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MAC Fall 2018 Symposium: "From the Stacks to the Classroom"

October 12–13, 2018

Interested in developing instruction services for your archives or special collections, but not sure how to get started? This fall, visit Iowa City, a UNESCO City of Literature and home of the Iowa Hawkeyes, where the Midwest Archives Conference and the University of Iowa Libraries will partner to bring you the 2018 Fall Symposium: "From the Stacks to the Classroom."



Want to develop instruction services for an archive or special collections? Bring your collections from the stacks to the classroom! Join presenters Anna Trammell, Rachel Seale, and Cara B. Stone at this year's MAC Fall Symposium. These sessions will provide you with interactive, hands-on experiences that will prepare you for a successful instruction environment. All levels of teaching experience welcome. We will learn from each other!

WHEN October 12- 13, 2018

WHERE Iowa City, IA

To learn more and register, visit midwestarchives.org/2018-fall-symposium



Join presenters Anna Trammell, Rachel Seale, and Cara B. Stone in this one-and-a-half-day workshop that will focus on archival and special collection instruction, lesson planning, and assessment. No matter what your teaching level is, these sessions will help you prepare your archives or special collections for developing and managing a successful instruction environment for faculty

(Continued on page 4)



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October 2018

So what kind of archivist are you? Are you a snob or a distractor? A mooch or an heiress? A bureaucrat or a mensch?

According to an article that appeared recently in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (“The Delicate Art of Dealing with Your Archivist,” in the *Chronicle Review*, July 29, 2018), the many thousands of us who populate this profession fall into one or more of those six categories. The article was penned by Alice Dreger, who has since apologized for it following widespread criticism, particularly from our ranks.

Apology accepted. However, the fact that the article appeared in *CHE* to begin with disappoints me. The *Chronicle*, long regarded as a credible journal closely allied with our profession, initiated the idea for this essay; the author was quite eager to run with it. That it was intended to be humorous or was written “with affection” (as the editor put it) doesn’t minimize the fact that the essay was filled with stereotypes and maligned the essential work that we do.

This is a symptom of a larger challenge our profession continues to face. There remains a considerable misunderstanding of our calling, it seems, even among those who use our services. We may even encounter this lack of understanding among those we report to in our jobs. (Fortunately, this is not the case for me at my workplace.)

In response, we do what we can: We reach out, we educate. We make our case, we respond as needed. We rehearse an elevator talk. Following publication of the Dreger article, many of us responded; thank you.

I will paraphrase my response, which was published in *CHE*’s letters to the editor section the day following publication of Dreger’s article. In doing so, I will see her six types of archivists, and raise her seven:

The **subject specialist** has acquired a particular area of expertise, based perhaps on geographic location or discipline.

The **special collections mediator** possesses a broad understanding of the holdings in his or her department.

The **K–12 instructor and teacher’s aide** assists and supports organizers of National History Day and similar public history educational programs.

The **grief counselor** recognizes, and responds sensitively to, difficult circumstances faced by a donor.

(Continued on page 4)



Vice President's Column: MAC Meetings and Symposia Update

By Joshua Ranger, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

When our first son was small, we wanted to buy him a wall map of the United States so that he could plot our family's travels. One of the maps we considered was the scratch-off kind. It concealed each colorful state with a drab protective layer that could be scratched off lottery-ticket style. Ultimately, we didn't trust that he wouldn't scratch it off all at once in a fit of unsupervised geographic impetuosity, so we went a different direction. The idea of this map returned to me, though, when we received a proposal for the 2019 Fall Symposium.

Only one state in our region has never hosted a MAC meeting; one state we have yet to scratch off: North Dakota. The archivists of the Fargo/Moorhead community sought to end this nearly 50-year omission with an excellent and inspired proposal. Although many details are still being developed, Lisa Sjoberg and Trista Raezer-Stursa are planning a Fall Symposium designed specifically around the needs of so-called lone arrangers. With a combination of instruction and retreat-style activities, the meeting will help professionals working as their institutions' sole archivists with useful information and skill-building, all presented in the context of an understanding, supportive network of friends who really, really get it.

We are so glad that the northwest corner of our region has a convenient meeting destination, and we hope to attract a few folks from north of the border as well. That said, with Fargo's airport hosting four airlines (and Allegiant if you're coming from Orlando or Vegas!), the twin communities of Fargo and Moorhead are easy to get to from any corner of the MAC region. We hope to hold this unique event on the campus of North Dakota State University, so get those quarters ready for the last and greatest scratch-off in MAC history!

2018 Fall Symposium, Iowa City, Iowa, October 12–13, 2018

In other news, we are focusing our attention on the 2018 Fall Symposium in Iowa City in October which, depending on when you read this, is either coming up shortly or just passed (if it's the former, there still may be time to register!). Regardless, writing this in July, I am very excited for the deep dive into primary source instruction that this Symposium, to be held on the campus of the University of Iowa, will provide.

2019 Annual Meeting, Detroit, Michigan, April 3–6, 2019

We are also looking forward to the 2019 Annual Meeting in Detroit. Currently, the Program, Local Arrangements, and Education Committees are busy getting their respective details set for this meeting with its on-point-with-Detroit theme: "Innovation, Transformation, Resurgence." Our meeting venue is the skyline-defining GM Renaissance Center, conveniently located on the Detroit People Mover, which has connections across the downtown entertainment district. As the founder of Fort Pontchartrain du Détroit, Antoine Laumet de La Mothe Cadillac would have said: "C'est très cool!"

2020 Events

Finally, I want to remind everyone that spring 2020 will find us in Des Moines for our Annual Meeting. We have a newly named triad of LAC cochairs in Hilary Seo, Rosalie Gartner, and Hope Bibens, who will be working on the details in central Iowa. The Fall Symposium for that year is still a twinkle in someone's eye. Perhaps yours? If you'd like to bring the Fall Symposium to your community in 2020, please contact me. You don't need a full-blown proposal to get the ball rolling.

“From the Stacks to the Classroom”

(Continued from page 1)

and students. Sessions include how to engage students with active learning, tips for growing your instruction program, ideas for using instructional technologies in the classroom, and methods for assessing instruction programs for further success. Staff and students from the University of Iowa Special Collections will also host an open house and a Q&A panel about Iowa’s effort to train graduate students in special collections and archival instruction.

Bring your questions, concerns, and instruction experiences to share at the Symposium, and we hope to see you there! Register now at <https://www.midwestarchives.org/2018-fall-symposium>.

Between-Meeting Council Actions

On June 21, 2018, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Hilary Seo, Rosalie Gartner, and Hope Bibens as cochairs of the 2020 Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee (Des Moines, Iowa).

President's Page

(Continued from page 2)

The **knowledge developer** makes the collections—and the ensuing research—possible by seeking out additions to existing holdings.

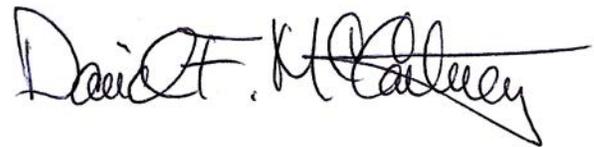
The **argument settler** tracks down information that resolves a long-standing family dispute.

The **keeper of the flame** recovers documents from disaster and ensures a future for uninterrupted research opportunities.

You, dear colleague, may well be one or all of these, and more. This list is a starting point for conversation; please add other types as they come to mind, and keep the list handy for that next opportunity to tell the rest of the world about what we do.

Results of the 2017 survey of MAC’s members—encompassing demography, our professional development interests, and more—are now up on MAC’s website. Many thanks to Alexis Braun Marks and all others who created and distributed the survey. Over 40 percent of our members completed the online survey, an excellent response rate. Thank you for your participation.

Your voice matters. Please know that we are here to listen and to respond. You will find MAC leadership’s contact information near the back of this issue, and we always look forward to receiving your input on any matter that concerns our profession.



President, Midwest Archives Conference

Archival Issues 39.1: Chock Full of Archival Goodness

By Alexandra A. A. Orchard, CA, Archival Issues Editorial Board Chair, Wayne State University

Archival Issues 39.1 is currently on its way to press, so if you have not yet received it, you will soon! As always, this issue is filled with great writing and interesting topics.

Jennifer King (George Washington University) presents the creation and successes of a no-budget, staff-designed and -led professional development discussion series at the Gelman Library Special Collections Research Center. Matt Gorzalski (Southern Illinois University Carbondale) analyzes his digital preservation practices and infrastructures survey that reviewed the landscape at midwestern four-year public colleges and universities. Finally, Carey Beam (Indiana University) and Carrie Schwier (Indiana University) discuss a foundation of Place-Based Education and a case study of it in action in the Indiana University Archives.

The issue includes eight book reviews. Two of the reviewed monographs are geared toward archival beginners—one as a general archival textbook, the other to establish a local history archives. An additional four reviewed works focus on specific aspects of archival work: managing moving images and sound collections, collaboration between cultural heritage professionals and others managing collections, and arrangement and description. The remaining two reviews cover a work on colonialism histories and Kate Theimer's *Well What Came Next?: Selections from ArchivesNext, 2007–2017*.

Have you heard? *Archival Issues* always welcomes submissions! Whether you are a new author or have published before, please consider submitting to *Archival Issues*. For questions and submissions, please contact *Archival Issues* editorial board chair Alexandra A. A. Orchard at alexandra@wayne.edu.

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MAC Seeks Nominations for Presidents' Award

The MAC Presidents' Award was established in 1986 as a means for MAC to recognize significant contributions to the archival profession by individuals, institutions, and organizations not directly involved in archival work but knowledgeable about its purpose and value. A committee comprising the three most recent past presidents of MAC chooses recipients based on nominations submitted by committees in each of the 13 states in the MAC region. Each state committee may put forward only one nomination per year, but as many as three awards may be presented each year. Recipients are invited to attend the Members' Meeting held at MAC's Annual Meeting to receive their awards. To nominate someone, please complete the nomination form on the MAC website, and address it to the appropriate state chair no later than **January 31, 2019**. Full contact information for the state chairs can be found on the MAC website under "MAC Presidents' Award" at <http://www.midwestarchives.org/presidents-award>, along with a list of the award's past recipients. For additional information about the award and guidelines, please contact Ellen Swain at eswain@illinois.edu.

Nominate Someone Deserving the Distinguished Service Award

MAC's Distinguished Service Award recognizes the otherwise unsung contributions of our MAC friends and colleagues. Please take a moment to think of all the people who have been quietly contributing their time and talents to MAC: the members who serve on committees, those who are ready to fill in as last-minute workshop leaders for session participants unable to attend or who happily work the registration table when they learn that someone has just canceled, or those who can whip up a quick article for the newsletter when you need to fill that last quarter-page. Now take a few minutes to put into words why MAC should recognize at least one of those people, and submit your description via the MAC Distinguished Service Award nomination form, which is available on the website at www.midwestarchives.org/assets/documents/dsaform.pdf. The Distinguished Service Award was created to recognize individuals who give generously of their time and talents with little or no formal recognition and who likely have never served in an elected MAC position. Since its inception, MAC has given this award to a very small group of deserving individuals. The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2019. For guidelines, please visit www.midwestarchives.org/distinguished-service-award, or, for more information, contact Ellen Swain at eswain@illinois.edu.

Join us in Detroit for MAC 2019!

The Local Arrangements and Program Committees in conjunction with MAC's Education Committee are preparing an engaging schedule of sessions, tours, and workshops focused on the theme "Innovation, Transformation, Resurgence." Long known as a city of pioneering industry and activism, today Detroit is "America's Comeback City" on account of its imaginative revitalization of architecture and public spaces, community-building initiatives, and a reinvigorated sense of place.

Mark your calendars for April 3–6, 2019, and join us at the Marriott Renaissance Center, which is located in the heart of downtown Detroit near the beautiful RiverWalk. The city's artsy neighborhoods, green spaces, buzzing rhythms, and good eats will be within easy access via the conveniently located People Mover. Stay tuned for more details, which will be available in the next *MAC Newsletter* and on the MAC website. We look forward to seeing you in Detroit!

Call for Emeritus Member Nominations

Each year, the MAC Membership Committee solicits nominations from the MAC membership for candidates for the status of Emeritus Member. Nominees must be retired from archival work and have been MAC members for a minimum of 10, not necessarily consecutive, years. More important, nominees must have made significant and substantial contributions to MAC during their archival careers. The Emeritus Membership Award and special membership status of Emeritus Member were created to recognize those who have contributed to the success, growth, and visibility of MAC through committee work, programming, outreach, and governance. The award aims to recognize those who work behind the scenes for MAC, as well as those who have served in an elected office. To nominate someone, download the application and instructions at www.midwestarchives.org/assets/documents/emeritus_form.pdf, and send the completed form to Matthew Gorzalski at mgorzalski@lib.siu.edu. The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2019. Additional information is available on the MAC website under “MAC Emeritus Membership Award.”



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2018 Archie Motley Scholarship Recipients Thank MAC

Christina Min

I am very thankful to be a recipient of the 2018 Midwest Archives Conference Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Minority Students. Diversity in archives is incredibly important, and I am honored to help carry on the legacy of Archie Motley through this award.

I am originally from a small town in California's San Joaquin Valley and come from a single-parent Korean American household. I am also a burn survivor and have been for 20 years and counting. How I grew up plays a large role in where I am today. From an early age, I received support from local burn survivor foundations and was very fortunate to meet people from various backgrounds going through similar circumstances. This experience gave me an early introduction to representation and ultimately led me to pursue a career in archives.

As an undergraduate at the University of California, Santa Barbara, I spent a lot of time working at the on-campus college-community radio station, KCSB-FM. I recruited and worked with students and members of the community to help them produce a show that represented their interests and their backgrounds. This experience, as well my time as an archival intern for an independent media organization in New York, taught me how history and society's views could be skewed easily by recording and sharing only one side of a story.

Currently, I am a graduate student at the University of Michigan's School of Information and am focusing on archives and libraries. I interned at the university's Digital Preservation Lab this past summer, where I created workflows for and imaged removable media. During the school year, I also provide reference services in the special collections library. Receiving the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship means I will be able to further explore my interest in the archives field. Thank you to everyone from the Midwest Archives Conference for making this possible.



Jasmine Smith

I am extremely honored and grateful to be a recipient of the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship. As a master's student at the University of Michigan School of Information, I am specializing in library and archives assessment and digital curation. I am particularly interested in archaeological archives and museum records.

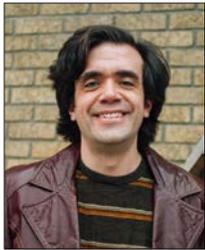
I first became interested in archives as a kid while spending time at my great-grandparents' house. My great-grandmother kept magazines and newspapers from decades before I was born, and I always enjoyed looking through her old, fragile papers and organizing everything into folders. Only later did I discover that exploring and organizing old papers and print materials was a career option when, at the end of high school, I learned of our city's historical society and archives. I became a volunteer in the archives while in college and discovered how a community archives works. As a volunteer in the archives, I became passionate about preserving historical documents and making them accessible for people in the community to use for research.

During my undergraduate career, I studied anthropology with a focus on archaeology at Michigan State University. As an archaeology intern for the university's Campus Archaeology Program, I began doing archival research to learn the history behind the sites on campus that we had excavated. This was my first time conducting archival research, and I became interested in how the preservation of records at the university's archives provided me with background knowledge of the changes to the campus over time. I also grew interested in how the Campus Archaeology Program managed and preserved the records we created during excavations.

Now, at the University of Michigan, I am learning the theories and best practices behind these interests, and I am practicing the skills I am learning at several part-time jobs and internships at the University of Michigan History of Art Visual Resources Collection, the University of Michigan Library Papyrology Department, and the Smithsonian Libraries.

After obtaining my master's degree, my goal is to study Egyptology at the doctoral level and to explore issues within archaeological archives. Thank you to MAC for supporting me on this journey!

2018 Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship Recipient Thanks MAC



Matthew Prigge

It is with delight that I thank the Midwest Archives Conference and the Louisa Bowen Scholarship Committee for honoring me with their 2018 Bowen Scholarship. Not long ago I decided to pursue a career in archives, but I have long known the value of a well-kept archives. In working toward my master's degree in history, I spent long hours researching in various repositories. I found archives to be peaceful and calming places and was taken with the vastness of what they had to offer. I was also impressed with the work of many archivists. One in particular, at the Milwaukee Public Library's central branch, was incredibly helpful to me in researching my master's thesis by locating an entire cartful of documents about my topic that had never even been processed. She had remembered seeing them in the sub-basement of the building while looking for something else. Her find extended my research at the library by over a month, but provided information that was invaluable to my final product.

It was this appreciation for the work of the many wonderful archivists who made my research possible that prompted me to enter into the MLIS program at UW–Milwaukee, and I am very thankful to MAC for helping me along in my academic journey. I worked behind the scenes at the Milwaukee Public Library as a volunteer this past summer, and this fall, for my fieldwork, I am helping to open up access to its vast holdings for another generation of researchers and writers. I am very much looking forward to continuing to engage in upcoming MAC events. Thank you again for this honor.

2018 Emeritus Scholarship Winner Gives Thanks



Sarah Wade

I would like to thank the MAC Emeritus Scholarship Committee for its generous award, which allowed me to attend MAC's 2018 Annual Meeting in Chicago, "Blurring Boundaries, Crossing Lines." The workshops on electronic records and sessions on diversity and inclusion were invaluable for my professional development, providing me the occasion to learn from colleagues working in a variety of repositories and to participate in conversations on topics integral to my work.

At the time of the conference, I was a processing archivist at the University of Kentucky and secretary for the Kentucky Council on Archives (KCA). As such, I was eager to attend MAC's sessions on arranging and describing born-digital materials, which are increasingly prevalent in contemporary archival collections and constitute the bulk of the KCA board's working files. In the workshop, "Going Rogue: Practical Hacks (and Pitfalls) for Electronic Records Processing," University of Minnesota archivists Lara Friedman-Shedlov and Lisa Calahan detailed the work of their Electronic Records Task Force, a collaborative group charged with developing accession and preservation workflows for born-digital records. Friedman-Shedlov and Calahan summarized the pros and cons of a variety of tools they had tested, which I found helpful as an archivist with limited experience of the many programs available to facilitate the management of born-digital materials. It was reassuring to hear about their success despite a lack of funding for digital processing and an extensive backlog of born-digital materials—circumstances with which many MAC members are likely familiar. It was also valuable to see how thoroughly the task force documented its project; this will allow archivists at the University of Minnesota and beyond to learn from their experience.

In addition to the sessions on born-digital records, I attended MAC's sessions on diversity and inclusion within the archives profession. As a processing archivist, my day-to-day work can be isolating at times. As such, it was wonderful to have the opportunity at MAC to hear firsthand from colleagues throughout the Midwest about issues impacting archival practices and repositories.

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News from the Midwest

Assistant Editors: Alexandra Bisio, University of Oregon, and Lois Hamill, Northern Kentucky University. Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Alexandra at bisio@uoregon.edu and items from Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Lois at hamilll@nku.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

ILLINOIS

Chicago Public Library

The Chicago Public Library (CPL) recently published 10,000 photographs from the Chicago Park District Archives online at <https://cdm16818.contentdm.oclc.org/customizations/global/pages/content.php?id=ChicagoParks>. This selection shows everything from building the parks to playing in them. It includes images of the 1959 Pan-American Games in Portage Park, Mayor Richard J. Daley riding a tandem bicycle in Ogden Park, the sheep who trimmed the grass in Washington Park's grand meadow, and more. Visit the library in person to view 50,000 additional photos that document events like the first Special Olympics held in Burnham Park's Soldier Field in 1968 (#SpecialOlympics50), Martin Luther King's 1966 Freedom Rally, the 1933–1934 Century of Progress World's Fair, and 1968 Democratic National Convention protests in Grant Park. The photographs also picture everyday enjoyment of features like the Garfield Park Conserva-



Preschool, Union Park, June 17, 1936, photographer unknown. Chicago Park District Archives, Chicago Public Library, Photograph 102_004_002.

tory, the Lincoln Park Zoo, miles of beaches, and more. Visit CPL to view as well 100,000 Chicago Park District architectural and landscape drawings representing the entire park system and its long history.

Northeastern Illinois University

Northeastern Illinois University has digitized and made available the transcript of the Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) hearing that was held on campus in September 1981. This federal commission was formed in 1980 to officially investigate Executive Order 9066 (which initiated the internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants) and its impact on former internees and their families. These hearings were held across the country, and NEIU was chosen as the Chicago site for the hearing.

The transcript is segmented according to individual testimonies and subsequent Q+A sessions with members of the commission; the files are titled accordingly. The link to this keyword-searchable collection is http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/nei_japan.

Northwestern University

Northwestern University Archives held a tea party on May 18, 2018, to celebrate the marriage of Northwestern alum Meghan Markle Duchess of Sussex ('03) to Prince Harry of Wales. The public was invited to partake in this occasion with a number of activities including writing best wishes that have been assembled for a scrapbook, locating Markle in a group yearbook photo of Kappa Gamma

Sorority, creating paper fascinators, and learning about Princess Diana's visit to Northwestern in 1996 and Queen Elizabeth's visit to Chicago in 1959. This was also an opportunity to display commemorative engagement and wedding souvenirs that University Archives has been collecting since the engagement was announced in November 2017. The new collection includes cover features of Markle on British, Canadian, and American magazines; an assortment of Markle biographies, comic books, paper dolls, coloring books, and tea towels; an Emma Bridgewater mug; a Buckingham Palace commemorative plate; a replica of Markle's engagement ring; and a postcard, keyring, leather bookmark, tea spoon, bell, coins, and buttons. We're always looking for new additions to this collection!



A student views the display at the tea party. Photographer: Tania Anahi Vargas Aguero.

INDIANA

Indiana State Library

The Indiana State Library received a \$74,880 NHPRC grant to support the digitization of Will H. Hays's papers ranging from 1914 to 1954. Hays served as the Republi-

can National Committee chairman from 1918 to 1921 and was the campaign manager for President Warren Harding in 1920. Harding appointed Hays as postmaster general in 1921. He later became president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America from 1922 to 1945, where he established the “Hays Code” of acceptable content for motion pictures produced for a public audience. A film from the collection was recently digitized and can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtcnJmNDztM>. The Indiana State Library was the only state library to receive an NHPRC grant in the category of Access to Historical Records. For more information, contact Bethany Fiechter, Rare Books and Manuscripts supervisor, at 317-234-8621 or at bfiechter@library.in.gov.



Portrait of Will Hays. Will H. Hays collection (L560), Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library.

Purdue University Northwest

The Purdue University Northwest Archives and Special Collections is cur-

rently undertaking its first large-scale digitization project. In a partnership with the Internet Archive, Purdue is digitizing student newspaper collections published under the school’s former titles—Purdue University Calumet and Purdue University North Central. The Purdue Calumet newspaper collection ranges from 1954 to 2014 and the Purdue North Central student newspapers from 1967 to 2012. Once this is completed, archivists hope to digitize all the course catalogs, alumni magazines, and literary magazines.

IOWA

Iowa State University Library Special Collections & University Archives

Iowa State University Library Special Collections & University Archives’ (SCUA) new exhibition *Activist Agriculture: Farm Protest in Iowa, 1929–1969* is open now through January 2019. In this exhibit, curators take a closer look at mobilization of farmers to confront and obstruct tuberculosis testing of cattle during the Iowa Cow Wars of the early 1930s and the commodity holding actions of the National Farmers Organization in the 1960s. The exhibit covers the actions and methods used by the farmers as well as how they leveraged the media to affect change. The exhibition also explores the parallel struggles of migrant farm workers to improve wages and working conditions, efforts both to pass legislation in Iowa in support of migrant farm workers and to support the Delano Grape Strike in California, and the related international boycott. The digital exhibit is available at <https://exhibits.lib.iastate.edu/activist-agriculture>.

KENTUCKY

Berea College

Radio programs that informed and entertained many rural Kentuckians from 1936 into the mid-1950s can now be accessed through the WHAS Radio Historical Collection in Hutchins Library’s Department of Special Collections and Archives at Berea College. The recordings document a wide range of state, national, and world issues and events. For instance, eight Kentucky governors can be heard navigating the rough-and-tumble of Kentucky election campaigns. The collection also includes World War II news updates and presidential visits to the state. Entertainment programs include the Kentucky-based *Renfro Valley Barn Dance*, Louisville Symphony performances, African American jug band music, musical variety shows, soap operas, and sporting events, particularly the Kentucky Derby. Louisville-based WHAS created the 1,500 lacquer-coated glass- and aluminum-based discs containing the programs. They have been digitized with the support of an anonymous donor and can be heard through links in the collection



Sixteen-inch radio recording disk of President Truman’s 1949 announcement of Russia’s first atomic explosion

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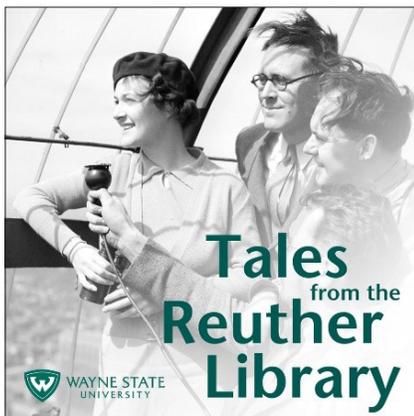
(Continued from page 11)

finding aid at <https://berea.library-host.com/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=213&q=whas>.

MICHIGAN

Wayne State University

In May, the Walter P. Reuther Library debuted its podcast, *Tales from the Reuther Library*. Archivists and researchers at the Reuther Library share stories from the collections about the American labor movement, metropolitan Detroit, and Wayne State University. Early episodes discussed the life and influence of United Farm Workers organizer Larry Itliong; Nelson Mandela's 1990 US tour; famed architect Minoru Yamasaki's influence on Wayne State's campus; and photographer Richard Copley's very first assignment documenting the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. A special episode for Halloween will feature ghost stories found in the Reuther's Folklore Archive, a sizable collection of student projects documenting urban folk traditions in the United States. New episodes are released every other Thursday (hopefully!). Subscribe to *Tales from the Reuther Library* on iTunes, Google Play, Stitcher, Overcast, and other podcast apps, or listen at <http://reuther.wayne.edu/podcasts>.



Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

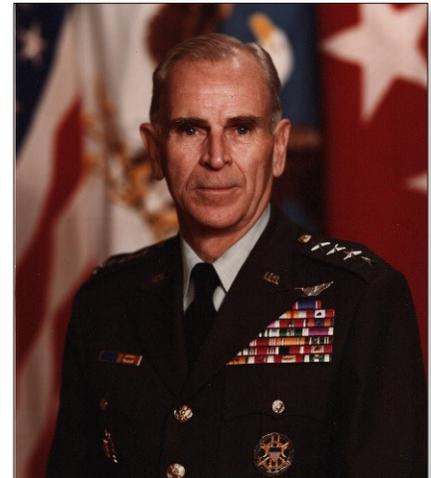
Following the Father's Day 2018 flood in Michigan's Copper Country, archivists from the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections have been providing consultations and disaster recovery assistance for local cultural heritage sites. Archivists Emily Riippa and Allison Neely have dedicated many hours to the efforts to save records at the Houghton County Historical Society (HCHS) in Lake Linden. University archivist Lindsay Hiltunen, board member of the Michigan Archival Association (MAA), presented a check for \$500 to the HCHS board on behalf of the MAA board. The check will be used to replace some of the damaged archival shelving, an effort which has been led by the HCHS and the Keweenaw National Historical Park staff. In addition, Hiltunen did two days of archival consulting work with the 12th District Circuit Court at the Houghton County Courthouse. Records impacted by the flood are currently being restored and digitized.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Military Museum

The Minnesota Military Museum has recently received a donation of the papers and records of General John W. Vessey. The general is most notable for his service as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the presidency of Ronald Reagan. The collection covers the general's prestigious 46-year military career (1939–1985) and includes items related to his work in returning POWs from the Vietnam War. The Minnesota Military Museum is very

proud and excited to include this collection from one of Minnesota's most decorated veterans.



General John W. Vessey Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1982–1985

Red Wing Shoes Wall of Honor Exhibit

The Red Wing Shoe Company Corporate Archives played an influential role in the Wall of Honor exhibit at the Red Wing flagship store and museum in Red Wing, Minnesota. The Wall of Honor showcases customers and their footwear. Utilizing recently digitized testimonials that date back to the 1920s, the archives provided the capstone testimonials used in the exhibit. These testimonials include the experience of a construction manager who cleaned up the rubble from 9/11 and believes that his boots saved his life. The archives reached out to this customer and conducted an interview with him. He came to Red Wing for recognition as a Wall of Honor honoree and to meet the employees that built his boots. Regional newscasters filmed the unveiling of the Wall of Honor and spoke with several honorees. The archives both provided materials for the exhibit and captured the events surrounding the Wall of Honor.

MISSOURI

State Historical Society of Missouri

The State Historical Society of Missouri recently completed digitization of photographic prints from the *Missouri Ruralist* Photographs collection. Covering the late 1930s through 1960, the photos document the increased industrialization of farming, the use of pesticides and herbicides, agricultural extension programs, veterans' farm training, 4-H, Future Farmers of America, the Missouri State Fair, farm demonstrations and sales, local fairs and festivals, and new, innovative farming techniques. Caption information transcribed from the *Missouri Ruralist* identifies many of the people, locations, and events depicted. Over 4,000 photographs from this state-focused agriculture periodical are now available online through the society's digital collections at <https://bit.ly/2KXGzYe>.



"We Enjoyed Your Visit: Busy spot on Missouri State fairgrounds was the friendly Missouri Ruralist tent. Located on the main street north of the Missouri Conservation Commission's building, it was visited by thousands of Missouri farm people." Published September 9, 1950. Missouri Ruralist Photographs, P0030-1119. The State Historical Society of Missouri.

NEBRASKA

University of Nebraska at Omaha

With support from Humanities Nebraska (HN) and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, UNO Libraries' Archives & Special Collections launched the grant-funded LGBTQ+ Voices: The Queer Omaha Archives Oral History Project in 2017. Luke Wegener collected 20 interviews documenting the wide-ranging experiences of local LGBTQIA+ community members. LGBTQ+ Voices began with an oral history workshop led by Jade Rogers offering community members instruction and guidance on developing a project and on questions, agreements, recording devices, and other best practices to help them begin. Completed LGBTQ+ Voices interviews are featured in posts on the *Omaha Oral History Blogs*. Interviews are continuing with support from additional private funds raised by the library. The interviews are being shared with fellow Nebraskans and the world using the Oral History Metadata Synchronizer (OHMS) with links from Archives & Special Collections' CONTENTdm and ArchivesSpace sites and the Queer Omaha Archives Omeka.net site. For more information, visit <https://queeromahaarchives.omeka.net> or <https://www.unomaha.edu/criss-library/archives-and-special-collections>.



OHIO

Archdiocese of Cincinnati Archives

With grant funding from the State Library of Ohio and the Hamilton County Genealogical Society, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Archives has digitized issues of the *Catholic Telegraph* from its founding in 1831 through 1885, which are now available at <http://thecatholicnewsarchive.org>. The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is also digitizing the newspaper from 1831 to 1922 to be posted on its Digital Library site (<http://digital.cincinnati.library.org/digital>). The *Catholic Telegraph* began in 1831, one of the oldest diocesan publications in the United States and a "treasure trove of information" to researchers, says archivist Sarah Patterson. "Having the newspaper online with the Public Library and the CNA means that access to the newspaper is greatly increased to researchers and the general public, which is a primary goal for the archives. The *Catholic Telegraph* is one of our most heavily used records by researchers." There are plans to pursue additional funding to digitize further content of the newspaper.

Denison University

Archon Day 2018 was held at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, on June 29 with participants from

(Continued on page 14)

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institutions in Illinois, Minnesota, Kansas, and Ohio. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the future viability of Archon, the availability of alternative tools and their utility for Archon users in particular, and the Archon Users Collaborative work in three to five years. The group formed teams focusing on research, code development, and user community communication. Each team has specific objectives and welcomes new team members. Ideas generated include: explore updating Archon code to work with PHP 7, building off what Calvin College has already completed; hold Archon Day 2019 virtually and work on communication to get others outside of the Midwest actively involved; create a comprehensive directory of Archon users to include international institutions for posting on the website; find partners and look for funding for future development. For the full meeting report and for more information, visit <http://archonusers.blogspot.com>.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Archives

The spring 2018 issue of *South Dakota History* features an article by South Dakota State Archives manuscript/photo archivist Matthew T. Reitzel titled “Genevieve Trask and the Double Christening of the USS *South Dakota*.” In 1941, Genevieve Trask, Pierre resident, requested that a champagne bottle she’d been gifted in 1912 be used to christen the US Navy battleship USS *South Dakota*. Sponsor of the christening South Dakota First Lady Vera Bushfield accepted the bottle. It was feared, however, that Trask’s bottle, only “half-sized,” would not break properly. A “full-sized” bottle was purchased, and

both bottles christened the battleship, resulting in a special double christening on June 7, 1941, at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation quays in Camden, New Jersey. The South Dakota State Archives holds a scrapbook of correspondence, news clippings, and photographs created by Trask, as well as her diaries and photographs of the USS *South Dakota*.



The US Navy’s battleship, USS South Dakota, awaits its double christening and launching at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation quays in Camden, New Jersey, on June 7, 1941. Photo courtesy South Dakota State Historical Society.

WISCONSIN

Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes

The Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes Archives in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, received a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation to create new 16mm prints and digital copies of its film, *Decision for Happiness*. Created in 1958–1959 as part of the congregation’s centennial celebrations, the film depicts a young woman’s journey through the religious formation process. The film was

used as a recruitment and orientation tool and documents daily life in the convent, as well as investment and profession ceremonies. It features interior and exterior views of the now-demolished CSA motherhouse and campus, as well as scenes from the city and Lake Winnebago. The film is available for viewing on the CSA website at <http://www.csasisters.org/resources/videos.cfm>.

University of Wisconsin–Madison

The University Archives was recently awarded a \$12,000 grant from the local Evjue Foundation to digitize 650 unique and at-risk videotapes in the *Nothing to Hide* Archive. In 1981, David Runyon created *Nothing to Hide*, a weekly television program that aired on WYOU community television. The show focused on covering LGBTQ+ issues on both the national and local levels and featured national, international, and local figures such as Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, Angela Davis, Howard Zinn, Toni Morrison, George Mosse, Tammy Baldwin, and Dick Wagner among others. The program ran for 20 years and is a video record of historically important events in Wisconsin and the United States. Currently, the content is preserved on now-fragile and decaying magnetic media. Digitizing these U-Matic and VHS tapes will allow the UW–Archives to save content and make it available before it’s lost. For more information, visit <https://www.library.wisc.edu/news/2018/05/30/nothing-to-hide-archive>. The University Archives is pleased to announce that the Nellie Y. McKay papers are processed and open for research. McKay joined the faculty at UW–Madison in 1978 and helped establish an African American literature curriculum in

the Department of Afro-American Studies. Her work focused on black women's literature and multicultural women's writings. She published more than 60 essays, and book and journal articles on such writers as Harriet Jacobs, Ida B. Wells, Zora Neale Hurston, and Alice Walker. In 1996, she co-edited the *Norton Anthology of African-American Literature*, one of the first works to canonize black American literature, with Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr. McKay's papers span 13.3 cubic feet and include personal and professional correspondence, manuscripts and writings, research files, and course materials. Notably, the collection includes the editor's manual of the *Norton Anthology of African-American Literature* with notes from Gates, McKay, and other editors, and details the criteria for inclusion in the anthology. The finding aid for the collection will be available in fall 2018. For further information, contact uwarchiv@library.wisc.edu.



Photograph courtesy of University Archives, University of Wisconsin–Madison

US Province Archives Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

A Historical Retrospective Pictorial Exhibit, focusing on US immigration issues as viewed from the perspective of 95 years of the apostolic ministries of the Congregation of the Priests of

the Sacred Heart of Jesus (SCJs or Dehonians), a Roman Catholic Religious Order of Men serving through the community charism of apostolic service to poor and marginalized US populations. The exhibit was created for the US Province's June 2018 triennial Provincial Leadership Election Assembly held at the Provincialate in Hales Corners, Wisconsin. It includes a selection of items representing regional US apostolates to Native Americans (South Dakota), African Americans (northern Mississippi, Detroit, St. Louis, East Chicago, Indiana), and Hispanic Americans (primarily in Texas, Mississippi, Indiana) residing in various Catholic dioceses, as well as to seminaries-formation houses widely dispersed across the country. The *Retrospective* will also be featured at a major aca-

ademic symposium sponsored by the Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology on the topic of Pope Francis's papacy to be held October 8–11, 2018.

CORRECTION

The July 2018 issue of the *MAC Newsletter* erroneously included an item in the News from the Midwest column about an Iowa State University Library Special Collections & University Archives exhibit, "*This movement for a more beautiful Iowa: The Early Years of Iowa's State Park System*." This information came from a previous issue and was included by editorial error. We apologize for any inconvenience.



Photo retrospective on display at the US Provincialate Offices, June 2018. Photo by US Province Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, US Province, Hales Corners, WI.

Archival Resources on the Web

Assistant Editor: Jolie Braun, Ohio State University. Contact Jolie at braun.338@osu.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

To Boldly Go: The Future of Fanwork and Fan Culture Preservation

By Laney Knight

What Are Fanworks and Why Are They Important?

The word “fanwork” may be unfamiliar, yet you may recognize the idea by other names: adaptations, retellings, reimaginations, anecdotes, and allegories. All share the same basic concept: they are works that use preexisting source materials as a starting point for new narratives. While fanworks are not new, the term “fanwork” is relatively recent and became popular with the widespread use of the Internet. It generally refers to any sort of user-generated content—whether written work, visual art, or interactive media—based on a book, movie, television show, or musical group.

The popularity of fanworks is simple: people want more stories and new adventures of beloved characters, or want to see new characters and ideas within a familiar narrative. The desire to create homages to old tales and to re-enliven favorite characters, tropes, and plots is an old one and has been expressed in writing, art, and even music, some of which museums, archives, and heritage institutions around the world have preserved. Today, thanks to the media and technology available, fanworks are being created in record numbers. This is exciting for fans, but potentially challenging for those attempting to preserve these works.

A Brief History of Fan Clubs and Fanzines

According to fan historians, one of the first, most visible, and active fan clubs for popular media in the United States developed around *Star Trek: The Original Series*, which aired in 1966. While geographic location often limited much interaction among likeminded groups, a rich culture emerged, mostly comprised of well-educated women interested in science and science fiction.¹ These groups debated and disseminated their ideas about the *Star Trek* universe through self-printed pamphlets known as fanzines, which were filled with stories, art, and discussions about the television show.

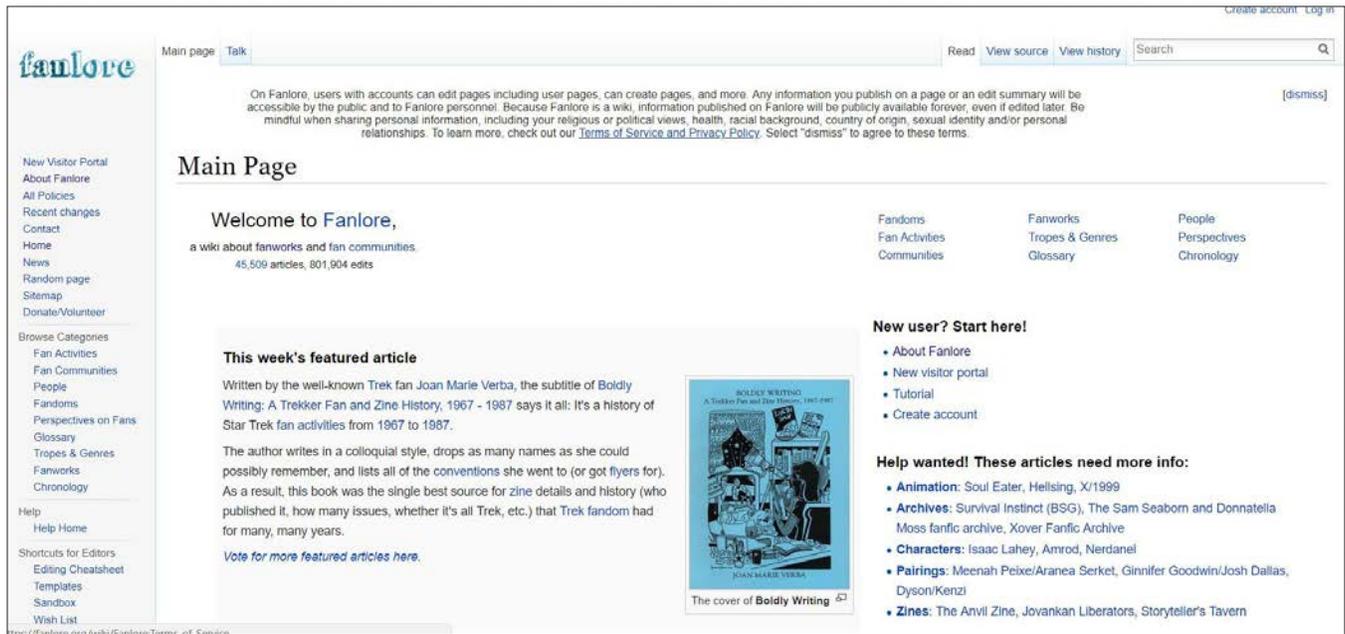
With the rise of the Internet in the 1990s, fan groups increasingly moved online, where they could circulate their content through a new digital format that had become all the rage: mailing lists. Now they could share their work regardless of location, allowing more fans to come together to enjoy and create more content.

Today, fans have moved from mailing lists to publishing their work online, either managing their own websites or posting to third-party platforms. The Internet has been a catalyst for the rapid growth of fanworks and their corresponding communities, and no longer are fans limited to their geographic area or circulating printed copies of materials. Archivists can easily recognize the problem with this: an almost impossible amount of records is being created in a multitude of formats, some in danger of loss and degradation depending on format, web host, and constantly changing terms of service agreements on various online platforms.

The Organization for Transformative Works

What is being done to preserve born-digital fanworks? One organization at the forefront of these efforts is the **Organization for Transformative Works** (OTW), which can be found at <http://www.transformativeworks.org>. The OTW is “a nonprofit organization established by fans to serve the interests of fans by providing access to and preserving the history of fanworks and fan culture in its myriad forms,” which believes that the history of modern fanworks is rooted in “a primarily female culture” and that it is important to preserve “these non-mainstream expressions of cultural identity.”² To this end, the OTW sponsors **Open Doors**, which offers “shelter to at-risk fannish content.”³ The goal is to identify fanworks and artifacts of fan culture at risk of being lost, destroyed, or degraded as platforms and formats disappear or become obsolete with the intent to archive and preserve them for posterity.

The main projects that fall under Open Doors are the **Fan Culture Preservation Project** and the **GeoCities Rescue Project**. The OTW joined forces with the Special Collections Department at the University of Iowa to create the Fan Culture Preservation Project, <http://www.transformativeworks.org/fan-culture-preservation-project>. Its mission was to archive, preserve, and protect transformative fanworks. The project spanned 1979 to 2013 and comprises over 60 linear feet of materials. The focus is primarily fanzines, but some collections also contain other types of materials, including videos, artwork, correspondence, journals, and artifacts. Although no digitization initiatives for these collections exist at



Main page of Fanlore, a wiki dedicated to fanwork communities

present, users may browse detailed finding aids to learn more about the contents.

One of the OTW's most well-known projects is **Fanlore**, https://fanlore.org/wiki/Main_Page, a wiki with a mission "to engage fans from a wide variety of communities that create and enjoy fanworks, to provide them with a platform to record and share their histories, experiences and traditions, for both themselves and others."⁴ Fanlore facilitates the preservation of fanwork history via an engaged community of users who edit and contribute content. Categories include Fan Activities, Fan Communities, People, Perspectives on Fans, Tropes and Genres, Fanworks, and Glossary. In May 2015, the American Folklife Center, part of the US Library of Congress, chose Fanlore to be archived as part of the Digital Culture Web Archive. Nicole Saylor, head of the American Folklife Center, explained that Fanlore was selected because "fandom enacts so many of the key elements of folklore and vernacular culture . . . where communities had worked to synthesize, organize and collect examples of practice."⁵

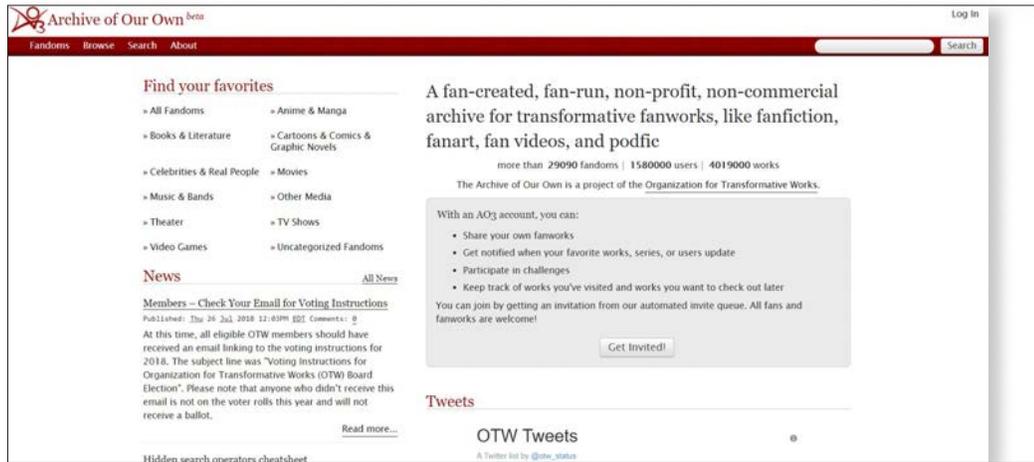
Integrated with Fanlore is one of the OTW's other major projects: the GeoCities Rescue Project, <http://www.transformativeworks.org/geocities-rescue-project>. GeoCities was a web hosting service created in 1994 and purchased in 1999 by Yahoo.⁶ Ten years after the acquisition, Yahoo announced that it would be shutting down GeoCities in every region except Japan.⁷ Over 38 million websites

were shut down in 2009. This project intends to preserve fan-related content originally hosted on GeoCities sites by transferring fanwork archives to Fanlore or to other OTW preservation projects. Various fanwork archives have been saved thanks to this project, including art, fiction, and fan videos for media such as *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, *Star Trek: Voyager*, *Man from U.N.C.L.E.*, *Doctor Who*, and *Lord of the Rings*.

Another of OTW's large projects is **Archive of Our Own** (AO3), <https://archiveofourown.org>. Launched in November of 2009, AO3 now boasts over 1.5 million users who have produced over 4 million fanworks in almost 30,000 different fan communities. Users may browse communities by category: Anime and Manga, Books and Literature, Cartoons and Comics and Graphic Novels, Movies, TV Shows, and Video Games. Some only include a single fanwork, while others number fanworks in the hundreds of thousands. AO3 differs from other fanwork sites, which might be created for a variety of reasons without consideration of long-term preservation, as it is hosted and maintained by the OTW, whose main mission is the preservation of fanworks and fan culture for posterity. AO3 regularly works in conjunction with the OTW to ensure that the site and its contents will not be lost, degraded, or altered. It is also constantly updating its user interface for ease of searching, publishing,

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Homepage of Archive of Our Own (AO3), a site focused on preserving fanworks and fan culture

and fan communication, with emphasis on upholding metadata quality standards. In fact, AO3 stands as one of the first—if not the only—fanwork archives to employ a controlled tag vocabulary. In 2013, AO3 was recognized as “. . . the most carefully curated, sanely organized, easily browsable and searchable nonprofit collection of fan fiction on the Web” by *Time*.⁸ This attention to quality has drawn fans from around the globe, creating an extremely popular and active platform for them to create, share, and collaborate. AO3 has done what no other fanwork platform has: created a living archives with preservation policies in place to ensure content longevity in a rapidly changing digital environment.

The Future of Fanworks

Some might wonder why fanworks are important. Why do the endless adventures of Kirk and Spock matter? Why do we need to save someone’s novel-length interpretation about how the Doctor really feels about the Master? What value is there in a work where James Bond gives up his License to Kill to retire and open a coffee shop?

At first glance, these creations may seem odd or esoteric, but fanworks are evidence of something incredibly human. Fanworks use the well-defined lines of a particular narrative to open doors to themes and topics not represented in mainstream media. Furthermore, many creators of fanworks are women, people of color, people who identify as LGBTQIA+, disabled persons, indigenous people, and other groups whose voices are not well represented in the creative and publishing industries.

Preserving these works is a monumental but essential task. The OTW is critical in this regard, preserving old

fanworks in danger of being lost to platform obsolescence or deletion, while simultaneously maintaining stable, solid platforms that actively archive new content as it is created. The OTW has started to change the way we think about fanworks and their importance and is constantly evolving as technologies, laws, and the needs of fans evolve. It could be said it is an organization with a mission similar to

that of the iconic USS *Enterprise*: to boldly go where no one has gone before!

Notes

1. Francesca Coppa, “Brief History of Media Fandom,” in *Fan Fiction and Fan Communities in the Age of the Internet: New Essays*, ed. Karen Hellekson and Kristine Busse (Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2006), 45.
2. “What We Believe,” Organization for Transformative Works, http://www.transformativeworks.org/what_we_believe.
3. “Open Doors,” Organization for Transformative Works, <http://opendoors.transformativeworks.org>.
4. “Fanlore:About,” June 11, 2012, <https://fanlore.org/wiki/Fanlore:About>.
5. “May 2015 Newsletter, Volume 91,” Organization for Transformative Works, <http://www.transformativeworks.org/may-2015-newsletter-volume-91>.
6. Karen Kaplan and Charles Piller, “Yahoo to Buy GeoCities for \$3.9 Billion in Stock,” *Los Angeles Times*, January 29, 1999, <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/jan/29/business/fi-2730>.
7. Geoff Fox, “Yahoo Sets the Date of GeoCities’ Death,” *PC Magazine*, July 10, 2009, <https://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2350024,00.asp>.
8. Lev Grossman, “Check out Archive of Our Own on TIME’s 50 Best Websites List,” May 1, 2013, <https://web.archive.org/web/20160313145205/http://techland.time.com/2013/05/06/50-best-websites-2013/slide/archive-of-our-own>.

Electronic Currents

Assistant Editor: Sarah Dorpinghaus, University of Kentucky. Contact Sarah at sarah.dorpinghaus@uky.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

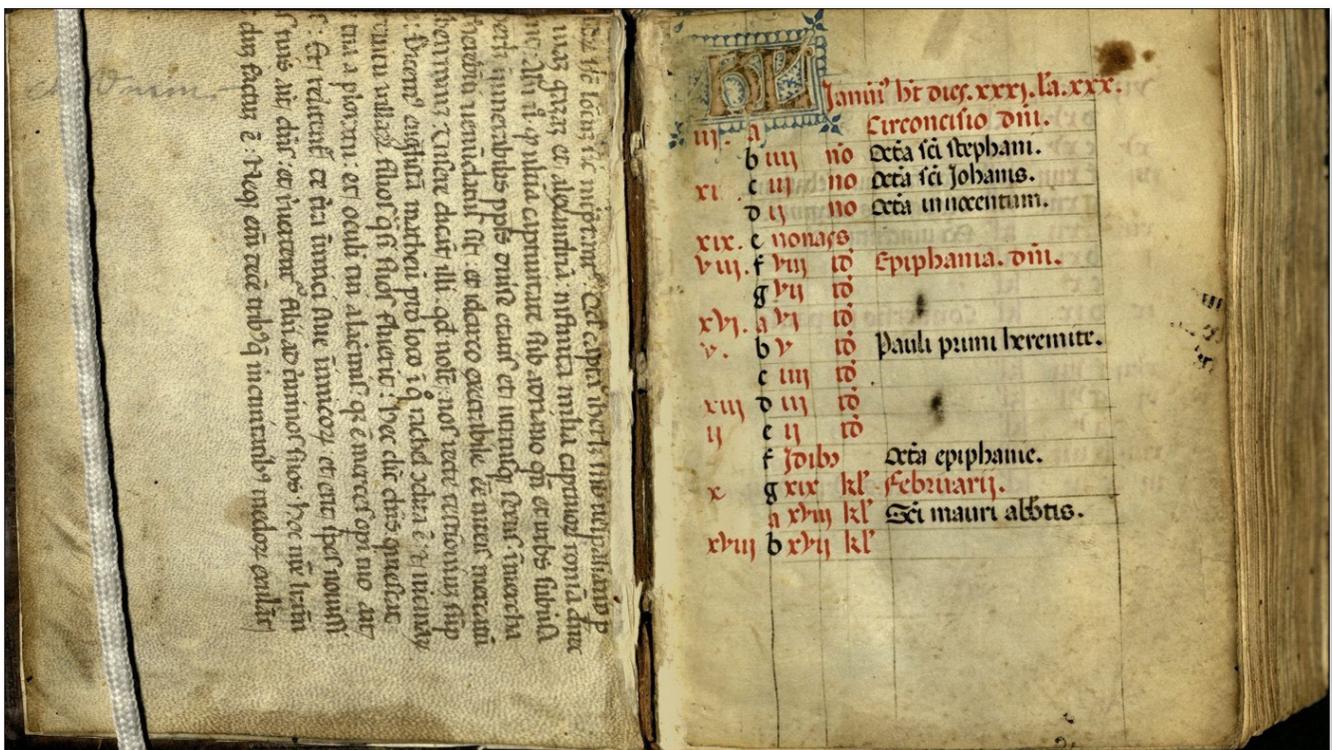
Digital Detective Work: Unlocking the Secrets of a Medieval Manuscript

By Alyssa Mertka, University of Kentucky

At first glance, MS Latin Kentuckiensis III (MS. Lat. KY III) seems to be far removed from the sleek, fast-paced digital world of 2018. The pages of this fifteenth-century Italian book of hours, located in the collections of the University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center (SCRC), are wrinkled with age and delicate as a butterfly's wing. The book's reddish-brown cover crumbles at the slightest touch and therefore requires the utmost care when handling it. Its beautiful illuminations, prayers for the Divine Office, and invocations against plague belong to a bygone era. I first came across this remarkable book during my time as an intern in the SCRC's Learning Lab. My research in this lab would ultimately teach me that the key to unlocking the secrets of this rare book could be found in the digital tools I use every day.

The SCRC Learning Lab was designed to give undergraduate students like myself an opportunity to learn

about the archival profession and receive hands-on experience working with archival materials. During the 2017–2018 academic year, Carol Street, undergraduate research archivist at the University of Kentucky, supervised a team of six undergraduates from a variety of academic disciplines ranging from art history to English to chemical engineering. Street led us in weekly discussions of relevant archival topics such as arrangement and description, privacy, ethics, and security. Each student also selected an archival collection to process and designed an original research project around the item(s) in that collection. We kept track of our progress via weekly entries on the online journaling platform JRNL (<https://jrnl.com/app/#/journals>), which were later published as physical volumes. These journals allowed us to share our discoveries with each other and create an accessible record of our resources and achievements.



The verso side of the flyleaf next to Folio 1 of MS. Lat. KY III displays the fragment (left) next to the first page of the book of hours (right).

(Continued on page 20)

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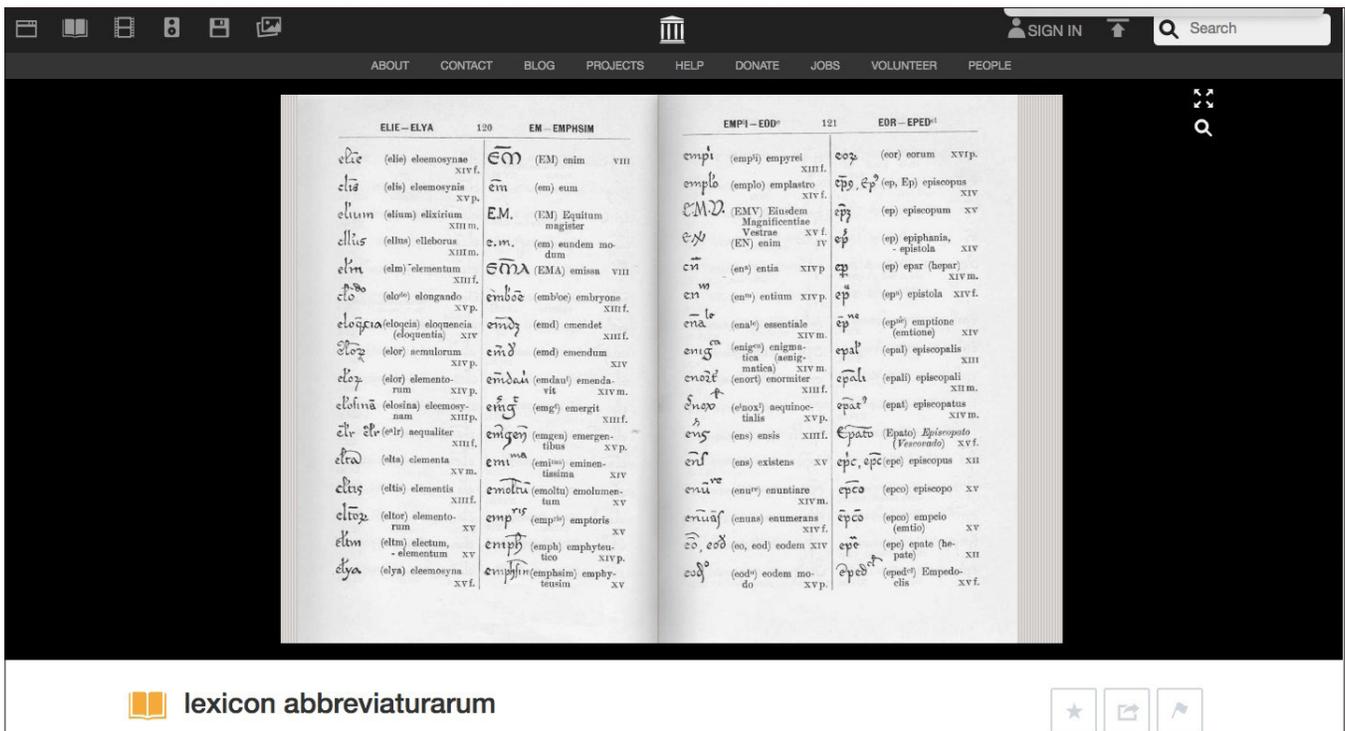
The item I selected for my research, MS. Lat. KY III, had been in the SCRC’s collection for decades after being donated to the university by Danish American book collector Jens Christian Bay (1871–1962). It had been featured in a descriptive catalog of all the medieval manuscripts in the SCRC and in an exhibition on manuscript illuminations at the University of Kentucky Art Museum. However, when I examined the manuscript for the first time, I noticed a discrepancy not mentioned in any of the previous scholarship. The book’s front flyleaf and pastedown differed in handwriting, vellum quality, and orientation from the rest of the book. They obviously belonged to a different text, but no one had focused on, or even described, these unique pages. Determined to identify this fragmented text, I turned to the Internet, setting off a months-long mystery that would culminate in a positive identification.

When materials were scarce, medieval bookbinders often used pieces of old manuscripts to bind new books. As a result, bits of older works were integrated and preserved with later bindings. The study of fragments such as these, known as “fragmentology,” can reveal the history of a book, shed light on its construction, or, in extreme cases, even uncover a lost text. This area of manuscript research has become increasingly popular in recent years, especially

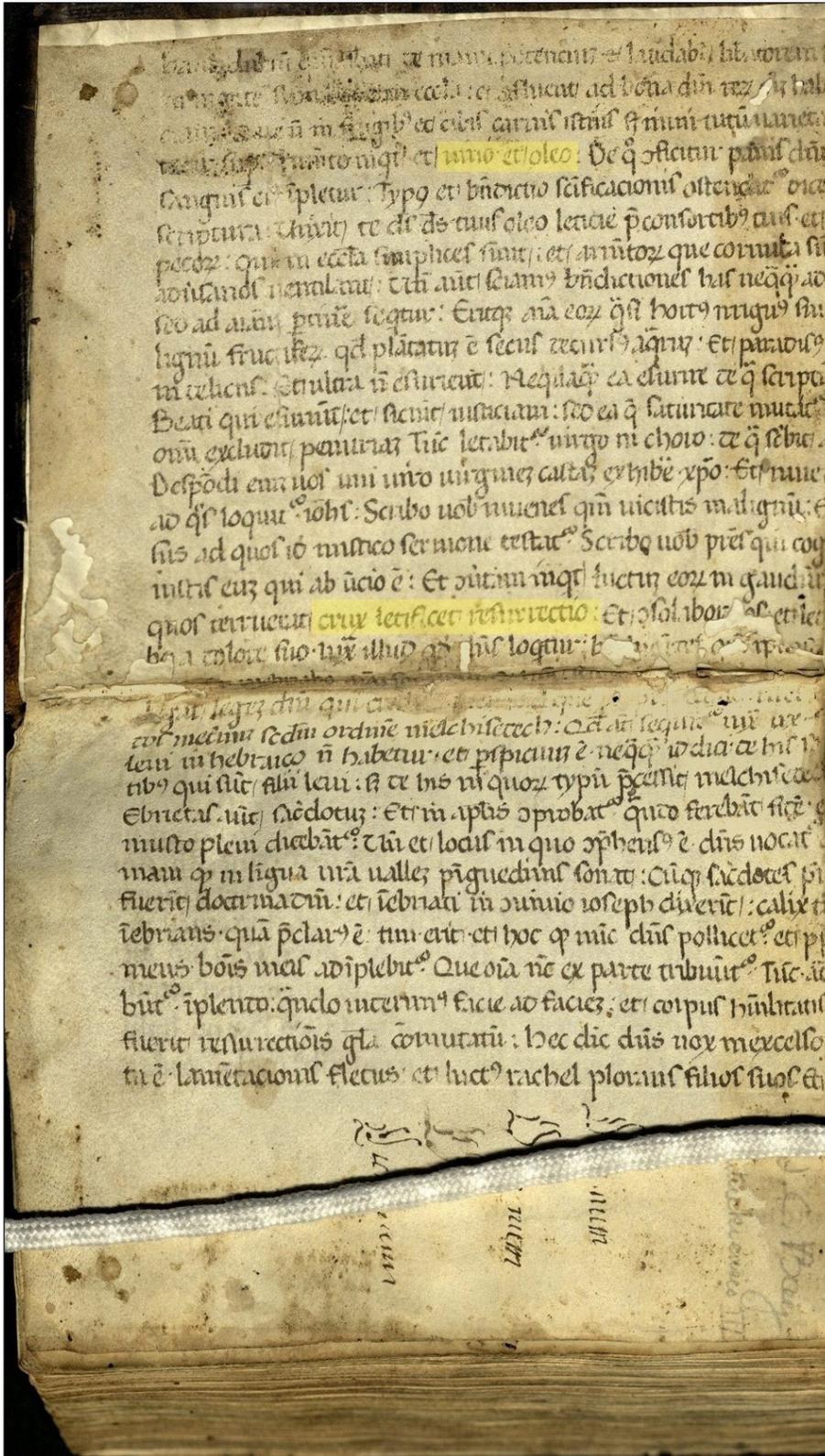
with the advance of crowdsourced fragment identification. Scholars can view images of manuscript fragments (along with descriptions and other data) in online databases such as Fragmentarium (<https://fragmentarium.ms>). These databases provide scholars with platforms on which to contribute their expertise to the fragment identification process.

Before I could consult any databases myself, I needed to create a preliminary transcript of the text of the fragment inside MS. Lat. KY III. To aid in this process, I consulted an online edition of Adriano Capelli’s *Lexicon Abbreviaturarum* (<https://archive.org/details/LexiconAbbreviaturarum>), a dictionary of common scribal abbreviations. The digital edition was preferable to the physical copy due to its “searchability.” If I had an idea of what a word might be, I could simply enter it into the search bar and jump directly to the relevant page, rather than flipping through hundreds of pages by hand. This feature helped to shorten an already-lengthy transcription process, which was sometimes hindered by damage to the fragment as well as the right-hand edge being cut in the middle of the line.

Drawing from the numerous scripture references and biblical terminology in the text (such as mentions of *vino et oleo*, “wine and oil”), I hypothesized that this text was most likely a biblical commentary. This hypothesis



The online edition of the *Lexicon Abbreviaturarum*



The first two pages of the fragment (front flyleaf and pastedown) show two transcribed phrases: “vino et oleo” (top) and “crux I[a]etificet resurrectio” (bottom).

led me to consult the *Patrologia Latina* online database (<http://pld.chadwyck.co.uk/>), a digital, searchable version of Jacques-Paul Migne’s *Patrologia Latina* (published 1844–1855). The *Patrologia* is a compendium of texts by the early church fathers, so it seemed likely that it might contain the biblical commentary I was looking for. I began entering transcribed phrases from the fragment into the database. For weeks, I had no results. Finally, a search of the transcribed phrase “crux I[a]etificet resurrectio” yielded a match.

After a meticulous cross-reference between the document in the database and the fragment text, I conclusively identified the fragment found in MS. Lat. KY III as an excerpt from *S. Eusebii Hieronymi Stridonensis Presbyteri Commentariorum in Jeremiam Prophetam Libri Sex*, or *The Sixth Book of the Commentary on the Prophet Jeremiah* by the priest Saint Eusebius Hieronymus of Strido, better known as St. Jerome. Specifically, the fragment text comes from chapter 17 of book 6, which focuses on Jeremiah 31:10–14. The commentary itself was written between 317 and 319 AD, with the sixth book being the last, as St. Jerome died before completing the work. Initially, identification had been my ultimate goal. However, I found myself longing to know more about MS. Lat. KY III.

Now that I knew what the fragment text said, a whole new set of questions presented itself. Where did this fragment come from? How old was it? How did it end up as

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The screenshot shows the Patrologia Latina website interface. On the left is a dark red sidebar with the title 'Patrologia Latina' and a small image of a manuscript page. Below the title are navigation links: 'Table of Contents', 'Marked List', 'Search History', 'More Information', 'Help', 'Lexicon', and 'Back'. The main content area has a dark red header with 'Full Text', 'Vol. 24', and 'Main volume text'. Below this is a search bar and a list of links: 'Context in Volume | Text Only | Durable URL', 'Expanded Notes', and '[Col.0679]'. The main text area displays the title 'S. EUSEBII HIERONYMI STRIDONENSIS PRESBYTERI COMMENTARIORUM IN JEREMIAM PROPHETAM LIBRI SEX [a 1K2]'. Below the title is the word 'Prologus.' and a large block of Latin text starting with '[Col.0679A] 833-834 Post explanationes duodecim Prophetarum, Isaiae, Danielis, et Ezechielis, ad extremum in Jeremiam manum mittimus, tibi, frater [b 1K2] Eusebi, ejusdem [A/ eosdem] Commentariolos dedicantes, ut [c 1K2] Evangelicum virum Matthaeo evangelistae copules, quem ante annos plurimos strictis sensibus, te hortante, disserui. Et quia volumen longissimum est, et in plerisque manifesta historia textitur, illud prudentiam tuam admoneo, ne quaeras in hoc latam explanationem; super his maxime, quae jam et in Prophetis aliis dicta sunt, et per se patent intelligentiae. Sicque conabor notariorum manu scribere, ut nihil desit in sensibus, cum multum desit in verbis. Stamina tibi atque subtegmina et licia praeparabo, tu pulcherrimam vestem ipse conficito; ut [Col.0680A] non solum nos audire, sed et alios docere possis. Libellum autem Baruch, qui vulgo editioni Septuaginta copulatur, nec habetur apud Hebraeos, [d 4K2] et ψευδοεπιγραφοῦν Epistolam Jeremiae nequaquam censui disserendam, sed magis Jeremiae ordinem, librorum errore confusum, multaque quae desunt, ex Hebraeis fontibus digerere, ac complere: ut novum ex veteri, verumque pro corrupto atque falsato Prophetam teneas: parvipendens obrectatorum rabiem, qui non solum verba, sed syllabas quoque nostrorum verborum calumniantur: in eo se scire aliquid arbitantes, si de alienis operibus detrahant: [e 1K2] ut nuper indoctus calumniator erupit, qui Commentarios 835-836 meos in Epistolam Pauli ad Ephesios reprehendendos putat. Nec intelligit, nimia [Col.0681A] stertens vecordia, leges Commentariorum, in quibus multae diversorum ponuntur opiniones, vel tacitis, vel expressis Auctorum nominibus, ut lectoris arbitrium sit, quid potissimum eligere debeat, decernere: quamquam et in primo ejusdem operis libro praefatus sim, me vel propria, vel aliena dicturum: et ipsos Commentarios, tam veterum Scriptorum esse, quam nostros. Quod non videns praecursor [f 1K2] ejus Grunnius, olim nisus est carpere. Cui duobus respondi libris, ubi quae iste quasi sua profert, et alio jam calumniante, purgata sunt: ut praeteream contra Jovinianum volumina, in quibus dolet virginitatem nuptiis, et nuptias digamiae, digamiam polygamiae esse praelatam.'

The online Patrologia Latina displays the digital text of the Jerome commentary.

part of this book of hours? To answer these questions, I needed the help of experts. No one at my university could answer the questions I had. However, a string of Internet searches and e-mails led me to subject expert Dr. Eric Johnson, associate professor and curator of rare books and manuscripts at The Ohio State University. Without ever meeting with me face-to-face or viewing the manuscript in person, he was able to tell me that the fragment was most likely produced in a monastic scriptorium (either Benedictine or Cistercian, with the former more likely) between 1175 and 1200 AD. He conjectured that the fragment was northern Italian in origin.

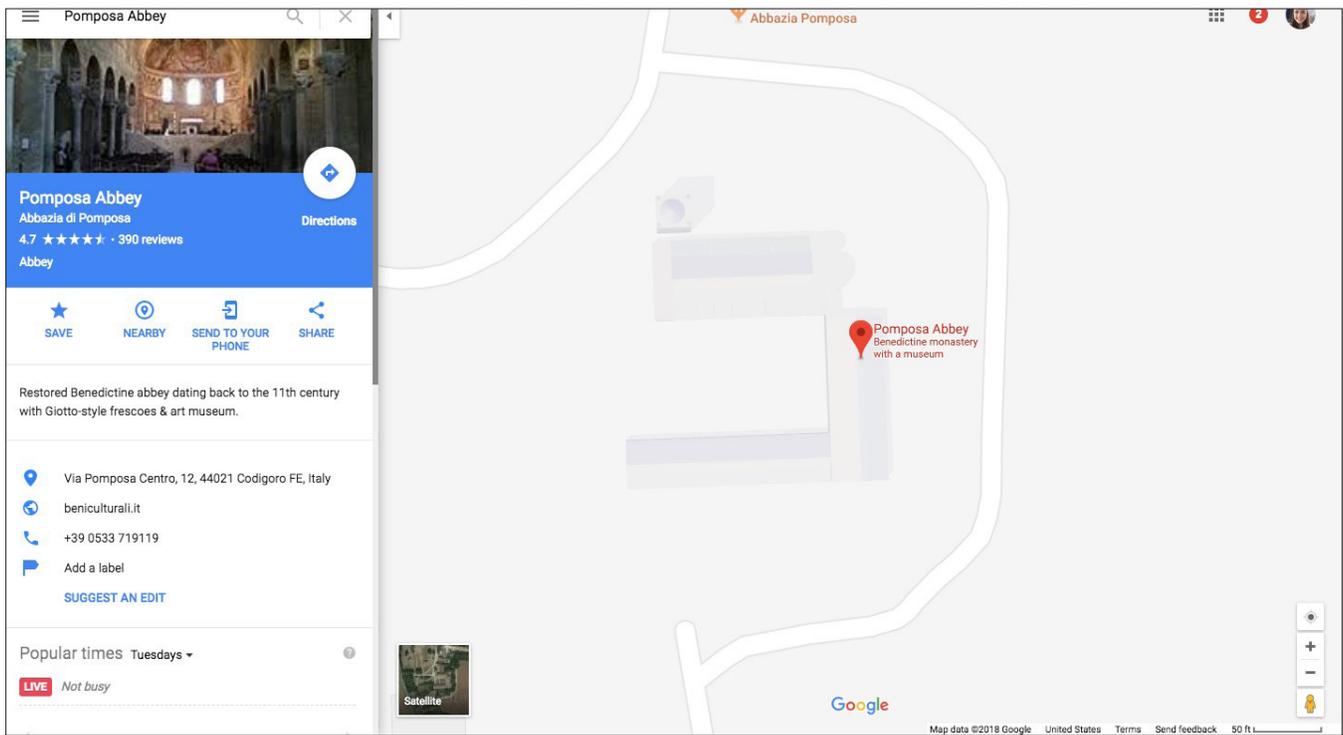
Using this information along with what was already known about the creation of MS. Lat. KY III, I used Google Maps (<https://www.google.com/maps/>) to pinpoint which monastery probably produced the fragment.

Pomposa Abbey, located near Ferrara, Italy, is the best candidate for the fragment's origin. Pomposa is a Benedictine community founded in the sixth century AD and was active during the period proposed by Dr. Johnson. Pomposa

Abbey was noted for its scriptorium and library, which produced and housed a great number of manuscripts. Additionally, it is the only significant Benedictine monastery near Ferrara, the region where MS. Lat. KY III was likely bound. No Cistercian communities were active in the area. Medieval bookbinders often received scrap vellum from scriptoria, and copies of Jerome commentaries were common enough in the fifteenth century to make their vellum more valuable than the text printed on it. The bookbinder who compiled the book of hours and the monastery that produced the document recycled into the binding were likely geographically close. Therefore, Pomposa Abbey can be said to be the possible creator of the edition of Jerome's commentary that later found its way into MS Lat. KY III. I sent a Facebook message to Pomposa's official page in attempt to confirm this hypothesis, but aside from a humorous exchange in Italian involving emoticons, the abbey was unable to provide me with the evidence I was seeking. Still, further research into historical catalogs of Pomposa's library could verify my hypothesis.

What began as an odd piece of vellum stuck inside a manuscript ended with one solved mystery and a dozen more questions waiting for answers. In my quest to uncover the secrets of MS. Latin KY III, I employed the resources and strategies I had grown up with and used every day in my academic and personal life. Online databases, e-books, e-mails, Internet searches, and Facebook messages together created a strong framework on which I could establish my

inquiries into the origins of the fragment. My research would not have been successful without the ease and accessibility provided by these tools. As the relationship between traditional materials and digital resources grows stronger, the potential for new discoveries in forgotten places will increase. What other secrets lie between delicate pages, simply awaiting discovery by the next generation of digital detectives?



Pomposa Abbey on Google Maps

Preservation Essentials

Assistant Editor: William Modrow, Miami University. Please contact William at modrowwm@miamioh.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Preservation Internship: To Do or Not to Do?

By Justin Bridges, Kent State University

This summer I completed an internship in the Miami University Libraries Preservation and Conservation Department; this was one of the final requirements for my master's of library and information science degree from Kent State University. While I have noticed a positive change in myself after my internship experience, that change did not come easily!

I was aware of the internship options in my library program and speculated whether this would be a viable opportunity and, more important, how I could fit the internship into my already hectic schedule. I inquired about the prospect and what actual internships were available. I discussed my possibilities with library faculty, peers in my program, and a few librarians I knew to decide whether an internship in a preservation lab would give me the hands-on experience I desired while interacting with the functions of a preservation program in a library.

To complete this Culminating Experience Internship successfully, my program required a minimum of 150 hours of documented work within an information institution. Having completed my entire MLIS degree program in under a year, I thought this final requirement sounded both easy and fun! Perhaps a constant state of exhaustion induced by many late night studying binges caused this momentary lapse of sanity, but upon further contemplation I realized that this 150-hour internship would need to be fulfilled in a relatively short 13-week summer term . . . and in addition to my regular 40-hour work week. Pair that with the fact that I am a nontraditional student (read as . . . I'm old), all of a sudden this whole internship idea didn't sound so easy and fun after all.

However, knowing that the internship was a requirement in achieving my ultimate goal of receiving an MLIS degree, I contacted the preservation librarian at Miami University and together we began constructing a challenging and attainable set of objectives and goals agreeable to my library program adviser. Once these objectives were in place, my internship schedule was established and I was ready to go! Immediately, I realized that the material I learned in my coursework could be applied with the training I received from the preservation librarian. Thus, over the next 13 weeks, I was able to apply all of the knowledge I had gained through my online preservation courses in a hands-on

environment within the confines of a state-of-the-art preservation lab. Having the opportunity to implement the industry best practices that I had learned through my online coursework was a truly amazing opportunity. In addition to practicing various preservation basics such as book repair, disaster planning, and digital preservation initiatives, I was also able to learn several "tricks of the trade" from an experienced preservation librarian. I was tasked with "rehousing" projects and evaluating preservation needs of general collections materials and many materials from special collections and the archives. I was immersed in all forms of preservation tools and was consulted on the preparation of an exhibition—an amazing opportunity and something I had never experienced before.

Being treated as an aspiring colleague and not so much as a "newbie" made me feel comfortable asking questions; moreover, this opportunity to serve not only as an intern but also as a mentee, allowed me to gain a plethora of insights into the field of preservation librarianship that I could never have learned in an online classroom. The mentor/mentee relationship generated through this experience turned out to be an invaluable tool in my overall professional development. In fact, the many relationships that I developed with other librarians both inside the institution and abroad during this practicum allowed me to form a network of professionals that I will most surely reach out to for professional guidance in the future.

While I had looked forward to the opportunity to practice hands-on preservation applications and techniques through this internship, the little surprises that crept in along the way were perhaps most exciting. For example, within the first week of my internship, my on-site adviser presented me with the opportunity to develop and teach a continuing education class on cultural heritage preservation entitled *Preserving the Past for the Future*. I designed the class for 12 to 15 participants and outlined the basics of book, paper, and photographic preservation. Beginning with a lecture, the class culminated in an educational interactive exercise that enabled participants to execute simple restoration and preservation techniques on vintage photos they had brought with them. Engaging the participants throughout the entirety of the three-hour class session and teaching them how to preserve their valuable keepsakes was almost as rewarding as their request for me

to teach a preservation course the following term. Having the opportunity to teach others about a topic about which I am so passionate was quite a wonderful surprise, and it allowed me to extend my knowledge of preservation beyond the confines of the library. Outreach to the community was an unexpected but much appreciated element of my internship.

Working my regular job from 8 am to 5 pm, transitioning into my intern role from 5 pm to 8 pm, then traveling home to put in an additional two to three hours of homework each night did prove exhausting, but was all very well worth it in the end. Pairing the hands-on experience that I gained through the internship with the excellent academic coursework provided through my degree program, I feel that I am ready to embrace my future career as a confident and well-prepared preservation librarian. Even though my approach may not suit everyone, I recommend that future MLIS students reach out to any or all internship opportunities and institutions available to share their experience and knowledge in preparing librarians for the professional realm. This internship experience allowed me to boost my professional skill set and to revitalize my motivation to accomplish any goals that I set for myself, and it inspired me to be the best preservation librarian that I can possibly be. In short, my summer spent as an intern in the Miami University Libraries Preservation and Conservation Department was truly a life-changing experience. For that, I will be forever grateful to my wonderful site supervisor and mentor, to all of the other librarians, and to the friends I have made on this fantastic journey.

2018 Emeritus Scholarship Winner Gives Thanks

(Continued from page 9)

My participation in the “Diversity and Inclusion in the Archives Field” forum allowed me to learn about the individual and institutional struggles to overcome unbalanced hiring practices and to foster welcoming environments for all. It was heartening to hear discussions about the need for increased diversity among archives staff and inclusive representation within our collections. The “De-Centering Whiteness in the Archives” session was really informative. In particular, Kelly Bolding’s presentation on Princeton’s project to remediate racist descriptions in legacy finding aids was especially powerful. She emphasized that removing discriminatory language can be part of routine data cleanup, thus coupling reparative processing with iterative processing and taking meaningful action to counter the widespread imbalances in our historical records.

This past summer, I left Kentucky for Los Angeles, where I am now a special collections archivist at the Getty Research Institute. Though I am no longer a resident midwesterner, I look forward to staying connected to MAC and will continue to follow from afar the news of my midwestern colleagues. I am truly grateful to MAC and the Emeritus Scholarship Committee for giving me the opportunity to attend the 2018 Midwest Archives Conference—I hope to see many of you at future archives conferences!

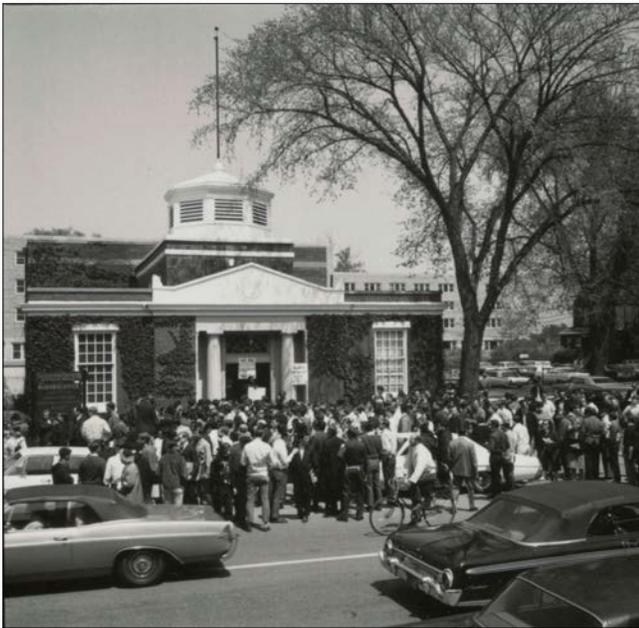
Up-and-Comers: News for Student and New Archivists

Assistant Editor: Meredith Lowe, The iSchool at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Contact Meredith at mclowe@wisc.edu if you would like to guest author a column or have a good idea to share.

Meet Charla Wilson, Archivist for the Black Experience, Northwestern University Libraries

This past year I participated in a history conference at which the theme was “hearing silences” in records at archives, libraries, and museums. This theme implies an awareness of missing voices, perspectives, and experiences at recordkeeping organizations. But it is not enough to acknowledge that silences exist; a response is required to address the absences. This is where I take pride in the origins of my position as archivist for the black experience at Northwestern University—established by way of student protest and a collaborative initiative between the university and black alumni. In 2015, a decision was made to move administrative offices into the Black House, a community space and refuge for black students at Northwestern. Not just any campus building, it has great historic significance as it was established as a direct result of an earlier student protest, the 1968 Bursar’s Office Takeover.



Crowd outside of the Bursar’s Office, May 3, 1968

Fifty years ago, black students at Northwestern presented a list of demands to the administration protesting discriminatory campus policies and pushing for an improved social climate. When the administration did not meet their demands, more than 100 black students occupied the Bursar’s Office. The 38-hour protest led to lasting changes at Northwestern, such as the creation of the Department of



Students support the takeover on the steps of the Bursar’s Office, May 3, 1968.

African American Studies and the Black House. Therefore, the decision to move offices into the Black House in 2015 without regard for its origins represented to concerned students and alumni alike the erasure of black history and the vulnerability of safe spaces on campus. Therefore, one of the many settlements was to establish my position: to designate someone to document and preserve the history and presence of black students, faculty, staff, and alumni at Northwestern University.

I began working at Northwestern University Libraries in July 2017, making the transition from the museum field. I had previously worked as the librarian/archivist for the Kumeyaay-Diegueño People of San Diego at Barona Cultural Center & Museum and as the library, archive,

and museum collections manager at the Women’s Museum of California.



In 1968, Black students went through a long struggle to obtain 619 Emerson as the Black House. In 1972, another long struggle was waged and we acquired the House picture above at 1914 Sheridan Rd.

The Black House at 1914 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois

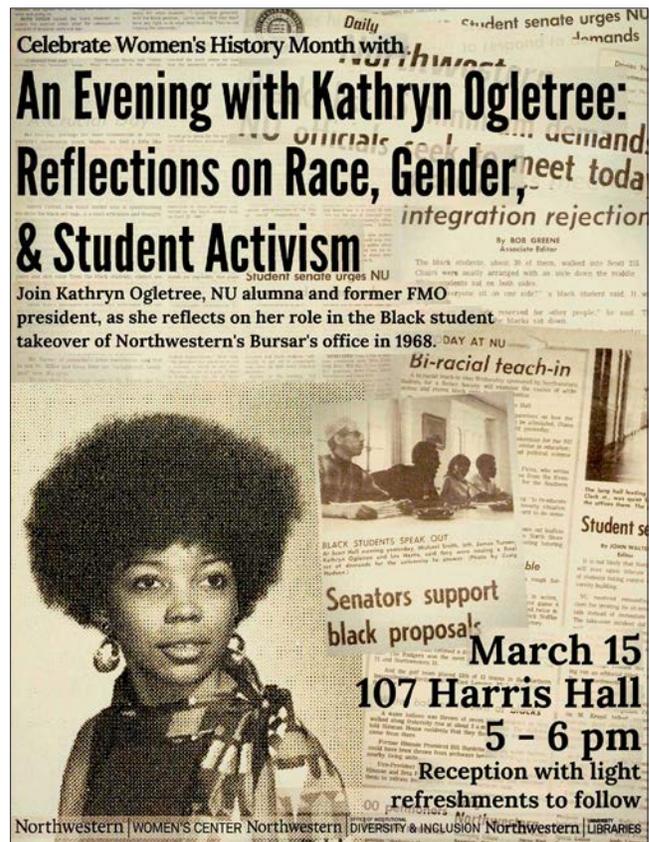
I feel particularly honored for the opportunity to work with African American collections as someone originally from San Diego where they are sparse. My interest in archival work peaked when I did graduate research on the San Diego Young Women’s Christian Association’s (YWCA) segregated Clay Avenue facility for African American women and girls from the 1920s to 1950s. It is a fascinating story of black women who transformed a traditionally recreational organization at the local level into a body that served the larger black community. It was the first and only social services agency for African Americans that provided employment opportunities and housing, and functioned as a space to mobilize for civil rights in the city. Still, the local collections do not reflect a wide array of additional stories about the black experience in San Diego. Realizing that histories of African Americans in San Diego had possibly been hidden and forgotten motivated me to build a career around safeguarding accounts of African American history in archives. Therefore, I recognize how special and important my responsibilities are at Northwestern University.

My main focus in my first year at Northwestern was to work on projects to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Bursar’s Office Takeover and to honor those who risked personal safety, enrollment status, and financial aid on behalf of all students. A campuswide effort emerged to plan and develop a series of programs to celebrate the student protestors and educate the community about this



Takeover-related archival materials from Northwestern University Archives

history and legacy. Even in my brief time at the university, I was responsible for advising university units and external groups about the history of the takeover, providing archival materials for social media campaigns, contributing to a video and documentary about the takeover, and speaking about this history to the media.



Flyer from the Kathryn Ogletree event, March 2018

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Overall, it was most gratifying to meet and interview Bursar's Office Takeover student activists. Each person I spoke with offered a different perspective on the event, based largely on year of enrollment, gender, and involvement in campus activities. This led to an interesting discovery regarding the historiography of the Bursar's Office Takeover: archival sources, especially press coverage and administrative records, overlooked the contributions of women to the protest. However, black women organized and offered unique perspectives regarding housing discrimination and harassment. Kathryn Ogletree played a key role as the leader of the black student organization, For Members Only (FMO). She was an advocate for black undergraduates, an editor of their demands, and a negotiator. We "heard the silence" and realized that her story needed greater attention. Therefore, University Archives partnered with the university's Women's Center to invite Ogletree to campus to talk about her activism, to speak to the role of women in the protest, and to offer advice to current activists. It was also important for us to critically address historical memory and the role of archives in documenting these moments in history. We also understood the significance of recording the event to preserve a lasting record of Ogletree literally speaking in her own voice and telling her story. Last, we enthusiastically awarded Ogletree the Women Center's Gender Equity in Action Award.

In an effort to further acquaint the Northwestern community with the history and legacy of the takeover, I curated an online exhibit and a physical display at Deering Library (May 1–July 31, 2018) based on interviews and archival materials both titled, *They Demanded Courageously*, <http://bursars1968.northwestern.edu>. It features key documents, a timeline, participant biographies, photographs, and bibliographic resources. This gave us a great opportunity to bring attention to existing archival materials, such as audio recordings of James Turner, a student leader of the takeover. We also made more accessible photographs and a 30-minute documentary called *One Generation Ago*, a story about the 1968 protest created by several takeover participants, by digitizing them and storing them in the library's digital repository.



Daphne Maxwell, homecoming, 1967

The exhibit also features newly acquired and processed materials from takeover participants and alums Daphne Maxwell Reid and Eva Jefferson Paterson. In 1967, Daphne Maxwell Reid became the first black homecoming queen at Northwestern. The responses she received from the campus community reveal the very acts of racism that black students were addressing. Maxwell Reid has gone on to successful careers as model, fashion designer, photographer, and actress (most recognized for her role as "Aunt Viv" on the TV show, *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air*). Eva Jefferson Paterson was the first black Northwestern student body president. She is credited for leading Northwestern students in a peaceful protest in the aftermath of the May 1970 Kent State and Jackson State shootings. Paterson received attention in the local news and the national press. In September 1970, she represented the views of student activists, criticizing the Nixon administration's response to the war in Vietnam in a debate with then-US vice president Spiro Agnew on *The David Frost Show*. She was also a witness before the Scranton Commission on "student unrest."

My first year at Northwestern culminated with the 50th anniversary remembrance of the Bursar's Office Takeover, May 3–5, 2018. About 40 takeover participants returned to campus for yet another historic moment in Northwestern's history. Many brought their families and friends. And alumni from post-1968 years also took part in the reunion. The weekend was filled with laughter as well as opportunities to hear firsthand from the protestors. Also, beloved deans of the Department of African American Student Affairs returned to campus to participate in a panel discussion. Finally, the Northwestern Community Ensemble—the university's gospel choir—offered a musical tribute, and Department of African American Studies graduate students presented a theatrical performance.

I feel privileged to do this work, which I recognize as a unique opportunity. I have yet to find another archivist at a university that is not a Historically Black College and University who shares this mission. I look forward to doing future projects and educating the community about other aspects of the black experience at Northwestern University.



Eva Jefferson speaks to a crowd of students, May 1970.



Reunion of 1968 takeover participants, May 4, 2018, courtesy of NUBBA

A Change Would Do You Good: Cross-Sector Perspectives

By Rebecca Katz, DC Office of Public Records; Kayla Harris, University of Dayton;
Marcella Huggard, University of Kansas

The various sectors of archives and related professions can diverge from each other in priorities, strategies, constituencies, and resource availability. Individuals changing positions across these sectors have an opportunity to bring skills learned in their previous field(s) to transform the work being done in archives and related institutions. Cross-sector experiences also provide an opportunity to reflect on how such transitions transformed an individual's outlook on the profession as a whole and his or her role within it. Even much of the recently renewed interest in the unity among libraries, archives, and museums (LAMs) focuses on institutions and not on the *individual* professionals working in these areas.

At the 2018 MAC Annual Meeting in Chicago, a lightning round panel of eight archivists presented their lessons learned about transitioning from outside and within the LAM sector. Keeping with the conference theme, “Blurring Boundaries, Crossing Lines,” the presenters shared their experiences moving across several different areas, including local and state government, corporate archives, museums, local historical societies, and academic special collections. Despite varied job titles and responsibilities, common themes emerged during this session about backgrounds and skill sets that enhance each archivist's current work. Session feedback asked for more information about *how* the panelists transitioned to serve as a guide for others attempting to do the same.

Education and Transferable Skills

Unsurprisingly, individuals who have learned archival practice and skills—including appraisal and selection, arrangement and description, outreach and advocacy—in one setting can transfer these skills into new settings. It is critical to remember, however, that experience and knowledge in other professions—records management, object curation and registration, law, education, communications—can add valuable perspectives and additional skills to work in an archives.

Educational background was a point of discussion during and after the session panel. Many archivists in the field have some variation of an MLIS degree and/or an MA degree, but other degrees can be useful too. Individuals who have legal or history backgrounds may be able to provide contextual information that those without that



Employees of a law office “issue spot.” Credit: *The Interior of J. D. Rairdon's Law Office*, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs collection 1888–1923, Kansas Collection, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, <https://luna.ku.edu/luna/servlet/s/1308rh>

framework of knowledge and practice might miss, either when working in a records management field or when working with archival collections. Individuals with a local history background or who have performed genealogical research can turn these research skills in other directions when working with archival collections to gain contextual information about records creators.

The line between records management and archival practice is a blurry one. Writing and revising retention schedules for government or business records requires the same appraisal skills used when assessing donations of personal papers or literary manuscripts to archives. One of the authors of this article has an employee originally hired as an appraisal archivist who now has primary responsibility for writing retention schedules, though another employee is officially the organization's chief records manager. Experience with retention schedules also translates to developing selection and weeding criteria for micro-appraisal within manuscript collections or personal papers. Records managers must communicate with records creators about primary and secondary uses of their records. Additionally, records managers used to advocating for the importance of good records management may be able to use this skill to advocate for the preservation of records and for other areas of outreach in an archival context.

Museum practices for object registration can differ greatly from archival practices of arrangement and description of manuscript or textual collections. Having knowledge of both can be particularly beneficial for individuals at institutions without museums who find themselves working with three-dimensional objects. This can also benefit individuals working at small institutions that do not, or cannot, distinguish between objects and archival collections, particularly due to staffing available.

Attorneys learn in law school to “issue spot,” or to identify situations that might cause problems. An archivist with legal experience will immediately realize that the collection with Social Security numbers or individually identifiable health information poses significant privacy issues. This archivist will be able to read and understand the laws governing the organization’s records. He or she will be able to draft a deed of gift form that incorporates all of the critical issues of ownership and intellectual property, review agreements with vendors, and identify laws that might affect retention requirements. The archivist with legal training will understand that a request for “any and all documents about subject X” is a discovery request requiring a different type of reference interview and response than an undergraduate’s tentative, “I am writing a paper about the homefront during World War II, and my professor told me to look in the archives.”

Those with teaching experience could transition to a variety of roles, including instruction in academic settings



Teaching students. Credit: Sr. Mary Jean Dorcy, Marian Library Photograph collection, circa 1920–circa 1990. Marian Library, University of Dayton, https://ecommons.udayton.edu/imri_photos/43/.

or educational programming in museum settings, as well as teaching with primary sources where this is considered a significant portion of an individual’s work. Former teachers can think about their ability to help students comprehend new ideas or expand their knowledge of topics and turn this pedagogical framework to working in other circumstances. These might include teaching best records management practices or working with donors on improving practices for personal digital archiving.

The ability to effectively communicate is frequently a qualification required for many archival positions, because it is necessary for many areas of archival practice. Confidence and competence in dealing with the press are valuable for advocacy. An archivist with communications experience may best understand that meaningful social media use for the archives is more than just posting interesting tidbits, but instead requires skilled engagement with followers.



Preparing to be effective communicators. Credit: Chapman High School Typewriting Class, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs collection, 1888–1923, Kansas Collection, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, <https://luna.ku.edu/luna/servlet/s/6ofn23>.

Skills and experience can be transferred from any field, not only those listed here. It is up to the individual to think critically and then “sell” how an archival institution can directly benefit.

Making that Change

Career guidance and self-help books, articles, and websites

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for mid- or late-career transitions in a broad context can be found in abundance. A search on “career changes” in your public library’s catalog can be a simple start with a lot of results. Some additional tools used by the authors and panelists at the MAC Annual Conference are particularly useful for career transitions within the LAM sector.

The word “networking” may strike fear in the heart of many an introvert, but it is essential when considering a career transition, especially in the archival field. Networking is more than cold-calling your friends’ professional contacts for informational interviews (though it can include this as well). It is using Twitter, Tumblr, Facebook, Instagram, or other social media platforms to your advantage. It is blogging, attending conferences, joining professional organizations, and attending your college’s or university’s alumni events. It can even be commenting on a popular workplace blog.¹



Networking together over a meal. Credit: Frank Duff with Group at the Speakers Table, Marian Library Photograph collection, circa 1920–circa 1990. Marian Library, University of Dayton, https://ecommons.udayton.edu/imri_photos/5/.

Especially when making a significant career change—from a field outside of LAM to archives, for example—in-

formational interviews are the first step and provide an important view of archives from the inside. Informational interviews are not a backdoor way to get a job, they are for you to get information. The more you understand about the nature of any given job, the better able you will be to make your application. You will be able to express excitement about the specifics of the job in your cover letter and to highlight those transferable skills that you will bring to the position. Networking helps facilitate these interviews.

As a form of virtual networking, social media is a tool that can be used to learn about the field, not (only) to self-promote. Reading or participating in Twitter chats gives insight into issues that archivists encounter in their day-to-day work. Following a range of information professionals is a low-effort, low-barrier way to learn about a variety of workplace settings, as well as to learn about job openings that might not be posted in more traditional places. The Preservation Section of SAA even hosted a Twitter conference in April 2018.²

Face-to-face networking is important too. National conferences can be expensive, especially when attendance can mean taking vacation time from an unrelated job and paying nonmember registration rates. Regional conferences, however, such as the MAC Annual Meeting, are generally more reasonably priced and are always less overwhelming in numbers of attendees and session tracks to explore. Attending regional conferences introduces resources available in that region and can also make new repositories and institutions known to the aspiring archivist. Some individuals are even able to combine virtual and in-person networking. Livetweet at conferences, if you can do so while still paying attention, and people will get to know you. Use Twitter at conferences to put out a call to share a meal, or respond to someone else’s call for an unofficial activity.

If you live in a city with an alumni group, attending alumni events is a good way to meet potential contacts. An important thing to remember about attending these events is that the people attending genuinely want to be of assistance. Talk to everyone; even someone not in archives might have friends who are, or his or her big corporation may have an archives.

Aspiring professionals can get involved in local professional organizations in meaningful ways. One of the authors of this article co-established and cochaired a committee in her local law librarians’ organization while

still in library school. This brought her to the attention of members of the organization, who were then available to provide advice. Ultimately, she went into archives, not law librarianship, but this enhanced a network that could come into play for future career shifts.

All of these modes of networking are intended to prepare the career changer to successfully apply for jobs in archives, including those that may seem somewhat out of the scope of a current position. It is essential, therefore, to incorporate information about transferable skills into job application packages. When you are making a career switch, the hiring manager will look at your application skeptically. Make sure that your cover letter assures the hiring manager that you understand the nature of the job you are applying for and that you have relevant and desirable knowledge, skills, and experience for that job. Do not be shy about describing your transferable skills; hiring managers read a lot of cover letters and resumes, so you should be *explicit* about those skills in your cover letter and how they match the position description.

While you network, research the expectations for resumes or curriculum vitae for the positions you are interested in—a position at an academic library may expect a five-page or longer CV, while a corporate archivist job may require no more than a two-page resume. Tailor your resume or CV to fit the position, and take advantage of resume reviews from colleagues, friends, and those offered through regional and national professional organizations. Highlight your transferable skills, and make it easy for the hiring manager. When describing accomplishments and responsibilities at previous jobs, put accomplishments relevant to archives at the top of the list, even if they are a minor part of the position. If you are moving from a jargon-heavy field, be sure to clarify or remove that jargon from your resume. The hiring manager is unlikely to know what the TLAs in your previous field are and even less likely to look them up.³ Once you have landed a phone or in-person interview, keep those transferable skills in mind. If the interviewer has flexibility in what questions to ask, he or she will certainly be asking why you are looking to change careers or focus.

Changing the direction of a career path is intimidating, but the different perspective you will bring to your new position enhances the entire profession. By focusing on transferable skills, networking, self-promotion, and a confidence in your abilities, it is possible to leverage existing experience into a new role.

Notes

1. Reader “Moonlight Doughnut” likely did not expect, when asking a question about the application for a job, that the manager would be reading her question. The manager did read her question and responded. The manager further indicated that this unintentional networking would reflect favorably upon Moonlight Doughnut’s application. From Ask a Manager, April 13, 2018, <https://www.askamanager.org/2018/04/open-thread-april-13-14-2018.html#comment-1943835>.
2. Society of American Archivists, “Preservation Week 2018 Twitter Conference,” <https://www2.archivists.org/groups/preservation-section/preservation-week-2018-twitter-conference>.
3. “Three letter acronyms.” See (or hear) the podcast *Safe for Work*, <https://art19.com/shows/safe-for-work/episodes/5d43cd7f-b764-489a-9f00-c58ef60c2e0b>, from 29:00 through 29:10.

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People and Posts

Assistant Editor: Matt Gorzalski, Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The MAC Membership Committee invites members to share positions, appointments, and honors in the People and Posts column. Please send items to Matt at mgorzalski@lib.siu.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

Eric Willey, Milner Library, Illinois State University, became interim head of Cataloging and Acquisitions on July 1, 2018. He was also selected for the pilot Program for Cooperative Cataloging Communication Board, which will produce a quarterly bulletin that will be shared on the PCC list and on the website.

Geoffrey Reynolds, the Mary Ripema Ross Director of the Joint Archives of Holland at Hope College, in Holland, Michigan, had a book published. The title is *Boats Made in Holland: A Michigan Tradition*. It was published by the History Press in May 2018.

Sonia Yaco has accepted the position of associate director of Special Collections and University Archives at Rutgers University Libraries effective August 6, 2018. Yaco was the director of Social Justice Projects and Research at the University of Illinois at Chicago Library. Prior to being tapped to lead this project, she was the head of Special Collections and University Archives at the University of Illinois at Chicago and special collections librarian and university archivist at Old Dominion University.

Lois Hamill has managed Northern Kentucky University Special Collections and University Archives since late 2007. The successful author of two books *Archival Arrangement and Description: Analog to Digital* and the award-winning *Archives for the Lay Person: Managing Cultural Collections* as well as a successful grant writer, she regularly speaks at conferences and to community groups on a variety of topics. Hamill was recently promoted to professor.

Vicki Tobias is currently serving as program coordinator for Curating Community Digital Collections, a two-year, IMLS-funded program that places Wisconsin information school graduate students with small or underresourced cultural heritage institutions or libraries to complete a summer digital preservation project for academic credit. She is also a part-time instructor and academic adviser for the UW–Madison iSchool.

Matt Gorzalski was recently promoted from assistant to associate professor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where he has been university archivist since 2012.

Kalani Adolpho joined the University of Wisconsin–Madison University Archives as a processing archivist resident for the second and third years of their Diversity Librarian Residency. They will focus on the accessioning, arrangement, description, and cataloging of archival collections, and develop and implement preservation procedures and protocols for the archives, additionally, they will assist with reference, outreach, and exhibits. Adolpho received both their MLIS and BA in history from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, and worked there as an undergraduate and graduate student in Special Collections.

Alex Krensky, processing archivist, was recently appointed chair of the Diversity Award Committee of the Society of American Archivists.

Jenny DeRocher, a Simmons College graduate with a degree in library and information science with a concentration in cultural heritage informatics, has joined the Archives Department at the La Crosse Public Library as an associate librarian. Her undergraduate experiences in the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse's Public History Program encouraged her involvement in the local La Crosse community. Included among her accomplishments as an undergrad are the award-winning Hear, Here project, the Friendly Finding Aid project, the Artifact project and exhibit, and a paper, "Black Americans in White La Crosse, 1890–2016."

Lindsay Hiltunen, university archivist at the Michigan Tech Archives in Houghton, Michigan, was recently named the recipient of the 2018 Charles Follo Award. The award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the preservation and promotion of Upper Peninsula history. The Historical Society of Michigan administers the Charles Follo Award program and presented the award at the 69th Annual Upper Peninsula History Conference in St. Ignace, June 22–24. It is of note that Hiltunen's grandfather, David T. Halkola, a history professor and community historian, also received the Follo Award in 1986—history truly runs in the family!

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