REPORT 2019
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Report from the Chair

The Collections Stewardship Professional Network has continued to evolve and grow with our new mission. We have appreciated the monthly AAM conference calls with the leaders from every Professional Network as this has kept us updated on AAM activities and goals and enabled us to work much better with the other PNs. The numerous email communications from AAM have also been greatly appreciated.

A new resource called the *Deaccessioning Toolkit*, developed by the Curation Committee (CurCom) and Collections Stewardship (with Robin Lawrence representing Collections Stewardship) will make its debut at the AAM meeting in New Orleans at 3:00 pm in the Solutions Center on Monday, 20 May.

The Collections Stewardship website (https://www.collectionsstewardship.org/) has continued to evolve thanks to hard work by Mell Scalzi and continues to be an outstanding and much used resource for the collections registration, care, and management community. The website features period Leadership Ledger blog entries, timely news stories, and many other useful resources.

Under the excellent leadership of Libby Krecek and Nicole Paterson the Collections Stewardship Reinforcement Crew is preparing for another busy day of work with four sites identified for 2019 in New Orleans. This activity succeeds thanks to the efforts of Libby and Nicole, the power of volunteers, and the generous contributions of our sponsors.

The Mentorship Program, operated jointly with ARCS (the Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists) has continued to serve emerging and aspiring professionals who are seeking a bit of wisdom as they enter the field. Mentors are always needed, and there is no better way to repay the help each of us has received in our professional development than by giving assistance to others.

There have been some exciting developments involving several publications related to the stewardship of collections. A second edition of the very useful *Rights & Reproductions: The Handbook for Cultural Institutions* (edited by Anne Young) was published in November 2018, and a second edition of the popular *On the Road Again: Developing and Managing Traveling Exhibitions* is being prepared by Rebecca Buck, Jean Gilmore, and Irene Taurins. A sixth edition of *Museum Registration Methods* (edited by John Simmons and Toni Kiser) is expected in late fall 2019. Collections Stewardship is leading the effort to update the *General Facilities Report* (GFR).
A new Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary, and Secretary-Elect for the Collections Stewardship Professional Network will assume their respective offices at the AAM meeting in May. The new Chair is Sebastián Encina, the new Chair-Elect is Linda Endersby, the new Secretary is Lindsay Palaima, and the new Secretary-Elect is Caitlin Podas.

The Program Committee this year selected a total of 28 sessions identified as of primary interest to the Collections Stewardship Professional Network members, and a list of those sessions was posted on the listserv in early March along with other encouragements for people to attend the meeting in New Orleans. However, registration numbers for two important Collection Stewardship events at the annual AAM meeting have, most unfortunately, continued to decline. Signing up in advance is not required for the Emerging Professionals Reception (which is made possible by our generous sponsors) so attendance always exceeds registration, but pre-registration is requested as this helps us plan for the event. At the 2017 meeting (St Louis) AAM we had 273 registrants for the reception, but only 88 in 2018 (Phoenix) and as of this writing we have a mere 61 registrants for New Orleans. Similarly, in 2016 a total of 107 people registered for the Collections Stewardship Annual Business Luncheon, but only attended in 74 in 2018 and just 49 people have signed up for the lunch in New Orleans. It is not clear why the numbers have declined so significantly. It may be a reflection of overall decline in attendance at the AAM annual meeting, it may be due to the cost of the meeting and luncheon in combination with stagnant salaries in the field, or perhaps other issues. In any event, it may be time for Collections Stewardship to reconsider the wisdom of hosting the luncheon at the AAM meeting if we can identify another activity that could bring more of the group together. On the other hand, everyone’s favorite non-official event, the Shipper’s Party, continues to be a wildly successful and well-attended event.

Submitted by: John Simmons, Chair

Report from the archivist

2018-2019 was my fourth 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 ($10,000 total) for our service project and reception in conjunction with the 2019 AAM Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

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

Collections Stewardship Emerging Museum Professionals Reception ($1,000 level)
Atelier 4
Crystalizations Systems, Inc.
ELY, Inc.
Huntington T. Block Insurance Agency, Inc.
The ICON Group
Masterpiece International
Willis Towers Watson

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

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

I am looking for an enthusiastic member to take on the duties as the Development Chair. Over the past few years, a few members have expressed interest, but none have fully committed. This is an exciting volunteer opportunity in our professional network for someone interested in a leadership role.

Submitted by: Suzanne Hale, Development Chair

Report from the Collections Stewardship Fellowship Committee Chair
The Fellowship Chair acts on behalf of the Collections Stewardship Committee (CSAAM) to review professional development scholarships offered by AAM to support attendance of underrepresented and marginalized individuals in the museum field at the Annual Meeting.

**2019 AAM Alliance Scholarship Program**

Scholarships to the 2019 AAM Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana were offered to CSAAM members through the 2019 AAM Alliance Scholarship Program. These scholarships were funded by AAM and individual professional networks. Through the AAM Program, scholarship awardees receive a travel stipend of $750, complimentary conference registration, and tickets to select networking events of the recipient’s choice including the AAM Scholarship and Fellowship Breakfast and the CSAAM Business Luncheon and Reception (or another luncheon and Reception of their choice). This year, AAM provided support for two scholarships available to seven eligible Collections Stewardship-oriented individuals described as the following on the AAM Website’s Scholarship Application Page*:

“2019 AAM Annual Meeting Scholarship applications are encouraged from individuals (members or non-members) who identify as underrepresented or otherwise marginalized, including but not limited to:

- Persons of color
- Latino
- American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)
- Persons with a physical, cognitive or developmental disability

Preference may be given to applicants who:

- are current AAM members
- have not received an AAM Annual Meeting Scholarship (formerly ‘Fellowship’) in the past”

*(https://annualmeeting.aam-us.org/alliance-scholarship-program/)

Funds for the 2019 CSAAM Annual Meeting Scholarship came from the general AAM allocated Scholarship budget.

**AAM 2019 Annual Meeting Scholarship Review Process**
AAM administered the application and review processes for the 2019 Annual Meeting Scholarships. 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 & Technology, CARE, EdCom, CoMPT, NAME, SMAC, and DIVCOM. Additionally, there was representation from the Latino Network, Indigenous Peoples Museum Network, Historic House and Sites, the LGBTQ Alliance, and the Environment and Climate Network. 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 Scholarship Review Committee. In addition, John Holton and Hallie Winter (Osage), who represent the LGBTQ Alliance and Indigenous Peoples Museum Network respectively, served as additional reviewers on the Scholarship Review Committee for Collections Stewardship. The diverse panel ensured that scholarships were awarded to qualified individuals working and studying in all areas of museum operation. The Committee reviewed all applicants that identified as collections care professionals and scored the individuals based on a point rating system before submitting results to AAM for the Scholar selection.

**AAM 2019 Collections Stewardship Scholarship Recipients**

AAM received a total of 98 applications for the 2019 Scholarships. From a pool of seven applicants (down from 12 in 2018) that identified as collections care professionals, the CS was granted two scholarships based on funds raised through AAM. The following collections care professionals were awarded the 2019 Annual Meeting Scholarship:

1. **Billie Jean Guerrero**  
   *Museum Director*  
   *Pyramid Lake Museum*  
   *Nixon, NV*

   **Mentor:** Sebastián Encina  
   *Collections Manager*  
   *Kelsey Museum of Archaeology*  
   *University of Michigan*

2. **Stephanie Lampkin**  
   *Museum Collection Manager*  
   *Science History Institute*  
   *Philadelphia, PA*

   **Mentor:** Tiffany Charles  
   *Director of Collections & Registration*  
   *Wisconsin Maritime Museum*

The Scholarship recipients had the option of a mentor for the AAM Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Both Scholars accepted and each was paired with a mentor from the CS board. Mentors may attend the Scholarship and Fellowship Breakfast with their mentee and facilitate introductions to colleagues and Collections Stewardship leaders to help build their network of peers and colleagues.
Submitted by: Ariana Torres
Chair, Collections Stewardship Fellowship Committee

Report from the Deaccession Task Force Representative

Actions
The Deaccession Task Force, comprised of representatives from four AAM Professional Networks, convened its first conference call March 9, 2018. Since that date, it has held near-monthly calls to establish the Task Force Charge and the direction of the Toolkit.

Task Force Charge
The objective of this Task Force is to promote thoughtfully managed collections and deaccession practices by creating a resource toolkit and developing a peer support network. By promoting best practices and providing the opportunity for peer consultation on such matters, the Task Force aims to safeguard institutions and avoid crisis that often lead to poor management of collections and divestment thereof.

- Create a flowchart that will guide institutions toward best practices, from the establishment of a stable institution to deaccessioning.
- Compile a list of resources that illustrate effective leadership development, practical applications and critical thinking practices surrounding deaccessioning.
- Evaluate the ethics as well as current standards and practices to advance thinking on this issue.
- Ensure that the Toolkit is applicable to the field at large, encompassing museums of all sizes and foci, zoos, aquariums, historical societies, etc.
- Consider developing a peer hotline* available to consult on deaccessions and related management-based conundrums.

*this is a non-binding opinion based on best practices and is not legal advice

Ellen Endslow sent a Survey Monkey poll to the Professional Network Leadership team to gage interest in the actions noted above. Only four members participated in the survey, so little was gleaned.

Future Events
The Task Force has actively sought and applied to present at events and conferences to spread awareness of its efforts and solicit feedback to ensure the direction of the Toolkit is on target to best serve the museum field. At these events, the Resource List mentioned above will be shared, and interest will be gaged for participation in, and usefulness of, a peer hotline.
- AAM Annual Conference
After each event, the Task Force will collect feedback and continue to hone the Toolkit and potential peer-to-peer network accordingly. The Task Force continues to work with AAM to explore potential digital "homes" for the Task Force’s Toolkit once completed.

**PN Representatives:**

Curators Committee:
Ellen Endslove, Director of Collections/Curator, Chester County Historical Society, eendslow@chestercohistorical.org

Historic Houses and Sites Committee:
Cara Seitchek, Fundraiser for the Smithsonian, SeitchekC@si.edu

Collections Stewardship:
Robin Lawrence, Manager of Curatorial Affairs, Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, rlawrence@discovernewfields.org

Leadership and Management Network:
Elizabeth Varner, Staff Curator, Policy and Partnerships, US Department of the Interior Museum Program, Elizabeth.C.Varner@gmail.com

Submitted by: Robin Lawrence
Deaccession Task Force Representative and CSAAM Liaison

**REPORT FROM THE COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP GENERAL FACILITIES REPORT TASK FORCE**

Task Force Members:

Sebastián E. Encina (Kelsey Museum of Archaeology)

Darlene Bialowski (Darlene Bialowski Art Services, LLC)

Cynthia Brown (Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science)

Geneva Griswold (Seattle Art Museum)

Amy Heggemeyer (University of Illinois)
Tamara Hemmerlein (Indiana Historical Society)
Jeff Minett (Huntington T. Block Insurance Agency)
Hallie Winter (Osage) (American Indian Cultural Center & Museum)

AAM approached the Collections Stewardship PN to revisit the General Facilities Report (GFR, formerly Standard Facility Report). The report, or form, was last edited in 2008 by a team consisting of current committee members Darlene Bialowski and Jeff Minett.

In 2018, Collections Stewardship formed a committee and submitted a proposal for revisions to the GFR. That proposal was approved by AAM in February 2019. Beginning March 2019, committee set a calendar of events and doled out responsibilities to committee members. Editing will occur during the months of April and May. In July/August, CS-AAM will seek out readers to review the edits.

Committee will edit and streamline existing document, remove extraneous wording, include sections related to university museums and collections. If time allows, the committee will produce a “short” version of the form. Committee will make this a fillable pdf for easier completion.

Timeline for this is to have the form written, edited, and submitted to AAM by October 2019.

Submitted by: Sebastián E. Encina
General Facilities Report Committee Chair and Chair-elect, Collections Stewardship

Report from the Nominations Committee Chair
The Nominations Committee consisted of four members, with the Immediate Past Chair of CSAAM serving as head of the committee. To reach a broad field of nominees, the CSAAM elected leaders asked regional chairs to recruit representatives from their regional memberships. The committee was established in late September 2018 and included:
Chair – **Suzanne Hale**, Registrar/Collections Manager, Gregory Allicar Museum of Art at Colorado State University, 970-491-4173 (office), Suzanne.hale@colostate.edu

**Amber Anderson**, Registrar, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 216-231-4600 x3234 (office), AAnderson@cmnh.org

**Kathy Dougherty**, Collections Manager, Oceanic and Asian Culture, The Burke Museum, 206-543-6623 (office), kad33@uw.edu

**Angela Stanford**, Curator of Collections & Registrar, Museum of Danish America, 712-764-7001 (office), angela.stanford@danishmuseum.org

The Nominations Committee worked to recruit qualified members to run for the offices of **Chair Elect** and **Secretary Elect**. In consult with the current CSAAM elected officers, the committee roughly set the following timeline:

Nomination period: November 2018 – January 2019
Voting period: February – March 2019
Contact candidates with voting results: April 2019
Installation: AAM Annual Meeting Luncheon, May 2019

The committee requested nominations and self-nominations through announcements on the CSAAM listserv and news updates on the CSAAM website in **early January 2019**. We asked members interested in running for office to submit a statement of interest, an updated CV and a professional image. As the deadline of **January 18, 2019** to submit approached, committee members prompted CSAAM members who had inquired about running for one of the two offices to submit their materials to the Nominations Committee Chair. The committee received seven official submissions to run for the elected offices.

The committee chair asked AAM to confirm that all potential candidates were current AAM and CSAAM members. A few potential candidates were contacted to update their memberships in order to be considered. On **February 15, 2019**, the committee members had a conference call to discuss the submissions. **Sebastián Encina**, Chair Elect, and **Lindsay Palaima**, Secretary Elect, were invited to participate on the call as non-voting committee members. Of the seven submissions, the committee recommended the following slate of candidates:

For Chair Elect
**Corie Audette**, Assistant Collections Manager/Registrar, Bates College Museum of Art
Linda Endersby, Registrar/Collections Manager, Museum of Art & Archaeology, University of Missouri

For Secretary Elect
Caitlin Podas, Registrar, Mingei International Museum
Amanda Robinson, Associate Registrar of Exhibitions, The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art

The committee worked closely with CSAAM leaders and AAM staff to coordinate the online voting process beginning in mid-February. AAM required advanced notice to add our voting announcement and ballot to their email schedule. The finalized text and associated link were submitted to Josette Souza, AAM Marketing & Communications Manager, on February 25, 2019. Mell Scalzi, CSAAM Website Chair, posted the names, images and statements of interest for each candidate on the CSAAM website on March 5, 2019. Josette scheduled the deployment of the email to open voting to all CSAAM members for March 8, 2019. Janet Vaughn, AAM Vice President, Membership & Excellence, created a SurveyMonkey ballot with a link to candidate materials on the CSAAM website. Voting open on March 8, 2019 and closed on March 22, 2019. During the two-week voting period, the nominations committee posted emails on the CSAAM listserv prompting members to vote. Janet Vaughn contacted the Nominations Committee Chair on March 25, 2019 with the results of the elections. The Nominations Committee Chair emailed the candidates with the results on March 26, 2019 and thanked them for participating in the elections. The two winning candidates responded with emails confirming their willingness to serve as CSAAM elected officers.

The results of the elections will be announced at the CSAAM Annual Meeting Luncheon in New Orleans on May 20, 2019. All supplementary documents related to the voting process will be submitted as addenda with this report to Amy Heggemeyer, CSAAM Secretary, for reference and submission to the CSAAM archive.

Submitted by: Suzanne Hale, Nominations Committee Chair

REPORT ON COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP PN SURVEY

In 2018, AAM conducted a survey of its members on behalf of the Professional Networks (PNs). Results were returned in March 2019. Some highlights:

Survey results split into two sections:
- General AAM and PN interactions
- Specific PN interactions
Respondents were asked to self-identify no more than 4 PNs they actively engage with, and answer specific questions related to that/those PN(s) (such as Collections Stewardship).

Just under 700 total respondents, with over 170 self-identifying as engaging with Collections Stewardship.

General survey results:

- **Number of years working in museum field**
  - 54.5% 15+ years
  - 18.2% 10-14 years
  - 12.5% 6-9 years
  - 10.5% 3-5 years
  - 3.1% 1-2 years
  - 1.2% less than 1 year

- **Number of years working in professional field**
  - 54.1% 15+ years
  - 16.5% 10-14 years
  - 13.5% 3-5 years
  - 10.6% 6-9 years
  - 4.4% 1-2 years
  - 1.0% less than 1 year

- **Number of years at current position**
  - 24.8% 3-5 years
  - 19.0% 1-2 years
  - 16.7% 15+ years
  - 15.4% 6-9 years
  - 12.1% 10-14 years
  - 12.1% less than 1 year

- **AAM annual meetings attended in last 5 years:**
  - 45.7% have gone to 0
  - 21.8% have gone to 1
  - 13.9% have gone to 2
  - 6.6% have gone to 3
  - 4.5% have gone to 4
  - 6.6% have gone to 5

- **Do the PNs provide additional value to your AAM membership?**
  - 47.7% Yes
  - 37.9% I am not sure
  - 14.5% No

- **Preferred means to participate in professional development (top 5 responses)**
  - 62.1% Digital resources (articles, white papers)
  - 55.1% Local in-person half-day workshops and presentations
  - 52.2% Live webinars
  - 52.0% Print publications that you purchase (books, guides, journals such as Exhibition)
  - 49.4% Local in-person full-day workshops and presentations
PN Specific results:
- Respondents include:
  - 64 registrars/collections managers
  - 39 curatorial
  - 11 President/CEO/Executive Director
  - 10 Conservation
  - Rest are less than 5 each.
- Most from art museum, or another type, or history/historical society
- Why a member of the PN (most responses)?
  - 1. Stay connected with what’s going on in the field
  - 2. Listen and learn from experts
  - 3. Connect and network
  - 4. Develop skills and knowledge
  - 5. To be part of a community with professionals who share my identity or are like me
- How did you engage?
  - 52% - read emails or newsletter (listserv)
  - 35% - did not engage
- How would you like to engage?
  - 68% - Emails or newsletters
  - 61% - regional conferences
  - 42% - AAM-hosted Professional Development presentations
  - Online festival?
- Be involved with future work?
  - 74% - no
- Benefits (free text responses)
  - Connections/network
  - Listserv
  - Exchange of ideas/knowledge sharing
  - Staying current on field
- Improvements (free text responses)
  - More online resources
  - Local events (meetups, workshops)
  - Newsletter
  - Please, no newsletter
  - Webinars
  - Listserv digest formatting issues
  - Social media?
  - More CS panels at annual meeting
  - More member buy-in and involvement
- Topic Suggestions (free text responses)
  - Insurance
  - Loan agreements
  - Salaries
  - Pest management
  - Legal issues
• Packing and crating
• Food justice, environmental justice, podcasts
• Midcareer challenges
• Urgent or Crisis Collecting; ethics of working with traumatized populations and implications for museum professionals on those frontlines
• Matching goals to resources realistically; managing up to manage expectations for collections stewardship

These items and topics will be discussed at the Solutions Center. Some of these will be addressed using AAM’s subscription to Zoom, where we can hold webinars on various topics.

Submitted by: Sebastián E. Encina
Chair-elect, Collections Stewardship

REPORT FROM THE REINFORCEMENT CREW COMMITTEE

The 11th annual Reinforcement Crew Event occurred on May 5, 2018, in Phoenix, Arizona. The committee partnered with the Arizona Capitol Museum, Rosson House at Heritage Square and the River of Time Museum. A total of 10 individuals volunteered their time and expertise. The volunteers worked on a project to inventory, digitize and rehouse items from the Merci Train Collection at the Arizona Capitol Museum, condition report items on display at the Rosson House and inventory and rehouse items from the collection at the River of Time Museum.

The day’s effort was followed by a reception at Mother Bunch’s. The Reinforcement Crew Committee would like to thank Methods & Materials Inc., Terry Dowd Inc., and Transport Consultants International Inc. for sponsoring the 11th annual Reinforcement Crew event.

After the 2018 AAM annual meeting, the Reinforcement Crew Committee went to work planning the 12th Annual Reinforcement Crew Event for the AAM annual meeting in New Orleans. The 2019 volunteer sites include the Beauregard-Keyes House, the Hermann-Grima House and the New Orleans African American 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 THE RIGHTS AND REPRODUCTIONS PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Chair: John ffrench, Director of Visual Resources, Yale University Art Gallery
PO Box 208271, New Haven, Connecticut, 06520
203-432-8051, john.ffrench@yale.edu

The second edition of the Rights & Reproductions: The Handbook for Cultural Institutions was released in print format. The book was 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.

Ongoing Promotion

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

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.

CSAAM Listserv https://www.collectionsstewardship.org/listserve

Unable to fully pull herself away from involvement (thankfully) Anne Young and I both monitor the CSAAM listserv for any Rights related questions that come up and respond on or off-list where relevant.

MUSIP Listserv (Museum Intellectual Property) https://groups.io/g/musip

MUSIP is an independently managed group of cultural heritage professionals working for museums, galleries, and collections. In recognition of the unique opportunities and challenges of its constituents, MUSIP shares resource information, establishes and supports best practices, and informs members about educational activities and professional development opportunities.
Organized in 2001 by David Sturtevant and Shaula Coyl, the group primarily serves as a resource for the sharing of contact information for artists, foundations, estates or agencies for various Intellectual Property permissions. The listserv also provides a forum for members to share information or make queries about procedures that others may follow in the field of Intellectual Property. (2016) The site is managed by Cherie Chen (Getty), John ffrench (Yale University Art Gallery), Melissa Fournier (Yale Center for British Art), and Deb Wythe (retired: Brooklyn Museum of Art).

Membership is open to any professional working in the general field of Rights and Reproductions and Intellectual Property management. Information shared within the group should not be considered legal advice and we ask that private information shared in posts is respected.

AAM 2019 Conference:
I was asked to moderate a proposed session entitled: Collections Conundrums, however this session ultimately was not accepted by AAM, citing the proposal was “not for a National conference; better for listserv, webinar, or regional conference."

Brief Session Description
Collections Management professionals face many challenges when working with cultural objects and their records. Come engage in a lively discussion led by a distinguished panel of experts who will tackle current issues in the field. Pose your own questions to the panel and the gathered audience of your colleagues for advice, suggestions and potential resolutions. The audience will be encouraged to participate and to give back to the community at large by sharing their own experiences and understanding of the issues.

Presenter(s)
Janice B. Klein - Consultant, EightSixSix Consulting (Role: Session Organizer; Panelist)
John Simmons - Writer and Consultant, Museologica (Role: Panelist)
Darlene A. Bialowski - Principal, Darlene Bialowski Art Services, LLC (Role: Panelist)
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 Covello, Secretary of Social Media
MLIS Syracuse University
carrie covello@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 335 followers, up slightly from last year.

Annual Meeting
RC-MAAM hosted its White Gloves Gang dinner and workshops before the official opening of the MAAM annual Meeting. The White Gloves Gang dinner, sponsored by Elizabeth Alberding and MAAM was held at the Fire Museum of Maryland on Tuesday, October 16 and included a tour of the historic fire engines. 15 participants volunteered on Wednesday on six discrete projects at four sites. The Fire Museum of Maryland volunteers polished a number of metal objects, while those at the B&O Railroad Museum sponge-cleaned and wrapped 100 bound volumes. Volunteers at the Reginald P. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture completed three projects: photographing 100+ framed black and white prints; inventorying about 3,000 LPs; and housing a new collection of roughly 300 buttons. And at the Evergreen Museum & Library volunteers dusted all objects in open exhibit spaces (21 rooms and 3 hallways!), removing old museum wax and replace with new wax, and wiping down shelving.

The Registrar's Committee donated an “Exhibition in a Crate” to the raffle baskets. The mini crate contained the essential tools needed for exhibition installation, including a
bottle of wine to celebrate when you are done. All proceeds from the raffle help sponsor scholarships to the annual meeting.

Wrapping ledger books in Tyvek at the B&O Museum

The WGG at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American

RC-MAAMs contribution to the Museum of History and culture scholarship raffle baskets

The conference, *Museums Matter Now!* was held in Baltimore, MD October 17-19, 2018. There were three collections-focused sessions, *Make Your CMP Work For You, The Importance of Collections Care and Retention: How to Help Your Board of Trustees Be the Museum’s Best Advocate,* and *Collecting and Interpreting Controversial Current Events: the 2015 Baltimore Uprising.* The *CAP, MAP, and StEPs: Assessment Opportunities for Small and Mid-sized Museums* session had wide appeal beyond the specific scope of collections managers, but was also well attended.

**Activities**

Facebook continues to be our primary mode of interacting with membership. We continue to post job and internship announcements, as well as articles relevant to museums, exhibitions, and non-profit cultural organizations. RC-MAAM was represented at *Mold: Prevention, Detection, and Recovery* workshop sponsored by
CCAHA (Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts) at the Brandywine River Museum in February, and the MAAM Mixer in Philadelphia in April. City-specific registrar’s groups meet 2-3 times a year for behind-the-scenes tours and topical conversations.

Future Events
RC-MAAM will be holding elections this fall.

Submitted by Jobi Zink, Chair

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:
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CO-EDITOR: Liz Fuhrman Bragg, Registrar, Evansville Museum
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WEBMASTER: Sarah Connors
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Elections:
We held elections for our executive board. Julie Burgess succeeded Rachel Vargas as Vice-Chair; Sarah Humes succeeded Tamara Lange as Treasurer; and Linda Endersby succeeded Ashleigh Herrera as Secretary. Andrew Near continues as the Chair.

MRC Annual Meeting:
The MRC held their annual business meeting and luncheon during the Association of Midwest Museums Annual Conference on July 18 - July 21 in Chicago, Illinois. Our annual meeting lunch was sponsored by Huntington T. Block. An evening social was sponsored and hosted by ARTistic Storage.

Six travel stipends were awarded by the MRC to support member attendance at the 2018 AMM Annual Conference. Coordinated by Development Chair, Terry Segal, recipients include: Sarah Franklin, Robin Goodman, Ashleigh Herrera, Katie Prichard, Kate Swisher, Marisa Szpytman. These stipends were generously sponsored by Masterpiece International, Terry Dowd, Inc., Dietl International, and Willis Towers Watson.

State Meeting:
The MRC sponsored a state meet in Minnesota. State meet-up grant money is available for activities geared towards bringing registration and collections people together for education and community building.

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.

Surveys:
Amy Heggemeyer, Linda Endersby, and Tish Boyer conducted two surveys: one about communication and another regarding our annual meeting at the AMM conference. These surveys provided valuable knowledge as well as constructive suggestions for communication and organizational planning.

Incoming State Representatives:
This year, we welcomed new State Representative, Holly Waldenmeyer for Michigan.

Future Events:
We will hold our annual business meeting during the AMM Conference from October 2-4 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Julie Burgess serves on the AMM planning committee.

Submitted by: Andrew Near, MRC Chair

REPORT FROM REGISTRAR’S COMMITTEE MOUNTAIN PLAINS MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION (RC-MPMA)

Executive Board News
*Elected Positions and ByLaw Changes:* Following a call for nominations, the RC-MPMA membership re-elected Heather Coffman as Vice Chair and elected Jennifer Toelle as Secretary after Shikoh Shiraiwa's resignation. The membership also approved the creation of a Development Chair and State Representatives during a bylaw change election survey.

*Appointed positions*
Development Chair (NEW POSITION)- Michelle Gallagher-Roberts, New Mexico Museum of Art. – Michelle will be stepping down after this year, but we are very grateful for her assistance in developing the position, making the proposed ByLaw changes, and serving in the position this last year.

*State Representatives*
The RC-MPMA has also had significant progress made in filling State Representative positions who are proving effective at helping with membership drives and relaying RC information to state members. We are currently searching for State Representatives in North Dakota, Nebraska, and Wyoming and could use help in filling these positions.

*Membership*
We have 45 Members renewed for 2019 and the State reps and the membership chair are working on the other 88 members who haven't renewed yet. We were late this year getting a jump on memberships since we held off until the PayPal system was up and running but hopefully memberships will be rolling in soon. I can't think of any other information to include in a report as there hasn't been much activity other than we now accept PayPal for membership payments.

*Newsletter*
We submitted a newsletter in August and Libby Krecek is preparing updates for the next upcoming newsletter.
We have PayPal!
We now have PayPal on our website for new and renewal memberships, as well as donations. This was a 2-year long process with the logistics of working with MPMA, who is our host website. MPMA recently updated their website server and everything is now complete. Part of our reduction in membership dues was caused by the inconvenience of needing to mail in credit card information or paying cash/check. We will also be bringing in a laptop so people can pay their dues directly at the next annual meeting.

Business Luncheon
This year the guest speaker of the luncheon was Jeff Ewelt, Executive Director, ZooMontana, who spoke about “Curating a Living Museum.” The luncheon was well attended, and included live animals.

Helping Hands
Helping hands was located at the Yellowstone County Museum. We assisted in their inventory and cataloged objects in their art and baseball collections.

Behind the Scenes Tour
The tour took place at the opening part at ZooMontana. Staff from their education department gave the tours, which hosted two groups up to 20 people each. The tour sold out, with 19 people on the waiting list. To keep payment simple, this year we required everyone to pay $10 for the event, instead of just active members. All payments are applied towards membership for both new and renewals. The new process worked well.

Scholarships
Until last year, cost of scholarship donations did not fully cover the cost of the conference, and costs have gone up. The newly created development chair position fulfilled the need for a stable funding contact. The development chair worked with the ANR transport and to successfully increase the amount of the donation and now 100% of the funds are covered for this second scholarship.

RC-MPMA ANR Transport Scholarship – Michael Lorusso, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado College, CO

RC-Terry Dowd LCC Scholarship – Kelly Houston, Pioneer Woman Museum, OK
RC-MPMA Officers

Susie Fishman-Armstrong, Chair
Collection Manager, Archaeology
Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK
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Heather Coffman, Vice Chair
Registrar
Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center
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Casey J. Seger, Membership Chair
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Ashley Yager, Treasurer
Registrar
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Jennifer Toelle, Secretary
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Alexandra Deselms, Nominations Chair
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Elizabeth (Libby) Krecek, Publications Chair
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Jenny Yearous, Scholarship Chair
Curator of Collections Management
State Historical Society of North Dakota
Bismarck, ND

RC-MPMA Treasurer’s Mid-Winter Report
9/8/18 – 1/23/19

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<td>Scholarship Funding (for 2018 MPMA meeting)</td>
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<td>Dividend Credits</td>
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<td>Total Income</td>
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Expenses

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<td>Midwinter MPMA Attendance for Chair</td>
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<td>Scholarship Awards (for 2018 MPMA meeting)</td>
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<td>Shipping</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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Report from the Co-Chairs, Registrars and Collections Care Specialists
Professional Affinity Group, New England Museum Association (NEMA)

Daniel Neff
Curator
The Fairbanks House
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Meredith Vasta
Collections Steward
Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology
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Our annual NEMA conference last November was held in Stamford, CT where we celebrated NEMA’s 100th anniversary. With the help of many of our national and regional registration and collections management colleagues, Sira Dooley Fairchild (formally of the Bostonian Society) and Sara Frankel (The Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, Harvard University) planned our first ever day of service! We are so grateful to the colleagues that helped us develop and plan this important initiative. For our first year we selected the Shelton History Center and helped them with an inventory and cataloging project. We did a blog for the National Council on Public History and you can read more here: https://ncph.org/history-at-work/nema-2018-day-of-service/

Dan and NEMA’s curator’s PAG chair, Tegan Kehoe are currently planning a September workshop which will explore the how-to’s and procedural parts of the NAGPRA process, especially for museums that may not have a lot of experience with it.

And finally, after 12 years of service Meredith Vasta is stepping down as the PAG co-chair. And now my watch has ended.
Submitted by: Meredith Vasta

Report from Southeastern Registrars Association (SERA)

Chair:
Kyle Elizabeth Bryner
Senior Registrar
Crozier Fine Arts
Kylebryner@crozierfinearts.com

Vice Chair:
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Registrar
High Point Museum
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Treasurer/Membership:
Austin Bell
Curator of Collections
Marco Island Historical Society
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Secretary:
Amy Beisel
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International Museum of the Horse
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Development Chair:

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Director of Collections Management & Registration
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Collections Manager
Atlanta History Center
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State Representative Coordinator:
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SERA Scholarship Chair
Elizabeth Le
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Hunter Museum of American Art
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ELe@huntermuseum.org

SERA published the SERA News quarterly and made it available online to the public. We also maintain a very active Facebook page at www.facebook.com/seregistrars.
SERA members serve on the program committee of the Southeastern Museums Conference and submitted numerous sessions to represent the registrars and collections professionals. SERA sponsored 6 sessions at 2018 SEMC Annual Meeting in Jackson, MS. The session titles were: We like to MOVE IT!; Finders Keepers?: Abandoned Cultural Property; Wheel of Misfortune; Navigating the Insurance Claims Process; From Effigy Pipe to Punching Bag: Negotiating the Native American Object in Art Museums; and, Who Ya Gonna Call? Phonebank Outreach After Natural Disasters. SERA also sponsored the annual Registrar’s Respite, Annual Business Luncheon, and the SERA Registrar’s Tour, which went behind the scenes of the Museum of Mississippi History & Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. Thank you to Meg Cook and the collections staff at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History for a wonderful tour of the dazzling new facilities!

As of January 29, 2019, SERA has 129 active members and our Facebook page has 462 followers.

Submitted by: Kyle Bryner, SERA Chair

Report from the Registrars Committee-Western Region (RCWR)

Chair
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Registrar
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Vice Chair
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Collections Manager
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Treasurer
Cory Gooch
Chief Registrar/Head of Collections
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Secretary
Helen Fedchak
Curator of Collections
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Report of Activities – 2018
In 2018, RC-WR experienced some turnover in its Board due to unforeseen health issues. As a result, not many events were held in 2018. The Board is now back at full strength and working to continue to expand membership and influence in 2019, with a 35% surge in Membership so far since January.
CSI: Registrars Event
Last year’s CSI: Registrars (Collections Service Initiative) Event was held at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, WA. We were pleased to work with Rebecca Engelhardt, Collections & Exhibitions Manager at the MoG, to assist in re-housing glass artworks that were stored in a less-than-ideal manner. Participants were divided up into teams of two and worked together to carve out individual spaces to rehouse the delicate glass artworks in ethafoam and Nomex. Together participants retrofitted ten shelves in the Museum of Glass storage area and re-housed 41 individual pieces of glass. There were a total of 12 participants from Washington and California, and attendees included professionals with over 20 years of experience along with current students in the Museum Certificate Program at the University of Washington.

CSI: Registrars event participants after a successful day of re-housing at the Museum of Glass

Annual Business Luncheon
The annual luncheon was held last October in Tacoma, WA during the Western Museums Association’s Annual Meeting. Approximately 60 members were in attendance, and the luncheon was underwritten by the U.S. Art Company, who provided
handy flashlights for each attendee. During the business meeting, the Board members present announced that former Chair Amber King was stepping down due to health reasons. Since then, a nominating Committee has selected current Chair Katy Hess to complete Amber’s term. As a result of these health issues, the 2019 membership fee of $15 was waived for all 2018 members as compensation for the absence of events, communication, and newsletter normally provided to membership.

**Living Computers: Museum + Labs Tour**
On December 13, 2018, around a dozen members visited the Living Computers: Museum + Labs in Seattle, to get a behind-the-scenes tour of their collection storage space as well as the labs where engineers revitalize vintage computers so that visitors can experience them as they were originally used. Archivist Amelia Roberts gave a tour of the world’s largest collection of fully restored—and usable—supercomputers, mainframes, minicomputers, and microcomputers, as well as their collection of manuals, technical drawings, and other hardware and software.

**Stipend Recipients Attend Conferences**
Through RC-WR’s Stipend Program, five members attended conferences in 2018, including two attendees at the Western Museum Association conference in Tacoma, WA, two attendees at the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums conference in Minneapolis, MN, and one attendee at the European Registrars Conference in London, UK. Stipend recipients wrote inspiring essays on their experiences, which were published in RC-WR’s Spring newsletter.

**Planned Activities – 2019**

**Annual Business Luncheon**
This year’s Annual Business Luncheon will be held during WMA’s Annual Conference in Boise, ID in October. Funding for the luncheon was already been underwritten by U.S. Art Company.

**CSI: Registrars Event**
This year’s CSI: Registrars (Collections Service Initiative) event will be held in conjunction with WMA’s annual meeting in Boise, ID. The event will be hosted by and will provide assistance to the Idaho State Historical Society. Participants will work together at ISHS’s off-site facility to process a collection of long-neglected and uncatalogued Chinese objects by condition reporting, numbering, photographing, and re-housing.

**Other Events**
The new Board is conducting a Membership campaign with State Reps to increase Membership and offer unique workshops, tours, and other events like Happy Hours and
get-togethers in areas with concentrated membership such as Los Angeles, Portland, and Seattle.

Report submitted by: Katy Hess, RC-WR Chair