

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

University Library
Ames, Iowa 50011-2140

April 2011

Dear MACers,

The year 2011 has arrived (I still can't believe it!), and as always, I feel re-energized by the start of a new year. I am also reading the 2011 Horizon Report that recently came out, <http://www.educause.edu/Resources/2011HorizonReport/223122>. The report focuses on key trends and six "emerging technologies or practices that are likely to enter mainstream use." Although I may feel overwhelmed by the time I am done reading it, the fact remains that we are living through an incredible time in the history of technology. I usually forward this report to everyone I know, so I thought it might be helpful to include it here.

Spring is on the way, so please make your plans to attend our April meeting in Saint Paul. The Program Committee has provided a wonderful program, packed full of information on a wide range of interesting topics. The Local Arrangements Committee has outdone themselves—not only a pub crawl but a reception at the Wabasha Street Caves, too?

I also want to put a special call out for the MAC membership to volunteer to serve for our first-ever MAC Pals program. The LAC is introducing this as a way for first-time attendees or new members to have a familiar face to help them navigate through our meeting. I recently gave a brief presentation on leadership to some students, and one of the things I told them was this—some of the most important things you will ever do will never appear on any kind of resume or vita. During your lifetime, you can help others by mentoring or assisting them in making connections that could potentially have a long-term impact. Please consider the impact you could have on the archives profession by becoming an informal mentor to the new generations following us.

The MAC Members' Meeting is scheduled for Friday afternoon at 3:30–5:00 PM, and I really want to encourage every MAC member to attend. The Members' Meeting is our opportunity to share what the organization is doing on your behalf and how you can be involved. I will give a State of MAC address where I will discuss what occurred in 2010, but more importantly, the plans for 2011 and beyond. We also will be installing a new president, holding a constitutional vote in regards to the Archives Committee, and hearing about our future meetings being held in Sioux City and Grand Rapids.

In our fast-paced world, it never hurts to take a moment to honor those who deserve it. So among the planned events is the presentation of the MAC Presidents' Award, which recognizes "significant contributions to the archival profession by individuals, institutions, and organizations not directly involved in archival work but knowledgeable about its purpose and value." We also will be recognizing two recipients for the Emeritus Award, which is given to those MAC members who, while they have retired, still exemplify the best that MAC has to give.

Finally, MAC Council recently approved a new strategic plan for 2011–2015 (available on-line and in this newsletter). Many of the activities listed have already begun or are ongoing, but it never hurts to have a blueprint for where you want to go. See you soon in Saint Paul!

Warm regards,



Tanya Zanish-Belcher
President, Midwest Archives Conference