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Up-and-Comers: News for Student Archivists

Midwest Archives Conference

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Up-and-Comers: News for Student Archivists—Kevlin Haire, Assistant Editor, The Ohio State University

Have any news to share about your own internship, class project, or SAA student chapter? Contact Matthew Peek at freakyhistorian@hotmail.com

Students Wow Crowd with Posters at MAC Meeting

Good-bye and Welcome

Kevlin Haire has completed two terms as assistant editor for *Up-and-Comers*. Many thanks to Kevlin for compiling news for and about student archivists over the past six years!

Stepping in is Matthew Peek, who is currently working on his M.L.I.S. degree at Kent State University. Welcome, Matthew! MAC students are encouraged to send their news to Matthew at freakyhistorian@hotmail.com

If you weren't at MAC's annual meeting in April, you missed six student poster sessions that were very impressive, both in their scope and presentation. MAC's Student Subcommittee picked Alexis Logsdon as the winner of a one hundred-dollar award, but all were crowd pleasers. Here's a rundown of each:

Kaitlin Dunn helped conduct a series of oral history interviews with iron workers to create public folklore outreach materials under a joint project by the University of Wisconsin (UW)—Madison's School of Library and Information Science and the Department of Folklore. She and five other class members first visited iron workers on-site at construction projects on the UW—Madison campus. Then, groups of two students did two interviews each of individual workers, usually in their homes. They then made a short video based on the entire project. The video first aired at the James Watrous Gallery at the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences Arts and Letters in Madison. The film received additional public interest because its debut happened to coincide with the protests related to Governor Scott Walker's move to end collective bargaining rights for government employees. Dunn graduated from UW—Madison with her master's degree this spring. She can be reached at kaitlindunn@gmail.com.

Liz Haeuptle performed her capstone project in Wright State University's Public History program at the Mound Science and Energy Museum, helping the volunteer staff transfer their archives and museum collection to a new home, as well as implement standard policies and practices. She was involved in every aspect of the move,

from designing tentative floor plans for display areas in the new building to inventorying and packing the materials for the movers. The museum documents the history of the Mound Laboratory, its workers, and its site. Mound was built after WWII as a direct spinoff of the Manhattan Project (1948), when the United States made the decision to expand its newly founded nuclear weapons program into a production capability. Mound was one of many sites around the country that made up the nuclear weapons program. In moving the materials to a bigger building (from five thousand to 10,000 square feet of space), the museum staff hopes to make items more accessible through new, permanent exhibits. Haeuptle hopes to help them begin the process. Haeuptle graduated in June. She can be reached at haeuptle.2@wright.edu.

Alexis Logsdon helped the Quatrefoil Library, a small nonprofit GLBT lending library, to process about 40 linear feet of gay and lesbian newsletters that spanned from the 1960s through the 2000s. With a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grant, Logsdon became the library's first paid staff member in September 2010, spending about 160 hours relocating the newsletters to archival-quality newspaper boxes and sleeving those that were in particularly bad condition (many had been stored folded in half in upright periodical boxes). To learn more about Logsdon's project, visit <http://thelibraryintern.wordpress.com>. Last spring, Logsdon graduated from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee's School of Library and Information Science's master's program. She can be reached at alexis.logsdon@gmail.com.



Alexis Logsdon with her award-winning poster.

Noel Rihm participated in a project to help history and social studies teachers use primary sources to teach various historical subjects. In the project, led by the Wright State University's Department of Special Collections and Archives, the team took primary sources tailored to a class's particular area of study, and they taught the students how to analyze the materials and use them to present mock exhibits. Rihm said the team worked with teachers of students in kindergarten through eighth grade, but they hope to target high school students in the future so they will be more comfortable using such sources at the next step of their education: college. Rihm can be reached at rihm.7@wright.edu.

Eric Schoenbaechler created a digital exhibit using materials from the Julian C. Wyche Collection at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit. For the semester-long class project in Wayne State University's School of Library and Information Science, students were given sets of historical images and were tasked with creating digital exhibits focusing on different aspects of the collection. Schoenbaechler worked with a scrapbook created by an African-American soldier serving in the Pacific during World War II. The collection featured a large number of photos depicting the soldiers during their free time and the friendships they made during that period. To see the digital exhibit, go to <http://www.chwmuseum.org>. Click on "Education," then "Archives and Research Center," then "Digital Collections." In August, Schoenbaechler will receive his M.L.I.S. degree and a graduate certificate in archival administration. He can be reached at ems20@ymail.com.

Sara Stambaugh conducted a case study of "More Product, Less Process," using the Walter F. Mondale Papers at the Minnesota Historical Society. Stambaugh was charged with turning a selected portion of the collection into a portable document format that could be accessible on the Web. She first looked at popular researcher requests from the collection, then read a biography and autobiography of Mondale, whose public service career spanned roughly three decades. After conducting background research, she created a selections list from materials found in the collection's finding aid. After choosing the appropriate folders to digitize, she scanned, formatted, ensured optical character recognition, and coded and added metadata to each file. She did everything but upload the documents. After four months, she had digitized about one-tenth of the collection. It is now available at <http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/00697.xml>. Sara is in the newly accredited

M.L.I.S. program at Saint Catherine University in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She plans to graduate in May 2012.

And speaking of student poster sessions...

Students from the MAC region will be presenting posters at the Society of American Archivists' (SAA) meeting in August in Chicago. Student posters can highlight the research activities of graduate students in archives and records management programs, as well as projects and activities of SAA student chapters. Posters will be on display at various times in the Exhibit Hall on Thursday and Friday, and students are scheduled to discuss their posters with attendees on Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 PM and on Friday from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. For a full list of students who will be presenting and for more information on the dates and times, please see: http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/eventdetail.html?Action=Events_Detail&Time=358010382&InvID_W=1943.

In the meantime, here is a list of MAC students and the poster projects they will be presenting at SAA this year:

- Julia Corrin (University of Michigan), "Web Archiving at Michigan State University"
- Virginia Corvid (University of Wisconsin–Madison), "Integrated, High-Impact, Low-Input Strategies to Serve Casual and In-Depth Users"
- Kaitlin Dunn (University of Wisconsin–Madison), "Documenting the Ironworkers: The Creation and Preservation of Folklore Fieldwork"
- Joy Glasser (Kent State University), "Looking Back/Looking Forward: Why 2010 Is Becoming a Critical Decade for Archives"
- Amy Jankowski (SAA student chapter, Indiana University), "Rounding Out the Academic Experience: SAA Indiana University Student Chapter's Graduate Conference"
- Jesse Johnston (University of Michigan), "Digital Preservation Planning and the American Black Journal at MATRIX"
- Jessica Scott (SAA student chapter, University of Michigan), "University of Michigan SAA Student Chapter: Successful Events for Academic Year 2010–2011"
- Danielle Taylor (University of Wisconsin–Madison), "Local Collections, Global Community: UW–Madison Archives Month Blog 2010"