MAC News

Midwest Archives Conference

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The 2016 MAC Election Results Are In!

**Vice President:** Erik Moore  
**Treasurer:** Joel Thoreson  
**Council:**  
Sammie Morris and Anke Voss  
**Nominating Committee:**  
Lae’l Hughes-Watkins and Katie Blank  

They will begin their terms at the conclusion of the Annual Members’ Meeting in April.

Thanks to everyone who ran and to all the MAC members who voted. And a special thanks to Nominating Committee Chair Douglas Bicknese and members Bethany Anderson and Michelle Christian for their hard work creating the slate.

Discover the Latest on Copyright Issues at MAC Fall Symposium

The 2016 Midwest Archives Conference Fall Symposium, “Archivists and Copyright,” will take place in Ann Arbor, Michigan, October 7–8, 2016, at the Hilton Garden Inn. The instructors are 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. The instructors have extensive experience in copyright and related legal and policy matters in the context of archives, libraries, and museums.

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The main stage of “ArchivesFest” will feature a lineup of engaging speakers and events:

- **Plenary Speaker**: Current SAA president and former MAC president Dennis Meissner will deliver the plenary, “Diversity, Inclusion, Value, Engagement: An Archival Agenda.” Meissner stresses that it is critical that we move our profession into one that can thrive and engage twenty-first-century audiences and stakeholders. Meissner writes, “To re-create our profession and our collections so that they reflect the demographic realities and the evolving values of our American culture, we need to rapidly become a profession that is more inclusive and a documentary corpus that is more diverse.” We’re all looking forward to hearing Meissner’s call to “enrich, renew, and re-energize SAA and the American archival community.”

- **Workshops**: We will offer four workshops, providing an educational opportunity for archivists of all stripes. Digital POWRR will provide a FREE workshop, “From Theory to Action: A Pragmatic Approach to Digital Preservation Strategies and Tools.” SAA’s DAS Workshop, “Digital Curation Planning and Sustainable Futures,” will draw administrators who wish to develop a workflow and policy for digital curation. Tanya Zanish-Belcher and Beth Myers will provide a workshop on “Career Planning for Archivists,” which will help midcareer archivists assess and enhance career options. Finally, Erik Nordberg will deliver a workshop on “Grant Writing: An Introduction for Archives and Heritage Agencies,” which will help archivists learn how to accurately assess grant-worthy projects and how to write grants that support the work of their organizations.

- **Friday Forums**: Three facilitator-led sessions will engage attendees in a discussion about timely topics: “Collection Management Systems Needs Assessments,” “Supervisory Skills and Personnel Management,” and “Developing Elevator Speeches.”

- **Concurrent Sessions**: Eighteen concurrent sessions will take place during the meeting, touching on topics as diverse as the Archival Education and Research Institutes (AERI), immigration history, community engagement, crowdsourcing, popular culture collections, and many other interesting areas of exploration. New and experienced archivists alike will find useful information in sessions that address processing, description, born-digital materials, exhibits, records management, and other areas of practice.

- **Poster Sessions**: Designed to highlight the ideas of student archivists and new professionals, the annual poster sessions offer a look into projects and research being conducted by archivists today. More than a dozen presenters will be on hand to discuss their work and to explain the impact of their projects and research on the archival profession.

Of course, because Milwaukee hosts the largest music festival in the world, as well as multiple ethnic festivals throughout the summer, it is a city seasoned in providing interesting venues for entertainment. MAC members will enjoy an opening reception on Thursday night at
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Daria Labinsky, Assistant Editor

MAC’s 2016 Annual Meeting
(Continued from page 3)

The Garage at the Harley-Davidson Museum®. The Milwaukee Brewers will be in town, and the Friday night baseball game is a quick bus ride from the hotel. Tours will include Marquette University’s Special Collections and University Archives (including the J. R. R. Tolkien Collection) and St. Joan of Arc Chapel; Miller Coors Brewery; the newly renovated Milwaukee Art Museum (and its fabulous Calatrava architecture); and the Ward Irish Music Archives.


Travel to your festival Milwaukee style! Man on Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, 9/30/1915, by Roman Kwasniewski. Courtesy of UW – Milwaukee Archives.

There is truly something for everyone in this city. Take a look at the LAC web page at mac2016.wordpress.com. Whether you’re interested in art and theater, the city’s foodie revival, its old and new brewery heritage, or its historical venues, Milwaukee will surprise you with a wealth of places to enjoy. Walk the Riverwalk, visit the historical society, try a local beer or two, enjoy the lakefront. . . . MAC in Milwaukee is going to be a festival to remember!
Archivists have always had an uneasy relationship with copyright. This one-and-a-half-day workshop will address some of that uneasiness by introducing participants to the “Best Practices in Fair Use” initiative and by providing opportunities for collectively exploring strategies for managing risk and for balancing often-competing demands for access and privacy.

Day 1 will begin with a review of recent copyright cases and legislation and an overview of changes on the horizon. Additionally, participants will examine key limitations to copyright as they apply to archives; consider best practices for managing rights and permissions; and learn about implementing take-down policies, watermarking, and other strategies. There will be ample time on Day 2 for participants to work on institution-specific questions in group discussions guided by the collective experience of the instructors. In this way, the symposium will provide participants with opportunities for both individual and institutional learning that will have immediate as well as long-term impact.

The instructors will draw on Module 4 (“Understanding Copyright Law”) and Module 7 (“Managing Rights and Permissions”) from Rights in the Digital Era, edited by Menzi L. Behrnd-Klodt and Christopher J. Prom, the most recent publication in SAA’s Trends in Archives Practice series.
Why Becoming Certified Matters

*It provides a competitive edge*

*It strengthens the profession*

*It recognizes professional achievement and commitment*

The next Certified Archivist examination will be held August 3, 2016 in

Ann Arbor (MI)  
Dallas  
Los Angeles  
San Antonio  
Atlanta  
Denver  
New York  
Seattle  
Boston  
Honolulu  
Philadelphia  
Syracuse (NY)  
Chicago  
Little Rock  
Raleigh  
Tampa  
Waco (TX)

and wherever five or more eligible candidates want to take it. The application deadline is May 15.

For the 2016 application and more information about the Certified Archivist examination, go to the ACA website (www.certifiedarchivists.org/get-certified) or contact the ACA office (518-694-8471 or aca@caphill.com).
Speakers Bureau Update

“Grant Writing: An Introduction for Archives and Heritage Agencies” was held April 1, 2016, at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Erik Nordberg was the instructor. This workshop provided an introduction to the grant-writing process. Participants received a broad overview of approaches to aligning grant writing to strategic goals; reviewed a variety of external funding sources for archival and history-based initiatives; became familiar with the basic structure of grant applications; learned the mechanics of the application, review, and selection processes at different funding agencies; discussed important “dos and don’ts” for successful applications; outlined the critical postaward work of running and closing funded projects; and discovered how to solicit feedback on failed applications to make improvements and reapply.

“Strategic Planning for Small Archival Programs” will be held June 14, 2016, in collaboration with the Twin Cities Archives Round Table (TCART), Minneapolis, Minnesota. Colleen McFarland Rademaker will lead this workshop, which will provide an overview of the strategic planning process from the perspective of small archives program management, emphasizing relationships and community building both within and outside of the archival program’s parent organization. She will engage workshop participants with a review of various archival programs’ mission statements, instruct in crafting attainable and meaningful goals, and converse about setting priorities and sticking to them. Participants will have time to begin work on strategic planning documents for their own archival programs.

The Education Committee is completing the Speakers Bureau Pilot final report to submit to Council prior to the Annual Meeting. We are actively recruiting workshop ideas and volunteers. Please contact the cochairs for more information:

Lisa Sjoberg (sjoberg@cord.edu) and Ellen Swain (eswain@illinois.edu).

List of possible topics (not exhaustive):

- Reference
- Teaching with primary sources
- Social media
- Digital humanities
- Archival advocacy
- Career planning
- Digital collections management
- Conservation/Preservation of all types of media
- Archival assessment—public services, collections, teaching with primary sources
- Basics—preservation, archives processing, arrangement and description, etc.

By the Numbers: Five Recent Issues of Archival Issues:

By John Fleckner, Smithsonian Institution

MAC publishes two numbers (one volume) of Archival Issues each year. Over the past two and a half years—five issues—readers have feasted on topics as diverse as the depiction of archivists in film, tin can tourism in Florida, K–12 outreach, and participatory finding aids. It is a rich treasure of professional research and opinion by archivists from across the United States and beyond. Over the next years, it will stand as a record of our changing perspectives, techniques, and values. For now, here is one look at this body of writing by the numbers.

- 396 pages, 15 feature articles, 41 publication reviews
- 20 authors and co-authors, 8 new authors, 12 previously published
- 15 university affiliated, 1 historical society, 1 museum, 1 national archives, 2 other
- 7 men and 13 women
- 7 from the MAC 13-state region, including 5 from Ohio, 11 from other states, 3 international
- 2 volunteer editorial board chairs, 11 volunteer board members, 1 copy editor, 1 designer

Above all, Archival Issues relies on the volunteer efforts of its authors. We thank those who have contributed in the past and welcome submissions at all times in the future. Please contact John Fleckner, chair, editorial board, for more information at flecknerj@si.edu.