadowed by the versions presented from the military perspective, are primary sources of great historical value and consequence,” said historian R. Eli Paul, who has written extensively on Wounded Knee and the army in the West. “They are essential for understanding this (still) controversial event.”



WISCONSIN

University of Wisconsin— Milwaukee

UWM Archives fieldworker and School of Information Science graduate student James Sterner has undertaken a review of the metadata for one of the archives’ most valuable digital collections, the March on Milwaukee. This digital collection was first created in 2010 to document the 200 consecutive nights of open housing marches and civil rights protests in Milwaukee organized by the NAACP Youth Council of Milwaukee which took place from 1967 to 1968. Sterner is using the Anti-Racist Description Guidelines (https://archivesforblacklives.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/ardr_final.pdf) from the Archives for Black Lives in Philadelphia to de-euphemize the history of violence against Black communities and to highlight the voices of Black leaders in the struggle for civil rights by improving name access to previously undescribed figures from the protests. These revisions will more fully convey the history of this chapter in Milwaukee’s history and the Black leaders whose activism led to nationwide attention.

\$1.2 Million Gift Establishes Grant Price Endowed Archivist at Wartburg College

A \$1.2 million gift from David McCartney and James Petersen of Iowa City has created a new position at Wartburg College, the Grant Price Endowed Archivist.

The Grant Price Endowed Archivist position is named for the pioneering Iowa broadcast journalist and former chair of the college's communication arts department. It is the college's twenty-first endowed faculty or staff position and the eighth in the past decade. The college seeks to fill this role in 2021.

In 1994, the Wartburg College library saw an expansion of the Wartburg Archives and addition of the Archives of Iowa Broadcasting (AIB), initiated by Price. After his death in 2008, Price gifted his estate to establish both a chair in communication arts at Wartburg College, now the Grant L. Price Chair in Journalism & Communication held by Penni Pier, and an endowment to support the AIB.

"Following Grant's passing, we as a board worked with the development team at Wartburg College establishing the endowment funding that Grant had envisioned," said McCartney, a founding member of the AIB in 2004 and chair of its National Advisory Board since 2012.



James Petersen (left) and David McCartney (right)

Other donors have made gifts to this fund that provides the AIB with modest support for its operational costs, but the lack of a full-time archivist remained a compelling need.

The Wartburg Archives includes photographs, diaries, and letters that tell the Wartburg College story, along with organized records that inform the college's decisions today. The AIB collection contains an oral history project comprising hundreds of interviews that capture first-person experiences of Iowa's broadcast pioneers, along with documentation from a variety of media outlets and vintage broadcasting equipment.

"I think Grant's legacy in Iowa broadcast journalism is, without question, a very positive and lasting legacy that, long after Grant's passing, we continue to recognize as really exemplary of what a good reporter does," said McCartney, university archivist at the University of Iowa. "The values that Grant represented in terms of fairness and ethics are very important to remember. Our hope is that this endowed position will allow Wartburg and the larger community to continue to recognize that."

Price was a pioneer of broadcast journalism and a household name in eastern Iowa. McCartney met Price for the first time in 1992 while collaborating on a project documenting the history of Iowa. Price then asked McCartney to assist in the foundation of the Wartburg Archives and Archives of Iowa Broadcasting.

Price later received the 2008 Midwest Archives Conference Presidents' Award, nominated by McCartney, and wrote in his acceptance letter: "I can only say I am deeply honored to receive your organization's recognition of our modest efforts to support the principle your profession stands for—the importance of preserving the historical record of the events and institutions which have shaped our culture."

McCartney and Petersen received title to Floyd County land in early 2020 following McCartney's mother's decision to dissolve the family's trust. The land transfer in turn made possible their gift to Wartburg.

Archival Resources on the Web

By Lindy Smith, Head of LaBudde Special Collections, University of Missouri-Kansas City
**Improvising New Approaches to Digital Humanities Instruction
in the COVID-19 Era**

Assistant Editor: Lauren White, University of Michigan. Contact Lauren at laurenashleywhite@gmail.com if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

When the University of Missouri–Kansas City (UMKC) Conservatory students in Dr. Sarah Tyrrell’s graduate Advanced Research and Bibliography class started work on their semester-long project to make an online exhibit featuring LaBudde Special Collections’ Barney Kessel Collection (<https://library.umkc.edu/archival-collections/kessel>) in February 2019, they had no idea how complicated that research would soon become.

LaBudde Special Collections, UMKC’s manuscripts and rare books repository, has an established relationship with the UMKC Conservatory, which offers majors in all aspects of music, as well as theater and dance. LaBudde faculty and staff regularly work with a number of Conservatory classes, including Research and Bibliography, which is a requirement for all graduate music students, and Advanced Research and Bibliography, which is optional for most majors but helps build on the research skills established by its introductory counterpart. Multiple sections of Research and Bibliography are offered most semesters, and students work in groups that are each assigned different collections to investigate, giving graduate music students majoring in everything from performance to composition to musicology an opportunity to do hands-on primary source research with one of LaBudde’s many music-related collections. Advanced Research and Bibliography classes tend to be small, about eight students, and they work together as a group on an intensive project using a single collection. This semester they were assigned to work with the papers of jazz guitarist Barney Kessel.

Kessel (1923–2004) had a long career performing with jazz greats like Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Oscar Peterson, and Billie Holiday and was also a member of the Wrecking Crew, a legendary group of studio musicians, recording with performers like Elvis, the Beach Boys, and Sonny and Cher. He also hosted a radio show called “Inside Jazz” and wrote a column on guitar pedagogy for *Guitar Player* magazine. The Barney Kessel Collection contains 18 linear feet of manuscript materials and

385 audiovisual items dating from 1923 to 2004 and covers all aspects of his life and career. It was donated to UMKC in 2016 by his widow, Phyllis Kessel, and processed the following spring.

The spring 2020 Advanced Research and Bibliography class visited LaBudde for a kick-off session where they were introduced to the collection and the staff who would be assisting them in creating this exhibit. A major project like this requires a lot of people. This included Anthony Rodgers, an Academic Library Fellow who had formerly taken the class and could provide a useful perspective on completing a similar project; Dr. Anthony LaBat, operations specialist, who processed the collection; and a team of others including Chuck Haddix, curator of the Marr Sound Archives; Sean McCue, user interface and graphic designer; and Buddy Pennington, head of Electronic Resources and Systems. Included additionally were Sandy Rodriguez, associate dean of Special Collections and Archives and head of Digital Archives and Stewardship; Lindy Smith, head of LaBudde Special Collections; and Garth Tardy, metadata librarian, who would work with students on research, metadata, design, digitization, and exhibit construction. The students dubbed themselves “The Barney Bunch” and started a blog, *The Barney Kessel Project* (<https://info.umkc.edu/thebarneykesselproject/?p=9>), to track their progress on the exhibit. The blog was created using WordPress and is hosted at info.umkc.edu, UMKC’s online blog and web publishing domain.

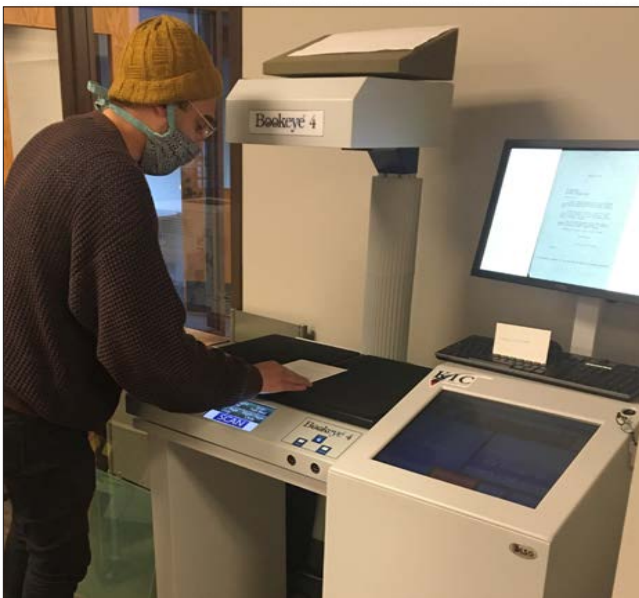
The Barney Bunch was able to make a handful of scheduled visits to conduct research in the collection in late February, but a few weeks into the project, UMKC announced that classes would be going online for the remainder of the semester and the University Libraries began making adjustments to hours, services, and staffing due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that access to collections was about to be temporarily put on hold and the future of the project was uncertain.

(Continued on page 22)

ARCHIVAL RESOURCES ON THE WEB—Continued
Lauren White, Assistant Editor

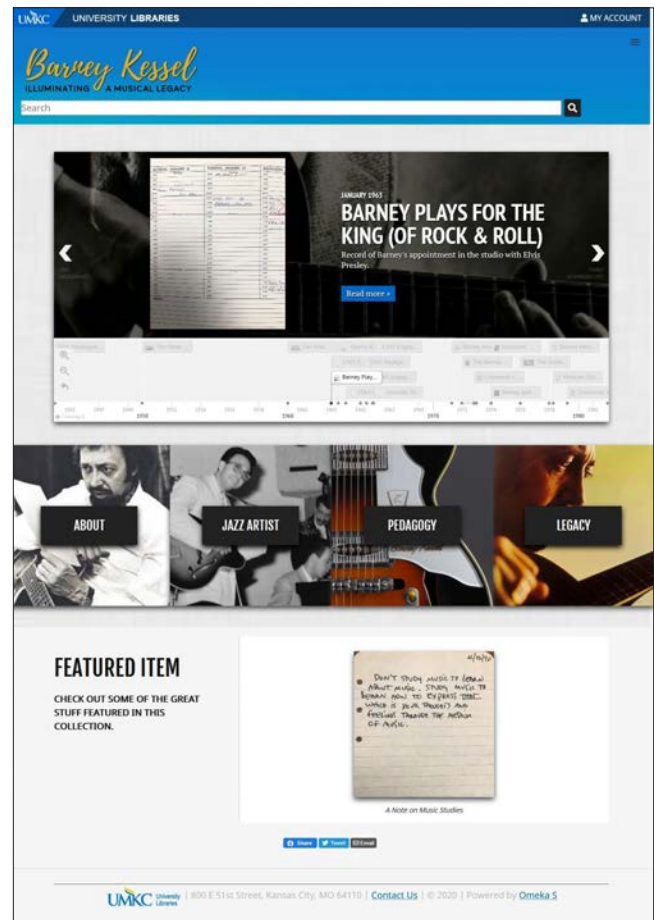
(Continued from page 21)

To help mitigate this unexpected interruption, LaBudde staff sprang into action to solicit scanning requests from the students to make as much requested collection content as possible available digitally so students could continue to work from home. In the week between the LaBudde reading room closing to the public and the last staff member transitioning to work from home, staff was able to fill requests for more than 200 pages of collection materials for students to use to complete the project. The collection materials were digitized using a Bookeye planetary scanner and shared as PDFs using Box.com. Dr. Tyrrell recognized the LaBudde staff for this work in an email to students, writing, “**THIS!** **THIS** is how you know you work and study and research in the BEST place on earth right now.”



As you can probably imagine, these scans weren't quite enough to base an entire digital exhibit on, so the Barney Bunch got creative and reached out to Kessel's widow, Phyllis, who donated the collection to LaBudde and has maintained a relationship with the repository. They created their own additional primary source by conducting an interview with her to document more information about Kessel's life and career and included a transcript of that interview (<https://exhibits.library.umkc.edu/s/kessel/item/2226>; which will be added to LaBudde and made available to future researchers) in the exhibit. Their experience working on this project during the pandemic is documented on their previously linked blog.

The students were able to proceed with image selection, content transcription, description, organization, and narrative writing. Since the exhibit was built using low resolution scans, some images are slightly pixelated. While working from home, they received additional assistance from UMKC Libraries staff in a variety of departments on building an exhibit in Omeka-S, metadata best practices, and copyright via email and Zoom. The Barney Bunch successfully completed and shared the exhibit, “Illuminating a Musical Legacy: The Barney Kessel Project” (<https://exhibits.library.umkc.edu/s/kessel/page/home>), in May 2020. The exhibit focuses on four areas: Kessel's biography, performing career, pedagogy, and legacy. It uses 46 items to tell these intertwined stories. You can browse the exhibit by these categories or via a chronological timeline built using Timeline JS. The exhibit is publicly available and will serve as an additional online resource for researchers interested in Kessel.



Omeka-S was chosen because it was built for institutions, so it handles multiple sites more elegantly than its Classic predecessor, which was designed for individual projects. Libraries staff had created another exhibit using the platform in fall of 2019 that allowed for exploration of functionality and modules, but this was the first exhibit built as a student project. To better support students working in a relatively new platform, two students were assigned as Omeka S ambassadors and met with staff weekly via Zoom meetings throughout the semester. The project uses a number of modules, including Metadata Browse, Sharing, and Rights Statements, which simplifies inclusion of statements from RightsStatements.org. In addition to these publicly available customizations, Libraries staff modified the Papers Theme for a custom look and built a script that features a randomly selected item on the exhibit homepage.

This experience has served as a good learning opportunity and has influenced the way Research and Bibliography classes worked remotely with archival materials this fall and likely into next spring. While LaBudde Special Collections has been open to a limited number of researchers by appointment since August, we are not working with classes in the reading room due to quarantine procedures for physical materials and overall safety concerns. Instead, we are providing digital access to a predetermined set of materials

(roughly 100 pages of manuscript materials and two to three audio recordings, depending on what is available in each collection) that give students an idea of the kinds of information and formats contained in the collection and then allowing students to request additional digital materials (up to another 100 pages and a few recordings per group) to allow them to take their projects in whatever direction they want. We are also directing students to make better use of related and already digitized collection materials in the Marr Sound Archives.

The redesigned projects will give students the opportunity to learn how to conduct remote research, which is likely to be a more practical option for their own research in the near future and perhaps beyond, depending on how quickly academic travel and research budgets bounce back.

Though this process was not without difficulties, UMKC Libraries and LaBudde Special Collections staff, Dr. Tyrrell, and the Barney Bunch were able to work together to prioritize immediate needs, develop creative solutions, and ultimately reach their goal of creating a successful digital exhibit that has been very well received. The project also served as a useful test case for developing distanced primary source projects until we are able to safely host groups of students in our spaces again.

Electronic Currents

Assistant Editor: Sarah Dorpinghaus, University of Kentucky. Contact Sarah at sarah.dorpinghaus@uky.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Working Together: Partnerships Create the Studs Terkel Radio Archive

By Meredith Counts, Sindecuse Museum of Dentistry, University of Michigan

Pulitzer Prize–winning radio host, author, activist, and oral historian Studs Terkel (1912–2008) shared conversations with leaders, artists, and regular people in his books, on TV, as a collaborator with early video producers, and in a 45-year career on Chicago radio station WFMT-FM. Many of those radio conversations, plus full searchable transcripts, are now accessible online at Studs Terkel Radio Archive (STRA). Launched in May 2018, it is hosted by WFMT at <https://studsterkel.wfmt.com>.

Designing and Using the Studs Terkel Radio Archive

Studs Terkel's career at WFMT produced an archive of 5,600 reel-to-reel tapes of his radio programs now in the collections of the Chicago History Museum, where Terkel was a Distinguished Scholar in Residence after his 1997 retirement from broadcasting. WFMT hosts the Studs Terkel Radio Archive online, while the museum maintains ownership of the recordings and any associated copyrights (except rights belonging to the creator of works read or performed on the show). The STRA is the most recent of several institutions to share Terkel's work online. To promote further study and engagement, these audio files can even be remixed and repurposed. The project continues Terkel's work in bringing more voices to the table.



A stack of nine magnetic tape boxes contain recordings of Studs Terkel's radio conversations. They have handwritten descriptive labels and barcode stickers. The Studs Terkel Radio Archive online hosts the digitized audio from these archival tapes. Photograph by Allison Schein Holmes.

An official podcast introduces listeners to curated recordings from the archive, and a variety of tools allows users to search the recordings and make their own remixes. The STRA has a custom descriptive metadata schema and full interview transcription that enhances searchability. The transcripts are searched using custom terms, evolved for better usability over the project's short lifespan.

The descriptive metadata for the project was customized with a broad range of users in mind. WFMT archivist Allison Schein Holmes worked with others to determine and refine categories. "We didn't cater to academic metadata schema," she said in conversation.¹ They knew some information, like recording date, would be important. Terms specific to occupations reflect the focus that Terkel, son of hotelkeepers, one-time WPA employee, and author of 1974's *Working* had on people's jobs. Schein Holmes said her team wanted to keep the website's searchable schema broad. With the help of a technical librarian, the initial cataloging system was developed, and the system was refined once cataloging began.²

The cloud hosting system, Starchive by DigitalReLab, automatically creates derivative remix files from the MP3s on the web to MP4s so visitors can remix and repurpose files to create their own audiocollage projects using the browser-based Hyperaud.io remix tool.³ Visitors can create clips from different sections of different shows to make their own combinations. Remixing allows website visitors to reuse and rearrange audio much like Terkel himself reused his older clips from the WFMT archives in new programs.

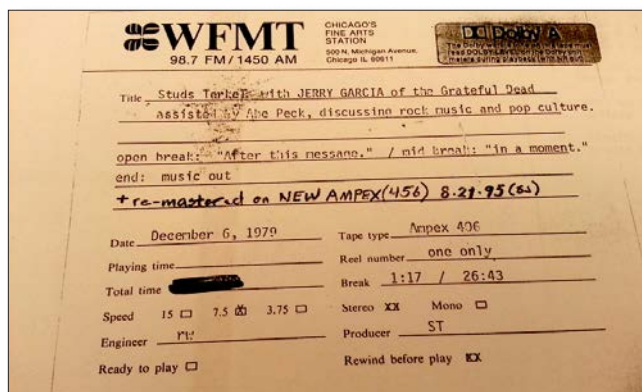
Transcription is done with the vendor Trint, and the automated transcription is refined by a team of Chicagoans. Having that full text available and searchable furthers usability. In *The Oral History Review*, Gerald Zahavi says the archive "seamlessly integrates text and audio, providing users with interactive transcripts. It does this utilizing a very sophisticated and versatile text-to-audio/video software, Hyperaudio..., that also provides copy, cut and paste functionality."⁴

History

The STRA garnered press coverage, especially in Terkel's longtime home of Chicago. Reporters covered the CHM's \$60,000 NEH planning grant; its partnership with the Library of Congress for in-kind digitization services (worth more than \$900,000 as of 2016⁵); and the kickstarter campaign supported by Illinois senator Dick Durbin and actor David Schwimmer which brought in more than \$87,000.⁶ More news coverage came when WFMT took on the responsibility of hosting the archive online.⁷

Zahavi compared the STRA to an earlier project, 2002's Studs Terkel: Conversations with America project, between Chicago History Museum and Matrix: The Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at Michigan State University. Not surprisingly, given tech advancements of the last 15 years, he concludes, "the Studs Terkel Radio Archive offers far wider and more comprehensive access to Terkel's full body of work."⁸

Chicago's Media Burn is another source for online Studs Terkel media at www.mediaburn.org. This independent video archive provides access to more than 1,500 hours of archival video.⁹ Founded by documentary producer Tom Weinberg, a collaborator and friend of Terkel's, Media Burn also hosts a Terkel video collection. This collection was digitized through partnerships in 2008 and 2009 with grants from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation.¹⁰



A WFMT-FM label of magnetic tape from the Studs Terkel Radio Archive shows a conversation with Jerry Garcia was recorded December 6, 1979, on Ampex 406 and remastered on NEW AMPEX 456 on 8-21-95. Photograph by Allison Schein Holmes.

In a 2012 paper, Media Burn's executive director Sara Chapman noted the challenges of preserving historical media that was never intended for long-term archival purposes. Because of magnetic tape's finite lifespan, digitizing tapes is both a time-sensitive and time-intensive process.¹¹

Comparing STRA Digital Files to IASA Standards

The WFMT program recordings are being digitized in batches by the Library of Congress's Audio Visual Conservation Center, which began digitization for the Chicago History Museum before WFMT joined up to create and maintain the website. Resulting master WAV files are preserved, and now smaller MP3 files are uploaded to the website. Digital files go to WFMT's archivist; the tapes are returned to the Chicago History Museum.

WFMT's archivist Allison Schein Holmes provided access to two master WAV files for comparison, one digitized in 2012 and another in 2018. The metadata of these files can be compared to the standards recommended by the International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA), especially in section 2 of its 2009 *Guidelines on the Production and Preservation of Digital Audio Objects* (IASA TC-04 for short). The fact that STRA's digital recordings are in WAV file format containers complies with one of IASA's main recommendations. WAV files with audio in Linear Pulse Code Modulation (LPCM) format are uncompressed and are said to be easy to manipulate. The WAV archival masters are so large, though, that derivatives are made in more portable file types, MP3, for the web.

Some reflections after comparing STRA files with IASA standards:

- The STRA master audio files have a rate of 16 bits and meet audio CD standards if not IASA's highest 24 bit standards. Since the recordings are mostly of people talking, 16 bit seems appropriate for the relatively narrow range of sounds.
- IASA encourages a minimum sampling rate of 48 kHz,¹² but the STRA tapes used a slightly lower sampling rate, 44.1 KHz, again standard with CDs.
- Two STRA WAV files, digitized six years apart, reflect changes in descriptive metadata. More metadata, like copyright information, is attached to the file digitized in 2018 than to the one digitized in 2012.

(Continued on page 26)

A conversation between Terkel and James Baldwin is punctuated with the sounds of matches lighting Baldwin's cigarettes or Terkel's cigar.¹³ Another recording begins with a loud squeak of a door. Schein Holmes says there was no question of smoothing the audio out. "I think that's just a function of how radio was," that the additional sounds are "a by-product of the times."¹⁴

This matches up with the "Key Digital Principles" chapter of IASA TC-04, which says,

The unintended and undesirable artifacts in a recording are also part of the sound document, whether they were inherent in the manufacture of the recording or have been subsequently added to the original signal by wear, mishandling or poor storage. Both must be preserved with utmost accuracy.¹⁵

Copyright and Access

Schein Holmes added, "The only editing we do is to remove copyrighted information—everything else remains true. We keep in the test tones, we keep in the cigarettes, the cigar, the sounds of people moving... to preserve the archival record as much as possible for the public."¹⁶

When Terkel or his guests perform copyrighted material, those passages often remain in the digital file as long as the surrounding discussion gives enough contextual information and is allowed under fair use. If part of a recording is removed, then a note explaining the removal is put into the text description on the webpage. However, users can request full access to the original file via a streaming, limited-time link with password protection.¹⁷

Conclusion

Aside from evolving metadata and backend updates, the main change to the Studs Terkel Radio Archive website since its 2018 launch has been the adding of new, digitized and transcribed recordings once they are available. Allison Schein Holmes said Studs Terkel "was the biggest user of his own archive."¹⁸ Now, the public can give him a run for it, and continue listening to and working with his archive.

Notes

1. Allison Schein Holmes, telephone interview with author, November 22, 2019.
2. Holmes, interview.
3. Tony Macaluso, "What to do with 5,600 Studs Terkel shows? Lessons from working to bring archive to life at the WFMT radio network," *Radio World* 40, no. 21(2016), 12.
4. Gerald Zahavi, "Studs Terkel Radio Archive," *The Oral History Review* 46, no. 2 (2019): 444–447, muse.jhu.edu/article/737002.
5. Macaluso, "What to do with 5,600 Studs Terkel shows?," 12.
6. Zahavi, "Studs Terkel Radio Archive," 444–447.
7. Rick Kogan, "Studs Terkel Radio Archive is a wealth of American history in the making," *The Chicago Tribune*, January 22, 2016, <https://www.chicagotribune.com/entertainment/music/ct-studs-terkel-radio-archive-ae-0124-20160121-column.html>.
8. Zahavi, "Studs Terkel Radio Archive," 444–447.
9. Sara Chapman, "Guerrilla Television in the Digital Archive," *Journal of Film and Video* 64, no. 1 (2012): 42–50, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5406/jfilmvideo.64.1-2.0042>.
10. Chapman, email.
11. Sara Chapman, "Guerrilla Television in the Digital Archive," 42–50.
12. IASA Technical Committee, *Guidelines on the Production and Preservation of Digital Audio Objects*, ed. Kevin Bradley (2009): 8.
13. "James Baldwin discusses his book *Another Country* and his travels through Africa," interview by Studs Terkel, WFMT-FM, September, 29, 1962, audio, The Studs Terkel Radio Archive, <https://studsterkel.wfmt.com/programs/james-baldwin-discusses-his-book-another-country-and-his-travels-through-africa>.
14. Holmes, interview.
15. IASA Technical Committee, *Guidelines on the Production and Preservation of Digital Audio Objects*, 8.
16. Holmes, interview.
17. Holmes, interview.
18. Holmes, interview.

Mixed Media

Assistant Editor: Danielle Nowak, Morton Arboretum. Contact Danielle at dnowak@mortonarb.org if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Plant Disease and Pest Riker Mounts: A Unique Opportunity

By Danielle Nowak, Morton Arboretum

For better or worse, 2020 has presented archives and libraries around the world with unique circumstances and challenges. While the staff of the Sterling Morton Library (The Morton Arboretum) spent a good portion of 2020 working solely from home, as safety measures and other procedures were put into place, staff was allowed back into the library on a part-time basis. Once back in the library, a staff member of the plant pathology lab had a unique project request: to digitize over 250 riker mounts containing plant diseases and pests and then making them available for checkout from the library.



Gypsy moths preserved in a riker mount

The pathology lab currently houses the approximately 250 riker mounts of varying sizes (12 x 16.5 in., 8 x 12 in., and 6.5 x 9 in.). The specimens inside the mounts represent a wide range of host species and related disease specimens on plant parts. On the mounts themselves is an id number that was assigned by the pathology lab. This id number correlates to an Excel spreadsheet that contains the metadata associated with each mount. This metadata includes mount id number, mount size, disease or pest, causal organism, host (Latin name), host (common name), date collected, collection location, and the host's accession number.

To date, these mounts have gotten sporadic use by staff and external users. While we do not yet know the

full potential audience for lending the riker mounts, the target audiences for lending the mounts via the library are instructors/professors from local colleges and universities, municipal foresters, and/or master gardeners who are interested in learning more about diagnosing tree diseases. Standardizing and centralizing information about and access to this riker mount collection will contribute to the growing number of resources the Arboretum uses to support its plant health-care program.

It was decided that the mounts would be digitized and then hosted on the Arboretum's collections management system, what is referred to as ACORN (Arboretum Collections Resource Nexus). The mounts would be digitized so that when a patron accesses their object records on ACORN, they can view what the mounts contain prior to deciding whether or not to check them out. The mounts were digitized on an Epson Expression 1000xl flatbed scanner. While a flatbed scanner might not be the ideal tool to use to digitize these mounts, because of the ease of access to a flatbed scanner and the fact that each of the mount sizes fits on the scanner, this was the tool selected to digitize the mounts.



Epson scanner used to digitize the mounts

Prior to beginning the processing work on the project, it also had to be decided where the digitized mounts and

(Continued on page 28)

(Continued from page 27)

their metadata would be hosted so patrons could access them. The two choices were hosting them on ACORN (which was ultimately selected) or via SWAN, the consortium the library's public access catalog is a part of. Each platform had its pros and cons. With SWAN, the mounts would be visible to a larger audience. While this seems like it would be a pro, there was some level of risk associated with this option. Should we put the mounts on SWAN, there would be the possibility that they would be requested via RAILS, our inter-consortium delivery service. Because of the condition of some of the mounts, having them delivered via RAILS would not be the safest option. However, having them accessible via SWAN would allow us to assign them a barcode and easily keep track of what has been checked out and what is available for use. While ACORN lacks the streamlined process to check items out (the riker mounts are actually the only material in ACORN that are available for the public to check out), the fields available within ACORN were more appropriate for the metadata associated with each mount. Additionally, hosting them via ACORN would allow us to provide more information on their physical condition and how the check-out process would work. Because the materials are somewhat fragile, it will be necessary for the patron to come to the Arboretum directly to pick them up.

Once these decisions were made, the scanning began. It took roughly two to three minutes to scan each mount. Each mount was scanned as a .tiff so it could serve as an appropriate master file and so the images could be used for marketing purposes should the opportunity come up. Overall, the scanning took about 12 hours. Because COVID-19 precautions had library staff in the library on a limited basis and there were an assortment of other projects on the librarians' dockets, it took about four work days to complete all of the scanning.

The next step is to ingest the digitized mounts and their metadata. Ingesting the metadata is a bit more challenging than ingesting the media. In CollectiveAccess, once records have been created for the metadata that has been ingested, users can ingest the associated media and have it attached to its appropriate record. Achieving this can be time consuming initially. Because we had not had any large-scale artifact collections ingested into ACORN, a unique data mapping spreadsheet had to be created to successfully ingest and attach the metadata. It is imperative that the



Cart of riker mounts delivered to the library from the plant pathology lab

data mapping spreadsheet is entirely accurate. A single misaligned field could be catastrophic for all the records that are being batch assigned metadata. Therefore, it is essential to take the necessary time and care when creating the data mapping spreadsheet and making sure that the arrangement of the metadata spreadsheet is aligned with the mapping.

Ingesting the media aspect is relatively easy. CollectiveAccess (the backend of ACORN) allows us to ingest media in batches. Library staff was able to ingest the entire folder of digitized mounts in approximately four minutes. However, before ingesting the media, users must change the original filename to the CollectiveAccess id number that was assigned to the record that holds its metadata. While this process is relatively simple with the use of Adobe Bridge, it is essential that the file renaming is entirely accurate or images may not be connected to the correct record.

The final step to make the project live was to determine a check-out procedure. Because ACORN is not

equipped for a streamlined check-out process, library staff was required to accommodate. In each mount object record is a statement explaining that these specific materials can be checked out for off-site use. This statement includes a link to a Google Form that takes the users information and emails the library staff, notifying them of the inquiry.

The final step in this project will be to market the materials. This marketing plan is still a work in progress but will likely target local educators as the primary audience. This unique challenge was an interesting and beneficial learning experience for library staff. Library staff is also very grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with other departments and assist them in providing information and resources to the community.

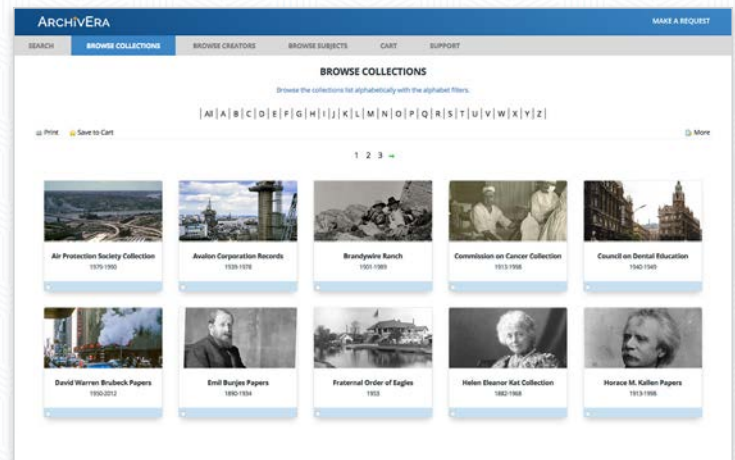


Riker mount containing red oak leaves with bacterial leaf scorch



ARCHIVERA

Archival Collections Management Software



Solves today's archives collections management challenges, ready for tomorrow's

Engaging · Imaginative · Immersive
Innovative · Essential · Unrivaled

WE INVITE YOU TO REQUEST A FREE DEMO TODAY!

www.lucidea.com/archivera

Up-and-Comers: News for Student and New Archivists

Assistant Editor: Meredith Lowe, University of Wisconsin—Madison.

Contact Meredith at mclowe@wisc.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Take an Archival Journey with Mariah Isbell, MLS Student at Indiana University

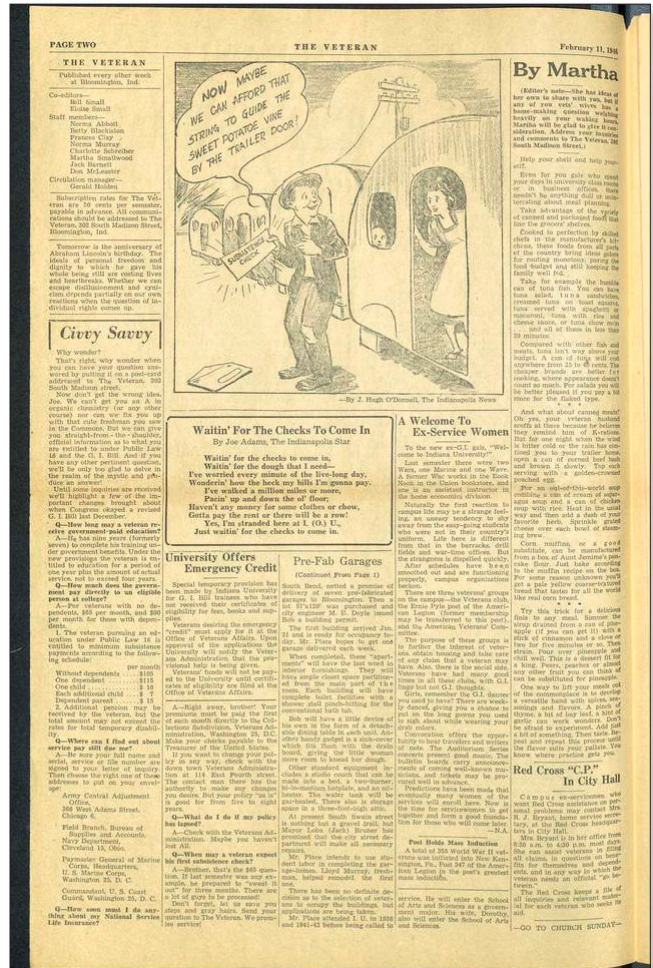
My journey to enrolling in a master of library science program was an unusual one. I have a bachelor of science degree in psychology from Georgia College and State University, and when I tell people about my background, they are always puzzled as to how the two go together. Honestly, I was not sure how the two would fit together and how a psychology degree would be useful for an MLS degree. However, once I started the program, I began to understand more about how psychology and library science actually do have a connection, and that connection I found was with archives.

I have always had an interest in people—how we think, our behaviors, our motivations. With archives, that interest grew more into questions such as: How did people think in the past? What are other communities' and cultures' stories? Why is their social and societal impact important enough to be preserved, and for whom is it important?

The first job I was hired for at Indiana University was as a processor for the University Archives (Indiana University Libraries University Archives). I knew nothing about archival work, and my only understanding of a processor was based on what the job description detailed. I did know that I wanted a job that would grant me experience working in an archive, in this case an academic archive, and I knew that I would need that kind of experience early on in my graduate career.

I like to think that the collections that I was able to work on and process were very diverse, and the information covered introduced me to a wide history of Indiana University that I would have not known otherwise.

The first collection that I worked on was an independent student newspaper called *The Veteran*. *The Veteran* was a monthly newspaper created in the 1940s, designed to give veteran students, and their spouses, information about events and news happening at Indiana University that was specific to them. For instance, the newspaper mentioned a lot about the trailers that the students lived in, any



Volume 1, no. 1, February 11, 1946, *The Veteran*, Collection C713, Indiana University Archives, Bloomington.

social clubs that they could join, and general thoughts and concerns about how the students felt they were integrated with the rest of the student body. One of my favorite columns from this newspaper was called *By Martha*, which was written by one of the co-editors of the newspaper, and directed toward the wives of the veterans. By Martha featured opinions and advice on cooking, gardening, childcare, and general topical questions written to the newspaper. I enjoyed this collection because I got to learn about the life of veteran students at Indiana University and visualize where on campus they used to live. At one point, I became so invested, that after work I would walk around

campus and try and identify where everything was. The community of trailers where some of the veterans lived was called Woodlawn Terrace, which was on Woodlawn Avenue, which happens to be across from the SICE building. There were also some barracks on the field next to what is now Wells Library, and trying to imagine everything enthralled me. I was able to process this collection, but I did not complete the EAD markup for it, as that was something that I had never done before, let alone, done from scratch. When I finished this collection, I felt internally validated that this was indeed something that I am able to do, and it wasn't as daunting as I thought it was going to be.

The next two projects that I was able to work on in the fall of 2019 involved updating finding aids, rehousing files, and adding a series to an already existing collection. The first was rehousing and updating the finding aid for the Henry H. H. Remak papers. Additional boxes needed to be looked through and added to the rest of the collection. If I remember correctly, the boxes I was adding were overlooked before, which is understandable because it was a large collection that already contained about 100 boxes. Remak used to be a faculty member at Indiana University in the German Department, and he also taught literature classes. He was involved in various campus committees and national organizations, and even served as a high administrative official at IU. I created an inventory spreadsheet for the boxes I was sorting through, and from that we discovered that a lot of the items that in his collection, could and should be with another collection, the National Endowment for the Humanities at Indiana University collection. Numerous restricted materials ranged from gradebooks, graded student papers, and evaluations for Remak's student teaching assistants. From the collection, I really got an understanding of who he was, his involvement at IU, and his larger educational commitments as well. At one point, I thought he was writing some of his notes in another language. I thought the notes could be in German because he was from Austria, and I told my supervisor. She looked at it and said, "No, it's definitely in English." His handwriting was not legible at all to me, and it's hilarious that I thought it was in another language. It was like that on a lot of small notes, but at least someone else would be able to read it. Once I figured out where all the items needed to be rehoused, whether they would be with the Remak papers or

with the NEH collection, I was then able to work on the finding aid. Due to the restricted materials, I had to recall some boxes from Remak's papers as well as some boxes from the NEH collection. Working on the finding aid was simple as I was either adding in a line, or renaming a line to make up for the additional items. I did struggle with it here and there, as sometimes I thought I was typing in the right section and then when I would go to preview it, what I typed wouldn't be there. That happened a few times, and I just needed to pay more attention to what I had just typed and the other lines around it. Working on the Remak collection did help me become more comfortable with EAD and working on finding aids.

The next project that I worked on was adding a series to the Michael Molenda papers. The series I added was called "games." Molenda was a faculty member in the School of Education, made many educational games, and used games in his profession. There were about 10 games, and I created a series for them and added them to the scope and content note. This was a quick project, as it didn't involve as much work as the others did. The games were quite interesting, and I even recognized one that I had played before in a team-building meeting.

The fourth project that I worked on could technically be considered a rehousing and finding aid update project, but the original collection had a final total of three boxes and I was working with nine additional boxes. Because of the volume of the boxes, it really seemed like I was starting a new collection processing project from scratch. There were also issues with the finished finding aid that didn't make sense to me, mainly the series that were created for it. The new boxes added new material that wasn't in the original collection. It became inevitable that this collection would be completely reworked. This collection was the Indiana University Latino Cultural Center records, and the last and first time records were added was in 2004, so the nine additional boxes made a lot of sense. I like to consider this collection the one that I became the most involved with and learned the most from because the documents in it ranged from administrative history, to events, to publications. Not only did I learn a lot about the Latino Cultural Center, known commonly to students as La Casa, but also I learned a lot about the history of being a student of color at Indiana University.

(Continued on page 32)

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

(Continued from page 31)

I am very thankful for this because being in a graduate program for only two years, there is no way that I would learn much, if anything, about this history of the school had I not worked in the University Archives.

This collection helped me figure out how to better process items, but I also learned that each collection is different in how items could be processed. Originally, after I had surveyed the collection and made an inventory, which was very long because I was going item by item, I would start with the first series and subseries and go through all the boxes looking for items and folders that belonged to that series. That's going through 12 boxes and about 10 to 15 different subseries and series looking for items. After I did that for the first series, I realized what a waste of time doing all of that was. From then on, I went through each box, and when I came across an item that belonged to a certain series I placed it to the side and made piles. That was easier to do, and it was less time consuming. Trial and error. Once I physically arranged everything, I labeled folders and placed items aside for weeding or destruction. I also started working on the finding aid. I opted to work on the Word document for the finding aid instead of going

straight into the EAD, because I didn't want to be too overwhelmed and wanted to make sure that I was confident with what I was putting together.

The description side of working on this collection was rather difficult, and on various occasions, I would leave work annoyed that I couldn't find the answers that I needed. What also frustrated me was that the previous finding aid administrative history was very long, and it seemed to have details that, when compared to an administrative history written today, would be unnecessary for a researcher to read through. However, I wanted to keep most of the story but just clean up some of the details and shorten it. Again, this was difficult because there were titles for administrators who assisted in the development of La Casa and other cultural centers at Indiana University, cultural centers that no longer exist. I remember finding that very frustrating, because I wanted the administrative history to be correct and to fill in any holes that weren't there before. This difficulty was not the fault of the collection and its materials, but my lack of understanding of university organizational structure. On the other hand, a positive outcome was that during my search



Whether your
ArchivesSpace project
is a small step or a giant leap,
Atlas Systems can help.

You have a job to do.
We help you do it.

Atlas Systems ArchivesSpace Services

- > Training & Support
- > Migration
- > Implementation
- > Hosting
- > Data Conversion
- > Custom Consulting

ATLAS SYSTEMS IS AN ARCHIVESPACE REGISTERED SERVICE PROVIDER



When you need help with ArchivesSpace, you shouldn't have to think about how big or small the challenge is. Atlas is committed to providing the help you need—big project or small.

For more information, contact us at
www.atlas-sys.com/archivespace

FOR A FREE TRIAL, visit www.atlas-sys.com/aspacespace-trial for details

for information on the administrative history, I used various resources suggested by my supervisor that I would not have thought to use before. I rewrote and added all the scope and content notes and made them very simple. Then I had everything listed in an arrangement for the series and was finished. I submitted it to my supervisor for approval before I could start on the EAD part, and then I got my next project.

It was around late February and early March 2020, and this project would become my last in-person project with the University Archives. The project that I was assigned was the Indiana University Little 500 scrapbooks. The Little 500 is an annual spring event at Indiana University and involves teams of four bicycles racing in relay-style around a track for 200 laps, or 100 laps in the women's race. I had never heard of the Little 500 before I came to IU, and it seems to be a very popular and historic event. What was unique about this collection was that these were scrapbooks. I had never worked with scrapbooks before, and there was no better collection to start with. There were over 100 boxes for this collection as the Little 500 dates back to 1951. I did not have to have all of these boxes recalled, but just a few here and there so that I could understand the history and note any changes that happened over the years. For example, women were technically not allowed to race in the Little 500 until the 1980s, but they could race in the mini 500. I found this event fascinating. All the work that went into making it happen was amazing, and the fact that organizers captured that history consistently for nearly 70 years is incredible.

Because pandemic stay-at-home orders were starting to develop and be enforced, I wasn't able to complete this project. I also planned to go through all the boxes that I needed to gather an understanding and history of the event, enough to start an administrative history, but I wasn't actually able to start work on the finding aid and other descriptive sections. I am thankful that I was able to work on this project, even given my limited time, because now I have experience working with materials other than paper.

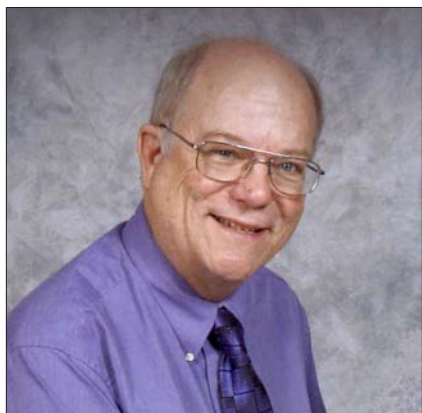
By late March and early April 2020, everything had transitioned to online learning and working. Luckily, I was able to stay with University Archives and work remotely on projects that were not the primary focus when we were working in-person. Some of the assignments and projects that I have been able to work on involved transcriptions, such as the diaries of William Raimond Ringer, a very interesting young man who attended IU from 1916 to 1921. Other projects involved creating or editing Wikipedia pages for collections in the archives, creating blog posts, working on Libguides, and outreach. A current project that I am working on involves outreach to student groups and developing a way to let them know that their materials can be archived, potentially, with University Archives.

While this experience with University Archives has been an interesting one, I am very thankful for the array of projects that I was able to work on and the people I have been able to work with. This experience left a great imprint on me and made me more well-rounded with the types of archival experiences I have had.

People and Posts

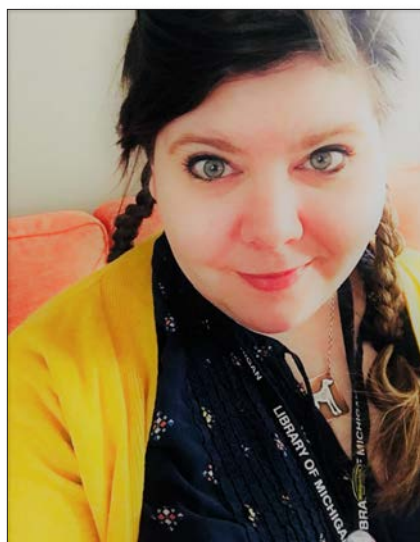
Assistant Editor: Matt Gorzalski, Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The MAC Membership Committee invites members to share positions, appointments, and honors in the People and Posts column. Please send items to Matt at mgorzalski@lib.siu.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

The University of Iowa Libraries is pleased to announce that **Aiden M. Bettine** joined the Department of Special Collections and University Archives as community and student life archivist effective January 4, 2021, a newly created position in the Libraries' Residency Librarian Program. Aiden established the Transgender Oral History Project of Iowa in 2018 and is a PhD candidate in the UI Department of History. He completed his MA in library and information science at UI in May 2020.

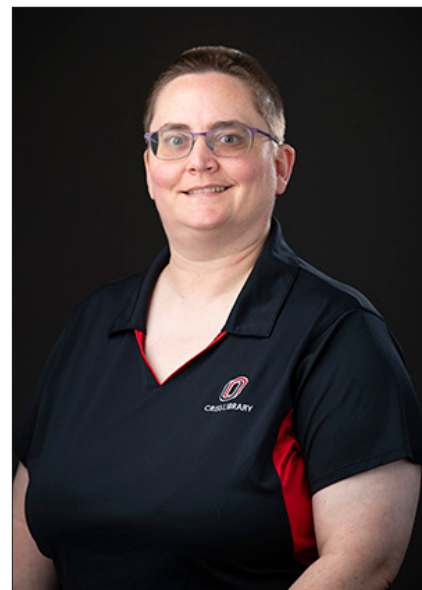


After 37 years, **Mike Gibson** has retired as archivist from the Loras College Center for Dubuque History in Dubuque, Iowa. Prior to his position at Loras College, he served as research associate/assistant to the director at the State Historical Society of Iowa in Iowa City from 1973 to 1981. From 1978 to 1985, he was book review editor for *The Annals of Iowa* and has published articles in *The Palimpsest*, *Journal of Popular Culture*, and *The Annals of Iowa* and recently co-authored a book entitled *A City at*

Work, Dubuque 1912 (2019). A longtime member of SAA and MAC, Gibson has served for 30 years as a member of the Iowa Historical Records Advisory Board (IHRAB), one of the longest tenures of any SHRAB member in the country. Most recently, he received the prestigious William J. Petersen and Edgar R. Harlan Lifetime Achievement Award from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, the State Historical Society of Iowa's highest award.



Lindsay Hiltunen, university archivist at Michigan Technological University, was recently elected as a trustee to the Historical Society of Michigan's board of directors. Her term began on Saturday, October 3, at the society's annual Michigan History Conference, which took place virtually this year. She will serve a three-year term in this capacity.



The Nebraska Library Association Technical Services Round Table has awarded **Angela Kroeger** the 2020 Sandra Herzinger Award, which is the organization's distinguished service award given to a Nebraska library worker who has demonstrated exceptional work in the profession and/or has been an advocate for technical services. Kroeger is the metadata coordinator in the University of Nebraska Omaha Libraries' Archives and Special Collections and served as president of the Nebraska Library Association in 2016–2017.

Dr. Kären M. Mason, curator of the Louise Noun–Mary Louise Smith Iowa Women's Archives at the University of Iowa Libraries, will retire in December 2020 after 28 years at the helm of the IWA. As founding curator, she oversaw the growth of the archives to a

nationally recognized repository especially attentive to preserving the voices of those often left out of the archival and historical record, ranging from African Americans and rural women to Latinas and Jewish women. Mason was honored with MAC's Distinguished Service Award in 2020 and will receive the University of Iowa's Jean Y. Jew Women's Rights Award in 2021.

Dr. Lydia Tang was honored with the Mark A. Greene Emerging Leader Award by the Society of American Archivists. She also was recognized in three SAA Council Resolutions for work on the Task Force to Revise Best Practices for Accessible Archives for People with Disabilities, the Archival Workers Emergency Fund, and the Accessibility & Disability Section for the "Archivists at Home" work-from-home advocacy document. She is grateful for the recognition received and also to the amazing collaborator colleagues sharing in these recognitions.

University of Nebraska Omaha Libraries' university archivist **Les Valentine** retired October 30, 2020. Valentine served the university for over 37 years.



In October 2020, **Hannah L. Weber** joined American Public Media Group and Minnesota Public Radio as lead archivist. She was previously the archivist with the Archives & Local History Department at Douglas County Libraries in Castle Rock, Colorado.

Jenna Silver-Baustian and **Liz Riordan** joined the University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections team permanently in June. Riordan will be continuing her duties as outreach and engagement librarian, and Silver-Baustian will be working further as processing coordinator archivist for the department.

NEW MEMBERS

IOWA

Zoe Webb
University of Iowa

MICHIGAN

William Katerberg
Calvin University

Edwina Murphy

Karen Turk
Royal Oak Historical Society
Museum

MISSOURI

Christain Hartman
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

NEBRASKA

Dr. Nicole Gray

OUT OF REGION

Dr. Frederick Augustyn Jr.
Library of Congress

Anke Voss
Concord Free Public Library
Concord, MA

MAC Contacts

President (2019–2021)

Erik Moore
University Archivist
University of Minnesota
218 Elmer L. Anderson Library
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612-625-5756
moore144@umn.edu

Vice President (2020–2022)

Michelle Sweetser
Head Librarian, Center for Archival
Collections
Bowling Green State University
1001 East Wooster Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
Phone: 419-372-8085
msweets@bgsu.edu

Treasurer (2020–2022)

Jerice Barrios
Archivist
Archives of the NA Province of the
Cenacle
205 West Monroe Street, Suite 210
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Phone: 312-544-8204
cenacle.archives@gmail.com

Secretary (2019–2021)

Jennie Thomas
Director of Archives
Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
2809 Woodland Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44155
Phone: 216-515-1942
jthomas@rockhall.org

Council

Jennifer Ho (2020–2022)
Archivist
California State University San Marcos
333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, California 92096
Phone: 760-750-4000
jho@csusm.edu

Sammie Morris (2020–2023)
University Archivist
Purdue University
504 West State Street
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
Phone: 765-494-2839
morris18@purdue.edu

Tara Laver (2018–2021)
Archivist
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
Phone: 816-751-1216
tlaver@nelson-atkins.org

Katie Blank (2019–2022)
Digital Records Archivist
Marquette University
Raynor Memorial Libraries
PO Box 3141
Milwaukee, WI 53201-3141
Phone: 414-288-8741
katherine.blank@marquette.edu

Daria Labinsky (2019–2022)
Archivist
Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and
Museum
441 Freedom Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30307-1498
Phone: 404-865-7100
daria.labinsky@gmail.com

Ex Officio Council

Archival Issues Editor

Brandon T. Pieczko
Digital and Special Collections
Librarian
Ruth Lilly Medical Library
Indiana University School of Medicine
975 West Walnut Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: 317-274-7194
bpieczko@iu.edu

Development Coordinator

Ida Mangum (2019–2021)
Assistant Archivist
University of Kentucky
Margaret I. King Library
179 Funkhouser Drive
Lexington, KY 40506-0039
Phone: 859-323-4569
ida.lucille.sell@uky.edu

Education Committee

Amy Bishop (2019–2021)
Rare Books and Manuscripts Archivist
Iowa State University
403 Parks Library 701 Morrill Road
Ames, IA 50011-2102
Phone: 515-294-8807
aebishop@iastate.edu

Hathaway Hester (2020–2022)
Manager of Association Archives
National Association of Realtors
430 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611-4087
hathawayhester@gmail.com

MAC Newsletter Editor

Adriana Harmeyer (2021–2023)
Archivist for University History
Purdue University
504 West State Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907
Phone: 765-494-2263
aharmey@purdue.edu

Membership Committee

Matthew Gorzalski (2019–2021)
University Archivist
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Morris Library
Mailcode 6632
Carbondale, IL 62901
Phone: 618-453-2225
m.gorzalski@gmail.com

Public Information Officer

Kyna Herzinger (2018–2020)
Archivist for Records Management
University of Louisville
University Libraries
Louisville, KY 40292
Phone: 502.852.6302
kyna.herzinger@louisville.edu

Vendor Coordinator

Lisa Huntsha (2019–2021)
Swenson Swedish Immigration Research
Librarian and Archivist
Augustana College
Denkmann 134
639 38th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201
Phone: 309-794-7496
lisahuntsha@augustana.edu

Webmaster

Kate Dietrick
Archivist, Upper Midwest Jewish
Archives
University of Minnesota
Elmer L. Andersen Library
222 21st Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
diet0134@umn.edu

Committee Chairs

**Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship
for Students of Color**

Lara Friedman-Shedlov
Description and Access Archivist
Kautz Family YMCA Archives
University of Minnesota
318 Andersen Library
222 21st Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612-626-7972
ldfs@umn.edu

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

Vicki Cooper
Records and Information Manager
Northern Kentucky University
106B Steely Library
Highland Heights, KY 41099
Phone: 859-572-5742
cooperv2@nku.edu

**Louisa Bowen Memorial Graduate
Scholarship**

Shaun Hayes
Assistant Archivist
University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee
SOIS
1720 East Capitol #202
Shorewood, WI 53211
Phone: 414-229-6817
sahayes1@yahoo.com

Presidents' Award

Ellen Swain
Associate Professor of Library Admin-
istration, Archivist for Student Life
and Culture
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign
19 Main Library
1408 West Gregory Street
Urbana, IL 61801
217-333-7841
eswain@illinois.edu

MAC midwest archives
conference
.....

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR

Adriana Harmeyer

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Kyna Herzinger

MAC News

Alexandra Bisio and Lois Hamill

News from the Midwest

Danielle Nowak

Mixed Media

Lauren White

Archival Resources on the Web

William M. Modrow

Preservation Essentials

Sarah Doringhaus

Electronic Currents

Meredith Lowe

Up-and-Comers

Matt Gorzalski

People and Posts, New and Returning Members

Advertise with the Midwest Archives Conference!

MAC offers advertisers easy and effective ways to market products, services, and announcements. These outlets include its newsletter, journal, Annual Meeting program, and website. The newsletter, journal, and Annual Meeting program reach more than 900 individual and institutional members in the Midwest and across the United States; more than 16,000 people visit MAC's website annually.

For information concerning exhibits and sponsorships during the Annual Meeting, please contact MAC vendor coordinator Lisa Huntsha, lisahuntsha@augustana.edu.

MAC Advertising Packages

Publication and Frequency	Size of Ad	Cost Per Issue	Cost Per Year
<i>MAC Newsletter</i> (quarterly)	Full page	\$250	\$800 (20% discount)
	Half page	\$150	\$510 (15% discount)
	Quarter page	\$75	\$270 (10% discount)
	Eighth page	\$50	\$190 (5% discount)
	Business Card	\$50	\$190 (5% discount)
<i>Archival Issues</i> (single issue)	Full page	\$250	
	Half page	\$150	
	Quarter page	\$75	
	Eighth page	\$50	
	Business Card	\$50	
Annual Meeting Program (annually)	Full page	\$250	
	Half page	\$150	
	Quarter page	\$75	
	Eighth page	\$50	
	Business Card	\$50	

Advertise with the Midwest Archives Conference!

MAC offers advertisers easy and effective ways to market products, services, and announcements. These outlets include its newsletter, journal, Annual Meeting program, and website. The newsletter, journal, and Annual Meeting program reach more than 900 individual and institutional members in the Midwest and across the United States; more than 16,000 people visit MAC's website annually.

For information concerning exhibits and sponsorships during the Annual Meeting, please contact MAC vendor coordinator Lisa Huntsha, lisahuntsha@augustana.edu.

Midwest Archives Conference

2598 E. Sunrise Boulevard, Suite 2104

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Time-Sensitive Material

MAC Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Institution _____ Fax _____

Title _____ E-mail _____

Business Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Mailing Address (if different from above) _____

New Membership

Change of Address

Renewal

Membership fees: \$55 Individual, \$20 Student, Institutional U.S. \$100, Institutional, Canadian or Mexican \$110, Institutional, International \$120. The membership year runs from January to December. Make checks payable to Midwest Archives Conference. Mail check and this form to Midwest Archives Conference, 2598 E. Sunrise Boulevard, Suite 2104, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

In our continued efforts to be more financially and environmentally sustainable, MAC is now asking members to consider electronic-only delivery of MAC publications. If you choose e-delivery, you will receive an expanded e-mail when the new publication is available on the MAC website.

Preference for delivery of *MAC Newsletter* (CHOOSE ONE)

Print

Online Only

Preference for delivery of *Archival Issues* (CHOOSE ONE)

For budgeting reasons, your choice can be modified only during the next renewal period.