

"Collaborative Adventures in Archival Endeavors"

March 22-23, 2002
Newport Marriot, Newport, RI

Saturday, March 23

Registration & coffee: 8:30-9:30

Complete your slip for the door prize drawings!

Vendor Showcase opens: 8:30

Enjoy some coffee and visit the vendors with an NEA colleague!

Metal Edge, Inc. - NELINET - New Haven Moving Equipment - Pacific Data Conversion Corp. - Systematics, Inc. -
The Archival Image - The Donohue Group - The Hollinger Corporation

Welcome: 9:30-10:30

Keynote speaker: Robert S. Martin, Ph.D., Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) - "Blurring the Boundaries of Cultural Institutions: Collaborating to Serve a Nation of Learners"

Break: 10:30-10:45

Remember to stop by the vendor booths and learn about their services and products!

Concurrent Sessions I: 10:45-12:15

1. "Conservation in Context"

Conservation is best understood as one level of care within a preservation program that includes prevention, reformatting, in-house conservation procedures, and conservation treatments. After reviewing the broad implications of a functioning preservation program, Steve Dalton will address how archivists work with conservators: how to find them, negotiate with them, work with them. NEDCC is a recipient of an IMLS leadership grant.

Speaker: Steve Dalton, Director, Field Service, Northeast Document Conservation Center

2. "Dealers, Donors, and Archivists: Partners in Developing Collections"

Developing collections sometimes requires that archivists cooperate and plan with donors and manuscript dealers. Collaborating with rare materials dealers to develop collections for an institution includes matters such as providing the dealer with a profile of an institution's collection development program and a framework for an institution's ability to pay for collections. The archivist should understand the dealer's role in identifying manuscripts and collections in the field. Working with donors also requires a skill set for approaching the donor, arranging for a gift, and understanding associated costs. Tact and skill are required to decline an inappropriate gift. The speakers will address these issues from the dealer's, donor's and curator's points of view.

Chair: Donna Longo DiMichele, Library Program Manager, RI Office of Library and Information Services

Speakers:

- Michael Ginsberg, Michael Ginsberg Books, Sharon, Massachusetts
- Thomas Wilsted, Director, Archives and Special Collections, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut
- Billie M. Levy, Book Collector

3. "New! New England Regional Initiatives"

Current cooperative initiatives represent intriguing opportunities for archivists and for organizations and institutions that hold historical records. The National Endowment for the Humanities is sponsoring regional humanities centers across the US. In the northeast, the University of New Hampshire has proposed and won funding for a Center for New England Culture. On another front, State Coordinators and members of the region's Historical Records Advisory Boards will meet in 2002 and 2003 to discuss and explore cooperative ventures for collaborative documentation projects. On a statewide level, Dartmouth College is leading the New Hampshire Local Records Education Project. This initiative seeks to foster cooperation in caring for historical records within communities and regions. This session presents an opportunity to learn about these initiatives, explore their potential, and voice thoughts on how we, as archivists, might contribute.

Moderator and Speaker: Bill Ross, Center for New England Culture and Special Collections, University of New Hampshire

Speakers:

- Bill Milhomme, Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board, Massachusetts State Archives
- Dan Daily, New Hampshire Local Records Education Project, Dartmouth College

Lunch & Business Meeting: 12:15-1:45

Stop and chat with the vendors on the way to lunch or after the Business Meeting.

Concurrent Sessions II: 1:45-3:00

4. "Internships as Partnerships"

Developing successful internship assignments for students requires agreement and mutual understanding of the needs of the student, the host institution, and the academic requirements of the class. The speakers in this session will briefly present their ideas on this issue and the lessons learned from their experiences. Discussion with the audience will be encouraged.

Chair: David Weaver, Student, Simmons College, GSLIS

Speakers:

- Jeanette Bastian, Assistant Professor, Director of Archives Programs, Simmons College, GSLIS
- Leslie Wilson, Curator of Special Collections, Concord [Mass.] Free Library
- Nancy Richard, Librarian, Bostonian Society
Stuart Culy, Student, Simmons College, GSLIS
- TBA, students with recent internship experience

5. "Building Cooperative Relationships"

This program will demonstrate ways to improve cooperation among community organizations and between archivists and other staff within an organization. The speakers will talk from their differing perspectives about the barriers to cooperation and how to overcome them. The St. Johnsbury Archives Collaborative includes a museum, library, town clerk's office, and a school. The program is in the third year of a three-year NHPRC grant, which funded the hiring of a project archivist to establish archives programs and process collections at each institution. William Carroll is currently involved in drafting plans for five municipalities that have received MHRAB grants and is a consultant in three other municipalities for specific institutions. The speakers will address relationships among community organizations, between archivists and different kinds of organizations, between temporary and permanent staff, and between consultants and staff.

Chair: Polly Darnell, Archivist & Librarian, Shelburne Museum

Speakers:

- William F. Carroll, Archivist, Worcester Historical Museum and independent consultant for MHRAB
- Selene Colburn, Project Archivist, St. Johnsbury Archives Collaborative
- Ann Lawless, Manager of Curatorial Activities, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum and Project Director, St. Johnsbury Archives Collaborative

6. "Crossing Boundaries: Collaboration between Museums, Libraries, and Archives"

Archival work often overlaps with the work of professionals in other fields. This session examines collaboration between librarians, archivists and museum professionals. Two projects highlight efforts in collaborative description required to develop visual image databases. The third project demonstrates cooperation between archivists and museum professionals in Maine.

Chair: Ellen Stone, Ships Plans Collection Manager, G.W. Blunt White Library, Mystic Seaport

Speakers:

- Kim Brookes, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
- Karen Reilly, Dinand Library, College of the Holy Cross
- Jolene deVerges, Worcester Art Museum
- Paige Lilly, Folger Library, University of Maine

Break: 3:00-3:15

Here's your last chance to visit the vendors!

Concurrent Sessions III: 3:15-4:30

7. "Reaching the Researcher"

A renewed emphasis on bringing researchers and historical collections together has spawned many collaborative projects among New England repositories. Three speakers will discuss recently initiated projects: The New England Regional Fellowship Consortium, the Maine Memory Network (MMN), and Connecticut History Online (CHO). The Fellowship Consortium, administered by the Massachusetts Historical Society, helps to bring researchers to the collections by providing stipends for researchers using at least three of its sixteen member institutions. In a different approach, the MMN, administered by the Maine Historical Society, developed a digital database of historical letters, photographs, paintings, artifacts, and sound and video files contributed by institutions across Maine. Similarly, CHO is a collaborative website created by the Connecticut Historical Society, Mystic Seaport, and The Thomas J. Dodd Center at the University of Connecticut and funded by an IMLS Leadership Grant. It contains some 14,000 images of Connecticut, cataloged in detail, with online learning tools created especially for middle and high school students. The speakers will comment on the motivations behind the projects, prospects for success, and the pros and cons of collaborative projects.

Moderator: Jeffrey D. Marshall, Acting Director for Research Collections, Bailey/Howe Library, University of Vermont

Speakers:

- Conrad E. Wright, Ford Editor of Publications, Massachusetts Historical Society

- Nancy Finlay, Curator of Graphics, Connecticut Historical Society, and Director, Connecticut History Online
- Kathy Amoroso, Outreach Coordinator, Maine Memory Network

8. "Getting it from Here to There: Strategies for Moving an Archives"

Planning and moving an archive represents a great challenge. Two archivists will discuss how they recently planned a move of more than 20,000 cubic feet of their collection to a new off-site storage facility and the lessons they learned along the way. Issues surrounding off-site retrievals and managing a collection housed in several different buildings will also be discussed.

Chair: Jeffrey Makala, Assistant University Archivist, Special Collections & Archives, Wesleyan University

Speakers:

- Bruce Stark, Asst. State Archivist, Connecticut State Archives
- Nancy Shader, Archivist, Connecticut State Archives

9. "Collaborations between Records Managers and Archivists"

How does records management differ from archival management? Why is a records manager more concerned about disposition schedules than enduring value? This panel discussion will examine the management of information during each of the five main stages of the life cycle of information: creation; distribution and use; storage and maintenance; retention and disposition, and archival preservation. The panelists will attempt to highlight the differences -- and reasons for those differences -- in how records managers and archivists approach the management of their records. The audience, who are encouraged to participate in the discussion, will come away with a better understanding of the fundamental differences in the perceptual and decision-making work-styles of the two professions. Panelists will also discuss strategies for successful collaborations between records managers and archivists.

Chair: Paul R. Bergeron, City Clerk, Nashua, NH

Speakers:

- David Horn, Head, Archives and Manuscripts, Burns Library, Boston College
- Peter Parker, Partner, Inlook Group
- Tara L. Hurt, Head, Archives and Special Collections, Eastern Connecticut State University
- Betsy Pittman, University Archivist, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut
- Sheri Alova, University Records Manager, Tufts University

Closing Reception: 4:30-5:30

Here is another chance to talk with keynote speaker Robert S. Martin who will join us for the reception!

Enjoy some refreshments and find out if you are a winner of one of the door prizes!