



Vice President's Column: MAC Meetings and Symposia Update

By David McCartney, University of Iowa

In our last episode, I wrote about the question: what global archives-related issue would you like to resolve, if you had the authority, power, or blue sky to do so? It could relate to access, bridge-building with communities, elevating the status of our profession, or a host of other concerns that we might encounter in our daily work.

Coincidentally, there is now a blog series, recently launched by the Issues and Advocacy Roundtable of SAA, to address and facilitate discussions of these kinds of questions.

As noted in its announcement on SAA's website, the Roundtable seeks contributors to discuss "how a particular issue in the news affects or could potentially affect you as an archivist and/or your collections." Posts will be published anonymously unless you indicate otherwise, and editors of the blog will take steps to ensure that any information that might identify an institution—whether it's a college/university, corporation, government office, or organization—will be removed, allowing a freer airing of issues and concerns. Rebuttals are encouraged as well.

Interested? Please submit your content—no more than 500 words—to archivesissues@gmail.com. Additional information about this new platform for discussion is available at www2.archivists.org/groups/reference-access-and-outreach-section/new-blog-series-archivists-on-the-issues.

There is no shortage of issues and challenges to discuss—e-mail practices, records management challenges, work-related matters, and statutes and regulations that potentially undermine the desired policies and practices of repositories—and you are encouraged to participate. Who knows? Perhaps a colleague may respond with a perspective that you hadn't considered before.

At press time, our Fall Symposium in Minneapolis is not yet history, but I would like to thank the amazing Symposium Organizing Committee and its cochairs, Ann Kenne and Daardi Sizemore, for their outstanding work putting it all together. Presenters Bertram Lyons and Joshua M. Ranger of AVPreserve served up a very practical and useful workshop on digital collection management and attendees went home armed with considerable knowledge of how to address a range of related challenges. Thanks to all! Looking ahead:

2016 Annual Meeting, "ArchivesFest," Milwaukee, Wisconsin, April 27–30, 2016

As an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin–Madison during the 1970s, I became quite aware of

another city 70 miles to the east and its penchant for festivals. In the 30—okay, nearly 40—years since, the incidence of festival-making in Milwaukee has only increased exponentially it seems. MAC has the honor to kick off next year's celebration season in style with its annual meeting in the City of Festivals, at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center. The Program Committee, cochaired by Amy Cooper Cary and Colleen McFarland Rademaker, is now reviewing session proposals, and we look forward to a range of topics presented in a range of formats, including lightning rounds, debates, and open mic sessions, as well as traditional session formats. The Local Arrangements Committee, cochaired by Anna Stadick and Michael Doynen, is lining up tours and other terrific local activities. The reception will be at the awesomely cool Harley-Davidson Museum, so get ready to take some selfies on a cycle—I mean, hog!

2016 Fall Symposium, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Copyright law and its implications for archives and special collections will be the topic of this informative symposium to be held in Ann Arbor. Melissa Levine, lead copyright officer at the University of Michigan, and Aprille McKay, lead archivist for University of Michigan Collection Development at the Bentley Historical Library, will lead the program. The date, venue, and other details are under discussion, but watch for more information in the future.

2017 Annual Meeting, Omaha, Nebraska, April 5–8, 2017

Look westward! Our Annual Meeting in 2017 will be at the Hilton Omaha, conveniently located near the Old Market and the Holland Performing Arts Center downtown, and an easy drive to the world-renowned Henry Doorly Zoo.

2017 Fall Symposium, Columbus, Ohio (tentative)

Exhibits are a key component of any outreach program, whether we work with archival collections in a private business, a nonprofit organization, a college/university, or a governmental entity. This two-day workshop will offer the basics as well "good to better" instruction in planning, designing, and implementing an effective physical exhibit with impact.

2018 Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, or nearby suburb (tentative)

Tentative plans are underway for MAC to return to Chicagoland in 2018. Stay tuned!