

10-1-2014

Other News

Midwest Archives Conference

Follow this and additional works at: <https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/macnewsletter>



Part of the [Archival Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Midwest Archives Conference (2014) "Other News," *MAC Newsletter*: Vol. 42 : No. 2 , Article 16.

Available at: <https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/macnewsletter/vol42/iss2/16>

This Other News is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in MAC Newsletter by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.

New Tool Helps with Video Digitization Projects

New York University, working in collaboration with its academic partners and technical advisors, is pleased to announce the release of a new publication. *Digitizing Video for Long-Term Preservation: An RFP Guide and Template* is intended to take an institution step-by-step through the process of drafting a request for proposals (RFP) for the transfer of analog video to digital carriers for preservation. This template can be used by libraries, archives, and other cultural heritage institutions and submitted to qualified transfer vendors. This new publication is available for download at library.nyu.edu/preservation/VARRFP.pdf.

With funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this publication was developed as part of the Video at Risk (VAR) project (www.nyu.edu/tisch/preservation/research/video-risk). The authors of this document set out to create guidelines to identify the key elements integral to the transfer of video and audio signals from Standard Definition VHS to a preservation-quality digital file. Vendors provided valuable comments and feedback on the document, and the VAR project partners (NYU; the University of California, Berkeley; and Loyola University, New Orleans) tested the RFP document.

In addition to the *RFP Guide*, the document also includes a number of appendices that aim to assist those unfamiliar with audiovisual analog-to-digital transfer projects. The appendices include a sample of a completed RFP by a fictitious institution, a suggested metadata model, a suggested method of collecting transfer notes from a vendor, a glossary of terms and concepts, and a selected resource list.

In Memoriam: Kenneth W. Duckett

(June 26, 1924–July 12, 2014)

By Patrick M. Quinn, University Archivist Emeritus, Northwestern University

Kenneth W. Duckett, an icon of the archival profession and a stalwart of the Midwest Archives Conference and the Society of American Archivists, passed away on Saturday, July 12, 2014, at the age of 90 in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

Ken Duckett was a giant among his generation of archivists. His book, *Modern Manuscripts* (1975), guided manuscripts curators for many years. Like his close friend and equally prominent archivist, Maynard Brichford, founder of the University of Illinois Archives, Duckett was trained in history by the famed historian William B. Hesseltine at the University of Wisconsin. And, like Brichford, Duckett began his career as an archivist at the Wisconsin Historical Society. He grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Prior to coming to Madison for graduate work in history, Duckett had served during World War II in the US Army and had attended the University of Denver, from which he graduated after the war.

Duckett left Madison to assume the position of manuscripts curator at the Oregon Historical Society. The next step in his archival career was the Ohio Historical Society, where he was catapulted to the national stage for his role in saving from destruction the letters of (US Senator and later President) Warren G. Harding to his lover, Carrie Phillips. As he recounted in his book, *The Shoe Box Letters* (2003), his role in saving the historically significant Harding

letters cost him his job at the Ohio Historical Society.

His long and productive archival career continued at Southern Illinois University (SIU) in Carbondale, Illinois. During the years he spent as curator of manuscripts in SIU's Morris Library, 1965–1979, Duckett became one of the most distinguished archivists in the United States. He built the manuscripts repository at SIU–Carbondale into one of the very best of its kind in the United States, a repository whose nationally prominent collections far exceeded what historians and literary scholars would expect to find at a small, previously little-known university in the “Little Egypt” region of far southern Illinois. Duckett became a national leader in the Society of American Archivists, the Manuscripts Society, and the Midwest Archives Conference. After he retired from SIU–Carbondale, he moved back to Oregon where he concluded his archival career at the University of Oregon.

But Ken Duckett was much more than a distinguished archivist. His quiet but engaging personality, combined with his archival expertise and accomplishments and his mentoring of the young archivists on his staff and in the archival profession, earned him the admiration and respect of an entire generation of archivists. I will dearly miss Ken. I am very grateful to have known him for more than four decades as a colleague and as a close friend.

It's the Academy of Certified Archivists' 25th Anniversary!

After 25 years, the Academy is still going strong.

We are proud to celebrate
our silver anniversary by introducing
the new International Travel Assistance Scholarship.



For more information, visit us at
<http://www.certifiedarchivists.org/>

Mark your calendar now: the 2015 Certified Archivist examination will be held August 19 in Boise, Buffalo, Cleveland, Jacksonville, Little Rock and Sacramento -- and wherever 5 or more candidates wish to take it. Applications will be available January 1 on the ACA website.

Make your outreach reach further.



Can you help me locate a theater poster from the early 1900s?

Can I order a publication-quality copy and pay for it online?

Your special collections are out there, within reach. Your users are finding your finding aids, discovering your digitized collections, and browsing your online catalogs. But can they simply click on a link to make reading room paging requests, or order copies, or just ask a question?

Aeon facilitates special collections services, replacing manual callslips and paper forms. New addons extend your outreach through integration with OCLC CONTENTdm[®] for shopping cart services and Compendium's Knowledge Tracker[™] for optimum reference request management.

Learn how Aeon can help you make your outreach reach further.

Aeon. We play nice with others.



Visit www.atlas-sys.com to sign up for a demo.