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Vice President's Column: MAC Meetings and Symposia Update

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After one of the l-o-n-g-e-s-t winters in recent memory, it seems like spring finally is here . . . maybe . . .

We had a fantastic Annual Meeting in Indianapolis in April, and it was great to see so many of you there! Four hundred members, nonmember speakers, students, and vendors all came together for an exciting and vibrant meeting with great sessions, vendor booths, student posters, and restaurant and repository tours. And did you see the huge Indiana-shaped cake at the reception (thanks to the Society of Indiana Archivists)? Thank you to all who contributed to make this a great Annual Meeting! One last thank-you to PC cochairs Anne Thomason and Meg Miner and LAC cochairs Dina Kellams and Noraleen Young! Let’s do it again next year in Kansas City!

Below is an update on upcoming MAC meetings.

**Fall Symposium, Green Bay, Wisconsin, Hyatt on Main Green Bay, September 25–27, 2013: “User-Centered Design”**

If you missed Josh Ranger’s video designed to entice you to attend the Fall Symposium, well, you missed a classic! Of course, the program developed by Josh will be terrific—a reminder that it will include budget website assessment techniques, crowdsourced transcription, the use of Omeka for online exhibit creation, responsive website design, maximizing the impact of Wikipedia and social media, and the incorporation of scan-on-demand reference into web services. This program will help archivists add performance-enhancing substance to their websites . . . without cheating! In addition, Deb Anderson on the LAC single-handedly persuaded the National Football League not to schedule the Green Bay Packers on Thursday night so that the MAC reception can be held at the Packers Hall of Fame at legendary Lambeau Field. Good work, Deb! Be sure to join us for a great meeting in Green Bay this fall!

**Annual Meeting, Kansas City, Missouri, Westin Crown Center Hotel, April 24–26, 2014: “The Syncopations of History”**

The beat goes on as the LAC and PC are ramping up for next year’s Annual Meeting! The theme of the meeting is one that you can riff off of in any number of ways, so here’s a chance to express your individuality and reach out to others in new and innovative ways. Whether you’re following the theme closely by focusing a session on music, jazz, blues, or improvisation, or on the rhythms of Kansas City as a crossroads of American life, diversity, sports, or food, remember that September 20 is the deadline for submitting your session proposals. Here’s your chance to contribute to the creation of an exciting and informative Annual Meeting! And if you attended the last Annual Meeting in Kansas City, you’ll want to go back in 2014, as the LAC assures us there’s much that’s new and different to experience there!

**Fall Symposium, Illini Union Hotel, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, September 24–25, 2014: “Oral History, Archives, and Innovation”**

Doug Boyd, PhD, director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, will present the 2014 Fall Symposium on the topic of challenges and rewards of oral history in an archival context. He will cover format obsolescence, metadata, transcription, preservation, expense, and the opportunities offered by digital technologies. The symposium will collaboratively explore models for processing, preserving, and enhancing access to oral histories, drawing heavily from the Oral History in the Digital Age initiative, which explores innovative approaches to curating and disseminating oral histories and models from Dr. Boyd’s work. Specific topics will include transcription and indexing, collection management strategies, digital preservation of oral histories, digital audio and video, ethical and legal issues, metadata, and digital tools for enhancing access to oral history online.

**Annual Meeting, Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015**

Council was pleased to approve a proposal to hold MAC’s 2015 meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, the center of America’s beautiful horse country! Shortly, we will be forming and confirming the PC and LAC, and getting started on all of the details needed to create a great Annual Meeting. Lexington is a lovely place to visit in the spring, so mark your calendars (and think about that next great family vacation)!

**Fall Symposium, 2015**

We need your thoughts about where and when to hold the 2015 symposium, and on what topic. Ideas, anyone???
Annual Meeting, 2016

Would you like MAC to hold its annual meeting in your city? MAC Council tries to alternate meeting sites geographically. We’d love to hear from someone in the western part of MAC who has a great location for a meeting!

As always, MAC seeks your ideas for future meetings and sites! If your area hasn’t hosted a MAC meeting recently, why not gather your nearby colleagues, draft a proposal, and invite several hundred of your closest friends and colleagues to share what your locale has to offer? Please contact me at Menzi@xyre.com, and I would be happy to discuss your ideas or any questions.

Upcoming MAC Meeting Sites and Dates

Fall Symposium, 2013
Green Bay, WI
September 25–27, 2013

Annual Meeting, 2014
Kansas City, MO
April 24–26, 2014

Fall Symposium, 2014
Champaign-Urbana, IL
September 24–25, 2014

Annual Meeting 2015
Lexington, KY
May 6–9, 2015