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President's Page

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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April 2012

Dear MACers:

It's been a quiet winter here in central Illinois. I always hope we will have a blizzard or two to make the coming of spring even more welcome, but even without blizzards, there is a lot to look forward to this spring, and the Grand Rapids Annual Meeting is at the top of the list! The Program Committee has excellent sessions planned, and the Local Arrangements Committee is offering all kinds of fun local flavor. As you know, we will be celebrating MAC's 40th anniversary at the meeting with a special "look back" at MAC's history, an ice sculpture at the reception, and a few other surprises.

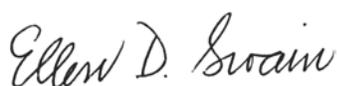
During the members' meeting, we'll be voting on changes to our By-laws and Constitution suggested by a special task force led by Menzi Behrnd-Klodt. The changes will update these important MAC documents to reflect our twenty-first century communication needs and practices. Please review the blue-lined documents via the link on the home page of the MAC Web site: <http://www.midwestarchives.org/>. I will be happy to receive any comments or questions about these updates prior to the meeting at eswain@illinois.edu.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed to the "\$40 for 40" campaign to endow the Motley and Bowen scholarship awards. All donations—in any amount—ensure that these awards continue to support and encourage student involvement in MAC and in the profession. Thank you for your continued generosity!

In January, Council voted to engage AMC Source (DMN), our current office management company, to provide meeting services for our 2013 Annual Meeting and Symposium. DMN staff will observe operations at the Grand Rapids meeting to learn more about our needs. Since 2013 will serve as a "trial process," Council is funding these initial services from our operating reserves. In February, Council approved Josh Ranger and Debra Anderson to serve as planning coordinators for our 2013 Symposium, slated for September 25–27 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Symposium topic, still under development, will focus on "refining the on-line presence of the archives." Council also approved transitioning to a new printer, Martin Graphics and Printing Services (Champaign, Illinois), as we explore moving some of our publications on-line.

Finally, I want to reinforce how important volunteers are to MAC's operation and existence. If you are interested in getting involved and working closely with others committed to the advancement of our profession, please fill out the volunteer form on the MAC Web site. We need you, and I think you'll find this service a rewarding and invigorating experience!

Best wishes,



Ellen D. Swain
President, Midwest Archives Conference