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Report from the Chair

It has been a busy and interesting year since the May 2017 American Alliance of Museums meeting in Saint Louis, with changes in the AAM staff who work with the professional networks, the launch of a new and improved AAM website on 13 April 2018, and a great flurry of queries and responses on the Collections Stewardship listserv.

AAM leadership has hosted regular telephone conference calls with representatives of the Professional Networks (PNs) which have been very helpful in keeping the PNs updated on AAM business and in finding new ways that the PNs and AAM can work together. AAM has also released a new version of the Professional Network Handbook to clarify to roles and responsibilities of the PNs within AAM. In general, it is my impression that AAM is trying hard to make much better use of the PNs and our specialized expertise than they have in the past. One example of this is that over the past year AAM staff have referred several reporters to the PNs for background or comments on news stories about museums. For example, earlier this year several of us spoke with reporter Peggy McGlone of the Washington Post for a story about the Museum of the Bible and rather unusual system of charging its own organization for loans (not to mention its acquisition of illegal artifacts and lack of registrar!).

In November 2017, a second edition of Things Great and Small: Collections Management Policies was published by AAM and Rowman and Littlefield (now the official AAM publisher). A related board game is available as a free download on the Museum Study LLC website, courtesy of Brad Bredehoft, at http://www.museumstudy.com/courses/course-list/policies-for-managing-collections/. Several other AAM publications connected to the Collections Stewardship PN are being considered for new editions in the future, including a new sixth edition of Museum Registration Methods, tentatively set for publication in fall 2019), and a new edition of Rights & Reproductions: The Handbook for Cultural Institutions is in preparation by John ffrench (expected late 2018 or early 2019).

A new blog called Notes from the Board was added to the new CS website, replacing Notes from the Chair. The following topics have been published since last May:

- July 2017—Greetings from the Board
- August 2017—AAM 2018 Session Proposals (Sebastián Encina, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, U of M)
- September 2017—Collections Stewardship Mission Statement Task Force (Sebastián Encina)
- December 2017—a reminder about the AAM meeting
- February 2018—Details about AAM and CS event registration (Amy Heggemeyer, Spurlock Museum, UIUC)
- March 2018—Summary of AAM’s Deaccesioning Crisis Workshop (Mell Scalzi, Florence Griswold Museum)
- April 2018—A Message from the AAM Host City Coordinator (Nate Meyers, City of Chandler Museum)

The joint Mentorship Program with ARCS (the Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists) has continued to flourish under the direction of Sebastián Encina, and ARCS is looking for other opportunities for joint projects with Collection Stewardship in the future. Another joint project was initiated by James Burns of the AAM Curation Committee (CurCom)
who invited Collections Stewardship to participate in developing a Deaccessioning Toolkit. Our representative to the task force is Robin Lawrence (Newfields).

Angela Kipp (Technoseum) invited Collections Stewardship to submit a couple of blog posts to her excellent website, Registrar Trek. As a result, a blog about called *Mergers & Missions; Moving Forward Together* by Sebastián Encina was posted on 30 October 2017, and a post called *Things Greater and Smaller* was published on 03 February 2018.

The Chair-Elect of Collections Stewardship, Sebastián Encina, took on the several difficult tasks over the last year, including coordinating the CS nominations to the AAM National Program Committee. Thanks to his efforts, three volunteers from Collections Stewardship were nominated for this important committee that determines the content of the annual AAM meeting. Sebastián also organized and chaired a committee to draft a new Mission Statement and Vision Statement for Collections Stewardship.

Mell Scalzi has done a wonderful job getting a lovely new and user-friendly Collections Stewardship website launched, and Libby Krecek and Nicole Paterson have continued to organize and manage the CS Reinforcement Crew for Phoenix. Shay Henrion and Amy Heggemeyer have organized several interesting sessions for the Collection Stewardship contribution to the Marketplace of Ideas.

Thanks to a committee headed by Susie Fishman-Armstrong (Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History), several nominations were received and evaluated for the biennial Dudley-Wilkinson Award of Distinction. The award will be presented at the Collections Stewardship luncheon on 08 May.

Registration for two important Collection Stewardship events are unfortunately down this year compared to 2017. At the St Louis AAM meeting 273 individuals signed up for the Collections Stewardship Emerging Professionals Reception, but only 88 have signed up this year; 107 people registered for the Collections Stewardship Annual Business Luncheon in 2017 but just 74 this year. It is not clear why the numbers are down, but it appears to be related to an overall decline in attendance at the meeting as well as a combination of increasing prices and stagnant salaries in general.

A special thank you to Suzanne Hale (Gregory Allicar Museum of Art) who has continued her excellent work in fund-raising for the Collections Stewardship PN, and who has been of tremendous help during my term as CS president.

And a huge thank-you goes out to CS President-Elect Sebastián Encina and CS Secretary Amy Heggemeyer for taking on far more Collection Stewardship duties than they expected to this year due to my unexpectedly complicated travel schedule. The many successes of the Collection Stewardship over this year are due to the diligence and hard work of Sebastián, Amy, and the board.

Submitted by John E. Simmons, Chair
Report from the Secretary

Collections Stewardship membership stands at 2,131 members as of April 2018. This is an increase from the April 2017 report of 1,286 members.

My work consists of fulfilling listserv subscription requests and assisting listserv manager to resolve subscribers’ questions and problems, for example transitioning from digest to regular format. The transition from RCAAM to CSAAM listerv is complete, and the listerv continues to receive new subscription requests on a monthly basis.

Working with the webmaster and elected board, we have revised contact information on the website as both elected and nominated positions were updated. We have also organized monthly Notes from the Board posts. I am compiling a list of position descriptions for the Collections Stewardship board, which should assist with position recruitment in the future.

Submitted by Amy Heggemeyer, CSAAM Secretary

Report from the Archivist

2017-2018 was my third year CSAAM Archivist. No new materials or records were received over the last year to be transferred to the SI Archives. If any of our outgoing or current officers have materials that they would like to be archived, I am happy to discuss whether the material would be suitable for archiving.

Examples of records that document policies and decision-making, primary functions, and programs and activities of the CSAAM include: conference planning documents (except logistical arrangements), agendas, minutes and reports, publications, brochures, evaluations, election results, committee correspondence, reports, program files, etc.

As a reminder for everyone, I am located in DC and have access to the SI Archives to coordinate transfers of material. I can facilitate transferring material via mail or email (for electronic correspondence and documentation), and I’m happy to provide additional information about the criteria for archiving and whether the material for consideration would overlap with existing archived material.

Submitted by Chelsea Hick, CSAAM Archivist

Report from the Development Chair

Collections Stewardship received generous funding ($11,500 total) for our reception and service project, as well as in-kind support for the Dudley-Wilkinson Award of Distinction winner in conjunction with the 2018 AAM Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.

Collections Care Emerging Museum Professionals Reception ($2,500 level)

U.S. Art Company, Inc.

Collections Stewardship Emerging Museum Professionals Reception ($1,000 level)
Crystalizations Systems, Inc.
Ely, Inc.
Huntington T. Block Insurance Agency, Inc.
**The Icon Group, Inc.**
Masterpiece International, Inc.
Willis Towers Watson

**Service Project – Reinforcement Crew ($1,000 level)**
Methods & Materials, Inc.
Terry Dowd, Inc.
Transport Consultants International, Inc.

**Dudley-Wilkinson Award of Distinction (in-kind support)**

Collections Stewardship worked with AAM this year to provide a special benefit for the Dudley-Wilkinson Award of Distinction winner. For 2018 Phoenix, the winner received complimentary conference registration and a ticket to our annual business luncheon. This was made possible in part due to the generosity of this year’s sponsors who helped us exceed our fundraising goal to support the Reinforcement Crew projects and the Collections Care Emerging Museum Professional Reception.

Thank you to the domestic and international shippers for hosting the annual Shippers Party for registrars and collections professionals while at the Phoenix, AZ meeting.

I also want to thank AAM staff member, **Eileen Goldspiel**, Director, Institutional Giving, for her assistance with sponsor contracts, payment processing and acknowledgment signage.

As of this meeting, I will be stepping down as the Development Chair. **Brittany Snider**, Registrar, Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio, has agreed to serve as the Development Chair and will be taking over the fundraising responsibilities in preparation for the 2019 annual meeting in New Orleans, LA. I will be working with Brittany over the coming months as she learns about the duties of this exciting volunteer opportunity.

Submitted by Suzanne Hale
Development Chair

**Report from the Documentary Photographer**

Duties:
1. Serves as the lead photographer for Collections Stewardship.
2. Creates and edits images for CS-AAM sponsored events.
3. Responds to and answers CS-AAM members email regarding event photography.
4. Receives images from CS-AAM members, edits them, and post them to social media if applicable.
My main projects are focused around event photography for collection related events at the Annual AAM Conference and updating the PowerPoint presentation for the CSAAM annual luncheon. I will be photographing some of the following events: Reinforcement Crew Volunteer event and reception, Shippers party, CSAAM luncheon, and many more at the conference. These images will be used on our website and for the annual CSAAM luncheon.

Submitted by Jason Smith, CSAAM Documentary Photographer

Report from the Collections Stewardship Fellowship Committee Chair

The Fellowship Chair acts on behalf of Collections Stewardship Professional Network (CSAAM) to review professional development fellowships offered by AAM to support attendance at the Annual Meeting.

Following many years of service, Zinnia Willits stepped down from her position as CS Fellowship Chair and Ariana Torres was appointed to serve as CS Fellowship Chair beginning in 2018. Thank you, Ms. Willits for all of your dedication and hard work throughout the years.

2018 AAM Annual Meeting Fellowship Program

Fellowships to the 2018 AAM Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona were offered to CSAAM members through the 2018 AAM Annual Meeting Fellowship Program. These fellowships were funded by AAM and individual professional networks. Through the AAM Program, fellows receive a travel stipend of $750, complimentary conference registration, and tickets to select networking events of the fellow’s choice including CSAAM Business Luncheon (or another luncheon of their choice). This year, AAM provided support for four fellowships available to eligible Collections Stewardship-oriented individuals described as the following on the AAM Website’s Fellowship Application Page*:

1. Persons of color
2. Latino
3. American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian
4. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)
5. Persons with a physical, cognitive or developmental disability

Preference may be given to applicants who:

1. are current AAM members
2. have not received an AAM Annual Meeting Fellowship in the past

*(http://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/register/fellowships/alliance-fellowship-program/)

Funds for the 2018 CSAAM Annual Meeting Fellowships came from the general AAM allocated Fellowship budget.

AAM 2018 Annual Meeting Fellowship Review Process

AAM administered the application and review processes for the 2018 Annual Meeting Fellowships. Per AAM’s directive, the review and selection process was handled by a committee
comprised of representatives from the various following Professional Networks: Collections Stewardship, CURCOM, DAM, PRAM, Media and Technology, CARE, EdCom, NAME, SMAC, Leadership and Management, and DIVCOM. Additionally, there was representation from the Latino Network, Indigenous People’s Museum Network, Historic House and Sites, and the LGBTQ Alliance. Each applicant was then assessed by at least two reviewers representing the aforementioned networks.

As current CS Fellowship Chair, Ariana Torres served on the AAM Annual Meeting Fellowship Review Committee. In addition, Antonio Rodriguez, past chair and current board member of AAM’s Latino Network and current International Traveling Exhibitions, Strategic Partnership and Alliance Consultant, served as the second representative on the Fellowship Review Committee for Collections Stewardship. The diverse panel ensured that fellowships were awarded to qualified individuals working and studying in all areas of museum operation. Ms. Torres and Mr. Rodriguez reviewed all applicants that identified as collections care professionals and selected the CS Fellows based on a point rating system.

**AAM 2018 Collections Stewardship Fellows**

AAM received a total of 104 applications for the 2018 Fellowships. From a pool of 12 applicants (down from 26 in 2017) that identified as collections care professionals, the CS was granted four fellowships based on funds raised through AAM. The following collections care professionals and students were awarded the 2018 Annual Meeting Fellowships:

1. **Aysha Preston**  
   Registrar  
   Museum of Contemporary Art  
   North Miami, FL  
   **Mentor:** Suzanne Hale

2. **Anna Woten**  
   Collections and Reference Assistant  
   Atlanta History Center  
   Atlanta, GA  
   **Mentor:** Amy Pippin Heggemeyer

3. **Ximena Ayon**  
   Leonian Foundation Imaging Fellow  
   National Museum of Mexican Art  
   Chicago, IL  
   **Mentor:** Sebastián E. Encina

4. **Ivana Montenegro**  
   Graduate Student  
   Museum of Texas Tech University  
   Lubbock, Texas  
   **Mentor:** Libby Krecek

The Fellowship recipients had the option of a mentor for the AAM Annual Meeting in Phoenix. All four Fellows accepted and each was paired with a mentor from the CS board. Mentors may attend the Fellowship Breakfast with their mentee and facilitate introductions to colleagues and Collections Stewardship leaders to help build their network of peers and colleagues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ariana Torres  
Chair, Collections Stewardship Fellowship Committee
Report from the Lexicon Task Force

The Lexicon Task Force completed edits of the final report. After 30 days of presentation to survey participants for comment and review, the final report will be released to the CSAAM membership via the website and listserv.

This concludes the work of the Lexicon Task Force. I commend the following past and present Task Force members for their dedication and persistence in this project:

Charlie Iverson, Science Museum of Minnesota
Isabel Tovar, Denver Art Museum
Stephanie Allen, The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza
Nicolette Meister, Logan Museum of Anthropology, Beloit College
Ann Stevenson, Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia
Richard Urban, Corning Museum of Glass

And Janice Klein, who brought us together in the first place.

In addition to the recommendations made within the report itself, the Task Force recommends that Collections Stewardship create a standing committee dedicated to issues surrounding Lexicon development and usage. This committee would serve as liaison with such established lexicon developers as Nomenclature (AASLH) and Getty, follow through on the report recommendations, and respond to current issues facing the field.

Submitted by: Amy Heggemeyer, Lexicon Task Force Chair

Report from the RCS Mentoring Program

Erin McKeen (ARCS; emckeen@gmail.com), Co-Chair
Sebastian E. Encina (CS-AAM; sencina@umich.edu), Co-Chair (outgoing)

In 2017 and 2018, the RCS Mentoring Program had 60 emerging and mid-career professionals sign up hoping to be connected to a mentor. 40 established museum professionals heeded the call and volunteered to mentor these mentees. In total, 46 mentees were able to find a mentor.

In comparison, the 2016-17 RCS Mentoring Program had 30 mentors and 64 mentees, with 36 of those mentees being connected to a mentor.

In addition to the matching, the RCS Mentoring Program continued undergoing changes from the previous year. Former co-chair Jeanne Benas stepped down on behalf of ARCS, after making great and welcomed upgrades to the program. Erin McKeen joined as co-chair and has made the transition seamless. Together, we have fine-tuned the program, with hopes to make it stronger in the future.

This year, the ARCS and CS-AAM co-chairs collaborated to match mentors and mentees. Due to familiarity, the CS-AAM co-chair took the lead in matching and communicating. A joint email account was created, which both co-chairs had access to review work and view matches. Next year, the ARCS co-chair will take the lead with matching.
At the conclusion of AAM 2018, Sebastian Encina plans to step down as co-chair of RCS Mentoring after 5 years chairing/co-chairing the program. An AAM representative replacement has been identified, and we will work to make the transition go smoothly.

Calls for new mentees and mentors will begin soon after AAM 2018.

Submitted by Sebastián Encina, RCS Mentor co-chair

Report from the Collections Stewardship Mission Committee

Members:
Sebastian E. Encina (Kelsey Museum of Archaeology); sencina@umich.edu
Robert Thurlow (Penn Museum); rthurlow@upenn.edu
Andrew Near (Kruizenga Art Museum); near@hope.edu

In 2017, after the change in name of the professional network from Registrars Committee of AAM to Collections Stewardship, a committee was formed to rewrite the mission of the group. The existing mission, written and adopted in 1977, served its purpose, but needed a refresher to go along with the name change. The previous mission read:

The mission of this not-for-profit committee shall be to give assistance to the AAM and its regional associations in their objectives of sound professional preparation and promotion of high standards and, specifically, shall endeavor to increase professionalism among museum registrars through educational programs and publications, establish standards of professional practice, and create an atmosphere of understanding and respect, of communication and cooperation among registrars, between registrars and other museum professionals, and between registrars and individuals in related service fields. (1977)

The committee worked together and is proposing the following as the new mission:

The Collections Stewardship Professional Network of AAM advocates for the diverse body of professionals dedicated to the stewardship of collections, strengthens our members’ knowledge base through education and disseminating best practices, networking, and connecting people to resources.

Submitted by Sebastián Encina, Chair
Report from the Registrars Reinforcement Crew Committee

The 10th annual Reinforcement Crew Event occurred on May 6, 2017, in St. Louis, Missouri. The committee was able to partner with the World Chess Hall of Fame and Wildwood History Museum. There was a total of 14 individuals who volunteered their time and expertise. The volunteers worked on a project to inventory, reorganize and re-house a collection at the World Chess Hall of Fame and house and condition report collections at the Wildwood History Museum.


The day’s effort was followed by a reception at Murizio’s. The Reinforcement Crew Committee would like to thank Methods & Materials Inc., Terry Dowd Inc., and Transport Consultants International Inc. for sponsoring the 10th annual Reinforcement Crew event.

After the 2017 AAM annual meeting, the Reinforcement Crew Committee went to work planning the 11th Annual Reinforcement Crew Event for the AAM annual meeting in Phoenix. The 2018 volunteer sites include the River Museum, Rosson House, and Capitol Museum.

Submitted by Nicole Paterson and Libby Krecek
Co-Chairs, Reinforcement Crew Committee

Nicole Paterson
Fine Art Collections Management
nicolelpaterson@gmail.com

Libby Krecek
Registrar
l.krecek@omahabotanicalgardens.org
Report from Chair, Rights and Reproductions Professional Practices Committee

Outgoing Chair: Anne Young, Manager of Rights and Reproductions, Newfields
Incoming Chair: John ffrench, Director of Visual Resources, Yale University Art Gallery


The second edition of the Rights & Reproductions: The Handbook for Cultural Institutions is underway and will be released in both digital and print format. The book will be published with Rowman & Littlefield publishing with an anticipated release date of late 2018 to early 2019. A subset of the original authors will be reviewing and revising the original text, as well as adding new resources.

The Handbook continues to be listed as a featured publication on the following websites:

- American Alliance of Museums: http://www.aam-us.org/resources/bookstore

Promotion and demonstrations of content in the Handbook at local, regional, and national conferences and meetings is ongoing:

- National Digital Stewardship Residency (NDSR) Immersion Week: Session 3.1 Image Rights – Anne Young taught in July 2017
- VRA Copyright Workshop: https://vrafoundation.com/current-regional-workshops/can-we-do-that/ - Anne Young taught in December 2017
- American Alliance of Museums (AAM), Phoenix, AZ May 2018
  John ffrench, Margaree Bigler and Kenneth Crews will give a panel presentation entitled: Smart Policies for Smartphones: Visitor Photography and Social Media

Social media, particularly Twitter, continues to play a vital role in the promotion of the Handbook through the use of the hashtag #RightsReproHndbk, which continues to be used to reference the publication and to promote its content and availability in a variety of digital platforms.

Submitted by:
John ffrench
Director of Visual Resources, Yale University Art Gallery
Chair, Rights and Reproductions Professional Practices Committee
Report from the Website Chair

2017 was the year of new things for the Web Chair. Mell Scalzi took over the position from Tracey Berg-Fulton who had served in this role since 2012. Mell worked closely with Tracey as we worked on getting our new website, collectionsstewardship.org, launched in time for the 2017 Annual Meeting in St. Louis. We had a soft-launch during the annual meeting and welcomed feedback from the Board as well as the members of the Collections Stewardship PN.

In order to fulfill our goal of keeping the website more current, we have started monthly blog entries under the Notes from The Board heading so that we can share news and important information to the network separate from the listserv. These posts have been quite popular and have caused an uptick in visitors each month when they are put on the site.

From the time of the Annual Meeting in 2017 to this writing (late April 2018), the website has seen 6,265 unique visitors from 76 countries. The total page views almost exceed 20,000. With the new website from AAM launching, we do hope that our page sees even more traffic in the coming year. A goal for 2018 is to continue to grow our site to add even more resources for our members.

-Respectfully submitted by Mell Scalzi, Website Committee Chair

Report from the Registrar’s Committee Mid-Atlantic Region (RC-MAAM)

Jobi Zink, Chair
Rosenbach Museum and Library
jzink@rosenbach.org

Danyelle Dorsey, Vice-Chair
AAM MAP Office
danyellerickard@yahoo.com

Carrie Coviello, Secretary of Social Media
MLIS Syracuse University
carriecoviello@gmail.com

Elizabeth Alberding, White Gloves Gang Chair
The Kelly Collection of American Illustration
ElizabethA@thekellycollection.org

Membership
Membership in RC-MAAM is free and largely tracked through Facebook. We currently have 290 followers, up slightly from last year.

Annual Meeting
RC-MAAM returned to its traditional format of hosting the White Gloves Gang dinner and workshops before the official opening of the MAAM annual Meeting. The White Gloves Gang dinner, sponsored by Atelier and US Art, was held at Six Penn restaurant, across from the conference hotel on Wednesday evening. 18 participants volunteered on Thursday at three
sites: Senator John Heinz History Center (textile inventory and rehousing), the Carnegie Museum of Art (label and rehouse silver); and the Warhol Museum Archives (archiving and labeling photographs).

Jennifer Vess and her newly boxed Red Cross Uniform

Silver all wrapped in anti-tarnish bags, packed in new acid free boxes, and labeled with photos

The team at Heinz History Center Rebeka Fleming, Carrie Hadley, Katherine Fleming, Ian Gray, Sophia Vayansky, Courtney Keel Becraft, Jennifer Vess repacked 28 boxes of textiles.

Amanda Berman, Jessica Ruse, Amanda Belli, Rebecca Hagan, Maria Joranko give their thumbs up to successful silver rehousing

The conference, *Making Museums Matter: From Advocacy to Action*, was held in Pittsburgh, PA October 19-21, 2017. There were three collections-focused sessions, *Advocating for Collections Care Both Internally and Externally; What’s the Shakedown on the Shake-up: Protecting Collections During Construction; and The Pennsylvania Cultural Resilience Network: Protecting a State’s Cultural Resources. Deaccessioning and the Ethical Use of Deaccession Funds*, had wide appeal to conference attendees beyond those with a collections stewardship focus.
Facebook
Facebook continues to be our primary mode of interacting with membership. In addition to job and internship postings, Carrie regularly posts articles about museums, exhibitions, visitor engagement, and evolving trends in our field. Most interactions are “likes” to articles and our regular feature Would You Rather Wednesdays, but recent posts about diversity and pay equity in the museum field have garnered more feedback, a trend we would like to continue.

Session Proposals
The MAAM board submitted a session proposal to AAM, “List-Serve Live” following a game show style, pitting two audience participants against one another to answer one of our horrific (but frequently real) scenarios and defend their choices. The session was not selected for the 2018 conference.

Other Regional Activities
Smaller sub-sets of city-specific collections manager groups providing workshops and roundtable discussions supported by and promoted through the RC-MAAM. The Delaware Valley Registrar’s Network has hosted behind the scenes tours of the conservation lab and prep space at the Barnes Foundation (July), the new offsite storage facility at the Philadelphia Museum of Art (October), and will be heading to the Abraham Lincoln Foundation at the Union League (April).

Future Events
RC-MAAM is working on developing two Cornerstones Workshops, Courier 101 and Copyright 101.

Submitted by Jobi Zink, Chair
Registrars Committee Mid-Atlantic Region (RC-MAAM)
Report from the Midwest Registrars Committee (MRC)

Current Officers:
CHAIR: Andrew Near, Collections Manager, Kruizenga Art Museum, Hope College
271 Columbia Avenue, PO BOX 9000; Holland, MI 49422
616-395-6402, near@hope.edu

VICE-CHAIR & TRAVEL STIPENDS: Rachel Vargas, Registrar, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University | 547 E. Circle Drive; East Lansing, MI 48824
517-884-0651, vargasr@msu.edu

SECRETARY (MEMBERSHIP): Ashleigh Herrera, Collections Assistant, Wisconsin Historical Society | 816 State Street; Madison, WI 53706
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TREASURER: Tamara R. Lange, Collections Coordinator, Sheboygan County Historical Society & Museum | 3110 Erie Avenue; Sheboygan, WI 53081
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WEBMASTER: Sarah Connors
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MRC Annual Meeting:
The MRC held their annual business meeting and luncheon during the Association of Midwest Museums Annual Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, from July 12 – 15. Our annual meeting lunch was sponsored by Huntington T. Block. An evening social was sponsored and hosted by Dietl International.

Three travel stipends were awarded by the MRC to support member attendance at the 2017 AMM Annual Conference. Coordinated by Development Chair, Terry Segal, recipients include:
Amy Heggemeyer, Linda Endersby, and Lottie Phillips. These stipends were generously sponsored by Masterpiece International, Terry Dowd, Inc., and US Art.

Activities:
The Mighty Rescue Crew was hosted by Hannah Frederick, Ames Historical Society on July 12, in conjunction with the 2017 AMM Conference. Participants included Andrew Near, Hannah Frederick, Sarah Connors, and Linda Endersby who assisted with processing art work.

Organized by Angela Riedel, the 11th Annual Michigan Collections Management Round Table took place September 8 on Mackinac Island at Mackinac State Historic Parks (MSHP) with 20 attendees. This year’s topic was Increasing Access to Collections, and speakers included: Stephanie Gandulla, Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary; Nathan Kelber, Detroit Historical Society; Dan Truckey, Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center; and Sebastian Encina, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, U of M. Sponsors included: Tyler Supply Company/Burroughs, and the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, and the MRC.


Newsletter and Website:
Three issues of the MRC Courier were edited and published by Liz Furhman-Bragg and Linda Endersby and distributed to members. Our newsletter contains special articles, information from the board and state representatives along with updates within the region.

Sarah Connors maintains our website. Past issues of the Courier, contact information for the board and state representatives, and membership information are available at www.midwestregistrars.org. Our Facebook page continues to be a good place for information sharing.

Incoming State Representatives:
This year, we welcomed new State Representatives: Sara Hindmarch for Illinois, Andrea Selbig for Wisconsin, and Angela Stanford for Iowa.

Future Events:
We will hold elections for board positions in the spring/summer of 2018. We will hold our annual business meeting during the AMM Conference from July 18-21 in Chicago, Illinois. State Representative Sara Hindmarch is on the AMM planning committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Near, MRC Chair
Report from the Registrar’s Committee Mountain Plains Museums Association (RC-MPMA)

Executive Board News

*New elected positions:*
The RC-MPMA sought nominations for Chair and Treasurer. Susie Fishman-Armstrong, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, was re-elected chair. Ashley Yager, Loveland Museum/Gallery, was elected as treasurer.

*Appointed positions*
Alexandra Deselms was appointed as elections chair (vacant position 4+ years). Development Chair (NEW) - Michelle Gallagher-Roberts, New Mexico Museum of Art and Suzanne Hale, Gregory Allicar Museum of Art are co-developing this new position.

State Representatives
We revived the state representatives after being inactive for almost 5 years, to assist with our increased membership. We will be working to find other representatives during the membership drive.
Colorado: Laura Bryant, Gilcrease Museum
New Mexico: Michelle Gallagher-Roberts, New Mexico Museum of Art
Texas: Darby Reiners, Pan-Handle Plains Museum
Montana: Rowena Harrington, Montana Historical Society
Kansas: Theresa Marie Ketterer, Kansas State University

Membership
In 2015, we had 34 members and was at risk of losing PIN status. Last year, we reported 49 current members. This year we report we have 85 paid members. Significant changes were made to the membership structure for 2017. The ability to use credit cards on a paper form and through the MPMA website made a significant impact.

The coordination of communicating between MPMA, RC-MPMA Treasurer, and the RC-MPMA Membership Chair with this new system (both paper-based and on the website) is much improved and we are working on creating an accurate tracking system with MPMA changing offices from Littleton, CO to Lincoln, NE. There remains an issue of current members not being able to pay for their RC-MPMA Membership separate from their MPMA Membership with the online system, and we are working to correct this issue.

Approximately 84 people signed up for the RC-MPMA annual luncheon, showing there is still some room for membership growth as some of the attendees were not members. 2 people renewed during the annual luncheon.

Survey
A survey was submitted to the membership this year. We had 31 responses (almost double than last year). The business lunch and helping hands were ranked the most important activity, followed by the behind the scenes, then scholarships, and finally the newsletter. They found that paying for membership on-line was easy, but we are quickly learning that renewing on line may not be. There is a strong interest in webinars. We are going to continue to offer the surveys. It has been a helpful venue for the board to hear the voices and desires from the membership.
Newsletter
We have switched to a twice-a-year format (a pre-conference or late summer issue and a post-conference or winter issue). We submitted a pre-conference newsletter in October and Libby Krecek will prepare the post-conference/winter issue newsletter in February.

Treasurer

Business Luncheon
The 2017 business luncheon had a record attendance with 84+ people. Speakers were Bailey Placzek, Associate Curator and Collections Manager, Clyfford Still Museum and Gerald Horner, Deputy Director, Kirkland Museum. Special thanks to Sonia Rae, Clyfford Still Museum for coordinating all the efforts on their end.

For the luncheon this year, we will be at Zoo Montana and having Jeff Ewelt, Director as speaker.

Helping Hands
The 2017 Helping Hands Brigade was hosted by the Broomfield Depot Museum. We worked on inventorying their archive and archaeology collection in a large data entry project. In 2018, we will be working with the Yellowstone County Museum.

Behind the Scenes Tour
This was the second year we held a collection specific behind-the-scenes tour and the demand was very high. Tours were free for current members of the RC-MPMA. The tour took place at the Clyfford Still Museum. It was capped at 31 people, 43 members quickly signed up resulting in 15 people on a waiting list. In the future, we will need to request a sign with gathering times to help organize the growing group.

Scholarships
Our scholarship recipient of the RC-MPMA ANR Transport Scholarship is Laura Bryant, Gilcrease Museum. Recipient of the RC-MPMA Terry Dowd LCC Scholarship is Darby Reiners, Pan-Handle Plains Museum.

We are aware of the cost of scholarship donations does not fully cover the cost of the conference, and costs have gone up. The development chair position is being created to help fulfill this need.

CS-AAM
Libby Krecek will be representing the RC-MPMA at the upcoming national meeting of the Collections Stewardship-American Alliance of Museums (RC-AAM) in Phoenix, Arizona in May.

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RC-MPMA Officers

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Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History
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Jenny Yearous, Scholarship Chair
Curator of Collections Management
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Bismarck, ND
jyearous@nd.gov

Submitted by: Susie Fishman-Armstrong, RC-MPMA Chair
So many new things this year in New England.

- After three years of service James Sousa stepped down as co-chair and Daniel Neff came on board.

- We also decided on a name change. We went from simply Registrars to Registrars and Collections Care Specialists. So…yes we are the RACCS PAG now.

- Daniel created a Facebook page for us (find us at NEMA Registrars and Collection Care Specialists) so we can expand our opportunities to connect with our colleagues.

- Sira Dooley Fairchild (Bostonian Society) and Sara Frankel (The Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, Harvard University) are working on our region’s first community service project in conjunction with our annual meeting. The NEMA Collections Corps will assist one host location with a collections care project. Thank you to all of our colleagues who helped us by sharing their experience with similar projects. The kindness and generosity of the museum community never ceases to amaze me.

Daniel hit the ground running in his new position by hosting our spring workshop on April 9th Caring For and Utilizing Textile Collections at the Concord Museum. Dovetailing with MassFashion Consortium and Fresh Goods: Shopping for Clothing in a New England Town, 1750-1900, an exhibition at the Concord Museum this workshop explored the work done by the Concord Museum to create this exhibit. It also provided guidance and tips on caring for and displaying historic costumes.

Our annual NEMA conference last November was held on Cape Cod in Falmouth, MA. Our registrars and collections care specialists gathered for our annual lunch to brainstorm and discuss new ideas and directions for our PAG. We are looking forward this year to creating more opportunities for our colleagues to connect, share their knowledge, and grow professionally.
Report from the Registrars Committee Western Region (RCWR)

RCWR Officers 2017-2019 (elected at 2017 WMA Conference Business Luncheon)

Chair
Amber King, Registrar
Museum of Northern Arizona
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Flagstaff, AZ 86001
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Vice Chair
Kathrine Young, Collections Manager
Puget Sound Navy Museum
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Secretary
Katy Hess, Registrar
Bowers Museum
2002 North Main Street
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k.cynthia.hess@gmail.com

Treasurer
Cory Gooch, Head of Collections
Frye Art Museum
704 Terry Avenue
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cgooch@fryemuseum.org

RCWR Membership
- RCWR currently has 95 current members as of January 2018
- Total membership in 2017 was 137

2017 RCWR Corporate Sponsors

U.S. Art Company, Inc.
Artworks San Diego
Atthowe Fine Art Services
Cooke’s Crating, Inc
Masterpiece International, Ltd.
Ship Art International, Inc.

2017 RCWR Stipend Recipients
- American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo, St. Louis, MO - May 7-10, 2017 - one $750 stipend
  - Cynthia Murphy, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA
- Western Museums Association Annual Meeting, Edmonton, Alberta - September 20-23, 2017: $750/ea: one for a conference presenter, 2 travel stipends, an one stipend awarded at RCWR annual luncheon
  - Presenter: Charmaine Wong, Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI
  - Linda Waterfield - Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology, UC-Berkeley

2017 RCWR Stipends Offered (no applicants)
- Museum Computer Network Conference, Pittsburgh, PA - November 7-10, 2017: one award, $500 for registration
- Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections Conference, Denver, CO - June 18-24, 2017: one award, $350 for registration

2018 RCWR Stipends will be offered for following conferences and workshops:
ERC (European Registrars Conference)
MCN (Museum Computer Network)
SPNHC (Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections)
WMA (Western Museum Association Conference)

RCWR Budget
2016-17 Financial Report -- Projected year-end revenue for 2016 is $6,177. Total expenses as of September 23, 2017 were $7,888 with year-end budget deficit of $1,711, which is less than the projected deficit of $2,798. The current Wells Fargo checking account balance is $4763.58, the current savings account balance is $6839.40, and the current PayPal account balance is 3135.20, for a total of $14,738.18 (please note: this balance is current as of April 2018).

2016-17 Proposed Budget -- Total projected revenue is $15,002, and projected expenses $17,070, for potential deficit of $2,068.
2017 WMA Workshop
CSI: Registrar
Strathcona County Museum and Archives, Edmonton, Alberta
There were 5 participants at this year's installment of CSI: Registrar at the WMA conference. This year we worked on cataloguing a donation of a toy train set for the day, starting around 9am and continuing until the mid-afternoon. The set had been donated a while ago and no one had yet had the time to work on it. We did all the condition reporting, photographing, numbering, and then all that data was entered into an excel spreadsheet for tracking purposes. We also gave them tips on how to properly care for artifacts and we received a tour of the Museum.

CSI: Registrar is always a meaningful way to experience the local cultural community and it is always greatly appreciated.

2017 RCWR State Representatives:
ALASKA: Marnie Leist, Registrar, Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository (outgoing)
Savanna Bradley, Collections Manager, Pratt Museum (incoming)

ARIZONA (Co Reps): Pat D. Evans, Registrar, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art and Amber King, Registrar, Museum of Northern Arizona (both through September Business meeting) position currently vacant

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Cristina Lichauco, Collections Database Administrator, Asian Art Museum

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Molly Sjöberg, Associate Registrar, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (outgoing); position now open

HAWAII: Charmaine Wong, Archaeology Collections Manager, Bishop Museum

IDAHO: Sarah Phillips, Registrar, Idaho State Historical Museum

NEVADA: Brian Eyler, Registrar, Nevada Museum of Art and Melanie Coffee, Collections Manager, Las Vegas Natural History Museum

OREGON: Vacant

UTAH: Katie Conrad, Collections Specialist, Utah area (incoming)

WASHINGTON (Co Reps): Cory Gooch, Collections Manager/Registrar, Frye Art Museum (stepped down after 2017 business luncheon), and Nives Mestrovic, Collections & Exhibitions Assistant, Frye Art Museum

2017 RCWR Appointed Positions:
MUSEUM STUDIES LIAISON: Jennifer Ortiz, Collections Manager, Utah Museum of Fine Arts (outgoing) Jessica Simpson, Registrar, Museum of Peoples and Cultures, Brigham Young University (incoming)
This year’s Annual Business Meeting will take place at the Western Museum Association Annual Meeting in Tacoma, WA in October 2017.

Submitted by Amber King, Chair

Report from the Southeastern Registrars Association (SERA)

Current Officers
Chair: Kyle Elizabeth Bryner, Director of Collections Management and Registration, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, 901 Amherst St., Winchester, VA 22601, kbryner@themsv.org

Vice Chair: Corinne Midgett, Registrar, High Point Museum, 1859 E. Lexington Ave., High Point, NC 27262, corinne.midgett@highpointnc.gov

Secretary: Amy Beisel, Museum Manager, International Museum of the Horse, 4089 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511, amy.beisel@ky.gov

Treasurer/Membership Chair: Austin Bell, Curator of Collections, Marco Island Historical Society, 180 S. Heathwood Drive, Marco Island, FL 34145, curator@themihs.org

Development Chair: Jennifer Spence, Museum Curator, John James Audubon State Park, PO Box 576, Henderson, KY 42419, jennifer.spence@ky.gov

Communications Chair: Erica Hague, Collections Manager, Atlanta History Center, 130 W Paces Ferry Rd. NW, Atlanta, GA 30305, ehague@atlantahistorycenter.com

Activities
The Southeastern Registrars Association had our annual business meeting on Tuesday October 11, 2017 during the Southeastern Museums Conference in New Orleans, LA. At the meeting the new officers we installed and scholarship winners were announced. At the Southeastern Museums Conference, SERA sponsored 9 sessions, the annual Registrars Respite, and a behind the scenes tour.

SERA is working on a new disaster planning/real life scenario book to replace Steal This Handbook. This project is in the development stage and more information will be forthcoming.
Congratulations to Kaitlin Romey for being awarded the 2018 AAM Annual Meeting Travel Scholarship by the SERA Scholarship Committee.

SERA earned almost $1500 in proceeds from the sales of Basic Condition Reporting. That money was used to help pay for travel scholarships to conferences.

Kyle Bryner (chair) currently serves on the SEMC program committee to help plan next year’s SEMC conference.

Zinnia Willits received the Dan Silosky Award for Excellence in Collections Management and Registration in New Orleans, LA.

**Upcoming Activities**
SEMC conference and SERA business meeting are in Jackson, Mississippi, October 8-10, 2018.

SERA board elections for Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer/Membership Chair happened in 2018.

SERA is looking for a sponsor to help fund processing and digitizing the SERA archives. The physical boxes are currently held at the Historic New Orleans Collection.

**Sponsors**
The following companies helped sponsor SERA events, scholarships and awards.

Dietl International Services
Past Perfect Museum Software
Transport Consultants International, Inc.
Willis Towers Watson

Submitted by Kyle Bryner, Southeastern Registrars Association Chair