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President's Page

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Raynor Memorial Libraries

January 2014

Dear MAC Members,

As I write this, the weather is turning chilly, and we're hearing about the first snowfall (or early blizzard!) in some of our MAC states. Winter isn't far away, and by the time you see this, we'll be through the holidays and facing the cold of January. But MAC isn't going into hibernation! Fresh from our Fall Council Meeting and Symposium, MAC members are preparing to work through the winter months.

Let me first thank the Council for a very productive meeting in Green Bay. In spite of having to deal with a president who was in the full bloom of a nasty cold, the Council worked through a tremendous amount of business during its annual day-long meeting, held on the Wednesday prior to the Symposium. Of note, we welcomed Miriam Kahn as MAC's new vendor coordinator, approved the establishment of stand-alone subscriptions to *Archival Issues*, and held an annual review of the organization's budget. You can read Secretary Michael Doyle's summary of the meeting in this issue. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

In particular, I would like to thank the *MAC Newsletter* Redesign Task Force, chaired by Jennifer Johnson, for its thorough report at the Council meeting. The task force developed and conducted a survey about the newsletter in the spring of 2013, and results were posted to MAC Forums. Council discussed this report at length during the meeting. The task force having completed its work, Council appointed Johnson to the position of publications coordinator, to work with a small group of individuals to address the recommendations made in the report. Look for more information as this work gets under way.

The Fall Symposium, "Refining the Digital Presence of the Archives," was a resounding success. Attendees enjoyed a reception at Lambeau Field's Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame and were treated to fantastic weather in a wonderful, welcoming city. The program content was fascinating and thought provoking, with discussions of user-centered design, web analysis, crowdsourcing (my personal favorite), using *Wikipedia* and Omeka, and scan-on-demand reference. The speakers were terrific, and an engaged audience participated in stimulating discussion. Our thanks are due to Deb Anderson, Josh Ranger, and all other committee members who worked so hard to bring us a successful Symposium!

This issue of the newsletter also provides the slate of candidates for our spring elections, and I want to thank the Nominating Committee and Chair Josh Ranger for their hard work. Thank you to the candidates who have agreed to run for office in the coming year. MAC's strength rests in its membership, and giving back to the organization by running for office is a true gift of service. It's not, however, the only way! If you're interested in serving in any capacity in MAC, please go to www.midwestarchives.org and click on the link on the left-hand side to Volunteer with MAC. We regularly review these submissions and seek ways to involve people who are interested in working with the organization. If you don't see an opportunity listed but would like to offer your time, please don't hesitate to contact me directly to inquire about opportunities.

Finally, let me remind you to save the date for the MAC Annual Meeting, which will take place in Kansas City, Missouri, April 24–26, 2014. Check the main page for the meeting at midwestarchives.org/2014-annual-meeting for regular updates and look for more meeting information to come!

My best wishes to you all,

Amy Cooper Cary
President, Midwest Archives Conference

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