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President's Page

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Dear MAC Members,

Writing this during the heat of July, I can only look forward to the crisp days of autumn. This summer at Cargill has been interesting, and yes, that’s a midwestern “interesting.” We survived a reorganization, a project to archive e-mail, and an expansion of our web archiving efforts. An exciting but unusual last six months!

After our election re-count this spring, and as announced at the MAC Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, I appointed an Election Review Committee to evaluate all aspects of MAC elections. The committee members are MAC secretary Michael Doylen serving as chair, Amy Cooper Cary, Tamar Chute, and Joshua Ranger. The committee has met over the summer and will provide Council with an interim report in October. They will conclude their recommendations by April 2017.

Several MAC leaders had a call with AMC Source in July to follow up after our meeting in Milwaukee. The discussion focused on improving a number of processes from managing annual membership renewals, clarifying Annual Meeting registration for tours and workshops, and addressing operations for registering vendors and increasing their advertising.

I hope you are planning to attend this year’s Fall Symposium, “Archivists and Copyright,” in Ann Arbor, Michigan, October 7–8, 2016. The one-and-a-half-day workshop will address any uneasiness you may have with copyright by introducing participants to the Best Practices in Fair Use initiative. Our speakers—Melissa Levine, lead copyright officer, University Library, University of Michigan, and Aprille Cooke McKay, assistant director for University Collections and Records Management, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan—have a wide breadth of expertise and knowledge to share. Thanks to Martha Conway, Special Collections Library, University of Michigan, and Olga Virakhovskaya, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, for serving as cochairs for the program and local arrangements.

Council will hold its annual fall meeting on October 6 in Ann Arbor. On the agenda will be MAC’s strategic plan and the steps we are taking to move forward with our goals; MAC’s educational workshops offered at the Annual Meeting and how to keep them affordable; our annual budget; and a review of the membership survey that will be coming to your inboxes in 2017.

Plans and programming are underway for our Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, April 5–8, 2017, which also serves as MAC’s 45th anniversary. Thank you to everyone who submitted a session proposal in August; I cannot wait to see the final program. Enticing tours and workshops are currently being scheduled, and I look forward to seeing all of you at the reception at KANEKO, a nonprofit cultural organization committed to celebrating creativity.

Have a great fall!

Jennifer Johnson
President, Midwest Archives Conference