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## From the Incoming Chair of the MAC Editorial Board

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## From the Incoming Chair of the MAC Editorial Board

By John Fleckner, National Museum of American History

I am delighted and honored to accept a two-year term as chair of the MAC Editorial Board. Although I moved from the Midwest 30 years ago, my personal and professional ties to the region remain close. I count my MAC membership, including *Archival Issues*, among these important connections. A quick look through JSTOR at the first issue of the *Midwestern Archivist* confirmed my dim memory of serving on the journal's first Editorial Board. Since the era of MAC's creation, the profession has changed dramatically. Our journal is both a record of those changes and an important contributor to them. I am grateful for the generations of volunteer chairs and Editorial Board members who have sustained and improved MAC's journal over the years.

One constant in the rapidly evolving world of archives and archivists is the continuing need for creating and communicating professional knowledge and understanding. *Archival Issues* is a venue for sharing research and reflections and for reviews of significant publications in our field. The *AI* Editorial Board and chair encourage new authors and experienced professionals to share their knowledge and experiences and to make them a part of the lasting record of our profession.

The Editorial Board accepts fully developed article submissions but also stands ready to discuss initial ideas for future pieces. We advise prospective authors that conference presentations often are the basis for articles in *AI*, but they usually require substantial revision to make best use of the journal medium. Sometimes this means putting case studies—reports on very specific projects and activities—into the wider context of professional practice. Literature reviews and a consideration of how the specific case can be of value to a wider audience will help in this transition. Even the simple stylistic devices of eliminating most first person and passive voice expressions can help to convey a broader perspective.

I want to conclude with a special thanks to Barbara Floyd, who has guided *AI* for the past three years, and to retiring board members Joe Turrini and Pam Hackbart-Dean. The current Editorial Board—Mary Ellen Ducey, Elizabeth Engel, Russell Horton, Sammie Morris, and Elizabeth Myers—and the new chair look forward to hearing from you.

## 2015 Annual Meeting: MAC in the Bluegrass State

Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015

Mark your calendars for the 2015 Midwest Archives Conference Annual Meeting, which will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015. The Program Committee will be distributing the Call for Proposals in July with a submission deadline of September 19. Our goal is to have the call available before people attend the Society of American Archivists conference in August, so everyone can build on ideas presented there or network with colleagues to build session proposals. Whether you attend SAA or not, the Program Committee will be working with the MAC PIO to establish ways for MAC members to brainstorm session ideas through Facebook (more information will be shared about how to do so in the near future).

The Program Committee is particularly interested in sessions that allow for interactivity between presenters and attendees through alternative session formats (e.g., speed dating, breakout sessions, debates, lightning rounds, or open-mic sessions). The Call for Proposals will include information about and examples of all of these possible formats. The Program Committee encourages sessions that address the following content areas: audiovisual materials, records management, management issues, and outreach. That said, all topics and session formats are welcome and encouraged. We encourage everyone to submit proposals, particularly underrepresented groups and those who have not yet presented at MAC.

Please watch your e-mail and the MAC website for the forthcoming Call for Proposals. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the 2015 Program Committee cochairs, Stephanie Bricking (Stephanie.Bricking@cincinnati.library.org) or Lisa Sjoberg (sjoberg@cord.edu). We look forward to seeing you in Lexington in May 2015!

**Remember,** MAC members, if you'd like to congratulate a colleague on a promotion or say "welcome" to a new member, log in and find fellow members' contact information in the Membership Directory, [www.midwestarchives.org](http://www.midwestarchives.org).