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N E A

NEWSLETTER

NEW ENGLAND ARCHIVISTS



C O V E R — Norwich University engineering summer camp students cool off in a swimming hole fed by Vermont's Dog River, using a diving tower that they constructed themselves, circa 1920. *Courtesy of Norwich University Archives.*

I N S I D E — Colin Lukens' first *From the President* (page 4). The final installment of *Internet Tidbits* from Susan Martin (page 5). Allyson Glazier on contingently employed archivists in *Who's Missing from this Table?* (pages 8-9). Session reports from the Spring 2015 MARAC/NEA Joint Meeting (pages 10-22). Updates on repositories (page 6) and people (page 7) in New England, as well as a calendar of upcoming events (page 23).

TAKING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE



New England Archivists

TAKING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE

Office of Medical History and Archives
The Lamar Soutter Library
University of Massachusetts Medical School
55 Lake Avenue North • Worcester, MA 01655
<www.newenglandarchivists.org>

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Dues of \$35/year (\$45 for institutions) should be sent to: Kristine M. Sjostedt, Office of Medical History and Archives, The Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655, or join online at <www.newenglandarchivists.org>.

Notices of archival events should be sent to: Heather Mumford at <heather_mumford@hms.harvard.edu>.

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Articles and **News** of interest to archivists, historical society members, historians, and other NEA members should be sent for consideration to: Heather Mumford at <heather_mumford@hms.harvard.edu>, or to NEA Newsletter Editors, c/o Office of Medical History and Archives, The Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655.

Contributions for inclusion on the NEA website should be sent to: <webmaster@newenglandarchivists.org>.

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From the Editors

- Jessica Holden

After a seemingly endless winter that saw record-breaking snowfall, summer is finally here in beautiful New England! With the warm(er) weather comes the July issue of the NEA *Newsletter*. The bulk of this issue comprises session reports from the Spring 2015 MARAC/NEA Joint Meeting. Sessions covered revealing hidden communities through dance, legal aspects and ethical principles of oral history, stewardship and advocacy in museums, taxonomy development, introducing users to primary sources, genealogy from a lone ranger perspective, and many other important and fascinating topics.

This issue sees Colin Lukens' first *From the President* column, in which he explores the history of NEA, the changing nature of our growing organization, the need for advocacy within the archival profession, and a new strategic plan that focuses on building an inclusive and supportive professional community. In *Who's Missing from this Table?* Allyson Glazier discusses contingently employed archivists, structural inequality and "invisible" archival professionals, and the im-

portance of creating sustainable archival positions in New England. We also bring you updates on people and repositories in New England, as well as our calendar of upcoming events in the region.

This issue marks the final installment of *Internet Tidbits* from Susan Martin, in which she highlights a digital edition of the Declaration of Independence and digital exhibits from the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art and Archives of American Art. The *Newsletter* Editorial team would like to thank Susan for her excellent and dedicated work with this column over the past ten years. Thank you, Susan! ■



Effie and two Jasigis in lake. Courtesy The Trustees of Reservations, Archives & Research Center.

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Inside NEA

FROM THE PRESIDENT

- Colin Lukens



To begin, I would like to express my gratitude towards those who have produced the Spring 2015 NEA/MARAC joint meeting and to the hard-working NEA Board, Committees, and Task Forces. I appreciate your dedication and energy in service to your

organization. I honor our departing Immediate Past President Alyssa Pacy: a passionate change-maker, determined to amplify our institution's relevance and importance; and our outgoing President Jill Snyder: a thorough and democratic leader, devoted to improving the transparency of this institution inside and outside our membership, with spirit and zeal. I welcome our president-elect Jennifer Gunter King. And to all the former NEA presidents I spoke with these past few months, thank you for your time and observations.

Flattery will get you everywhere; remember these words when I come asking for things.

Forty-three years ago, twenty-one archivists met during an SAA meeting in the Sheraton of Columbus, Ohio and determined that a regional voice was needed to speak to the needs of archivists and recordkeepers of New England. At the inaugural meeting of NEA in 1973, Charles Lee, the archivist for the state of North Carolina, told a tale involving one Churchie the Turtle, who got its head stuck in its shell. All of Churchie's animal friends were sympathetic except for Owl, who remarked Churchie "ought not to have taken on the job of being a turtle if Churchie wasn't up to it." According to Lee, the moral here being NEA members need to be ready for challenges and fully invest in being archivists.

The early years of NEA were focused on advocacy, as our region's public recordkeeping was under threat and we needed to change the perception of our work. "You call that the archives?" "Yeah, you go over there, they hardly talk." This snippet of a conversation, reportedly overheard on a bus by a member in the late '70s, doesn't reflect what I know of archivists and NEA's activities during that time—or today.

What followed was an expansion of NEA's educational offerings, more extensive networking and meetings, awards, and membership growth. Today, with a productive strategic plan winding down and another under construction, our organization is invested in creating an inclusive, stable community, rallying to share ideas and foster the professional development of members during all stages of their career.

Yet as we enter an era where an increasing number of our members are younger than the organization itself, we should remind ourselves, periodically, of our roots: advocacy, our region, the records.

Recently, while digging into the history of NEA, my appreciation of archivists grew deeper, experiencing tales of trial and error, creativity, and in some cases—troublemaking. I kept returning to NEA President William Joyce, who, in 1977, reflected on Charles Lee's speech four years prior, saying, "We have come a great distance since our formation. But our challenge is no less urgent, our agenda, no less full... If we are to be up to the job of being archivists, we must strive to improve ourselves and our profession. We cannot afford to turn away from hard questions or pressing issues." I would like to echo this sentiment: Let us all continue to build a community of archivists and recordkeepers who are "up to it."

This year, I am going to challenge myself to advocate for archivists, changing our role from accessory to principal. I challenge the board to find new ways to educate and support our membership, take further steps to assure that support is available for the next generation, and foster future leadership within our institution. I challenge all of you to take on the often laborious task of keeping the NEA community vital and nimble, welcoming and accessible, growing and changing.

Let's all help each other. Let's change the bus conversation to "Archives are where passionate people preserve our records and our history." ■

Look for the NEA Board Meeting Minutes online!

NEA's Executive Board Minutes are now exclusively online at <newenglandarchivists.org>.

Internet Tidbits

- Susan Martin

The Digital Declaration of Independence

<<http://neatline.dclure.org/neatline/show/declaration-of-independence>>

This digital edition of the Declaration of Independence is a fun and interactive way to familiarize yourself with the fifty-six signers. The website consists of four features: a high-resolution image of the Declaration, a full-text transcription, John Trumbull's 1819 painting *Declaration of In-*

dependence, and a map of the signers' homes. It may take some practice to master the navigation, but once you do, you can toggle easily between the different sections. For example, I selected Charles Carroll's name in the full-text display, and his signature on the Declaration was highlighted. I could select icons for the painting or the map to see Trumbull's portrait of Carroll or the location of Carrollton in Maryland. The site also includes detailed biographies of all the signers. A description of the project is here: <<http://dclure.org/essays/a-digital-declaration-of-independence-with-text-painting-and-map/>>.

Sailors and Daughters of the Indian Ocean

<<http://indian-ocean.africa.si.edu/>>

This beautiful digital exhibit was put together by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art to showcase photography, postcards, and other images of East African and Middle Eastern maritime societies in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The site includes some terrific captions with historical, contextual, and bibliographic information, but the presentation focuses on the images, gathered together from multiple collections. Included are individual and group portraits, scenes, printed maps, and lithographs. Particularly striking are the photographs of "Swahili Coast Daughters" of Zanzibar, dhows at sea, and Africans "liberated" from slave ships by the British Navy only to become indentured servants in the Seychelles.

Archives of American Art

<<http://www.aaa.si.edu/exhibitions/archive>>

The Smithsonian's Archives of American Art hosts many interesting digital exhibits, including *Monuments Men* <<http://www.aaa.si.edu/exhibitions/monuments-men>>, documenting efforts to recover and protect works of art looted by the Nazis, and *Artists and Their Models* <<http://www.aaa.si.edu/exhibitions/artists-and-their-models>>, an exploration of the important but often underappreciated role of the model in the work of famous artists. Both sites include a variety of images of manuscripts, photographs, artwork, and artifacts, as well as fascinating (and fully transcribed) oral histories related to the subject and links to other resources. *A Day in the Life* <<http://www.aaa.si.edu/exhibitions/day-in-the-life-diaries>> is a more recent exhibition featuring select artists' diaries. ■

The Newsletter Editorial team thanks Susan Martin for her column, *Internet Tidbits*, which has been a part of the NEA Newsletter since 1994, and which she has written since 2006. This will be Susan's last contribution to the series. Interested in continuing this column for future issues? Please email Carolyn Hayes at <Carolyn_Hayes@hms.harvard.edu>.



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News and Notes

CONNECTICUT

New Mobile Website Featuring Historic Sites and Points of Interest Launched in Windsor

Extensive information about Windsor's architecture, outdoor sculpture, and other points of interest is available in the Windsor Historical Society's library and photographic files. Although finding aids and digitized collections are available on the society's website, Curator Christina Vida urged the development of a mobile website that could bring more of those research files directly to peoples' fingertips.

The society, the Windsor Chamber of Commerce, and First Town Downtown partnered on the project to develop TourWindsorCT.org (<<http://TourWindsorCT.org>>). Vida and Society Librarian Barbara Goodwin compiled descriptions and fun facts for a total of sixty-eight points of interest. One third of those sites have "Learn More" links.

TourWindsorCT.org allows users to create their own path as they explore around town. The partnering organizations are convinced that having multiple layers of meaning for Windsor's rich historic landscape readily accessible on mobile devices will encourage pedestrian activity, curiosity, civic pride, and preservation instincts in Connecticut's first town.

For more information contact Barbara Goodwin, Librarian, at <bgoodwin@windsorhistoricalsociety.org>.

MASSACHUSETTS

Scholarship and Statesmanship: James Abram Garfield

The Williams College Archives and Special Collections is hosting an exhibit April-August 2015 that details the life of Williams alum, James Abram Garfield (Class of 1856). The exhibit will feature highlights from his time as a student at Williams, service in the military during the Civil War, campaign and service as US president, political life, and his tragic assassination and death.

The title of the exhibit was inspired by a letter that former Williams College president and trusted friend, Mark Hopkins, wrote to James Garfield shortly after he had been elected US president. In his congratulatory letter, Hopkins stated "this honor is the result of no accident, but of achievement by steady work in scholarship and statesmanship so that when the occasion called, the man was there."

The exhibit is made possible by the numerous donations the College Archives has received over the years (mostly from Williams Alumni) of Garfield memorabilia and documents. It is located in the Schow Gallery on the fourth floor of Sawyer Library (visit: <<http://library.williams.edu/>>). We hope you can stop by and see some of the interesting stories and artifacts we've chosen for the exhibit. Please send any questions to <archives@williams.edu>.

New Exhibit Marking WWI Centenary at Brandeis University

Brandeis University's Archives & Special Collections Department is proud to announce a new exhibit marking the centenary of World War I.

Patriotism & Propaganda: Poster Art in WWI America showcases some of the most striking posters from the World War I and World War II Propaganda Posters collection and explores the many ways in which poster art was used in wartime to encourage Americans' support and participation. Come by and take a look! The exhibit will be open through fall semester in the Goldfarb Library, Level 2, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm. Additionally, the collection can be viewed online here: <<http://bit.ly/1AXfl4A>>. ■



An exhibit case with artifacts detailing James Garfield's death and a mourning nation, located in the Schow Gallery in Sawyer Library at Williams College. The items on display are from the manuscript collection MC1 James A. Garfield Collection.

People

Connell B. Gallagher, the longtime director of Special Collections at UVM, is the sixteenth person to receive the UVM Center for Research on Vermont Lifetime Achievement Award. He was feted at the center's annual meeting and dinner on May 6, 2015 before a crowd of one hundred well-wishers. Many former students, now working as archivists and librarians in Vermont, spoke about his service and mentoring. One referred to Gallagher's Archives Practicum course, which he taught for about ten years: "...one of your greatest accomplishments is the corps of archivists you trained, be they curators with archival responsibilities or professional archivists learning how to apply their school learning to actual real-life situations." In his remarks, Gallagher thanked UVM history faculty members who worked with him to provide a career experience other than teaching for master's students. Connie came to Vermont as manuscripts librarian in 1970. He recalled his first ten years of processing at UVM and the development of his interest in Vermont political history capped by a year serving as archivist for two Vermont senators. In 1978 he became the university archivist and curator of manuscripts and then the director of research collections.

Taylor Whitney, president and founder of Preserving the Past, LLC, with offices in Rochester, New York and Los Angeles, California, has been selected for the 2015 Audiovisual Preservation Exchange (APEX) program to Buenos Aires. APEX promotes international collaboration and academic dialogue on film and media preservation to safeguard the world's audiovisual heritage. APEX is an opportunity for members of the international audiovisual archival community to exchange knowledge and skills in inspection, care, cataloging, metadata management, digitization and preservation, and access to audiovisual collections. NYU faculty and APEX advisors selected Whitney based on her merits in development of leadership, matching skills to the needs of the hosting institution and more. After careful consideration of her skillset, APEX organizers chose her to work at the Museo del Cine (film collections) with the Argentine Navy Collection. For more information and to sponsor this volunteer effort, visit: <<http://preservethepast.com/buenosaires>>.

The American Library Association (ALA) has awarded Simmons SLIS adjunct **Sidney Berger** the 2015 ABC-CLIO Award for the Best Book in Library Literature for *Rare Books and Special Collections*, published by ALA Neal-Schuman. Ac-



"Not now, can't you see I'm busy?!" Connell Gallagher at his desk in the stacks at the University of Vermont library in the early 1970s. A student assistant (right) and staff member (left) join him in reviewing photos from the L.L. McAllister Photo Collection.

ording to the press release, "This award recognizes books that assist library professionals or information specialists in areas of management, technique and education." Berger will receive the award in June at the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. Read the full ALA press release <<http://bit.ly/1e5NmL6>>, or Berger's InfoLink interview <<http://bit.ly/1cEp7Tf>>.

At the Joint Spring Meeting of MARAC/NEA on March 21, 2015 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, the New England Archivists honored SLIS alum **John Campopiano '13 LS** and current student, Dean's Fellow **Lily Cristina Troia**, with the Richard W. Hale, Jr. Award for Professional Development. The \$1,000 award will support the duo's research into the intersection of creative art and archives, including interviews and analysis of visual, audio and film artists who incorporate repurposed archival materials and reproductions into their works. NEA is committed to supporting young archival scholars in their research and professional development pursuits. Campopiano and Troia will presenting their findings in a paper at an upcoming NEA meeting later this year.

Simmons SLIS alum **Frederick Royce '99LS** is a museum technician with the National Park Service at the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site in Flat Rock, North Carolina. His primary duty is to pack the museum collection for storage while the house undergoes repairs. An article, "Preservation Underway at Carl Sandburg Home," appeared in the Hendersonville, North Carolina, *Times-News* on February 8, 2015. ■



WHO'S MISSING FROM THIS TABLE?

About the dynamics of inclusion and exclusion, social justice and diversity within the archives profession and NEA.

Contingently Employed Archivists
By Allyson Glazier

When Anna Clutterbuck-Cook, our Inclusion and Diversity Coordinator, asked me to be a guest columnist for “Who’s Missing from the Table?” I was so grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the dialogue. One of the IDC’s goals is to “assert the ethical imperative of resisting structural inequality,” and I would have to agree that we cannot increase inclusion and diversity without understanding and addressing structural inequality. It is my hope that this regular column, along with other Inclusion and Diversity initiatives, will help make visible the “invisible” workers within the archival profession.

I worked for two years after earning my MLIS as a project archivist, part-time, in a rural area. I gained exceptional experience, but struggled financially, could not afford health insurance (I qualified for Medicaid), and did not have a strong local support system. When my term position was over, I was limited by geography. While I had married someone with a lucrative full-time job with benefits, making part-time work more feasible, I was no longer as mobile as I had once been. Despite many interviews, great reviews, but just as many rejections, I had to look for work outside of archives. After speaking with many of my friends and colleagues in the NEA Roundtable for Early Professionals and Students, I realized my work and personal situations are not unique. Rather than make me feel reassured, I felt disappointed that my experience was considered “normal” and to be “expected.” Many of us have families—aging parents, children in school, spouses with stable careers that prevent us from relocating. The cost of moving can be prohibitive when student loan payments can rival the cost of rent. This is the fallacy of a perfectly mobile workforce. Finding professional work is not as simple as moving where the jobs are. The result is an increasing number of contingently employed archivists.

I joined NEA in 2012 because I wanted to become a part of a group of people passionate about history, preserving it and sharing it. I wanted to believe the NEA image of

the archival profession: a group of highly educated salaried workers in supervisory and/or upwardly-mobile positions. After attending conferences for three years, however, reality painted a different picture. A large number of NEA members are students or are MLIS graduates working part-time, on a temporary basis, or both. Before my presentation on the volunteering “trap” at the most recent NEA conference, I was given “advice”: If you want a full-time job in archives, you need to be willing to move anywhere. If you’re committed to the field, you will work two or three jobs and scrape by for the love of the work. I also was told that my \$40,000+ master’s degree is worth no more than a “union card” and I shouldn’t expect it to be valued. Is this what a profession looks like? Why would I spend my own precious paycheck to be a member of an organization that tells me I shouldn’t expect any work/life balance or financial stability? Inclusion and diversity is about more than just making first-time conference attendees feel welcome with donuts and coffee. It’s about addressing the big issues, including advocating for our own professional worth and for the future of the profession.

When we talk about inclusion and diversity, we should be talking about how to create sustainable archival positions in New England: full-time professional positions that invest in their employees and allow them, in turn, to give back to their organizations and to grow as professionals. *Library Journal* reported in 2014 that of the 522 Northeastern MLIS 2013 graduate respondents, only 48% reported permanent and professional employment one year after graduation. Twenty-seven percent reported unemployment or leaving the field entirely. What this study doesn’t show us is that an estimated 55.7% of US MLIS graduates did not respond to the survey. It does not show us what percentage had to move out of the area for their permanent, professional positions, nor does it address specifically why so many are leaving the field. In order to address the myriad of hurdles facing new archivists, we must understand the state of the job market in more detail. Therefore, Anna Clutterbuck-

Cook and I have proposed a contingent employment study to better understand the prevalence of these positions in New England and its effect on individual archivists and on the profession as a whole. It is our hope that our findings will spur NEA to learn more about contingently employed archivists and how to better serve and support them.


In addition to advocacy, we want to bring greater visibility to archivists who are the invisible workers—the grant processing archivist, the temporary archivist, the part-time contract archivist—doing wonderful work for a myriad of organizations, often without benefits, without financial stability, without professional development funding, without the opportunity to gain skills outside of the project for which they were hired. To make visible those who might not have the resources to move for work, to

travel extensively for interviews, to leave behind family members who rely on their assistance in their current geographical areas. To make visible those with the two-body problem—a spouse with a full time job in their current location. To make visible those who could not find work in the field and have taken jobs elsewhere. While these issues are not unique to the archival field, NEA must address the long-term ramifications of these structural imbalances if there is any hope for a sustainable professional future. During the next eighteen months we will be seeking out archivists dealing with any of these issues to participate in our study. I encourage any of you who are interested to contact us <acook@masshist.org> to make sure your voice is heard. Together, we can learn from those currently missing from the table and strive for a more inclusive profession.

NEA Has Seven Roundtables!

Offering opportunities for members to connect over shared interests, affiliations, backgrounds, occupational categories, practices and methodologies, and more.

<www.newenglandarchivists.org/roundtables>

Allyson Glazier has been a contingently employed archivist in New England for three years and currently works part-time at a public library. She graduated from Dickinson College and the University of Pittsburgh and now resides in Goffstown, New Hampshire with her husband and one fluffy black cat. She can be reached at <allysonkglazier@gmail.com> or through her LinkedIn profile <<http://linkd.in/IIBE0DR>>. 

A CALL FOR PAPERS ON 19TH-CENTURY PHOTOGRAPHY

The Journal for Contemporary Archival Studies (JCAS) announces a call for submissions on the topic of 19th-century photography collections and techniques. Working in collaboration with New England Archivists, the JCAS will select submissions for a special issue to be published online in conjunction with the NEA Fall 2015 Meeting focusing on 19th-century photography to be held in Providence, Rhode Island, on November 7, 2015.

Authors should submit original works of recent research on:

- the history of 19th-century photography collections
- management and descriptive projects involving these materials
- the use of 19th-century photo collections by researchers, artists, and staff in interesting projects and performances.

Original works by students, archivists, librarians, researchers, and artists will be accepted and reviewed according to the parameters set by the JCAS. See the JCAS website for criteria guidelines and information on the submission process (elischolar.library.yale.edu/jcas/). For more information on the Fall 2015 NEA Meeting, visit the NEA website (newenglandarchivists.org/Fall-2015)



DEADLINES:

August 1: Submissions due | peer reviews begin

September 15: Peer review ends | revisions begin

October 15: Revisions end

November 7: Publication and NEA Fall 2015 Meeting

Spring 2015 Meeting Session Reports

S1. Revealing Hidden Communities through Dance

- Lily Troia

Speakers: Eugenia Kim, Emerson College; Imogen S. Smith, Dance Heritage Coalition; Sara Smith, Amherst College

Dance documentation and preservation loses significance without contextual information and history about the communities and individuals that produce them. The three panelists for the session began by presenting on their specific dance-focused initiative, addressing what it means to document and preserve “hidden communities” through outreach programs, oral histories, grassroots publications, and the digital humanities.

Eugenia Kim discussed Emerson College’s Hub Dance Narratives project, which enlists the use of movement via the dance company to build trust relationships and content for exchange and research, in an effort to develop collaboration between archivists, technologists, and creators. The project, through the recording of oral histories, processed by local archivists and students, illustrates the networks of connections between individuals and organizations from the Boston dance community.

Sara Smith spoke on the Kinebago publication-as-community-space project—a forum by, for, and about a subset of New England contemporary dance culture. Smith aimed for Kinebago (Kinetics + Winnebago) to be a journal-zine hybrid, privileging articles over reviews, and crafting a space for collecting histories of this largely undocumented community. Smith spoke of the difficulties in preserving dance culture, when practitioners of the underfunded field often rely movement over words for expression. Kinebago outreach hopes to inform the dance community about the value of archives and preserving cultural legacy.

Imogen Smith, project manager for the Dance Heritage Coalition, presented on strengthening living archives. Founded in 1992, the DHC is an alliance of dance archives committed to documenting, preserving, and creating access

to dance-related materials. The organization is involved with major digitization initiatives, and offers direct assistance to dance companies looking to strengthen records management and archiving. The DHC has developed an artist-driven model for archiving, which is reflexive and adaptable to different artists’ needs, yet ultimately facilitates the discovery of hidden dance communities and access to collections previously unavailable.

S2. Lessons Learned: Legal Aspects and Ethical Principles of Oral History

- Irina Sandler

Speakers: Christine Anne George, University of Buffalo, SUNY; Cara Howe, SUNY Upstate Medical University

Oral history is an essential addition to the historical record. Rather than simply putting a microphone in front of someone, it is a complex process of negotiating ethical and legal minefields in the name of history. Christine, as the first speaker, began with the broad strokes of the Belfast Project, the Boston College oral history of the Troubles from North Ireland. With contributions from both Republicans and Loyalists and sealed until death or permission is given, the Belfast Project is an example of the worst possible scenario. At the center of the Belfast Project controversy is Jean McConville, a widowed mother of ten whose body was recovered in 2003, and her family’s desire for justice. Over the course of the Belfast Project interviews, certain interviewees provided information pertinent to the McConville case, and their interviews were subpoenaed by Northern Ireland through the U.S. Department of Justice. The back and forth between Northern Ireland acting on behalf of the McConville family and Boston College in protecting the rights of their interviewees is a monumental lesson to all: in conducting oral histories, we must create clear guidelines and understand all the applicable laws.

Cara, the second speaker, introduced the PanAm 103 Story Archives Project and outlined the steps to successful oral history interviews. On December 21, 1988, PanAm flight 103 from London to JFK Airport crashed, and of the 270 that perished, thirty-five were from Syracuse University. For the twenty-fifth anniversary, an oral history compiled from those with first-hand accounts of the event was chosen to fill the archive’s void. With the Oral History Association’s best practices guide for reference, Cara walked the audience

through the steps of a successful oral history project, such as having the proper equipment and preparing the paperwork necessary to avoid Belfast Project-type fiascos.

S3. Museum Institutional Record: Stewardship and Advocacy, Challenges and Rewards

- *Liam Sullivan*

Speakers: Celia Hartmann, The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Sarah Demb, Harvard University; Patricia Kervick, Harvard University; Marianne Martin, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation; Shana McKenna, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum; Meghan Petersen, Currier Museum of Art

Six museum archivists presented their varied experiences over time and at different institutions. They asked questions and discussed the issues, but did not (necessarily) provide answers. Together they summarized challenges common to all institutional records, and those specific to museum records.

Celia Hartmann spoke on efforts to expand access at the Metropolitan Museum of Arts Archives by creating access policy and opening papers of the museum's former directors. Her approach struck a balance between the open access ideology of archivists with risk-averse legal department concerns.

Sarah Demb used Frank Upward's "Record Continuum" diagram as a model for how museum archivists can't wait until records become archival and must stage interventions all along the lifecycle.

Patricia Kervick presented on the Harvard University Peabody Museum's project to digitize accession records dating back to 1867. This project provides use copies of essential documents relating to ownership of the museum's collections.

Shana McKenna discussed the unique challenges of maintaining the founder's papers at the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum. Gardner displayed her correspondence (including acquisition records of the art collections) in thematic cases within the museum, making them an integral part of the collection as well as being records of the collection. McKenna described how she restored original order

in relation to the museum's collection.

Meghan Petersen related her experience as the first archivist on staff at the Currier Museum of Art. Challenges include restoring context of records regarding museum objects and the conflict of whether objects should be in the archives or in the museum collection. This requires dialogue between the archivist and museum registrar and defining an item's most appropriate place by display function or research function.

Finally, Marianne Martin discussed the challenges of maintaining a visual archives at Colonial Williamsburg, a museum dedicated to eighteenth-century history. Included in this effort is a slow digitization process, responding to individual requests.

In the question and answer period, an attendee asked for more details on making the case for the value of institutional archives compared with object collections. Petersen responded with the necessity of making allies with the administration. Another questioner asked who the archivist reports to in their institution. The response included an interesting variety of reporting structures ranging from the legal department to the collections department to the chief operating officer.

S4. Choose Your Words Wisely: A Crash Course in Taxonomy Development

- *Jennifer Hale*

Speaker: Kathryn Gronsbell, AVPreserve

Just how does one go about developing taxonomies? Kathryn Gronsbell of AVPreserve addressed this question in a lively session that combined practical steps with hands-on exercise. Gronsbell began by defining taxonomy and outlining the ways in which it can create consistent and reliable indexing, improve search results, and guide user navigation, both within the organization and without. She presented options for types of taxonomies that ranged from simple to complex. Recommending a hierarchical taxonomy because it is easily customizable, flexible and iterative, Gronsbell proceeded to sum up five commonly accepted phases of taxonomy development: research, strategy, design, development and implementation, and administration.

In the second half of the session, attendees split up into groups. They were then handed a scenario based on the idea that MARAC and NEA are going to create a shared repository for this 2015 Meeting. Groups were then tasked with sorting pieces of paper containing information related to this conference and labeling them in one or two words. This exercise illustrates the value of collaboration and flexibility in this iterative process by requiring participants to sort and re-sort until useful and concise groupings are created. Attendees were then encouraged to examine how other groups had compiled and labeled the same information.

Far from a fixed product, Gronsbell referred to taxonomies as “living breathing things” that will need to be reviewed and updated periodically. She illustrated how successful taxonomies are the foundation for strong metadata and wider access. Through the presentation and hands-on exercise, it is easy to see how developing taxonomies could prove an advantageous skill in collections development.

S5. Delighted to Make Your Acquaintance: Introducing Users to Primary Sources

- *Erin J. McCoy*

Moderator: Donna Webber, Simmons College

Speakers: Peter Carini, Dartmouth College; Marta Crilly, Boston City Archives; Jennifer Fauxsmith, Massachusetts State Archives; Mylynda Gil, Keene State College; Rachel Grove Rohrbaugh, Elizabethtown College; Matt Herbison, Drexel University College of Medicine; William Landis, Yale University; Doris Malkmus, Pennsylvania State University; Barbara Meloni, Harvard University; Nora Murphy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Brantley Palmer, Keene State College; Timothy G.X. Salls, New England Historic Genealogical Society

The panel of eleven archivists from a variety of fields and institutions did not disappoint. Genealogists, academics, historical societies, and state archives all interact with users who want to “see their stuff.” The universal trick is getting the user the right stuff, and introducing them to new stuff they didn’t realize they needed. The takeaways include: an in-depth reference interview is the best way to teach, resist the urge to hover so that users can move at their own pace, matching a user with a collection is like setting up a blind date, so be ready with options, remember to

provide context and focus to show how the primary source can connect with licensed databases of information, and be willing to take your archives TO the users. “Show, taste, touch, and smell” is the program goal for the Harvard archivists, and it can work for the rest of us, too.

Search #maracneal5 #s5 on Twitter to catch the rest.

S6. Genealogy from a Lone Arranger Perspective

- *Allyson Glazier*

Moderator: Jennifer Needham, University of Pittsburgh

Speakers: Cheyenne Stradinger, JPRA and the Descendants of William Dawes Who Rode Association; Erik Bauer, Peabody Institute Library; Tom Doyle, Woburn Public Library

This session discussed how three “lone arrangers” assist their genealogy researchers. Stradinger spoke of the difficulty in assisting William Dawes’ descendants. Using a Next Generation database, she compiled genealogical data and made it available online. However, genealogical patrons ask if they are related to Dawes, but often don’t have a lot of genealogical information to work from. The best way to maximize limited time for genealogy patrons is to focus on the reference interview, getting to the core question quickly.

Bauer spoke of artifact provenance, not necessarily where an object may have come from, but how people related to it were connected. His institution has wood reportedly from the *U.S.S. Constitution*, according to an attached letter. Bauer set out to confirm these claims. He used the Internet, especially the “underappreciated” Google Scholar/Books, to discover that the letter writer was a shipbuilder in Essex. Based on this preliminary research, he believed this claim could be plausible. When time is limited, Bauer reminded us to consider alternative methods, using underappreciated resources like Google, to find clues for archival research.

Woburn Public Library provides genealogical resource guide pamphlets so patrons can do some research themselves. For resources not yet digitized, Tom Doyle handles requests individually and reaches out to other organizations when necessary. The library also displays and publishes photographs in the newspaper so historical figures can be identified. Crowdsourcing has helped to make collections more searchable, giving Doyle more time to focus on other tasks.

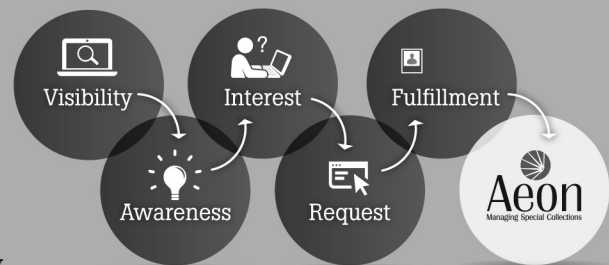


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Despite the differences between these three institutions, this session made it clear that when time is limited, it is still possible to meet genealogy researchers' needs; however, it is necessary to make as much as possible available online, to use unconventional research tools, and to take advantage of crowd sourced research.

S7. Why Can't Librarians Be More Like Archivists and Vice Versa: Waiting for the Revolution

- Chris Markman

Moderator and Speaker: Jeannette Bastian, Simmons College

Speakers: Donna Webber, Simmons College; Megan Sniffin-Marinoff, Harvard University

In this presentation, audience members broke up into four small groups to discuss three case studies found within Jeannette Bastian, Megan Sniffin-Marinoff, and Donna Webber's forthcoming book *Archives in Libraries: What Librarians and Archivists Need to Know to Work Together*, available in stores (and library shelves) later this year. Topics included born-digital preservation in a newly acquired collection and opportunities for collaboration between librarians, archivists, and information technology services; how to effectively partner with a public library to provide digital access (and some of the things one might want to consider when working with partner institutions in general); and finally, "disharmony" in the management of archives embedded within a university library.

Education seemed to be a common theme among all three cases, because while many archivists have experience working in libraries, not all librarians are familiar with archives terminology and collection needs. While the group concluded there were no simple answers to these questions, it was still worthwhile to pause for a moment and compare where the scope, mission statement, and goals of these two similar yet different cultural institutions overlap.

S8. Copyright and Archives: The Past and Future of Law and Digitization

- Lily Troia

Speakers: Kyle K. Courtney, Harvard University; Emily Kilcer, Harvard University

Navigating the web of copyright policy is of central importance to archives. This session, with Kyle Courtney, Copyright advisor and program manager of the Office for Scholarly Communication, Harvard Library, and his colleague, Emily Kilcer, aimed to demystify the complexities and implications of copyright law. They began with a brief background on copyright, tracing the impact of technological developments from Ptolemy's book copying, to the player piano, up to the age of digital media.

The sections of US Copyright law relevant to archives include Section 107 regarding fair use, Section 108, the exception for libraries and archives, and Section 109, enumerating the right of first sale. With respect to fair use, Courtney emphasized that the law is intentionally vague, to be determined case-by-case. He cited several suits regarding transformative fair use to which archivists should pay attention, including Authors Guild vs. HathiTrust, concerning text mining and access to materials to those with disabilities, and Authors Guild vs. Google, a suit surrounding Google's book scan project.

The panel addressed the rampant orphan works problem faced by many archives, noting US legislation is behind many of its counterparts in Canada and Europe. Professional organizations have published best practices, but without legal backing, these recommendations provide no protections to archives assessing risk around use of orphan works. Courtney and Kilcer then presented several legal arguments currently in development addressing these issues: archivists and attorneys might look to tort law, specifically the idea of implied consent and privilege; possible application of trademark law's abandonment concept; and, the establishment of a public embargo period or escrow account for lost copyright holders. Courtney said he expected the US Copyright Office to submit a third attempt at orphan legislation soon, which will hopefully alleviate many of the issues impacting cultural heritage institutions.

Visit the NEA online at:

www.newenglandarchivists.org

S9. Advocacy, Outreach, and the Regional Organization: What We're Doing for You

- Carey MacDonald

Speakers: Jill Snyder, National Archives and Records Administration; Ryan Anthony Donaldson, The Durst Organization; Janet Bunde, New York University; John LeGloahec, National Archives and Records Administration; Rodney Obien, Keene State College; Debra Kimok, SUNY Plattsburgh; Rachel Chatalbash, Yale Center for British Art

Rachel Chatalbash of the Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) and the Yale Center for British Art introduced this interactive session and its lively speakers by highlighting the ways in which local, state, and regional archivists' associations participate in archival outreach and advocacy.

First, Jill Snyder of New England Archivists (NEA) and NARA discussed the almost interchangeable concepts of advocacy and outreach as they are important to archives today. She defined advocacy as the process of responding to problems by writing strategic plans and applying for funding, while outreach is the process of reaching out to people who would not otherwise know of or use archives. Snyder cited NEA's Caring for Historical Records class as an example of advocacy and outreach.

Representing the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc., Ryan Anthony Donaldson of The Durst Organization, alongside Janet Bunde of New York University, described the Round Table's Archives Education Institute, a collaborative program through which archivists and K-12 instructors teach lessons to their students using archival materials—an otherwise rare opportunity.

Next, John LeGloahec of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) and NARA outlined the MARAC Strategic Plan, a main tenant of which is outreach (i.e., MARAC Outreach Committee). MARAC established disaster recovery funds for the victims of Hurricane Sandy, Hurricane Katrina, and the Haiti earthquake.

Rodney Obien of Keene State College and the New Hampshire Archives Group, and Debra Kimok of SUNY Plattsburgh and the New York Archives Conference, each discussed the grassroots ways in which archives in rural

landscapes practice outreach and advocacy. Obien listed preservation workshops, two-day archives boot camps, and social media as great ways to connect to populations far and wide. Kimok added that her association travels throughout New York State to host low-cost conferences annually.

Collectively, archivists' groups build our national archival landscape.

S10. Providing Access to Born-Digital Materials

- Tim Walsh

Speakers: Jason Evans Groth, North Carolina State University; Danielle Emerling, University of Delaware; Roger Christman, Library of Virginia

In this session, the panelists shared insights from projects centered around providing access to born-digital archival records and provided guidance for archivists and institutions thinking about starting born-digital programs.

Jason Evans Groth began by describing projects at North Carolina State University, including ongoing development of Archivision, a tool which will allow users to view metadata extracted from disk images in a browser-based virtual file explorer. He also stressed the importance of including terms of access in donor agreements and emphasized the exciting affordances of digital materials. Danielle Emerling discussed the process of making born-digital files from the papers of Senator Ted Kaufman available to researchers at the University of Delaware, with a focus on balancing access with control over personally identifiable information and other privacy concerns. Roger Christman described the Library of Virginia's Kaine Email Project, which makes emails from the office of former governor Tim Kaine available as PDFs online. The library received 1.3 million emails from Kaine, which were manually reviewed at an item-level by staff before being made available to the public.

A recurring theme in the panel presentations and subsequent Q&A period was the importance of doing something with born-digital materials. So long as archivists take steps like using write blockers and creating disk images to ensure that files and metadata are not altered, no approach to preservation and access is "wrong." When possible, archivists should try to make friends with IT and get the administrator password to computers. Regardless, the plan

for archivists starting programs should be the same: make copies, keep some safe, and then experiment with tools and methods of connecting users with files. Above all, as Gloria Gonzalez reminded us from afar, archivists must not let fear or other worries stop us from preserving our digital cultural heritage.

S11. Nurturing Nature

- Peter Nelson

Moderator: Greta Suiter, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Speakers: Elizabeth Banks, National Park Service, Northeast Region; Jodi Boyle, University at Albany, SUNY; Myles Crowley, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Sarah Denison, Delaware Public Archives; Rachel Donahue, National Agricultural Library; Sean Fisher, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation; Katie Hall, Delaware Public Archives; Brenda Lawson, Massachusetts Historical Society; Deb Schiff, Chester Library; Elizabeth Slomba, University of New Hampshire

In this lightning session, ten archivists from a wide range of repositories briefly described their work in collecting and managing records and papers related to natural resources. Many speakers focused on scientists' or artists' collections that merely record and describe the natural environment (for example, Thomas Moran's diary at the National Park Service, and an assortment of field notes that include botanical specimens at the National Agricultural Library). However, other collections document the complex political issues of environmental stewardship: for example, Hydro Quebec's James Bay II project (University at Albany, SUNY); the Planning Office records at MIT related to the protection of Boston's Charles River; and a slew of records at the University of New Hampshire on environmental activism regarding nuclear power, clearcutting of forests, oil refineries, and groundwater pollution. Government's management of natural resources was also a prominent theme in these records (e.g., soil and water analyses of a Superfund cleanup site at the Chester (New Jersey) Library; film footage documenting the catastrophic effects of the Storm of March 1962 at the Delaware Public Archives). Brenda Lawson of the Massachusetts Historical Society described how existing collections are being appreciated from a new angle for the information they provide about the environment and conservation. Finally, one of the most interesting (and harrowing) presentations was

by Sean Fisher of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, who showed what has been gleaned from a comprehensive statewide survey, amassing a variety of important environmental and park records discovered in basements, attics, sheds and everywhere else. Just like environmentalists, archivists too must often be intrepid in nurturing a fragile—and imperiled—information ecosystem.

S12. History in Action: Collaboration in Academia

- Stephanie Molnar

Moderator: Jason Speak, University of Maryland

Speakers: Carolyn Sautter, Gettysburg College; Daniel Lavoie, Northeastern University; Sarah Hudson, Northeastern University; Daniel J. Linke, Princeton University; Erin Faulder, Tufts University; Anne Turkos, University of Maryland

Collaboration was the buzzword in this session! This collaboration can come from academic and non-academic units on campus as well as from outside institutions. Anne Turkos started the session by discussing her work with Jason Speak on creating a course on the history of the University of Maryland. The posters created at the end of the course were popular with students and faculty alike and the history department used the success of the course to give it more support in the future. Carolyn Sautter spoke on her experiences with student-curated exhibits at Gettysburg College. Multiple departments collaborated on the exhibits and artifacts were even drawn from the personal collections of faculty. She encouraged institutions to use the talent that is already present, try to link your exhibits to a topical anniversary to garner more interest, and to use the school's curriculum to drive exhibit content. Daniel J. Linke spoke on his experiences "thinking outside the box" at Princeton University. Collaboration among departments—both academic and administrative—was encouraged because it can "demonstrate utility of archives and bolster collections." He works heavily with the alumni office on providing images for promotional material and items for their newsletter. Erin Faulder discussed the collaboration between Tufts University and the World Peace Foundation on making accessible a born-digital collection on the Sudan. She related how both Tufts and the WPF brought different experiences and expertise to the project and emphasized

how these both helped to create item-level cataloging for the entire digital collection. Daniel Lavoie and Sarah Hudson discussed the collaboration between the archives at Northeastern University and the Huntington Avenue YMCA. They worked with the architecture department to create a 3D model of the new YMCA building for their exhibition marking 150 years in this neighborhood. Materials from their collection were used in this exhibit on display in the YMCA to highlight aspects of the organization's history, legacy, and impact within the community. Overall, collaboration was encouraged for everyone willing to help in the endeavors of the archives. Draw on the talents at your disposal and make sure your archival outreach is in line with the goals of your institution so you can sell people on the value of the history you have in your collections.

S13. Using RDA for Archives and Manuscripts

- Kathleen Dunn

Speakers: Katy Rawdon, Temple University; Caitlin Goodman, Curator, Free Library of Philadelphia; Adrienne Pruitt, Boston College

Katy Rawdon introduced this session by announcing that Allison Jai O'Dell, special collections cataloging and metadata librarian at the University of Miami would not be able to attend. However, Caitlin Goodman was available to present Allison's paper for this session.

Allison's paper presented the question: Does RDA work for special collections and how is it applicable to archives? RDA (Resource, Description, and Access) is a new standard for descriptive cataloging designed for the digital world and is intended for libraries and related cultural institutions, namely museums and archives. It is the successor to AACR2 and can be encoded with EAD, EAC-CPF, or Schema.org. Caitlin presented test cases of RDA, emphasizing that special collections are unique as they require specific descriptive cataloging.

Katy Rawdon offered examples of applying RDA in creating catalog records. She stressed that archivists working within a library structure need to promote their collections by providing access to finding aids and collection records by creating MARC records. She demonstrated how easy it is to create a MARC record. She also stressed that libraries,

museums, and archives need to be on the same page and RDA can provide this as it "represents a beneficial move towards integrated cataloging methods for both libraries and archives." Examples of the RDA toolkit were presented:

1. Explained how RDA is applicable for archival materials
2. Considerations in implementing RDA
3. Possible revisions for future versions of RDA
4. How might implementing RDA affect future versions of DACS (*Describing Archives: A Content Standard*)

The last speaker, Adrienne Pruitt, outlined examples of the differences between DACS and DACS/RDA and the options for using RDA for archives in regard to hybrid collections. Adrienne provided archive-specific webinar sources for further study. She also encouraged one to at least look at RDA and engage with it so archivists can advocate for future developments in content standards. She also spoke about the need to build relationships with cataloging departments in your institutions and to reach out and work together—Advocacy, Access and Outreach!

S14. Journal of Contemporary Archival Studies: An Open Forum Discussion of a Collaborative Publishing Project

- Lily Troia

Speakers: Michael Lotstein, Yale University; Matthew Gorham, Yale University; James Roth, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library

The *Journal of Contemporary Archival Studies (JCAS)*, sponsored by the Yale University Library and New England Archivists (NEA), was launched in March 2014, after managing editor Michael Lotstein, Record Services archivist at Yale University Library Manuscripts and Archives secured free journal hosting via Yale University Library's institutional repository, EliScholar. Familiar with the *Journal of Western Archives* out of Utah State University, Lotstein was determined to initiate a similar project for the New England region—a collaborative, peer-reviewed, open access online archives journal.

During the session Lotstein described the development process of the *JCAS* along with editorial board member, and fellow Yale archivist, Matthew Gorham, in which the two strategized on the journal's purpose and

approach. Lotstein mentioned several challenges in the archival publishing sphere that seemed to indicate the need for another journal, including competition with established colleagues, the limitations of special, themed issues, journal wait lists, and other unintentional roadblocks. The panel addressed the pressure put upon burgeoning scholars, noting that the ability to publish was critical to academic career development. The editorial team envisioned the *JCAS* as an approachable yet respected avenue for archival scholars to obtain their first, pivotal publication credit.

Lotstein and Gorham presented on the administrative elements to running a peer-reviewed journal, from pricing out copyediting, to tracking peer reviewers' areas of expertise and interests, and assigning editors and reviewers as online submissions are received. The *JCAS* enlists rolling submissions and publishes pieces on an article-by-article basis, guaranteeing all editorial decisions within thirty days of submission. Thus far the *JCAS* has received ten submissions, published two articles, with two more pieces in the pipeline for expected publication later this year. The editorial team is currently building a governance model and plans to employ a social media campaign in the coming months to increase exposure.

S15. Provenance versus Artificial Collections, To Restore or Not To Restore?

- *Kendra Jae*

Speakers: Molly Stothert-Maurer, Perkins School for the Blind; Laura M. Poll, Monmouth County Historical Association; Linda Hocking, Litchfield Historical Society; Lindsay Turley, Museum of the City of New York

The panelists in this session addressed the practical strategies for the treatment of artificial collections within their institutions as well as the complex issue of choosing to reunite collections or not based on individual institutional needs and resources.

The panelists each presented case studies of artificial collections either united over time or intentionally left artificial. Many of these collections were a result of previous archivists dividing collections at the item level and organizing according to subject. During Linda Hocking's presentation, she stated that part of the question to restore or not to restore rested with how much information they had about the original provenance, and whether attempting to reunite

would best serve the collection. Laura Poll provided an example of the Battle of Monmouth collection intentionally kept artificial, and posed the choice as "What's better for the user?" and described how the material in the collection would otherwise have been scattered in donations and difficult for researchers to locate. Molly Stothert-Maurer described how attempting to reunite collections with a lack of information risked further layers of artificiality, and while all new collections are treated as collections, they had no plan to restore provenance. Lindsay Turley described case studies of restored collections, but also some intentionally left artificial as well, and questioned whether reuniting collections compromised institutional memory.

While all acknowledged provenance as an integral element of archival work, the speakers and participants and helped session-goers consider how under certain circumstances, maintaining artificial collections may benefit both institutions and users.

S16. Metrics and Assessment in Context

- *Jamie Brinkman*

Moderator and Speaker: Joshua Ranger, AVPreserve
Speakers: Celia Caust-Ellenbogen, Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Christian Dupont, Boston College

This session focused on two hot topics in the library and archival fields, metrics and assessment. The panelists discussed multiple aspects of these topics, including user services assessment, overall collections assessment, and using metrics to process traditional and audiovisual collections.

First to speak was Christian Dupont, director of the John J. Burns Library and associate university Librarian for special collections. The main takeaway from Mr. Dupont's presentation is that assessment is not just about collection statistics. Rather, it is about having a vision for the continuous improvement of quality of your services. Assessment can be thought of in three ways: In terms of transactions, represented through volume and efficiency; in terms of relationships, represented by user satisfaction and impact; and observing and measuring behavior, represented by intensity and frequency in use and trends. Measures can be used to create metrics, and metrics can be used to create change.

Next to speak was Celia Caust-Ellenbogen, a former member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Small Repositories Project. Two takeaways from Ms. Caust-Ellenbogen's presentation included the benefits of assessing collections at small repositories and tips for planning your own collections assessment project/program. Assessment provides benefits such as performance benchmarks, the ability to set priorities, and establishment of needs for potential future grants. Four steps suggested for assessment planning included: Define goals and scope, choose a survey instrument, clarify appropriate interpretations and adaptations, and calibrate your plan frequently.

The last speaker, Joshua Ranger of AVPreserve, focused on the assessment of audiovisual collections. Before assessing one must consider their timeline, available resources, and the purpose or desired outcome. Mr. Ranger looks at format and technical issues, intellectual issues, condition, and patterns when assessing a collection. He additionally described three assessment approaches he uses: format level, asset group level, and item level, each more in depth than the next.

S17. Revolt against Complacency: Combatting Hurdles in Professionalism

- *Betts Coup*

Moderator: VivianLea Solek, Easton Public Library

Speakers: Caitlin Birch, Dartmouth College; Dan Bullman, Simmons College; Sofia Becerra, Berklee College of Music; Annalisa Moretti, Boston College; Genna Duplisea, Salve Regina University; Allyson Glazier, Bedford Public Library; Casey Davis, WGBH Educational Foundation; Hillary Kativa, Chemical Heritage Foundation; Blake Relle, National WWII Museum; Susan Kline, Columbia University; Bryce Roe, Simmons College

Session S17 was organized as a lightning round with short presentations by a total of eleven early professionals in the field, each coming from a different institution and background. Despite their differences, the themes of the presentation quickly became clear, based around networking, career rather than job focus, and advocacy.

Networking begins when an individual is still in graduate school, and should be done thoughtfully and respectfully. Becoming involved with professional organizations

is a great way to network and to supplement work experience, as well as doing informational interviews with potential mentors.

Flexibility was another term heard many times. Early professionals should consider how positions, volunteer or paid, in the field or not, gave them marketable skills and useful experience that would put them in a better place when applying for their next job. Often entry-level positions are limited in scope and time, and how this will affect one's career must be weighed carefully, considering how a project will boost their abilities, despite the sacrifice of time to learn other skills. One way for early professionals to make themselves unique as applicants is to have expanded their skillset, and technology today provides means to do this, often in free and convenient apps. Some of those mentioned were Coursera, Codecademy, Duo Lingo, Workflowy, and Elevate.

Moreover, early professionals must become better advocates for themselves, and questions were raised about how the structure of entry-level jobs is unsustainable and grossly problematic when one considers the growing number of early professionals and the shrinking number of entry-level jobs.

The final presentation was a call to action to consider how climate change affects archives, and how to boost institutions' sustainability, assess the risk different locations face, and form ways to find relevant archival materials.

S18. Archiving and Preserving Research Data Using the New England Collaborative Data Management Curriculum (NECDMC)

- *Martha E. Meacham*

Speakers: Andrew Creamer, Brown University; Emily R. Novak Gustainis, Harvard Medical School; Darla White, Harvard Medical School

Andrew Creamer, scientific data management librarian at Brown University Library, introduced this session focused on the presentation of Module 7 of the New England Collaborative Data Management Curriculum (NECDMC) <<http://library.umassmed.edu/necdmc/index>>, an open, freely available course developed by the Lamar Soutter Library at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in partnership with several libraries in the

New England region. The entire curriculum is an instructional tool for teaching data management best practices to researchers. Module 7, authored by the speakers, focuses on the role of archives and archivists in the process. Emily R. Novak Gustainis, head of collections services, Countway Library, Harvard Medical School and Darla White, now Associate Director, Information and Records Management at Sanofi, led most of the session, presenting concepts and complexities that archivists should be aware of for their own work and when educating researchers about archiving data. This includes knowing the difference between long-term storage and archiving, helping with appraisal, gathering supplemental materials, and knowing retention guidelines. Data has a life cycle that influences its management and retention. Not everything will be kept forever, but archivists can help make these decisions based on historical, institution, legal, and funding agency requirements. Archivists can provide comprehensive appraisal and help establish clear long-term expectations and plans for data and information. Some data should be kept for historical purposes, especially if it is well maintained, comprehensive, not available elsewhere, there is clear ownership, or it is in line with the institution's collections policy. Archivists should always try to collect as much contextual, supplemental and supporting documents and information when archiving data.

S19. Shifts and Shake-ups: A Conversation about ArchivesSpace Implementation

- *Katie Nash*

Moderator: Marie Elia, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Speakers: Sarah Pinard, University at Buffalo, SUNY; Robin McElheny, Harvard University; Patrick Galligan, Rockefeller Archive Center; Alston Cobourn, Washington and Lee University; Lora Davis, Colgate University; Jaime Margalotti, University of Delaware

The main objective of this session, "A Conversation about ArchivesSpace Implementation," was just that: to invoke a conversation among speakers and participants about successes and pitfalls institutions have had while either implementing ArchivesSpace or choosing to do so. A wide variety of institutions was represented, from small to large academic archives at colleges and universities to corporate archives, and even more of a variety represented in the audience. Each speaker gave an overview of how they are using ArchivesSpace

at their institution, and highlighted some of the problems and successes relating to decisions and implementation. Then the floor opened up to members of the audience to ask specific questions about using and implementing ArchivesSpace. Topics that were discussed as related to ArchivesSpace included: receiving technical support for a hosted platform, developing new workflow procedures for staff, whether or not to use the public interface, adding finding aids, challenges of data clean-up, the different types of records/modules and what they each mean, bugs with migration from Archivists' Toolkit to ArchivesSpace, problems with subject headings, merging multiple document formats pertaining to locations, benefits of becoming a member, and what institutions should be aware of in order to successfully evaluate whether to implement ArchivesSpace. The main message that all the speakers made clear was for each institution to closely evaluate their resources, staff time, technical capabilities, and primary needs of a tool such as ArchivesSpace. Additionally, the panelists argued for the implementation and use of ArchivesSpace as a great tool for accessions, finding aids, linking collections, and managing locations of collections. Overall the session was filled with great discussions and practical advice and scenarios regarding ArchivesSpace.

S20. Curating Multilingual Oral Histories

- *Anne Britton*

Moderator and Speaker: Rachel Wise, Harvard Business School

Speakers: Tessa Cierny, Harvard Business School; Hermann Teifer, Center for Jewish History; Doug Oard, University of Maryland

"Curating Multilingual Oral Histories" panelists shared experiences creating and presenting non-English oral histories. Tessa Cierny worked on Harvard Business School's "Creating Emerging Markets" collection. She prepared in-country interviewers in Latin America, South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa with detailed instructions, including a training video, and in some cases equipment. Interviews were conducted in whichever language allowed best communication during the conversation. Audio was then extracted from raw video footage, transcribed, and translated into English. Translations were reviewed by business school experts to correct mistranslations of specialized vocabulary. Each interview is represented in the library catalog, and on the project's website with multilingual PDF transcript, audio,

and video. Hermann Teifer of the Leo Baeck Institute at the Center for Jewish History in New York described the “Austrian Heritage Collection,” an Austrian government “*Vergangenheitsbewältigung*” initiative devoted to Austrian Jewish experience during and after the Nazi Holocaust. Interviewers were young German-speaking draft-age Austrians, speaking to subjects now in the US. Each interview and its associated records were digitized and presented on the project’s website. LCSH provides some access to the oftentimes complex range of topics covered in each interview. Doug Oard of the University of Maryland contributed to the “Multilingual Access to Large Spoken Archives” collaborative project of the Shoah Foundation, IBM, and others. It addressed artificial intelligence capabilities for speech recognition, applied as indexing to a huge collection of Nazi Holocaust-related interviews with 52,000 subjects in thirty-two languages, with a wide variety of accents and dialects. Engineers were able to improve 90% word error to 25%, filling vocabulary gaps by “teaching” the computer variant pronunciations. Speech recognition software should expand broadly in the near future, given the ubiquity of spoken-word and keen interest by defense and commercial markets.

S21. Physical Versus Digital and the User Experience

- *Kristen Weischedel*

Moderator: Susie Bock, University of Southern Maine

Speakers: Jane Metters LaBarbara, West Virginia University; Samuel Smallidge, Converse; Anastasia S. Weigle, University of Maine

During this session, the speakers addressed different needs and concerns of users in connection with format of objects. Jane Metters LaBarbara began the panel, discussing the intrinsic value of archival materials. In this presentation, LaBarbara discusses the translation (and lack thereof) between physical objects and their digital counterparts. LaBarbara ended her presentation with a call to action for more research on user studies and this divide of physical versus digital, and how archivists can best preserve these documents and make them accessible, to more patrons. Samuel Smallidge described his own experience of physical and digital objects at the Converse archives. He described his creation of fact sheets of the evolution of these sneakers through the ages that were also useful to his patrons. Additionally, these timelines mapped the evolution of the terms utilized to describe

specific part of the sneaker, creating a dictionary of sneaker terms. Smallidge also discussed how different patrons prefer different mediums, some digital and others physical. These differences stem from different goals and information gleaned from the object, so for some, photographs will suffice. Anastasia Weigle finished off the discussion with an analysis of her usability study that examined the differences and preferences of users with archival objects. In this study, Weigle looked at engagement of users with artifacts, both physical and digital. Weigle described how users preferred physical objects when the objects were what she described as “complex,” while “simple” objects did not yield any real preference between physical and digital. This difference of user preference depends on the needs of the users, an idea which was echoed throughout these panel presentations.

S22. The Next Generation Digital Stewards

- *Betts Coup*

Speakers: Margo Padilla, Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO); George Coulbourne, Library of Congress; Kris Nelson, Library of Congress; Andrea Goethals, Harvard University; Nancy McGovern, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The three-part Session S22 discussed the National Digital Stewardship Residency (NDSR) from the perspective of the organizers, the hosts, and a group of current residents. 2013 saw the first pilot program of the digital preservation-focused residency program in Washington, DC, soon followed by programs in New York City and Boston. Each program is organized slightly differently, with some changes made due to the results and experiences of that initial pilot program. The core of the program is that a set cohort of residents are placed within host institutions, each of which applied to be a part of the program with a plan for a digital preservation-focused project. The residency is either nine or twelve months long, depending on the location, but the residents divide their allotted term between working at those institutions and completing the project and professional development, which has involved attending conferences, attending and leading workshops, and completing additional education courses.

Looking to the future, the organizers spoke of wanting to make the program more efficient, yet with additional pro-

gramming, more clearly stated expectations, and better communication structures built in. The hosts that were present emphasized the need for planning and communication, as well as flexibility and easier ways to handle practicalities like the residents' payment. The residents themselves described the closeness and usefulness of the shared learning experience they have had, and the reflexive nature of the host-resident relationship. There were questions of how to move this kind of program beyond urban areas, which fomented some debate about whether the cohort model would be as successful online or whether smaller cities in the Midwest would have enough institutions to support it.

S23. Embedded Archivists: Archivists Outside the Archives

- Irina Sandler

Speakers: Stephanie Maclin-Hurd, EBSCO Information Services; Abraham Miller, Merrill Corporation; Rebecca Goldman, La Salle University

The definition of an archivist is ever-evolving; gone are the days of archivists being confined to the physical archive. Stephanie, Abraham, and Rebecca are all archival professionals, and yet their work brings them outside the usual purview of archival work. Before the speakers began, they asked the audience if there was anything specific we wanted to focus on, and hands shot up throughout the room. The theme of the audience questions was how to go about obtaining an archival job outside the archives and what skills are needed to do so. Rebecca focused on the intersections of library and archival work in the academic workplace and how digitization has blurred the lines between libraries and archives. Abraham focused on how his archival education contributed to his project manager position in a corporation. Archiving business and legal records for Merrill Corporation, Abraham explained how looking outside the traditional archives may be beneficial for job seekers. Stephanie detailed her cataloging specialist position at EBSCO and how her non-traditional employment experience aided her job search. After Stephanie, the floor was opened up for questions and the audience participated in earnest. The more experienced professionals in the audience added their advice to that of the panel, emphasizing networking and gaining experience to become well-rounded information professionals.

S24. DIY Archives: Enhancing Access to Collections via Free, Open-Source Platforms

- Kendra Jae

Moderator: Rosalie Gartner, Emerson College

Speakers: Elizabeth Surlles, Rutgers University; Rachel Moloshok, Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Renée DesRoberts, McArthur Public Library; Eugenia Kim, Emerson College

Access in a frugal and digital age present unique opportunities and challenges for archivists, and during this panel the speakers covered the free and open-source methods they've adopted at their current or previous institutions.

Both Elizabeth Surlles of Rutgers University and Rachel Moloshok of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania described their experiences working with the features of CollectiveAccess to preserve and provide access to digitized images. Renee DesRoberts of the McArthur Public Library discussed creating a WordPress as a portal to dispersed digital collections and the process of maintaining it independently. Eugenia Kim of Emerson College discussed Emerson's process of using AtoM ("Access to Memory") for archival description.

The panelists presented short descriptions of their projects and then the moderator, Rosalie Gartner of Emerson College, proceeded to ask a variety of questions about their processes and experiences. These covered issues such as how comfortable the panelists had to be with the technological aspects of their platforms, what populating them was like, and what the challenges were, among others.

While open source software is financially accessible, the discussion addressed the challenges of archivists having less experience with customizing programs for their institutions. One emphatic point all panelists emphasized for archivists was "Do not be afraid of technology" but additionally "Do not be afraid of getting help." For those using CollectiveAccess and AtoM, collaboration proved a vital step in implementation and maintenance. For Renée DesRoberts, even they operate Wordpress alone, reaching out takes another form when advocating for oneself to both coworkers and patrons so the resource is known and therefore used. ■

Calendar of Events



Press releases and other announcements should be sent to Heather Mumford at <heather_mumford@hms.harvard.edu>. Please provide the date, time, place, a brief description of the event, and an internet link for contact information and/or registration.

August 16-22, 2015. SAA Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. For details, see <www2.archivists.org/conference>.

August 19, 2015. Teaching with Primary Sources Unconference & Workshops, organized by SAA's Reference, Access, and Outreach Section. Located at the Cleveland Public Library—only a five-minute walk from the SAA annual meeting. For details, see <http://bitly.com/SAA15TPS>.

August 20-22, 2015. The Reel Thing in Los Angeles, California presents the latest technologies in audiovisual restoration and preservation. For details, see <www.the-reel-thing.org/>.

October 2015. October is American Archives Month—an opportunity to raise awareness about the value of archives

and archivists. See <www2.archivists.org/initiatives/american-archives-month> to get involved.

October 5-7, 2015. ARMA Live! 60th Annual Conference and Expo in Washington, DC. For details, see: <http://arma.org/arma-conferences/dc-2015>.

November 4-6, 2015. NEMA conference, “The Language of Museums” in Portland, Maine. For details, see: <www.nemanet.org/conference-events/conference/>.

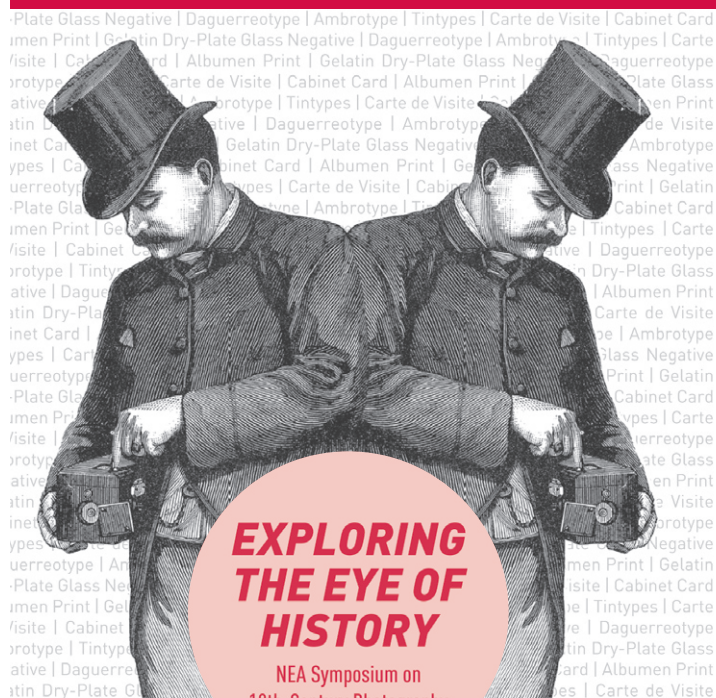
November 7, 2015. New England Archivist's Fall Symposium in Providence, Rhode Island. For details, see <http://newenglandarchivists.wildapricot.org/meetings>.

November 18-21, 2015. AMIA conference in Portland, Oregon. For details, see: <www.amiaconference.com/>.

Note: *The National Archives will not offer the winter session of the Modern Archives Institute in 2015.*

Save the Date!

March 31-April 2, 2016. New England Archivists' Annual Meeting at the By the Bay Conference Center in Portland, Maine. For details, see <http://newenglandarchivists.wildapricot.org/meetings>. ■



EXPLORING THE EYE OF HISTORY

NEA Symposium on
19th-Century Photography

NEW ENGLAND ARCHIVISTS FALL 2015 MEETING

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 7, 2015
Providence, RI

Are you responsible for—or just intrigued by—historical image collections? Join us this November for the NEA Fall 2015 Meeting, which promises to be a fascinating experience. This two-part day will begin at the AS220 studios with a small morning workshop, where participants will gain hands-on experience developing images using several 19th-century photography processes.

The afternoon session, a larger symposium at the Providence Public Library, will include talks and demonstrations devoted to the history and techniques of 19th-century photography. The day will culminate with a collaborative reinterpretation of a magic lantern show by Providence's Wonder Show.

Registration opens September 14th. For more information about this event and the registration process, see the NEA website (<newenglandarchivists.org/Fall-2015>) or follow us on Twitter and Facebook using the hashtag #NEAfall15.

N E A

New England Archivists

TAKING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE

Office of Medical History and Archives
The Lamar Soutter Library
University of Massachusetts Medical School
55 Lake Avenue North
Worcester, MA 01655

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THIS SEASON IN NEW ENGLAND HISTORY



Helen Stevens Coolidge sitting with dog (possibly “Ping”) at beach, n.d.

In 1914, Helen Stevens inherited her family’s eighteenth-century farm in North Andover called Ashdale Farm. Helen and her husband John Coolidge transformed their summer home into an elegant agricultural estate – typical of the “country place” style that exemplified the gracious country living enjoyed then by wealthy Bostonians. The photos of the Stevens-Coolidge family at home in Massachusetts and around the world can be seen through the Digital Commonwealth website <<http://bit.ly/IICmBuN>>, or email the Archives & Research Center in Sharon, Massachusetts for more information <arc@ttor.org>.

Courtesy The Trustees of Reservations, Archives & Research Center