

RBMS Executive Committee Minutes

ALA Annual Conference – New Orleans

June 26, 2006

8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Present: Katherine Reagan (Cornell University), Chair; E.C. Schroeder (Yale University), Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect; Elaine B. Smyth (Louisiana State University), Past-Chair; Danette R. Pachtner (Duke University), Secretary; Rachel Howarth (Harvard University), Member-at-Large; Jane M. Gillis (Yale University), Member-at-Large; Charlotte B. Brown (University of California, Los Angeles), Member-at-Large.

Guests:

Kathryn Beam (University of Michigan), Terry Belanger (University of Virginia, Rare Book School), Lois Fischer Black (North Carolina State University), Alvan Bregman (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), John Buchtel (Johns Hopkins University), Steve Cox (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga), Mark Dimunation (Library of Congress), Christian Dupont (University of Virginia), Ellen Ellickson (Yale University), Sarah Fisher (University of Delaware), Nadine Gardner (National Endowment for the Humanities), E. K. Giese (University of Virginia, Rare Book School), Julie Grob (University of Houston), Hjordis Halvorson (Newberry Library), Barbara Heritage (University of Virginia, Rare Book School), Eric Holzenberg (Grolier Club), Elizabeth Johnson (Indiana University), Bill Joyce (Penn State University), Mike Kelly (New York University), Lynne King (ACRL Liaison), Deborah J. Leslie (Folger Shakespeare Library), Jeffrey Makala (University of South Carolina), Will La Moy (Syracuse University), Margaret Nichols (Cornell University), John Overholt (Harvard University), Barbara Paulson (National Endowment for the Humanities), Fernando Peña (Grolier Club), Mary Jane Petrowski (ACRL Liaison), Anne Posega (Washington University), Henry Raine (New York Historical Society), Marcia Reed (Getty Research Institute), Stephen Skuce (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), J. Daniel J. Slive (William Reese Company), Susan Walker (Yale University), Everett Wilkie.

These minutes incorporate reports from RBMS Information Exchange of Sunday, 25 June 2006, which are indicated by the initials [IE] preceding the report. Thanks to committee chairs, task force chairs, and liaisons who provided summaries of their presentations.

1. Introductions (K. Reagan)

Reagan called the meeting to order at 8:06am. It was noted there were fewer guests than usual, due to lower attendance overall at this New Orleans conference.

2. Review and finalize agenda (K. Reagan)

Reagan announced that item 14, "New Business," will be treated as item 7e. There were no additions to the agenda.

3. Approve minutes from ALA Midwinter 2006 (K. Reagan)

Minutes from Midwinter 2006 were approved.

4. Reminders for committee chairs (K. Reagan)

Reagan read from the charge to chairs, reminding them of their duties. For details see Information for Chairs of Committees, Task Forces, and Discussion Groups:

http://www.rbms.nd.edu/committees/information_for_chairs.shtml

Smyth reported on her review of the RBMS manual. She plans to finalize for posting by August 15, 2006. All committee chairs please review the manual and see if your charge looks correct and check for inaccuracies under the procedures section, etc. Please send any proposed revisions to Exec. Smyth will send an email reminder to both current and former committee chairs.

5. Consent agenda to ratify any e-mail votes taken by Exec since Annual (K. Reagan)

The following consent agenda items passed with no changes. Daniel J. Slive commented that it would have been preferable to have item F presented to the Conference Development Committee; his comment was duly noted.

- a. Executive Committee [hereafter referred to as Exec] reviewed, revised, and approved a new version of the RBMS publication, *Your Old Books*, and forwarded this version to the chair of the RBMS Publications Committee.
- b. Exec voted to send a proposal to the Friends of ACRL Fund Subcommittee requesting money to support the Diversity Committee's ongoing recruitment efforts at colleges and universities with minority enrollments, and asked the Diversity Committee to draft and submit that proposal.
- c. Exec approved a revision of the RBMS Security Guidelines as drafted by the Security Committee and gave clearance for the chair of the Security Committee to forward that revision to the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee for expedited review.
- d. Exec voted to bring a motion to the ACRL Executive Board at its May 3, 2006 meeting proposing that ACRL investigate, as soon as possible, the automation of its committee appointment process, moving it to an online environment.
- e. Exec concluded that the RBMS website should move from its former home at the University of Notre Dame to a commercial host and asked the RBMS Webmaster to take that action [rationale for this decision will be discussed under agenda item 9d].
- f. Exec voted to co-sponsor, in name only, the 2007 ALA/Government Documents Round Table (GODORT), Rare and Endangered Government Publications Committee program entitled, "What Difference Does It Make What Congress Published? American History in the Earliest Congressional Documents," to be held in Washington, D.C. in June 2007.

6. ACRL meeting reports

a. ACRL Board I & II, 2006 Midwinter (K. Reagan)

At its January 21st meeting the Board approved RBMS' proposal for its 2008 Preconference to be held in Los Angeles. At its May 3rd meeting the Board had no time to take up the motion regarding online committee appointments; the issue is now moot since ALA has approved the online appointment process.

b. ACRL Section Leadership and Sections Council (E. C. Schroeder)

Nothing further to report.

7. Guideline revisions / Task Forces

a. Guidelines on Selection of General Collections Materials for Transfer to Special Collections (C. Brown)

Brown put forward a scenario to submit a draft copy of the guidelines to experts who are not subscribed to the standard listservs, and a list of possible experts will be handed out to Exec. Brown called for other suggestions; none were forthcoming. These experts will review the draft, as will Exec, and a revised draft will be posted for general review. Other relevant ALA bodies will also be sent the draft for review--SAA, etc. At Midwinter the task force will meet once more, and in

January 2007 it will be published in C&RL news. A public hearing at ALA Annual 2007 is anticipated. E. Wilkie pointed out that SAC favors outside consultants. Janet Ford, the task force's liaison, will be contacted. It was determined that RBMS does not have an official SAA liaison. Reagan will obtain the name of an equivalent liaison to send to Brown. Everett recommended carefully choosing a few SAA members who will be sure to look at the Guidelines.

[IE]

The Task Force to Revise the "Guidelines on the Selection of General Collection Materials for Transfer to Special Collections" held its fourth meeting at the 2006 ALA annual conference and completed the initial editing of the "Guidelines...". The revised draft, now known as DRAFT-1 Revision, will be available to RBMS members, librarians, archivists, and friends of special collections for comment in early 2007. The DRAFT-1 Revision will also be published in "College and Research Library News" prior to the 2007 ALA annual conference.

b. Task Force on Core Competencies (K. Beam)

Beam reminded the group of the task force's questionnaire conducted in the winter. She reported that a first draft of the document has been completed and posted. At the Austin Preconference Margaret Hedstrom and she co-facilitated a discussion group with 45 attendees and many fine ideas surfaced. At their meeting yesterday the task force reviewed outcomes from the discussion group and provided an assessment of the first draft of the document. Much of the meeting comprised strategizing for what yet is to be done. Rewriting draft one, incorporating disc. Group ideas, plan to submit draft to membership committee of SAA, which meets in August and ARL task force on special collections, AAM members, selected, will also read it. They are aiming for a second draft to be ready by Midwinter 2007 and for a final draft to be ready at Annual 2007. Wilkie interjected one SAC item--that all competency guidelines require ILAC's (Information literacy advisory committee) review; he suggested that Beam contact Bill Nelson at SAC to determine whether ILAC will need to review this document.

[IE]

The meeting of the Task Force on Core Competencies for Special Collections Professionals was held on June 24, 2006 at the Morial Convention Center from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Present were Margaret Nichols, Kris Kiesling, Daniel Slive, Hjordis Halvorson, Beverly Lynch, Mark Dimunation, and Kathryn Beam (Chair). Absent were Jackie Dooley and Alice Schreyer.

A brief review of recent activities was given. Draft #1 of the Task Force document was completed by June 1 and posted on the RBMS website with announcements on the RBMS and Exlibris list serves. A Discussion Group was held during the Pre-conference in Austin, Texas, on Thursday, June 22, 2006, entitled "Core Competencies and Professional Education," co-moderated by Beam and Margaret Hedstrom, Professor in the School of Information at the University of Michigan. Draft #1 was the principal focus of the discussion with emphasis on format, content, strengths, weaknesses, omissions, and style. Forty-seven people participated.

The meeting in New Orleans continued the discussion begun in Austin. The Task Force revisited issues concerning intended audience, the inclusion of instructions on how to use the document, and other aspects of content and presentation. Assignments were given to each member of the TF, some charged with rewriting and some to be responsible for securing further input from selected organizations such as SAA, AAM, and ARL's Task Force on Special Collections. Draft #2 will be ready by Midwinter 2007, with the final draft to be submitted to the RBMS Executive Committee at Annual 2007.

c. Joint Statement on Access Review Task Force (W. Joyce)

The task force met for the second time and anticipates a draft document sometime this fall. They will then contact relevant parties in this matter—e.g. Beverly Lynch and CALM, SAA contacts. Tactics are complicated—when something that has some more exposure to participants, it will be presented to RBMS and SAA at the same time and input will be solicited. Wilkie pointed out that their document is a statement rather than a guideline, and he is not sure if it falls within SAC's purview and suggested that it be submitted to them for their determination. Joyce asked why ACRL think they have special expertise in this type of thing? Wilkie replied that often they are trying to look at form, presentation, etc. Reagan asked Joyce if he still thinks that the changes are relatively minor, and he answered affirmatively, adding that he thinks they need a hearing.

[IE]

The Task Force on the revision of the Joint Statement on Access held its second meeting at the ALA Annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, on Sunday, June 22, 2006, at 10:30 am in the New Orleans Convention Center. Task Force members William L. Joyce (chair), Rachel Howarth, Laura Micham, John Pull, and Suzy Taraba attended the meeting.

The due date for the revised statement is the January 2007 Midwinter meeting, scheduled for Seattle, Washington. Two review cycles have passed without review of the statement, and the ALA committee that approved the original statement no longer exists; the Task Force assumes, however, that the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee will now review the statement. Chairman Joyce will contact the Society of American Archivists (SAA) to explore how best to insure SAA's participation in the revision.

The Task Force members reviewed the proposed statement revisions section by section and agreed to make further revisions in most sections following the discussion. Chairman Joyce will collate the revised sections and produce a draft statement to circulate in advance of the Midwinter meeting.

d. Security Guidelines Revision (E. Wilkie)

The guidelines are SAC-approved, and the ACRL Executive Committee has approved it or will soon. The printed version appears in the July/August issue of C&RL News and the on-line version may be consulted at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlstandards/securityrarebooks.htm>

The new version will also be available from the RBMS web page. Kudos to Everett and the members of the Security Committee.

[formerly item 14]

e. Proposal to combine the ACRL/RBMS Guidelines for Borrowing and Lending Special Collections Materials for Exhibition with the Guidelines for the Interlibrary Loan of Rare and Unique Materials

Wilkie proposes that a task force be appointed to combine these two guidelines into one. He feels that the combination will require no rewriting of documents, just writing a few paragraphs of introduction. He said there is no overlap, we were careful about that. Discussion?

Holtzenberg asked, if there is no overlap, why combine them? Are they similar enough that they belong together? Wilkie replied that they are parallel. Sort of the same concept as the security guidelines, they probably should be combined. Howarth asked if the two guidelines are for a slightly different audience? Wilkie replied that they are, but any library can use both of them. Howarth responded that there could be concern about having the two in the same document if some institutions are only going to use one. Joyce added that operationally they are on different tracks that involve a whole different array of activities—appraisal, shipping, mounting, etc. Joyce's concern is that a combined guideline may detract from both in that the focus and finding relevant material may be difficult. Dupont stated that by combining the guidelines, the Section may end up having to

edit more in the end if the ILL section needs to be changed, but not the Exhibition loan section, etc. Grob said that her institution used the Exhibition Guideline this year, and she thinks it would be strange to include ILL details in the same document.

Johnson asked what would the name of the combined guideline be and cautioned that it needs to be very clear. Brown stated that she is still sort of neutral on this. She may be in favor of combining them since one informs the other and there is much that does actually overlap in terms of function. Joyce asked if the appraisal is different for exhibition and ILL. Dimunation pointed out that: in several places he has worked there are entirely different functions and units involved and procedural differences; the combination of the two guidelines could be vastly confusing, and this is really apples and oranges. Reed agreed with Dimunation and added that the IFLA guidelines on exhibition loan is simplified/abbreviated and refers to the RBMS Guidelines, and international libraries would find it very confusing to have ILL information included.

Smyth said that she would like to see this deferred since the Section has only just finished revising these guidelines and suggested revisiting the idea next time the guidelines are up for review. Reagan concluded by asking for a vote on the motion. The motion did not pass.

8. Programming

a. 2006 Preconference Program Planning, Austin (C. Dupont)

Nothing further to report. Smyth thanked Dupont for a very successful Preconference.

[IE]

By all accounts, the 2006 RBMS Preconference held in Austin, TX, from June 20-23 was a great success. The theme was “Libraries, Archives, and Museums in the Twenty-First Century: Intersecting Missions, Converging Futures?” Some 350 people attended, including 33 scholarship recipients. Thirty scholarships were funded by a grant from IMLS; three additional scholarships were funded by ACRL with contributions from RBMS members. Selected papers from the conference will be published in a special conference issue of RBM in spring 2007. The IMLS grant will fund a print overrun of the issue so that complimentary copies can be sent leaders in the museums and archives communities. The IMLS grant will also fund travel for Christian Dupont and Katherine Reagan to make a presentation on the Preconference outcomes at the 2007 annual meeting of the American Association of Museums (AAM) in Chicago. In the meantime, Dupont will be compiling and analyzing the results of the post-conference evaluation, and will share the results via the RBMS electronic discussion list. Reporting on the Preconference is also being made to the joint ALA/SAA/AAM Committee on Archives, Libraries, and Museums (CALM), which has shown great interest in the Preconference.

b. 2006 Preconference Local Arrangements, Austin (C. Henderson/R. Oram)

Exec extended thanks for the committee’s work on the Preconference.

c. 2006 Conference Program, New Orleans (L. Black)

Nothing further to add. Applause followed for an excellent program.

[IE]

“Reimagineering Special Collections: Building Designs and Considerations for the 21st Century.” Approximately 225 conference attendees assembled at 1:30 p.m. in the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans on Sunday, June 25, 2006 to participate in the RBMS program “Reimagineering Special Collections: Building Designs and Considerations for the 21st Century.” The conference program, co-sponsored by LAMA’s Building and Equipment Section (BES), featured three speakers offering different perspectives on planning new special collections facilities.

The first speaker, Jeanne Hammer, Assistant Director for Finance & Administration, North Carolina State University, outlined aspects of her experience planning a new facility at the University of Virginia, as well as her contributions to a renovation project at the NCSU Libraries. Janette Blackburn, Senior Associate with Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, an architectural design firm in Boston, followed up with advice regarding working with architects. She brought attendees up to date on the developments in design she's witnessed over the last few years. Finally, Pat Bozeman, Head, Special Collections at the University of Houston, presented her perspective as a special collections librarian, and shared her experience planning and ultimately moving into a new facility.

A lively question and answer session followed the speakers' presentations. The panelists elaborated upon factors influencing renovation and new construction of rare book and manuscript libraries cited earlier, including the availability of off-site storage facilities, new technologies, preservation, and reduced allocations of space.

e. **2007 Preconference Planning, Baltimore** (E.C. Schroeder/H. Raine)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

Henry Raine reported on the activities of the 2007 Preconference Program Planning Committee. The 2007 Preconference will be held in Baltimore from June 19 to June 22, and the theme is ephemera. Plans are already well under way for six plenary sessions that will explore different aspects of this theme, including the nature of ephemera, the scholarly uses of ephemera, the ephemera trade, collectors and collecting, and ephemera in institutions. In addition to the plenary sessions, there will be nine short papers and nine seminars further developing aspects of the theme, and an all-day workshop on cataloging ephemera held on the Tuesday of the Preconference.

e. **2007 Preconference Local Arrangements, Baltimore** (J. Buchtel for C. Requardt)

Local arrangements in the past have involved a number of non-RBMS members and non-member institutions. Since there are relatively few members in the immediate area of the 2007 Preconference, Buchtel called for volunteers. There are a few details yet to be negotiated, but arrangements are well underway. Slive asked if Buchtel felt he had enough members for his team—members of RBMS or nonmembers. Buchtel responded that he thinks the committee is in pretty good shape. Dimunation pointed out that this was a good recruitment opportunity for the section.

[IE]

John Buchtel reported that the Preconference will be hosted by Johns Hopkins University, and will be based in the historic Mount Vernon neighborhood of Baltimore, located between the Inner Harbor and the main campus of Johns Hopkins University, and home to the George Peabody Library, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Maryland Historical Society, and the Walters Art Museum. The conference hotel will be the Tremont Plaza, located between Mt Vernon and the Inner Harbor, with a room rate of \$159 per night. There will also be dorm rooms available in a newly renovated dormitory on the Johns Hopkins University campus, a short shuttle ride from the Mt Vernon neighborhood, for \$42 a night. Organizers are still exploring the possibility of additional rooms at the Peabody Institute Elderhostel for about \$63 per night. A bookdealers' showcase will be organized by the Southeast Chapter of the ABAA all day on Tuesday at the hotel, adjacent to the registration area. Conference sessions will be held on Wednesday and on Friday morning in the Tremont Grand, a magnificently restored Masonic temple next door to the hotel, and on Thursday on the campus of Johns Hopkins University. The opening reception will be held at the George Peabody Library, a spectacular 1870s cast iron structure, and a reception will be held on Wednesday night at the Walters Art Museum, which will keep some of its galleries open for RBMS members. There will also be a picnic dinner on Thursday night at Evergreen House, an 1850s

Italianate mansion operated by Johns Hopkins as a house museum and home to the John Work Garrett Library. A variety of tours are planned, including visits to the Peabody Library, Maryland Historical Society, the Walters Art Museum, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Maryland State Library, Homewood House, and the Baltimore Museum of Art.

f. 2007 Conference Program, Washington D.C. (J. Makala)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

The 2007 RBMS Conference Program Committee met in New Orleans and began to finalize plans for next year's conference program in Washington, D.C. The title of the program is: Rare Books and Special Collections in Public Libraries: Collections and Locations, Old and New.

The program will bring together representatives from public library special collections that differ in geography, size of the library, and date of the collection's formation. The program will explore the collection development, maintenance, and administrative challenges of working with rare books and special collections in a public library environment. Co-sponsorship with the Public Library Association is being actively pursued.

g. 2008 Preconference Program Planning, Los Angeles (C. Dupont)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

Christian Dupont led a preliminary program-planning meeting for the 2008 RBMS Preconference, which will be hosted jointly by UCLA and the Getty Research Institute. Nicole Bouche has agreed to serve as program chair, but was not able to be present at yesterday's meeting, which was attended by five guests. Dupont related Bouche's interest in exploring the impact of mass digitization on special collections. He then led a discussion which generated a list of related topics, including automated metadata creation vs. traditional cataloging; wiki (community edited) sites (e.g., Wikipedia); user-generated web-indexing programs (e.g., del.icio.us); online image storage and sharing software (e.g., Flickr); consolidation of bibliographical utilities; changing role of the Library of Congress; integrated library system (ILS) vendors and needs for special collections collection management tools. One major outcome of the discussion was the recognition that the special collections community must represent itself on a larger scale to the constituencies it serves, whether academic researchers, students, or members of the general public. With this came the recognition that the 2008 Preconference could fulfill an advocacy function toward those entities that represent scale, such as agencies engaged in mass digitization efforts and the major bibliographical utilities. Dupont asked anyone interested in serving on the 2008 Preconference Program Planning Committee to contact Bouche or himself.

h. 2008 Conference Program Planning, Anaheim (C. Dupont)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

Christian Dupont led a preliminary planning meeting for the RBMS annual conference program to be held during the 2008 ALA annual meeting in Anaheim, California. Three people attended and brainstormed on possible topics. Some of the topics mentioned included the impact of consolidation among the major bibliographical utilities, a survey of special collections hiring, southern California cultural heritage, film archiving and preservation, and sound archives. The latter ideas generated the most interest and discussion. Members of the group noted that concentration of film and sound experts in southern California should make it relatively easy to find and hire speakers

on a small budget. They also noted that this is a topic of broad interest in the library world, citing, for example, the recent CLIR study of sound recording preservation in the United States. They further observed that it is a topic that lends itself to co-sponsorship opportunities both inside and outside of ALA. Dupont asked anyone knowledgeable about film or sound archiving and preservation to contact him, as he is seeking to assemble a small program committee.

9. Publications

a. Publications Committee (M. Kelly)

No action items for this meeting, although Your Old Books has a draft design, the committee looked at it, after some minor changes the design will be circulated electronically to Exec. ACRL has no problem at all with RBMS printing it; ACRL will distribute it for free if RBMS sends them a stack. Holzenberg asked if there was a time frame for actually having the item in hand. Kelly responded that the end of the summer was likely. Holzenberg commented that he has a market for them at the end of October. A notice will be sent out on the listserv when the document is ready, and it will be posted to the website soon.

It is preferable to give them away rather than sell them since ABAA will be giving them away. A PDF version will be available on the website for download. It's not worth ACRL Publication Committee's trouble to charge \$1 for it. Smyth asked who was financing the printing. A print run of 10,000 copies is being paid for jointly by ABAA and RBS. Reagan asked if ACRL was willing to support the printing of it in the future. Kelly pointed out that there is some urgency to getting the new print version out there as soon as possible and suggested that the section think of this current printing almost as a stop gap, and we can then ask the ACRL Board to print it in the future. Belanger added that he thinks this is out of date; it is easier to move electrons than paper, and it is less attractive for RBS to pay for printing if it is available electronically. Kelly commented that it sounds like this is moving away from being an ACRL publication. Smyth suggested that since we have the current support for a run, let us proceed at this point and see what happens when the funding runs out.

Kelly stated that the layout includes two sheets, printed on both sides, plus a cover, no color. Dupont reminded the group that one aspect of this revision included splitting it into 23 questions, comprising the print version, plus a section listing other resources, websites, etc. With a cover it would total of 3 sheets of paper, though there is no need for a cover; it could be 2 sheets of paper (8 pages, 2 columns). The document is not really complete as a print version, although it is still very useful. Reagan stated that we need an estimate of the cost, since ABAA is willing to pay half the costs. Holzenberg said that we need something with graphic interest, or it is a waste of money to print out anything at all--we need color printing, and it is appropriate for an RBMS publication to look as good as possible. Kelly duly noted this. Belanger added that we have something that is difficult to sell because it is too small, and ACRL overpriced it at a \$1; it is not production cost that is the problem but distribution cost. Reagan stated that she would like ACRL to revisit the free vs. pay model, but it is up to them. Dupont stated that there could be a good market for this as a prospectus.

[IE]

RBMS Discussion List: only 400 members have subscribed to the online discussion list. Those who have not should do so through lists.ala.org

Your Old Books: the final text of the new edition was approved by Exec in March. We are currently working with ACRL to produce a new print edition.

ALA Communities Software: section members are invited to explore the new ALA Online Communities system. You all already have accounts, you just need to go to

communities.ala.org to activate them and explore the resources available for facilitating section work and communication.

b. **RBMS Newsletter** (M. Kelly)

Nothing further to report. Kelly welcomed incoming editor, Marianne Hansen.

[IE]

Jeff Barton and Michael Forstrom have completed their term as co-editors. Marianne Hanson is the new Newsletter editor.

c. **RBM** (R. Clement)

Traditionally Clement has not been able to attend Exec because the ALA Publications Committee met at the same time. Due to a time slot change, he will attend Exec in future.

[IE]

1. Editorial Board. Two new members were appointed at Midwinter. One new member has been nominated at Annual. Several vacancies remain.
2. Content. *RBM* appears twice a year. The spring issue is now devoted to content from the annual RBMS Preconference. The Preconference program chair serves as a “guest” editor but works closely with the editor (and board, as required).

Thus the Spring 2006 issue is devoted to the subject of education for special collections librarianship and includes nine articles originally given as plenary papers at the RBMS Preconference in St. Louis in June, 2005. This issue was guest edited by Eric Holzenberg (Grolier Club) and was 50% larger than normal due to a generous grant from the St. Louis Mercantile Library, directed by John Hoover. The Spring 2007 issue will feature articles from the 2006 Preconference in Austin and will likewise be an expanded issue.

The fall issue is open and may form a topical volume, but more often includes a range of articles of interest to special collections librarians and others. The Fall 2006 issue will feature a range of six articles from issues involving Native American materials in special collections to security in reading rooms.

3. Design. We continue to “tweak” the design of the journal, having changed the type size from 11/18 to 11/14, set off the section headings with additional space, and changed paper stock. A major step was to choose a new typeface: Dante, designed by Giovanni Mardersteig at the Officina Bodoni in 1954. A comprehensive design overhaul is not anticipated.

d. **Webmaster** (Kelly reported for J. Pull)

The RBMS website is now being privately hosted. Reagan added that she has sent a memo to ACRL about this move, with details that the change had been funded from member contributions; ACRL has not responded as yet. Leslie asked if committees will be able to move their websites to this service and, if so, can committees update their own material. Kelly responded that changes will still be made through Pull and the new assistant webmaster. Dupont pointed out that with private hosting, more than one group can be included since institutional posting has always been problematic. Slive made interjected an information point that the Preconference Program manual will be moved by September 1st to the RBMS website. Leslie asked if all the pages will have the same look and feel. Reagan concluded that these points will be worked on in the next few months by Pull and Kelly.

[IE]

The RBMS website has achieved a new level of security by securing and populating a mirror site on commercially hosted space, with the domain name RBMS.INFO. This mirroring provides vastly

improved business contingency and continuation capacity, allowing for a changeover during the unlikely event of a catastrophic server event.

The move to commercial hosting brings with it advanced backup and archiving of the RBMS web presence. This change should be transparent to all users.

[15-minute break from 9:30-9:45am]

[ACRL Liaison report, given here by M. J. Petrowski; see item 12a]

10. Committees

a. **Archivist/Records Manager** (A. Bregman)

Chris Cook at Urbana-Champaign will be taking over soon, though Bregman will still be there to assist. Bregman has talked with ALA's archivist, who has indicated he may have resources for Cook and Bregman to start working with to better rationalize the record series, but he does not have anything on paper [no pun intended]. Reagan thanked Bregman for his many years of excellent service. Slive asked if he could still send questions to Bregman about the 50th anniversary of the Preconference and the reply was affirmative. Reed asked if members should send items to Cook or to Bregman? The answer is Cook. Reagan asked Bregman to send a note to the RBMS list with the new archivist's name and contact address.

[IE]

From Alvan Bregman: Since 2000, I have been the RBMS Archivist and have been happy to talk or correspond with RBMS members who had questions about the preparation of files for transfer to the ALA Archives or who needed to refer to material already deposited there. I am now handing over these duties to Christopher Cook, my colleague at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

As usual, new committee chairs should review the files they have received from their predecessors and send older documents and files of business records for deposit. Before transferring your files, please weed them so they include only the kinds of documents specified in the document, "Transfer Guidelines for Records of Educational and Professional Associations". These guidelines can be found on the Web at <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/ahx/professional.htm>.

If you have any questions, please now contact:

Christopher Cook
RBMS Archivist/Records Manager
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
346 Library (MC-522)
1408 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801
Tel: 217-333-3713
FAX: 217-333-2214
E-mail: cdcook@uiuc.edu

b. **Bibliographic Standards** (D. Leslie)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

Editorial work on DCRM(B) Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books) is nearing the final stages.

Editorial work on DCRM (Serials) is in full swing and has recently gained momentum with the appointment of an editorial team. A public hearing on DCRM(S) was held on Saturday night, sparsely-attended but successful in resolving some difficult issues.

DCRM (Music), the work of a joint task force between Bib Standards and its counterpart in the Music Library Association, is preparing a release of its text in anticipation of a public hearing in midwinter 2007.

As announced last time, the RBMS Controlled Vocabularies (thesauri + relator terms) is freely available on the web, with a link from the BSC web page. We've asked those with a background in XML and web design to get in touch with Beth Russell, Thesaurus Editor, to consider ways to increase its functionality and appeal.

c. **Budget and Development** (E. Smyth for L. Claason)

Smyth thanked Claason for her service and welcomed Margaret Nichols as the new committee chair. Nichols is looking for additional members for the committee aside from those who serve ex officio.

e. **Conference Development** (D. Slive)

Action item: Slive received a visit from Nancy Kandaion, of NYPL, regarding MAGERT's (ALA Map and Geography Round Table) Preconference, on Cataloging Early Maps, June 21-22, 2007 in Washington D.C. with a limit of 50 participants. He made a motion to cosponsor in name only. Belanger asked if Section guidelines refer to conflicts like this. Reagan replied that there was nothing specific in the guidelines; it is decided on a case-by-case basis. Reagan called for a vote; the motion passed. Slive will forward this information to MAGERT.

[IE]

The following Preconference and Conference locations have been confirmed. The committee chairs for each of these events have already provided program and local arrangements information.

RBMS Preconferences:

2007 in Baltimore

2008 in Los Angeles

RBMS Conference Programs at ALA Annual:

2007 in Washington, D.C.

2008 in Anaheim

Future programming:

The bi-annual ACRL National Conference will be in Baltimore March 29 – April 1, 2007. On behalf of the Conference Development Committee and RBMS, Hjordis Halvorson submitted a proposal for a panel entitled “Library as Laboratory: Special Collections in Undergraduate Education.” We are waiting to hear if this proposal has been accepted by the ACRL conference organizers.

RBMS will be celebrating two milestones in the near future, and we hope to have Preconference programs, which recognize the 50th anniversary of the section in 2008, and the 50th Preconference in 2009.

ALA Annual will be in Chicago in 2009, and the Conference Development Committee reviewed proposals from the University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Virginia for possible sites of the Preconference for that year. (A decision will be made by voting members of the committee later this summer and forwarded to Exec.)

ALA Annual is currently scheduled to be in New York City in 2010, and the committee is beginning to investigate possible sites for that year's Preconference. We are also open to receiving suggestions for 2014, when ALA will be in Las Vegas.

Finally, proposed revisions for the RBMS Preconference Program Planning Manual have been received, and the editors of the manual intend to review these and forward them to the website editor by the end of the summer.

g. **Diversity** (J. Grob)

Action item: Grob stated that her committee has become concerned that the last time RBMS surveyed its membership was in 1997. ALA has been doing an ongoing online demographic survey. There is the possibility of extracting RBMS data. We need to make a request along with the ACRL survey data. Petrowski pointed out that only 8,000 members have responded to the demographic survey. Grob asks that RBMS Exec request ALA demographic data be extracted for RBMS. Smyth

suggested that the Section not ask for the data until after the newsletter comes out reminding members to take the survey, which is tabulated monthly. Reagan asked that the request come directly from the Diversity Committee and stated that Exec will just consider this as a point of information. If ACRL responds to the committee that Exec needs to make the request, it will then make it.

An idea came up of inviting SAA to have a rep join RBMS for Seattle Midwinter Diversity Outreach. There were no objections, and Reagan stated that it sounds worth investigating. It was suggested that Nancy Beaumont in Chicago, Deborra Richardson at the Smithsonian, maybe a regional organization rather than SAA, in addition to letting SAA know. Most regionals have two meetings per year. Western Washington Univ. is where archival studies is being taught. Forward any contacts to Julie. They're looking for faculty who work with undergraduates, etc.

Grob said that much enthusiasm is generated around outreach visits, and perhaps an online toolkit could be developed with links to list of HBCs and tribal colleges and other institutions, educational opportunities directory, tips, etc. ALA Communities could be used to create the toolkit. Reagan responded that this was a good idea, and there may be some financial support if a funding articulation could be made.

[IE]

The Diversity Committee applied for a grant from the Friends of ACRL to support diversity outreach visits before or during ALA Midwinter 2007 in Seattle. The award would cover lodging and meal expenses for two RBMS members who will present short talks on special collections librarianship to college and university students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in the Seattle area. The ACRL Friends Fund Subcommittee will make their recommendation to the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee in New Orleans.

h. **Exhibition Awards** (M. Reed)

The Publications Committee is going to take over doing the yearly list of submissions. Reagan asked what level of production the committee is going to look for with this list? Reed replied that Melissa Conway's institution had paid for that in the past. Smyth said when she served on the committee the list was paid for by the Leab Endowment. The Budget and Development Committee wants to develop some informal procedural guidelines on how finances are handled—for example shipping charges, checklist printing, etc. Reagan asked Reed to write up a guideline for Budget and Development to review.

Reed hopes to work with Local Arrangement next year and have the Leab Awards be more prominent and well advertised. Last year had the worst attendance. Call for suggestions? Slive stated that it is an ongoing problem. Reed replied that she does want to make some kind of announcement about the awards at the Preconference's opening reception. Slive suggested having the awards at the same time as the book fair at the 2007 Preconference. Dimunation suggested that the Seminars Committee could book an extra room and have the awards available for viewing at more than one time. He added that regarding the checklist, he's glad to see it back; there used to be a letterpress printed sheet, which took up a large part of the committee's time.

For continuity, because there are so many details involved, the Committee recommended that the past chair stay on for another year. Reagan responded that it could be incorporated in the Section manual that it is strongly suggested that the chair remain on the committee as an ex officio member. Smyth volunteered to provide language to that effect.

The Committee has been working on an update of 10 more years of the Leab Awards. The scanning still has been done. For some reason 1998 has fallen through the cracks. The Committee may ask the Leabs what they might have done with those books. Lois Black wrote a letter to the institutions with winning catalogs to get permission to display the images of covers; some

institutions are balking, though most are enthusiastic. When permission is not granted, it will be noted "permission not granted" and a follow-up letter will be sent clarifying that no full-text scanning or anything will proceed. And if permission is not granted, this information will be included on the website; it will be made clear to the institution that the fact permission is not granted will be made clear on the website. Shall the Committee ask a lawyer if there's a Fair Use exemption here? No!

[IE]

Members of the Exhibition Awards Committee focused on two principal activities this past year. For purposes of updating the Leab Awards website with an additional ten year's listings and images of winning entries, Peggy Price and Sarah Goodwin Thiel traveled to the University of Texas after the ALA Mid-Winter meetings to scan covers of winning catalogues and brochures. These have been forwarded to John Pull (RBMS Webmaster) who is attempting to locate 1998 entries missing from the Ransom Center and Grolier archives in order to complete the update project. To confirm permission to display the covers of the award winners on the website, Lois Black has been sending "opt-out" letters to institutions that published the catalogues and brochures. She has received mostly positive responses from libraries that are pleased to have their entries featured on the website.

A second EAC project commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Leab Awards. Four current members of the EAC presented talks at the Austin RBMS Preconference seminar. Subjects included: the history and criteria for the competition (Richard Noble); differences between library and museum exhibitions (Marcia Reed); critical decisions concerning the production of printed catalogues (Will La Moy); and considerations for the design of electronic exhibitions (Sarah Goodwin Thiel). Relating closely to her work on the EAC, Thiel's book *Build It Once: A basic primer for the creation of online exhibitions* will be available from Scarecrow Press in Fall 2006. To mark the 20th anniversary of the Leab Awards a special color-illustrated brochure was published with information on all submissions and images of the 2006 winners. Further information and ordering details for all entries will also be available on the RBMS website.

i. **Membership and Professional Development** (E. Ellickson)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

The Preconference event formerly known as the New Members' Orientation was reorganized for Austin to become the Preconference Orientation & Introduction to RBMS. This was a three-part event: a general introduction to and history of RBMS, an introduction to the Preconference itself and, third, specific information about RBMS committees and about how to become involved in the section. Reactions have ranged from "It was great" to "It was boring, but less boring than before," which we all took as rousing, entirely positive. Otherwise, the Buddy Program continues to be a great success (26 Preconference and two Conference Buddy pairs were matched). As for the Mentoring Program, it is the usual story: we have a constant supply of would-be mentees and we need a constant supply of mentors. I have written to a number of you personally to ask if you would please act as a mentor and I will continue to do that but we would be very grateful if more of you would be so kind as to volunteer.

j. **Nominating** (M. Nichols/E. Smyth)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

Please send Smyth suggestions for nominees for the following positions: Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Secretary, and Member-at-Large.

i. **Security** (E. Wilkie).

Nothing further to report. Reagan thanked Wilkie for his stalwart service on the Security Committee.

[IE]

Wilkie reported that the ACRL Executive Committee had approved the latest version of the section's Guidelines for the Security of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and other Special Collections. SAC has also approved the document and it is anticipated that the full ACRL Board will approve it, as well. It is to appear in the July/August, 2006, issue of C&RL News.

The security manual on which the committee has been working continues to progress. Another chapter has been written and Wilkie hopes the entire text will be done in a year. Wilkie announced that this was his last term as chair of the committee and that Rich Oram would be assuming those duties.

Finally, Wilkie displayed some microdots, which are covert marking devices, he brought to the meeting and invited those interested to see him after the meeting if they wished to examine them.

j. **Seminars** (E. Johnson)

Johnson pointed out that the ALA charge doesn't match that in the RBMS manual and needs correction. Schroeder agreed to correct it. Reagan thanked Johnson for her service.

[IE]

The Seminars Committee is hard at work planning the seminars to be offered at the 2007 Preconference in Baltimore. Some of the topics to be covered include:

1. Where does Special Collections Cataloging belong? issues of organizational context;
2. Scrapbooks;
3. Collaborative digitization projects with diverse partners (archives, museums, libraries, and historical societies);
4. Inherent Vice: preservation issues related to ephemera;
5. An update on Bibliographical Databases - ESTC, CCILA, etc.;
6. Collecting Contemporary Events; and
7. Teaching with Ephemera.

For section members interested in an historical perspective on our preponderances, a report detailing all the seminars presented at preponderances should be available on the RMBS website very soon.

Elizabeth Johnson is completing her second term as Chair of the Seminars Committee and Arvid Nelsen will be the new chair of the committee.

11. Discussion Groups

a. **Collection Development** (A. Bregman/C. Duroselle-Melish)

The discussion group jointly met with **Curators and Conservators**. Bregman pointed out that joint meetings work quite well and it was a very good meeting. The term, "inherent vice," is now officially introduced into the vocabulary.

[IE]

Twenty people attended the meeting. The discussion then focused on investigating the preservation issues that must be considered when accepting (or refusing all or parts of) a collection, as well as the role of conservators in evaluating the cost of conservation treatment of a collection prior to its arrival. The importance of having a preservation and a gift policy included in collection development policies was stressed. Having workshops about preservation for the community was also brought up. The discussion then moved to what happens to a collection when it arrives in the library.

b. **Curators and Conservators** (J. Teper)

Joint meeting with **Collection Development**; see report above.

c. **Manuscripts and Other Formats** (M. Lacy/L. Black)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

The meeting of the Manuscript and Other Formats Discussion Group was attended by about 20 RBMS members. The group welcomed Lois Black, who will be the incoming co-convenor of the discussion group. The primary topic of discussion was the use of students, interns, and volunteers in archives and manuscript repositories. Black led off the discussion by discussing how North Carolina State University has formed partnerships with its academic departments and library school and public history programs for mutually beneficial internship and fellows programs, which provide much-needed labor for manuscripts and archives. The group generally discussed issues of training, funding, and supervision in both academic and non-teaching libraries. One possible topic for the next meeting at ALA midwinter may be effects of the OCLC-RLG merger, with implications for the RLG's archival programs and the content of a merged catalog; suggestions for other topics are welcomed.

d. **MARC for Special Collections** (S. Schmidt Fisher / J. Overholt)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

MARC for Special Collections Discussion Group had 45 attendees. Following introductions and job announcements there was a lively discussion on the Library of Congress decision to cease authority control of series. Discussion then moved on to the RLG/OCLC merger. At Merrilee Proffitt's suggestion, OCLC has assigned a regular liaison to MASC, Chris Grabenstatter. Unfortunately Chris could not attend, two OCLC employees volunteered to attend in her place, Rich Greene and Susan Westberg both responded to concerns and questions and took notes throughout the discussion. Rich Greene indicated that OCLC is aware of the importance of the RLIN database and the working goal is to incorporate everything that RLIN does well.

If you are interested in a more detailed report, please contact either co-chair. As always, we are interested in topic ideas for our next meeting, please e-mail the co-chairs with suggestions and questions.

e. **Public Services** (H. Halvorson)

Nothing further to report. Reagan thanked Halvorson for her excellent leadership.

[IE]

About a dozen participants attended the Public Services Discussion Group on Sunday morning, June 26, at 10:30 a.m. We discussed three main topics. First of all, we shared experiences in working with pre-college (primarily high school) patrons, addressing such issues as outreach and instruction activities, policies, and problems. We also discussed the hours of service of our special collections reading rooms – what is in place, what would we like to see, and what has worked in answering the demands for additional hours. The third major topic of discussion dealt with handling problem patrons, including those gray areas such as a reader who has allegations or rumors of theft against him but no conviction. We talked about how to document cases, incorporate into reader service procedures, and so on. Finally, the new co-chairs of the PSDG were announced: Sue Walker of the Walpole Library/Yale and LaNina Clayton of Princeton.

12. Liaisons

a. **ACRL** (Petrowski/King)

Mary Jane Petrowski gave a recap of the 2006 ACRL Membership Survey. She reported a very good response rate--47%, huge increase over 2003 survey. Key findings: 91% plan to renew their membership; 1% do not intend to renew, due to retirement; 8% unsure due to costs. Dues increase passed in the spring with a 3-year phase in. An additional 11% drop in membership is expected after the dues increase takes effect. Renewals are 9% ahead of last year. There are fewer new members—down by 4%. There was an increase in dropped memberships as well. Motivation for joining ACRL: close to 50% is a desire to support the profession; ACRL will cross-tabulate by age to see if this is a Baby Boomer phenomenon or if it is a trend across all age-cohorts. Big chunks of the survey involved section affiliation, and a lot of demographic information can be culled from this—for example, newer members appreciate Section discussion lists. Suggestions will be cross-tabbed and sent on by Petrowski. A great desire for mentoring was a huge trend throughout, which might suggest an action plan. Other raw comments included wanting Section newsletters to be more substantive with more content and quality, and people really want to serve on committees. The membership survey will be up on the website soon—if there are useful cross-tabs, please send requests to Petrowski as soon as possible. This is the most granular membership survey ACRL has ever done.

Handouts are available on the ACRL website – new recruitment brochure; ACRL will be happy to send these to you if you are going on library school/outreach visits. A new 2007 ACRL Best Practices in Marketing document is forthcoming.

Slive added a few points—RBMS has had a mentoring program and buddy system in place for some time, as well as a new members orientation. He was going through the ACRL website and saw a quote from Marvin Taylor on why we do what we do. Petrowski replied that she is trying to get people from all states, all sections, to give comprehensive representation. “Marvin was great—we want more people like Marvin.” Reagan added that Petrowski might want a MacArthur Fellow as a member profile. Johnson pointed out that the Section has a listserv, but one has to actually go in and ask to be on it. Petrowski responded that ALA does not allow automatic addition of members to listservs, but that in a Section welcome letter to new members you can include subscription information. Gillis suggested that a consent form or check box for listserv subscription could be added to new member forms.

Petrowski noted that RBMS would like Diversity data from the survey; Reagan had generated this request. Our profession is becoming less white when you compare it to 1989; Academic libraries appeared to be more diverse than some other types of libraries.

On behalf of the Section, Reagan congratulated Petrowski on her Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award.

Lynne King congratulated the Section on a very successful Preconference. There were no questions for King.

b. **ACRL Board** (Reagan) – no report.

c. **ACRL Sections Council** (Schroeder) – nothing further to report.

[IE]

Mary Jane Petrowski, ACRL Associate Director was to introduce the new ACRL Program Coordinator, Adam Burling, but his plane was late to NO. Among other things Adam is responsible for maintaining section appointments and committee rosters.

Beth Dupuis, Chair of the ACRL Information Literacy Advisory Committee distributed a tip sheet for subject specific literacy standards.

The Online Community Software is up and running. Training sessions will be run

during the six months for Section members who wish to use the software.

Project funding for the ACRL strategic plan continues, with the deadline of early July for 2008 grants.

Karen Williams of the ACRL Task Force for Improving and Extending Professional Development Opportunities at ALA reported on a survey the TF compiled. The survey identified areas where ACRL could improve its programming for annual conferences. The impact on RBMS will be relatively minor, mostly procedural areas.

- f. **ACRL Budget and Finance** (S. Taraba) - not present.
- g. **ACRL Membership** (E. Ellickson) - no report.
- h. **ACRL Professional Development** (E. Ellickson) – no report.
- g. **ACRL Publications** (M. Kelly) - no report.
- i. **ACRL Standards and Accreditation** (E. Wilkie)

Wilkie declared that this committee, SAC, likes to hear from chairs of task forces, so please help your cause and stay in touch. Laura Micham and Wilkie will furnish details of the SAC approval process; this document will soon be completed and sent on to Smyth. Wilkie will send out the SAC contact person's info to the RBMS list.

- i. **ALCTS/PARS** (J. H. Teper)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

I. Overview of the PORTICO Project

The PORTICO project, which began in 2002 and flourished in cooperation with JSTOR in 2005, is an electronic journal archiving project. It offers archived copies of both born-digital and digitized journal content from sources ranging from small academic presses through large, commercial publishers. Its purpose is to safeguard content against loss of access due to the failure of a publishing house or disasters that could threaten temporary or permanent access. To participate, publishers pay a fee to the project dependent upon the amount of data they have archived, and libraries wishing to safeguard their access also pay fees to the project. For more information, contact Eileen Fenton at eileen.fenton@portico.org, or go to <http://www.portico.org/>

II. Disaster and Preservation Training Post-Katrina

PARS members have been busy reviewing disaster training and recovery since Hurricane Katrina and some of their findings were reviewed at the PADG meeting. Of note is the fact that water logged paper has been proven to be salvageable after months of exposure to water. Recovery of some paper-based materials was reported that would previously have been believed to be destroyed. Also, there was a review of some new tools and initiatives for nation-wide preservation training.

III. New PARS Discussion Group

PARS has a new discussion group, the Digital Preservation Issues Discussion Group. This group has begun talking about preservation challenges in the digital realm and is focusing on digital content in special collections and how to plan programs for their preservation.

IV. Audio-Visual Preservation Projects & Programs

The section had several discussion group topics that addressed the preservation of Audio-Visual collections, predominantly in the areas of sound, video and film. Two major projects of note are at NYU (focusing on film and video) and a collaboration between Harvard and Indiana University, Bloomington (the FACAT project). Also, PARS sponsored the second of a three-part program series at Annual '06 titled: Sound Savings Part II: Implementing an Audio Preservation Program, which focused on selection, prioritization and disaster recovery of sound recordings. The third and final part of that series will be offered at Mid-Winter '07.

V. New ALCTS liaison to AIC

Just as a note, the RBMS liaison to PARS (Jennifer Hain Teper) has also been appointed as the ALCTS liaison to the AIC (American Institute for Conservation). As an update from the AIC, they are moving their annual meeting from mid-June to April, which will conflict less with the RBMS pre-conference and hopefully allow for more collaboration.

j. **GODORT/MAGERT** (M. North) - not present

[IE]

GODORT/REGP was Eagerly awaiting a decision from RBMS Executive Committee as to whether they would co-sponsor in name only Godort's program in June 2007 entitled, "What difference does it make what Congress published? American history in the earliest Congressional Documents." REGP is also putting together a document that will be of interest to members of RBMS entitled, "Paper standards, public printing, and preservation: some historical notes on the Government Printing Office's paper standards, 1895-1980."

k. **IFLA** (B. Paulson)

It is nomination season for IFLA; please contact E. C. Schroeder if you are interested in the liaisonship. The candidate will need to be able to pay his/her own way to conferences.

l. **BSA / SHARP** (D. Slive. Sharp)

Point of information from Slive—the Section needs an official liaison to SHARP. Please indicate any interest to E. C. Schroeder. Bregman volunteered to report at Midwinter 2007.

[IE]

BSA

2006 Programming

14th Annual SHARP Conference

July 11-14, 2006. The Hague.

A BSA-sponsored panel devoted to “Emblem Books: Text and Image” is scheduled as part of the 14th Annual SHARP Conference, to be held July 12-14, in The Hague. Moderated by Michael Laird, the speakers include Katherine D. Harris (San Jose State University), Mark Van Vaeck (Catholic University of Leuven), and David Brafman (Getty Research Institute).

For more information, please see the SHARP website.

33rd Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies at Saint Louis University

Sponsored by the Vatican Film Library

October 13-14, 2006

BSA will be sponsoring a session at the 33rd Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies at Saint Louis University. The annual conference addresses topics in medieval and

Renaissance manuscript studies, including paleography, codicology, diplomatics, illumination, book production, papyrology, library history, reading and literacy, textual criticism, and manuscript cataloguing. The BSA session, entitled “The Bible in the Thirteenth Century, Beyond the Paris Bible,” will include the following speakers: Laura Light (Needham, Mass.), Sabina Magrini (Biblioteca Laurenziana in Florence), and Paul Saenger (Newberry Library) and Laura Bruck (Northwestern University).

For more information, please see the BSA website and the Vatican Film Library website.

2007 Programming

2007 New Scholars and Annual Meeting

New Scholars: Each year the Bibliographical Society of America invites three scholars in the early stages of their careers to present twenty-minute papers on their current, unpublished research in the field of bibliography as members of a panel at the annual meeting of the Society. The New Scholars Program seeks to promote the work of scholars who are new to the field of bibliography, broadly defined to include any research that deals with the creation, production, publication, distribution, reception, transmission, and subsequent history of texts as material objects. Submissions for the 2007 New Scholars program will be accepted through July 31 of this year. For more information on the program, please see the BSA website.

For those attending Bibliography Week in New York, the BSA Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, January 26, 2007 at the Morgan Library & Museum. The invited speaker is Bettina Wagner, Head of Incunable Cataloguing at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich.

BSA is a co-sponsor of a conference SHARP is organizing entitled, "The Books of Venice: A Conference on the Book in Venice," to be held in Venice, Italy March 9-10, 2007. A call for papers has been announced. Potential topics include Venetian aspects of the book trade, print and manuscript history and culture, and Venice in books, prints, and fiction. In addition to keynote addresses and the short papers, a half-day lecture and workshop, entitled, "Printing in the Shadow of Aldus Manutius," will be led by Peter Koch. More information about the conference and the call for papers is available on the BSA website.

I am also pleased to announce: "Birth of the Bestseller: The Nineteenth-Century Book in Britain, France, and Beyond" March 29-31, 2007. New York, NY. Co-sponsored by BSA, the Grolier Club, and the Fales Library of New York University, this conference is one element in the "Festival of 19th-century Illustration" to be held in New York between January and April 2007. The festival will include exhibitions at the Grolier Club, the Morgan Library and Fales Library, and related exhibitions and events at the Bard Graduate Center and the New York Public Library.

BSA is also planning sessions in 2007 for the RBMS Preconference, SHARP, and the Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies. Please stay tuned, and please see our website for updates and details.

[IE]

SHARP

The 14th annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing will be held July 11-14, 2006 in The Netherlands. The conference theme, "Trading Books – Trading Ideas," will "highlight the importance of the European and North American heritage for the book and print cultures of the world. Special attention will be paid to the history of the book trade in Eastern and Western European countries, to mark the occasion of ten new Eastern member states which joined the European Union on 1 May 2004." For more information, please see the SHARP website.

SHARP is also organizing "The Books of Venice: A Conference on the Book in Venice" to be held in Venice, Italy on March 9-10, 2007. A call for papers has been announced with potential topics to include Venetian aspects of the book trade, print and manuscript history and culture, Venice in books, prints, and fiction. In addition to keynote addresses and the short papers, a half-day lecture and workshop, entitled, "Printing in the Shadow of Aldus Manutius," will be led by Peter Koch. Co-sponsored by BSA, more information about the conference and the call for papers is available on the BSA website.

[The following notes are on reports not included on Exec Agenda]

[IE]

ESTC/CCILA (H. Snyder)

ESTC will soon be a free resource, hosted by the British Library. The enhanced version will include subject headings and a great number of new records. On October 30th a one-day conference will be held in London. The conference is free, but you must register in advance.

[IE]

Rare Book School (T. Belanger)

In early June 2006 the NEH pledged \$333,000 for a 3 to 1 matching grant; \$3 million is needed to match. IMLS gave \$122,000 for scholarships. RBS courses for June and July 2006 are virtually sold-out. There is room in August and October, please encourage colleagues to attend. The rate of gifts and gifts in kind has increased.

New staff members were introduced. Carolyn Cades Engel is the new Office Manager; Barbara Heritage is now Curator of Collections, and Kenneth Giese is Assistant to the Director.

Belanger announced that in July 2009 he is stepping down as Director.

13. Old Business

14. New Business

[Proposal to combine the ACRL/RBMS *Guidelines for Borrowing and Lending Special Collections Materials for Exhibition* with the *Guidelines for the Interlibrary Loan of Rare and Unique Materials* (E. Wilkie) - see item 7e]

Reagan welcomed and thanked incoming Exec members, Christian Dupont, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and Hjordis Halversson, Member-at-Large. She also thanked Rachel Howarth, outgoing Member-at-Large and Elaine Smyth who stepped down as Past-Chair.

Schroeder then thanked Reagan for a stellar year.

Exec will next meet at 8am on Monday, 22 January 2007 in Seattle, Washington.

The RBMS gavel was given a handsome new home (so it will not have so much inherent vice). The gavel was a gift of Marjorie Wynn, 1979, and its box a gift of Cornell University's Conservation Department, 2006.

Reagan passed the gavel to Schroeder.

Schroeder adjourned the meeting at 10:50am.

--Draft minutes respectfully submitted, Danette R. Pachtner, Secretary