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“\$40 for 40” Campaign Will Honor MAC’s Past and Future

By Janet Olson, Assistant University Archivist, Northwestern University

Wondering what to get MAC for its fortieth anniversary in 2012? How about a contribution to one or both of MAC’s named scholarship awards, the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration and the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Minority Students. In a soon-to-be-launched campaign entitled “\$40 for 40,” MAC Council will encourage members to donate \$40 toward fully funding these two important programs (full funding would allow the income from the fund’s investments to pay for the scholarships, rather than paying from each year’s contributions).

These annual awards exemplify MAC’s goal of mentoring and supporting our future colleagues. Each award provides \$750 toward tuition for students pursuing graduate education in archival administration, plus a free MAC membership. The Bowen Graduate Scholarship benefits one MAC-region graduate student each year; the Motley Minority Scholarship offers awards to two grad students of African, American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander, or Latino descent.

The scholarships are named in honor of archivists who made significant contributions to the MAC community. Active in the archival world starting in 1975, Louisa Bowen worked first at the Walther Reuther Library, then went on to the National YWCA Board (New York City) and the University of Memphis before returning to the Midwest in 1980. She was manuscript curator at Southern Illinois University (SIU) at Carbondale and then became archivist at SIU’s Edwardsville campus. Bowen died, after battling pancreatic cancer, on October 24, 1996, and MAC’s scholarship award in her honor was established in 1997.

Archie Motley, one of MAC’s founders, was a dynamic force on the local and national archival scene. Starting as a part-time employee at the Chicago Historical Society (now Chicago History Museum) in 1955, Archie became its manuscript librarian and then served as curator of archives and manuscripts from 1974 until he was named archivist emeritus in 1998. Despite his emeritus status, Archie never stopped working to expand the mission and scope of the collection. He died after an injury on November 11, 2002. The MAC scholarship fund was established the following year.

Helping the scholarship funds become self-supporting will benefit not only the awards recipients but all MAC members. Of course, all donations are tax-deductible. More details

about the “\$40 for 40” program will follow in a later newsletter. For more about these scholarships, see <http://www.midwestarchives.org/> and click on “Awards.” How fitting to celebrate MAC’s forty-year history and honor its past members by ensuring that the legacy continues. You’ve seen the successful results of these scholarship programs; you’ve met the grateful Bowen and Motley Award recipients at a MAC meeting, or read their stories in the *MAC Newsletter*. We are all proud to be able to assist the future members of our profession.

Between Meeting Council Actions

Council passed the following motion unanimously via E-mail on June 3, 2011:

To approve Noraleen Young and Christine Guyonneau as Local Arrangements Committee cochairs and Anne Thomason and Meg Miner as Program Committee cochairs for the MAC Annual Meeting 2013.

Council approved the following motion unanimously on June 27, 2011:

Establish an On-line Publications Working Group.

Council passed the following motions unanimously on Friday, July 22, 2011:

Merge the Investment Advisory Committee and all its responsibilities with the Financial Advisory Committee, to be known as the Financial Advisory Committee. Appoint Matt Blessing as chair of the Financial Advisory Committee.

Approve the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis as the hotel for MAC’s 2013 Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Council passed the following motions unanimously via E-mail on August 15, 2011:

Approve the April 27, 2011 Council minutes as amended by Council members Doylen, Kellams, Scaggs, and Shelstad.

Council passed the following motion unanimously via E-mail with one abstention on August 15, 2011:

Approve the hiring of Alexa Hand as MAC copyeditor, on a trial basis, at \$35 per hour. Janet Olson abstained from voting.