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## Vice President's Column: MAC Meetings and Symposia Update

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## **Vice President's Column: MAC Meetings and Symposia Update**

*By David McCartney, University of Iowa*



Springtime in Kentucky sounds mighty fine right now. As I write this in early November, the weather prognosticators are predicting the arrival of our first winter freeze in about two days. Knowing that our next Annual Meeting will be held in the Bluegrass State in May—coupled with recent repairs to our not-that-old furnace—make another impending Iowa winter a bit more bearable in our house.

Along with the Annual Meeting, we also have updates about the Fall 2015 Symposium and beyond. Read on.

### **Annual Meeting, “MAC in the Bluegrass State,” Lexington, Kentucky, May 6–9, 2015**

The hard-working Program Committee, led by Cochairs Stephanie Bricking and Lisa Sjoberg, is now reviewing program session proposals for the 2015 Annual Meeting at Lexington. In addition to traditional panel sessions, committee members hope to schedule sessions embracing other types of formats designed to encourage greater audience engagement. Our reception will be held at the lovely Carrick House in the historic Third Street Corridor in downtown Lexington, with area tours, including the Buffalo Trace Distillery, also on tap. Many thanks to the Local Arrangements Committee, cochaired by Heather Fox and Deirdre Scaggs, for arranging these sure-to-please events.

### **Fall Symposium, “Hard Skills for Managing Digital Collections in Archives,” Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 17–19, 2015**

Born-digital materials in our repositories—not to mention what we have accumulated in our own homes over the years—present escalating challenges to archivists and records managers. But you don't need to press the “panic” button. This practical symposium will help you sort through current, and chronic, issues surrounding electronic records. Bertram Lyons, senior consultant for AVPreserve and archivist and digital assets manager of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, will lead this two-day seminar at the historic Depot Renaissance Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. Topics will include using open source tools to help us manage datasets, setting up basic digital preservation workflows, and using spreadsheets to manage digital content. Registration

information will be announced by midsummer but, for now, save the date and plan to attend this useful presentation.

### **Annual Meeting 2016, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

Yes, MAC returns to Brew Town in spring 2016! The Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee are being established at this writing, and while we don't yet have the venue and exact dates confirmed, we do know that Milwaukee's many cultural treasures, fine ethnic cuisine, and other attractions will make this an ideal setting.

### **Annual Meeting 2017, Omaha, Nebraska**

MAC heads west in 2017, returning to Omaha for the first time in a dozen years. We're already thinking the Old Market, the award-winning Henry Doorly Zoo, and the Lauritzen Botanical Gardens. More information in the months to come!

### **Fall Symposia, 2016 and 2017**

We are reviewing topic suggestions gathered at last spring's Annual Meeting at Kansas City to determine our Fall Symposium topics for 2016 and 2017. Two possibilities are current copyright laws and practices, and using social media at your repository. We're open to other ideas—and venue suggestions—as well. Please contact me at david-mccartney@uiowa.edu with your thoughts.

### **MAC Statement of Values**

As President Cary notes in her column elsewhere in this issue, MAC's Statement of Values, adopted by MAC Council in 2013, is now online. Go to MAC's website at midwestarchives.org and, from the About MAC dropdown menu, choose MAC Statement of Values. A working group consisting of the past vice president, Menzi Behrnd-Klodt; Secretary Michael Doyle; Council member Erik Moore; and myself is working to ensure that this statement is fully implemented in MAC's guidelines. If you have suggestions of how we can accomplish this, please feel free to contact one of us with your ideas. We look forward to hearing from you.