

RBMS Executive Committee – Draft Minutes
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle, WA
Monday, January 22, 2007
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Westin Olympic Room

Present: E. C. Schroeder (Yale University), Chair; Christian Dupont (University of Virginia), Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect; Katherine Reagan (Cornell University), Past-Chair; Danette R. Pachtner (Duke University), Secretary; Jane M. Gillis (Yale University), Member-at-Large; Charlotte B. Brown (University of California, Los Angeles), Member-at-Large, Hjordis Halvorson (Newberry Library) Member-at-Large.

Kathryn Beam (University of Michigan), Terry Belanger (University of Virginia, Rare Book School), Lois Fischer Black (North Carolina State University), Randall Brandt (University of California, Berkeley), Alvan Bregman (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Rick Clement (University of Kansas), Steve Cox (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga), John Cullars (University of Illinois, Chicago), Mark Dimunation (Library of Congress), Ellen Ellickson (Yale University), Sarah Fass (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), James Fox (University of Oregon), Nadine Gardner (National Endowment for the Humanities), Kenneth Giese (University of Virginia, Rare Book School), Julie Grob (University of Houston), Eric Holzenberg (Grolier Club), Petrina Jackson (Cornell University), Mike Kelly (New York University), Kris Kiesling (University of Minnesota), Lynne King (ACRL Liaison), Deborah J. Leslie (Folger Shakespeare Library), Jeffrey Makala (University of South Carolina), Kate Moriarty (Saint Louis University), Laila Milevic-Veizovic (Washington State University), R. Arvid Nelsen (University of California, San Diego), Margaret Nichols (Cornell University), Richard Oram (University of Texas at Austin), John Overholt (Harvard University), Fernando Peña (Grolier Club), Henry Raine (New York Historical Society), Marcia Reed (Getty Research Institute), Cynthia Requardt (Johns Hopkins University), Nina Schneider (NYPL), Stephen Skuce (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), J. Daniel J. Slive (William Reese Company), Margaret Tenney (University of Texas at Austin).

[These minutes incorporate reports from RBMS Information Exchange of Sunday, 21 January 2007, 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.]

After a room change from Whidbey to Olympic, the meeting was called to order by Schroeder at 8:15am.

1. Introductions (Schroeder)

Schroeder invited everyone present to introduce themselves, beginning with Exec. Nancy Davenport, candidate for ALA president, was introduced by Mark Dimunation. Ms Davenport asked to come to RBMS Exec. She has an RBMS background at LC and has come to seek our support. If elected she'll focus on recruitment; she has heard about RBMS Diversity's recruitment efforts and likes the way it is being done. She'd like to see a recruitment fair at each ALA, and vendors are also excited about this idea. If elected, she has a history of presenting and debating, so she could bring that experience and the understanding how policymakers think and work. She distributed her campaign literature and acid-free paper printed bookmarks.

2. Review and finalize agenda (E.C. Schroeder)

The meeting will break around 9:30am or 9:45am for ten minutes. When ACRL liaisons Mary Jane Petrowski and Lynne King arrive, we'll give them time on the agenda.

3. Approval of minutes from ALA Annual 2006 (E.C. Schroeder)

Approved.

4. Reminders for committee chairs (E.C. Schroeder)

Schroeder 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

5. Consent agenda to ratify any e-mail votes taken by Executive Committee [henceforth referred to as Exec] since Annual, those things Exec approved since conference last June 2006. (E.C. Schroeder)

a) RBMS Exec reviewed and approved Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Material (Books). This went back to the Bibliographic Standards Committee for submission for publication by the Library of Congress with the goal of appearing in print by Midwinter in Seattle. Approved.

b) RBMS Exec reviewed, approved and forwarded to the ACRL Executive Committee for final approval, the Conference Development Committee's recommendation that the University of Virginia host the 50th annual RBMS pre-conference in July 2009.
Approved.

6. CRL meeting reports

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

Confirmation of Virginia 2009 site of Preconference. Last summer ACRL confirmed additional money for scholarships—\$6,250 for 2007 and \$5,000 for 2008. It is the third year in a row that ACRL strategic initiative money has been used for scholarships. ACRL likes the idea of assessment, so let's continue our efforts. Belanger asked how the \$5,000 is divided. Peña answered that \$695 is given for full scholarships and a little less for partial scholarships. Schroeder added that last year we had a line for contributions, and \$524 was raised by member donations. Belanger suggested that a list be posted of donees at Preconference as an incentive. Dupont asked that we set a goal to raise funds for one full scholarship.

b. ACRL Section Leadership and Sections Council (Dupont)

A request was made for Dupont to show off his many ribbons. He then reported that many meetings took place on Friday, 20 January, including Leadership Council for chairs and vice-chair for those positions, as a way of communicating information between ACRL leaders; the second meeting was Section Council.

Dupont passed around a document created by the current chair, Pamela Snelson, "ACRL Proposed Structure Changes." ACRL website has posted this document to the website. One goal of the reorganization is to realign staffing to better support strategic initiatives and tweak governance aspects.

Recommendation One: Continue to expand opportunities for member involvement and facilitate the work of ACRL member units. There's no specific timeline for this recommendation. It could involve use of social networking software – wikis, blogs, etc. Recommendation Two: Ensure ACRL Boards is more knowledge-based by changing the nominations process. Examples of knowledge bases include assessment, strategic planning, and grant writing; some of these recommendations were made by an outside consulting firm.

Discussion on recommendation one: Deborah Leslie asked about the notion of an interest group--would people have to sign up and pay extra? Dupont replied that he thinks it would involve some low entry fee of perhaps \$5 and would give these interest groups a small budget. The idea is to have wider participation, for example like the Public Library group that's working with Mark Dimunation. John Overholt asked if these interest groups would be new interests or more like something that's already in place. Christian replied that he thinks cross-sectional groups would make sense. Are there other people interested in special collections issues that don't come to our discussion groups? It's something to think about. Another concern would be a potential drain on membership in our section; it could become a divisive thing. Eric Holzenberg pointed out that one bad way this could go is to have too much superstructure involved here. Is there any clamoring from the grass roots for this? Dupont's recommendation, I think our section is already doing a lot. Julie Grob pointed out that other interest groups seem to be more job-related and there could be very focused cross-sectional opportunities. Schroeder proposed that Exec follow-up and come up with some points to give ACRL. Dupont added that we can think about how to do this as a section even before ACRL finalizes anything. Mike Kelly pointed out that we already have very successful discussion groups, and we could just change them to interest groups. Halvorson stated that we have already wanted more of an online/electronic presence between conferences. Gillis added that her main question is the money aspect.

Recommendation 2: More knowledge-based make-up of ACRL board – discussion? Reagan stated that this might give us representation on the board that we haven't had in the past. Dimunation stated this just sounds completely deadly--if a candidate gets up and talks about his expertise on assessment; why not just highlight ideas instead of specific areas of expertise? He can't imagine anything deadlier. This approach may be too narrow and abstract for representation on a committee. Maybe we should give them our core competencies. Halvorson asked why they are doing this. Dupont replied that ACRL is focusing on legislative advocacy and wants to certify volunteer members of the organization to be designated ACRL legislative advocates. It's part of the strategic plan, then, to have the board with members who are expert in certain areas.

Section Council report (Dupont)

Two important items were discussed. Regarding the ACRL volunteer committee appointment system, committee appointees can now submit online their desires to volunteer for committees. Section chairs can review online who has submitted their data, and the appointment process will be instantaneous. The down side is, it's a passive system, so until a chair goes to the website to look at the specific committee, (s)he won't know that anyone has volunteered, and a lot of time can pass. RBMS already has its own form on the website that gets a very quick response, and this would not be possible in ACRL's system. No one's going to check online very frequently. Dupont proposed that a page about the new process be added to the RBMS website, and that we ask volunteers to also send a message to the committee chair so they know to get the information from the volunteer. A petition has already been made that all committee chairs get copied on any volunteer that fills out a form. Deborah Leslie asked if there is a place in the database for volunteers to give information about themselves. Dupont replied that yes, this is one of the positive aspects of this process. The

information will probably only stay in the database for about a year long cycle, though volunteer history may be kept. The content management system (CMS) is still not up and running.

7. Guideline revisions / Task Forces

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

In early November a draft was sent to Exec to give an idea of where the document is headed. We've made some substantial progress and nice progress in our midwinter meeting. This draft is moving forward and she'll send Exec the new draft. We're on schedule.

[IE]

The Task Force to Revise the "Guidelines on the Selection of General Collection Materials for Transfer to Special Collections" held its fifth meeting at the 2007 ALA midwinter conference. Task force members and guests continued to make minor changes to the DRAFT-1 Revision of the guidelines. The public comment period on the draft will be announced in the April 2007 issue of "College and Research Library News" and an open hearing will be scheduled for the 2007 ALA annual conference in Washington, D.C.

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

Not much to add, but I do have a question. Between now and June should we send copies of draft 3 to Exec and individual experts? It would come around in March for feedback, comments and questions. Is this a proper move? Schroeder replied that he thinks that would be good since after annual there's a final rewrite. Beam stated that the task force spent the weekend working on draft 2 and realized there are major rewrites still to be done, with the aim of being finished by end of March. Public hearing at Annual, respond to what we've learned from that and experts/exec feedback. The hope and plan is that the final version will be submitted by the end of summer 2007 to be forwarded to ACRL

[IE]

At Midwinter 2007, the Task Force focused on an analysis of Draft 2 of the document, "Core Competencies for Special Collections Professionals." There was discussion on content, style, and consistency in writing, but the primary concern was still identifying fundamental versus specialized competencies. The Task Force worked to define the differences, noting as well how they do and do not overlap.

A timeframe for continued work was established. It is planned that Draft 3 will be ready by mid-spring for submission to RBMS Executive Committee and invited readers in ALA, SAA, and AAM in the hope of receiving comments from these individuals. Draft 3 will then be revised and mounted on the RBMS website for review by members. A public hearing will be held at 2007 Annual on Friday, June 22, from 6 – 8 p.m. The Task Force will then assess the various remarks and suggestions, rewrite Draft 3, and submit it to RBMS Executive Committee by August 2007. It is hoped that the document can be submitted to the Standards and Accreditation Committee of ACRL by October 2007.

c. Joint Statement on Access Review Task Force – no report

8. Programming

a. 2007 ACRL Conference (Baltimore) (Halvorson)

Nothing to report.

b. 2007 Preconference Planning (Baltimore) (E.C. Schroeder/H. Raine)

Nothing further to report other than I hope to see everyone there!

[IE]

The 48th annual RBMS Preconference, "From Here to Ephemerality: Fugitive Sources in Libraries, Archives, and Museums," will take place in Baltimore, Maryland from June 19th to June 22nd, 2007. The preconference will be based in the Mount Vernon neighborhood and at Johns Hopkins University, and will explore the topic of ephemera in six plenary sessions, twelve short papers, and nine seminars, featuring internationally renowned speakers as well as new scholars in the field. The first plenary is co-sponsored by the Bibliographic Society of America, and the final plenary is co-sponsored by the Ephemera Society of America. Two workshops will be offered, one on cataloging and organizing ephemera, and the other on fundraising for libraries, museums and archives. The preconference will also feature a Booksellers' Showcase sponsored by the Southeast Chapter of the ABAA, to be held on Tuesday, June 19th.

The preconference hotel is the Tremont Plaza, with rooms offered at the conference rate of \$159 per night. Dorm accommodations will be available at Johns Hopkins University for \$48 per night. The opening reception will take place at the George Peabody Library on Tuesday night, and there will be an open house at the Walters Art Museum on Wednesday night, and a picnic dinner at Evergreen House on Thursday night. The local arrangements committee is organizing a series of exciting tours to institutions of interest to RBMS members on each day of the conference. This preconference marks the first time that RBMS has explored the topic of ephemera in a preconference, and the first time that a preconference has been held in Baltimore. Our hosts at John Hopkins University and at other institutions around the city are eager to welcome us to their beautiful city.

c. 2007 Preconference Local Arrangements (Baltimore) (C. Requardt/Schroeder/H. Raine)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

See report above.

d. 2007 Conference Program (Washington DC) (J. Makala)

Nothing further to report other than we're cosponsoring with PLA..

[IE]

The title of this year's conference program is "Rare Books and Special Collections in Public Libraries: Collections and Locations, Old and New." Speakers will include: Elaine Barone, Head of Humanities and Social Sciences (including Rare Books), Buffalo and Erie County Public Library; Christine Jochem, Head of the North Jersey History Center, Morristown and Morris Township Public Library; and Gladys Mahoney, Rare Book Librarian, Phoenix Public Library. The program has received cosponsorship with the Public Library Association.

e. 2008 Preconference Program Planning (Los Angeles) (K. Kiesling)

I don't know what Christian said last night... Dan Slive posed a question for the 2008 Preconference Program Planning Committee--since it is the 50th anniversary of the section in 2008/2009, can we have some acknowledgement of that?

[IE] Dupont reported for Kiesling

In October, Kris Kiesling agreed to serve as chair of 2008 Preconference Program Planning Committee, taking over duties from Nicole Bouche, who regretted having to step down. Kris has invited several people to serve as committee members, and several others expressed interest in joining following a lively discussion of topic ideas and approaches at the committee's meeting on Saturday. The overall program theme will address the impact of digitization in special collections, and, by extension, possibly archives and museums. The aim will be practical: to help institutions prepare for large-scale digitization projects involving their holdings, and also to examine and assess the impact of smaller-scale partnerships and local digitization projects. A working title was suggested, "No Book Left Behind? The Impact of Digitization in Special Collections Libraries."

The committee discussed and made a list of potential speakers. More suggestions are always welcome, and may be sent to Kris Kiesling. The committee also reviewed a typical preconference schedule. Suggestions were offered to vary the structure of each day. Some mentioned that they would like to see the program include topical discussion groups based on the positive evaluations from 2006 Preconference in Austin. The role of seminars was also discussed, as well as possibilities for short paper presentation. In addition, several possible workshop topics were mentioned.

f. 2008 Local Arrangements (Los Angeles) - Steele/Allen/Dupont

Christian – I had questions about hotel prices in L.A. around \$169 or \$159 rates and we're looking at other housing options as well. Dan—you don't have access to dorms right now? Christian—we don't have the info yet, but we're looking at them.

[IE] Dupont reported on behalf of Susan Allen and Victoria Steele, local arrangements co-chairs.

The 49th annual RBMS Preconference will be held in Los Angeles on 24-27 June 2008. It will be jointly hosted by UCLA and the Getty Research Institute with Vicki Steele (UCLA) and Susan Allen (GRI) serving as local arrangements co-chairs. A site visit was conducted in early December 2006 with program chair Kris Kiesling, section vice-chair Christian Dupont, and ACRL meeting planner Tory Ondrila. The site visit team considered several lodging and meeting space options. We have decided that pair of hotels located across the street from one another in Brentwood will offer the best accommodations: the newly renovated Hotel Angelino and the Luxe Summit. The Luxe has a suite of meeting rooms located off an outdoor patio that will work well for a reception and coffee breaks. The only disadvantage, though common to the other hotels we considered, is their relative isolation from restaurant areas. On the other hand, they are located very near the Getty Center, where we will be spending the full day on the Thursday of the conference. The day at the Getty Center will include plenary and break-out programming, but also extended times to visit the various galleries and exhibition, go on behind-the-scenes tours, and enjoy an evening reception with spectacular views.

Room at the Angelino and Luxe will be in the \$159-169/night range. The Luxe rooms are especially large and convenient for sharing. The Local Arrangements team is also considering other housing options, including dormitories. Buses will be used to transport attendees to and from the Getty, and may also be used for other outings, such as a restaurant night, or preconference tours to L.A. area libraries. We are also exploring options for charting buses to take attendees to the ALA annual meeting in Anaheim after the preconference closes on Friday afternoon.

g. 2008 Conference Program Planning (Anaheim) - K. Bachli

Nothing additional to report. Dupont added that we are actively seeking cosponsorship with moving image collections.

[IE] Dupont reported on behalf of Kelley Bachli, program chair. The 2008 RBMS Annual Conference Program will be held on Sunday, 29 June 2008, during the ALA Annual meeting in Anaheim, California. Program chair Kelley Bachli has brought together a program committee that includes Jessica Holada and Jennifer Hain Teper. At its meeting yesterday afternoon, the committee decided to focus the program on the management of moving image archives. The program will take a practical orientation, and will include an introduction to the issues and problems, highlights of recent research on film and video preservation, tools for assessing preservation and access needs for moving image media, and funding resources. A panel presentation format is being considered. Several potential presenters have been identified with an emphasis on drawing expertise from Los Angeles area organizations, such as the Association of Moving Image Archivists. Several ACRL co-sponsorship opportunities have also been identified. A program proposal and budget will be submitted to ACRL by the May 1 deadline.

h. 2009 Preconference (D. Slive/E. C. Schroeder)

We have received approval for Charlottesville, Virginia.

9. Publications

a. Publications Committee (M. Kelly)

Timeline for Your Old Books printing—we have a basic design from Dawn Mueller of ACRL and Will LeMoy is going to proofread and has met with Dawn Mueller, and they had a felicitous exchange. Lemoy will not tinker with language or design, just punctuation, etc. Dawn will generate a second proof that will be presented to ABAA in February the proof will be sent to Exec for online approval and final sign-off and then it can go to the printer. Then we will have them. The dream is April Book Fair distribution.

Belanger asked how much is the unit cost? Kelly replied that it is approximately 60 cents apiece. Belanger rejoined that this cost is absurd if it's also a pdf and urged that ACRL use every effort to make this as inexpensive as possible. Holzenberg stated that this is a four-color upgrade that people will want to hand out. Schroeder added that at this point ABAA is looking at buying 10,000 for \$6,000. Dupont stated we haven't yet resolved the preorder from other organizations like the Grolier Club. Oram asked if there has been any kind of a market survey for what printed copies are in demand. Holzenberg replied that in a very, very informal way he knows that it is THE thing that people in general pick up at book fairs. Kelly added that ABAA wants 10,000 copies and they know the price.

Dimunation stated that for those institutions that have a larger more general public, referring people to websites doesn't work and we always send out a hard copy. Schroeder pointed out that the Section is looking at a combination of using money from section budget as well as a portion from 2006 profits, and ABAA's run will drive the unit price down. Schroeder emphasized that the section is trying to minimize how much is spent from the 2006 preconference profits. Belanger asked that given this an ACRL publication, who gets the profit from sales? Dupont said the section wants around 2,500 copies to give away at our events, perhaps in new member packets at Preconference. Reagan added that this goes out to the earlier comment that we can tell ACRL it's in demand and they need to support the printing costs. Schroeder pointed out that we will revisit this topic in a month. Dupont thanked Kelly and John Pull. The text is now available from the RBMS website, so you should look at it and familiarize yourself with it; it's not currently a pdf. Kelly said

that once the print is taken care of they will gussy up the web version. Dupont added that the web version includes a list of additional suggested reading resources, that is only on the web, and it can easily be kept up to date.

ACRL is interested in revamping all section brochures so that they have the same look and feel; a template will be provided. Katie Carr of the Publications Committee will work on taking the old brochure and fitting it into the new template. They're not beautiful. Examples were passed out. Julie Grob pointed out that we have the diversity brochure insert as a stop-gap, and she hopes that content can be included. Schroeder stated that ACRL is paying for this and they'd like it done by Annual 2007, and RBMS is the only section that hasn't done it. Dupont suggested including scholarship winners in the blurbs. Halvorson asked if they gave us plenty of time to make this change, and Schroeder replied that we have put it off since last summer. Kelly stated that there are a couple of eager young volunteers on the committee who will work on this and send it to Exec for approval.

[IE]

Most of the meeting centered on the new edition of Your Old Books, that creeps ever closer to success. Dawn Mueller of ACRL Publications provided us with a complete draft of a design which the committee critiqued. Will LaMoy took on the task of compiling our corrections/changes and forwarding them to Dawn. The goal is to submit a corrected proof to Exec for approval ASAP so we can go to press before the end of February [February 2007 Update: Dawn has made our changes and we already have a second proof of the brochure.]

ACRL has a program to re-issue all section brochures in a standard design template. Publications is working on fitting the contents of our current brochure (and diversity insert) into the new template.

Marcia Reed followed up on discussions held at Annual 2006 about the Publications Committee taking on responsibility for the printed list of Leab Award submissions and the award certificates. Publications will also publish this information on the website in a timely fashion.

b. RBMS Newsletter (M. Kelly)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

See report above.

c. RBM (R. Clement)

The idea was raised of institutionalizing the notion that spring is the issue that includes Preconference articles and content. Holzenberg pointed out that this raises the issue, how can we keep this up and count on individual donations from here and there to keep it rolling? It's usually only around \$250. Belanger pointed out that it's in the black. Dupont said that he is having lunch with Rick Clement and they will talk about the editorial process and funding side to this--expanded issue cost and distribution. We have \$5,000 from IMLS for the spring 2007 issue and a lot of this money will be used as to give away free issues at various panels.

[IE]

1. Editorial Board. One new member has joined the board. Several vacancies remain.

2. Content. RBM appears twice a year.

* The Fall 2006 issue (7:2) of RBM features an article by Pablo Alvarez on integrating rare books into the undergraduate curriculum. Karen Underhill discusses the development of the protocols to be used with Native American archival materials. Three articles (by Ellen Cordes, Susan

Allen, and Beth Russell) were originally given as papers in a session at the RBMS Preconference in St. Louis in 2005 devoted to contemporary reactions to Daniel Traister's well-known article, "Is There a Future for Special Collections? And Should There Be? A Polemical Essay," which appeared in the first issue of RBM in 2000. And, Everett Wilkie, Jr., proposes a new approach to reading room security.

* The Spring 2007 issue (8:1) is 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). The Spring 2007 issue will feature articles from the 2006 Preconference in Austin on the intersections of special collections, archives, and museums, and will be an expanded issue.

3. RBM has augmented the submission process and offers contributors the option of a double-blind peer-reviewed track. Contributors are also able to opt for the traditional track of editorial review.

4. It was hoped that the Fall 2006 issue would highlight the first of an annual series on exhibition catalogues prepared by members of the RBMS Exhibition Awards Committee, but the timeline was simply too short to prepare this first article, which will include a retrospective review. It is expected that the first article will appear in the Fall 2007 issue.

5. The Fall 2007 issue will be devoted to the topic of diversity in special collections, both in terms of personnel and collections.

d. Webmaster (Kelly)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

The Publications Committee heard a report from the section Webmaster (John Pull) regarding the completed migration of the site to private hosting at rbms.info. John was not present, but Chris Smith (Assitant Webmaster) talked about streamlining the process for updating the web site. The next item on the Webmaster's agenda is the migration of the BibStandards resources to our new host.

[Break from 9:27 am to 9:42 am]

10. Committees

a. Archivist/Records Manager (A. Bregman)

Chris sends his regrets that he couldn't be here.

[Report sent from Chris Cook]

In June 2006, I took up the position of RBMS Archivist from Alvan Bregman, my colleague at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We have worked together closely on the RBMS Archives since that time.

RBMS chairs are encouraged to send relevant documents for inclusion in the RBMS Archives. Before sending documents for the Archives, please weed them so they include only the kinds of documents specified in the document, "Transfer Guidelines for Records of Educational and Professional Associations," which may be found online at

<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/ahx/professional.htm>

Documents and questions may be sent to:

Christopher D. Cook

RBMS Archivist

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

346 Library (MC-522)

1408 W. Gregory Dr.
Urbana, IL 61801
Tel: (217) 333-3174

b. Bibliographic Standards (D. Leslie)

Leslie was asked to raise the new publication high, yet again. Reminder to all outgoing chairs: make sure to pass info along to incoming chairs.

[IE]

1. Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books) is now published and available from the Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service. Price is \$70. The rules, and the code of dcrcmb, may be used immediately. [DJL] It will be added to Cataloger's Desktop, probably in the 2nd 2007 issue (May), but possibly not until issue 3.
2. Public hearing for Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Music) attracted about 25 people, and was very fruitful in working through some of the major discrepancies between DCRM(M) and DCRM(B) and DCRM(S) [=serials]. DCRM(M) editors have comprised both BSC folks and Music Library Association folks, and so requires more of an effort in bringing it into line with B and S.
3. Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Serials) is progressing well. There was an editorial meeting at the Folger in November 2006, and another one following this midwinter meeting.
4. The controlled vocabularies pages have not yet been moved to the rbms.info server. The RBMS web editor is hoping to move those, as well as the Bibliographic Standards pages, during the next few months.

c. Budget and Development (M. Nichols)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

At its Midwinter meeting, the Budget & Development Committee discussed the budgetary aspects of the preconferences for 2006-2008; plans for funding activities to commemorate the 50th anniversary of RBMS in 2008, and the 50th anniversary of the RBMS preconference in 2009; the funding of RBMS preconference scholarships; and the maintenance of the development database, which records donations made toward the preconference. We congratulate the 2006 preconference planners on the success of their preconference, financial and otherwise. Planning for funding the 2007 and 2008 preconferences is in good shape.

A reminder to prospective preconference planners and others who may be interested: a lot of hard-won preconference planning wisdom is shared at the meetings of the Budget & Development and Conference Development Committees. So if you would like to learn more about how the preconference *really* works, feel free to sit in on our next meeting, at the ALA Annual conference.

d. Conference Development (D. Slive)

Slive put forward an Action item: the section was contacted by Anthropology and Social Science section who would like us to cosponsor in name only a program at 2007 Annual, "Native American Heritage in the Nation's Capitol: Representation, Repatriation, and Resilience." This approval was given by Conference Development and he is now moving it to Exec. Dupont asked that in our cosponsorship, please encourage them to mention the article in RBM on protocols for Native American materials by Karen Underhill. Action item approved. Slive will forward the news

[IE]

The following preconference and conference locations have been confirmed. Committee chairs or their representatives for each of these events have provided program and local arrangements information.

RBMS Preconferences:

2007 in Baltimore

2008 in Los Angeles

2009 Charlottesville

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. I am pleased to report that Hjordis Halvorson and Suzy Taraba's proposal for a panel entitled "Library as Laboratory: Special Collections in Undergraduate Education" has been accepted.

RBMS will be cosponsoring, in name only, a MAGERT Preconference on the cataloguing of early (pre-twentieth-century) cartographic resources to be held in Washington, D.C. at the Library of Congress June 21-22. The scheduling of this MAGERT Preconference will conflict with the 2007 RBMS Preconference in Baltimore, but due to the importance and timeliness of this issue, both the RBMS Program Committee and the RBMS Executive Committee enthusiastically endorse the section's co-sponsorship of this event. In addition to RBMS, ALCTS and GODORT are also co-sponsors.

RBMS will also be cosponsoring in name only the 2007 ANSS Conference Program entitled "Native American Heritage in the Nation's Capitol: Representation, Repatriation, and Resilience." The program will include an interdisciplinary panel of scholars, curators, and other cultural heritage professionals who will explore issues surrounding the preservation and revitalization of American Indian heritage and cultures with a focus on the cultural institutions in Washington, D.C. and surrounding area. At its meeting, the RBMS Program Committee recommended cosponsorship in name only of this ANSS Conference Program. [Exec approved section cosponsorship of this event on Monday, following Info Exchange].

RBMS will be celebrating two milestones in the near future, the 50th anniversary of the section in 2008 and the 50th preconference in 2009. The committee is exploring possible programs to recognize the section's past achievement while looking ahead to the future of special collections.

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 before ALA Annual 2007.

e. Diversity (J. Grob)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

Petrina Jackson and Julie Grob of the Diversity Committee will be giving two presentations on careers in special collections librarianship while in the Seattle area, specifically targeted to recruit more students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups to the profession. The first will be at the Career Services Center of the University of Washington on Jan. 22nd, and the second will be in an African-American history class at Seattle University on Jan. 23rd. The presentations are being supported by a \$1000.00 grant from the Friends of ACRL.

The committee is working on a draft of an online Diversity Toolkit that can be used by RBMS members to plan similar outreach visits in their areas.

The committee has requested RBMS' demographic information from the ALA Demographics Survey.

f. Exhibition Awards (M. Reed)

Reed had one question about a possible change—for a couple years we have extended the awards deadline from 9/30 to 10/15. The year before last it was because of Hurricane Katrina, and this year we did it because we were reluctant to refer people to the website that had old info on it. Every year we receive more submissions at the last minute. Richard Noble asked that the committee consider changing the deadline since September is the beginning of the academic calendar and no one gets reminders in August. She asked if the committee could permanently change the deadline to October 15th. Reagan replied that she feels this decision is up to the committee, and Schroeder concurred.

Material is loading on the Leab awards website and it's going well. The committee is working closely with Publications, and they hope this year to publish the awards and certificates so it has all the same RBMS look. Dupont suggested that the form be submitted online and to make this change a priority of the publications committee.

[IE]

On Saturday morning January 20, 2007 the EAC convened to evaluate this year's 65 Leab Award submissions comprised of 32 paper catalogs, 10 brochures, and 23 electronic exhibitions. Significantly, there was great diversity among this year's entries. There were a smaller number of entries, down from 90 the previous year. Lavish, glossy, hardbound and heavy formats appear to have gone out of style. In a nutshell, due to the diversity of collections and approaches to design, this year's judging seemed like comparing apples, oranges, and pinecones. In recognition of the diversity of entries, at this year's award ceremony two divisions will have co-winners in recognition of innovative approaches to presentation of new types of collections with original types of designs and publications. In the best sense, it was a pleasure to see new collections and new approaches to the display and publication of unusual materials. Leab Award winners will be contacted in the week following the ALA Midwinter meetings, and letters sent to the winning institutions. Award certificates will be given to winners at the Annual Conference in Washington D.C. All entries will be displayed in Baltimore at the RBMS Preconference, listed on the printed Lists of Submissions, and electronically on the RBMS website.

At the Sunday morning EAC business meeting, we discussed progress on updating the Leab Award website which includes images of the winning catalogs' covers. It is a work in progress but coming along well. Other topics included more effective scheduling and display at the RBMS Preconference and mentoring new members to assist with effective evaluation of the exhibition award submissions. Due to a resignation there is currently one position open on the committee and three more slots will open up this summer. Interested potential members are urged to submit committee interest forms and to discuss the committee's work with Marcia Reed (EAC chair) or other EAC members.

g. Membership and Professional Development - E. Ellickson

Ellickson put forth a complaint item regarding the mentoring program. She observed that the application form includes items we can't deliver and proposed that the form be edited. She also stated that we can't afford to have mentors work with mentees who aren't part of the section. We might need to make a plea at Info Exchange and Exec.

What seems to happen a lot anecdotally, is that the email relationship withers away after awhile. It's usually the mentee who drifts away. So it isn't that burdensome to be a mentor. She will know more when we send out evaluation forms. Please volunteer! Julie Grob stated that she was a mentor in the first round, and it would be helpful at the end of the year to send an email to the mentor saying thank you for your time, would you like to sign up again. Dan Slive asked what is the stated purpose of the program? Ellickson replied that its goal is to help the new person entering the world of rare books, for students to help in the job market, to give advice on professional development and events. Reagan asked if there is currently a list of mentees waiting to be matched, and Ellickson replied in the affirmative and emphasized that members should be aware that mentors are constantly needed. Henry Raine asked if she is able to determine if some would be satisfied with a conference buddy rather than a mentor? Ellickson said that it is not easy to tell from the form. She has found that the mentee often hopes the relationship will end in a job, and that's why they eventually fade away. In 2004 there was an initial stable of 15 mentors; all told 40 pairs have been matched, 22 still are ongoing. Of those 6 identified themselves as a member of an underrepresented group.

[IE]

The Membership & Professional Development Committee (M&PD) had its usual busy meeting Saturday morning. The Buddy Program is going strong with five pairs of buddies matched for this Midwinter meeting. We talked about the Preconference Orientation and RBMS Introduction for Baltimore; we are trying to figure out how to remove all tedium from this event. So, all of M&PD's activities are going well, all except the Mentoring Program. This program has a constant stream of would-be mentees and a chronic lack of mentors. We need RBMS members to volunteer to be mentors. We can't offer a mentoring program if we don't have mentors.

h. Nominating (A. Nelson)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the candidates for the 2007 election. They include:

Vice Chair/Chair Elect:

Mary A. Lacy

Steven Escar Smith

Secretary:

Erika Dowell

Beth M. Whittaker (Russell)

Member at Large:

Ronald D. Patkus

Melissa Conway

The Committee extends its thanks to all of the candidates for their willing to stand for office.

i. Security - R. Oram

Oram called for a clarification—he see the Security Manual as less than a committee project than Everett's project. Would it not be an official RBMS publication? E. C. – is he putting the committee on it? Or is it his byline? If it's just Everett, then it shouldn't be an official publication. Mark: why wouldn't this get RBMS recognition? Rick: it has taken up much of the committee's time, and it's about 80% completed, but we have other business to attend to in the committee and I hesitate to commit more of our time. Terry: how long is it? Rich: six or seven chapters? It's around 120-150 pages. Mark: doesn't this statement that it's taken up a lot of your time that the section and

the committee get recognition? Alvan: I coauthored one of the chapters, and we tried to frame it to flesh out the guidelines to increase the amount of text that was associated with the guidelines. It came out of security comm.. work at the time. Dan: I was also on this committee, but on Alvan's point if there are one or two chapters using the guidelines as the genesis, doesn't that argue for giving it the RBMS imprimatur. Deborah: can't Everett just finish it so it doesn't take up the committee's time? Katherine: I seem to remember Everett bringing the idea to Exec a few years ago looking for our blessing, and we said to go ahead. Rich: we've all worked on it long and hard for four years. E. C. : I would see that having Everett finish it and then giving it to the committee for approval would be a good way to go. The vetting process would be committee—exec—publications. Terry: I don't think there's any way this long a document can be considered the guideline. I think it should be an author, it's a monograph, there's no way it can be approved. Mike: the ACRL publications comm. Is keen to elevate their imprints as separate from ALA publications. Katherine Dice is the new person chairing that group and she's very keen to get content. Rick: then it would not have to go through the ACLR publications committee? Mike: that's right—they're just looking for content. Mark: I just want to make sure committee members get credit since so much work has been contributed by them as part of their professional development. Deborah: the whole approval process aside, EMRO seems comparable; it was buy Gregory Pass in concert with Bib Standards committee. It did get Exec approval, but not line by line. Christian: I'm hearing a lot of comments about what form credit should take. The other part of it is what endorsement should RBMS give to a substantial monograph of this kind. Let's think about the value of this sort of endorsement. Katherine: It sounds like we need more information and maybe Rich and Everett could provide us with that? E. C.: maybe we could see an introduction or something to get a sense of it. Terry: and let's encourage him to have a conversation with ACRL. Alvan: you can read an article by Everett on this topic in the most recent issue of RBM to give you an idea of it.

Oram added that we had no action items but are proceeding on several fronts relating to the area of recovery of stolen rare materials that reach the marketplace. If you get ExLibris you know it's a hot topic and there's something almost every week. Next year Theft Guidelines are up for revision, so that's the place to focus, also a liaison with ABAA, which is essential.

[IE]

Oram noted that Ex-chair Everett Wilkie reported that work on the security manual is almost complete. This will thus become an "extra-curricular" publication of some present and past committee members. Extended reports were given by David Cobb and Richard Oram on attempts to recover stolen items from Harvard (Smiley maps) and the Ransom Center. The major focus of the committee will be on revising the Theft guidelines to include more recovery information, on coordination of trade associations, law enforcement and RBMS, and on centralization of information about stolen items.

j. Seminars - A. Nelsen

Nelsen had a question of protocol: does the committee have authority to create a document that details quality control procedures for seminars that are presented – guidelines, liaison program to organizers outside of committee, survey questions, etc., or does wording have to be approved by Exec? Reagan asked that Seminars share it with conference development, but doesn't think Exec needs to sign off on it.

[IE]

The Seminars Committee is pleased to announce that we have a full slate of nine seminars planned for the 2007 Preconference in Baltimore. The titles are:

1. Inherent Vice: Preserving Collections' Deadly Sins
2. Collaborative digitization projects with diverse partnerships – advantages, challenges, rewards

3. Rare Books and Manuscripts Through the Literary Looking Glass
4. Collecting Contemporary Events
5. Where Does Special Collections Cataloging Belong? The Pros and Cons of Alternative Reporting Structures in Academic and Research Libraries
6. Curators and Cataloguers Revisit Decisions about Description: The Greene/Meissner Proposal
7. Culinary Arts Seminar (title in development)
8. Demonstration of the Hand Press Book (HPB) Database, the Latin American Short-Title Catalogue (CCILA), and the English Short Title Catalog (ESTC)
9. Context or Lost Code: Reading Scrapbooks for Research

More information, including seminar summaries and the names of speakers can be found on the Preconference website, where additional information has been posted as it has become available, or at the Seminars Committee's wiki at <http://seminars.pbwiki.com/>. The wiki is freely viewable to the public but editing is restricted to Committee members. The final schedule of the seminars is still under construction, but will be available by the time registration opens.

A list of all prior preconference seminars is available on the Seminar Committee's official website. This list includes the names of speakers and subject headings.

Please contribute your ideas for future seminars. You can submit a proposal electronically on the Seminars Committee's website: [Proposal for a Seminar at the 2007 RBMS Preconference](#). Submitting a proposal does not obligate you to organize the seminar. If you wish to simply contribute an idea for something you would like to learn more about, please feel free to send an email to the Committee Chair, Arvid Nelsen, at ranelson@ucsd.edu.

11. Discussion Groups

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

[IE] Met jointly with MASC

The MARC for Special Collections discussion group met Sunday morning in Seattle with 56 attendees. This was a joint meeting with the Collection Development discussion group. Job openings were announced at Yale, Duke, ESTC, Indiana University, and the Newberry Library. Chris Grabenstatter, the OCLC liaison to MASC, presented an update on the progress of OCLC-RLIN integration. She noted that all OCLC libraries, not just RLIN members, will have the option of creating distinctive institutional records attached to the master, either library-wide or by user authorization. Loading of RLIN cluster records has already begun, and Connexion will be able to display and create institutional records by May or June.

Our first discussion topic concerned the response of libraries to the thefts of E. Forbes Smiley and others, and whether more detailed cataloging of vulnerable items such as maps and plates could serve to help recover from theft, or even act as a deterrent to it.

We also discussed other approaches to the problem of theft, including providing a distinctive flag to books with maps in order to alert reading room staff to use extra vigilance. Our second topic centered on the recording and use of provenance information in catalog records.

MASC will next meet in June in Washington DC, and we are always grateful for suggestions of discussion topics. Please contact either of the co-chairs with your ideas.

- b. Curators and Conservators (D. Conn)

[IE]

The Curators and Conservators DG met in Seattle to discuss the topic of the trend for conservation to be used as a function of public engagement and as promoting awareness for special collections. We used the 29 March 2006 article in the NYTimes, Section G (Art) "Trends: The Art of Conservation Sees Light at the Getty" by Laura Novak as a starting point. It appears that the

primary area that conservation contributes is in the way of tours for donors and friends groups. The discussion then moved to the topic of development in general and finally on to the topic of grants for special collections conservation work.

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

[IE]

The Manuscripts and Other Formats Discussion Group met Sunday morning January 21 with 26 attendees, many of them new to RBMS and attending their first conference. After announcements and reports on recent conferences attended, and a brief discussion of using digital cameras for reporting to ESTC and policies on reader use of digital cameras, the group focused on two main topics. The first, on EAD encoding of finding aids and looking at new methods of creating these and doing other archival management. Fourteen of the attendees's institutions have EAD finding aids online. The group discussed creation/conversion methods in use, including database entry and XML authoring tools; the relationship between finding aids and MARC catalog records and deriving one from the other; searching finding aids, whether distributed searching across sites or searching finding aids and catalog records together; and open source search software. The second topic focused on collection development, and how to identify potential acquisitions and discriminating among collections offered and criteria used. This included the need for written collecting policies and when to say no, dealing with ephemera in collections (with a plug for the upcoming preconference), and collecting papers from student groups of under represented populations and building trust with these communities. The co-conveners, Mary Lacy and Lois Fischer Black, are soliciting ideas for future discussion topics.

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

[IE] Met jointly with Collection Development

See report above.

e. Public Services (Walker/Clayton)

[IE]

17 people met at the Hotel Andra at 8 in the morning on January 21st for the Public Services Discussion Group meeting, led by La Nina Clayton with Susan Walker taking notes.

The first of the topics discussed was Reference Collections—maintaining relevant print collections & keeping abreast of online resources. We talked about how Special Collections Reference Collections are developed and by whom, as well as budgetary issues. (One-third of those there have distinct reference budgets). We also touched upon frequently used online and print sources and classes on special collections reference sources for librarians. The pre-conference workshop by Joel Silver in St. Louis was noted, the wish that Rare Book School would offer a reference course again was expressed, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's summer program of Midwest Book and Manuscript Studies Courses was mentioned.

Also explored was the potential and use of social software like wikis, blogs, flickr, etc. to bring special collections to the attention of users. Few in attendance had actually implemented such efforts.

The use of interns was also discussed, covering such aspects as payment, recruitment, nature of the projects, supervision, and duration. Programs ranged from two-year highly competitive internships to others that are unpaid, semester-long, and hard to find candidates for.

The meeting concluded with the announcement of the publication of the ARL SPEC Kit 296 entitled "Public Services in Special Collections," which will serve as one of the topic for the group's next discussion at Annual.

We thank all who attended for their participation and invite all to join us in June.

12. Liaisons

a. ACRL (Lynne King, ACRL Board liaison, reporting at 10:17am)

The 2009 Preconference in Charlottesville has been approved. There were no questions for King about Dupont's presentation on the ACRL proposed structure changes. King mentioned the structure-related issues to implement the strategic plan. The ACRL Board appointed a members' working group at Annual 2006 that put together a report on options. It just came to the board prior to Midwinter and Thursday was spent dealing with the report, and that's where document originated. It was a quick turnaround, hence the March 1, 2007 deadline for seeking comments and response to this document. How does Exec plan to solicit comments from members? Schroeder reported that we discussed it this morning. We could point to it from the RBMS listserv, and comments could be funneled to us or directly to ACRL; Exec will then produce a formal response. King stated that the working group is anxious to move forward on this. Schroeder asked King to send him a blurb to send out to the membership. King will do so and asked to please feel free to ask her for any clarifications, etc. She thanked us for jumping into this process at short notice. The document will go up on the web with an email for responding. There were no further questions, and Schroeder thanked King for her time.

b. ACRL Board (Schroeder)

Nothing to report.

c. ACRL Sections Council (Schroeder/Dupont)

Nothing to report.

d. ACRL Budget and Finance (S. Taraba)

Not present.

e. ACRL Membership (E. Ellickson)

Nothing to report.

f. ACRL Professional Development (E. Ellickson)

Nothing to report.

g. ACRL Publications - M. Kelly

Nothing to report.

h. ACRL Standards and Accreditation (E. Wilkie)

Wilkie was not present. Schroeder asked if there is a need for us to have an attendee or someone who knows the SAC process well. Brown replied that she is comfortable at this point with the liaison system, which is new. She stated that her liaison is on top of things, but how do others feel? Schroeder replied that we can leave it at that.

i. ALCTS/PARS (Teper/Paulson)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

From the Library of Congress:

The Library of Congress reports that it will be stepping up its research program in the coming year, adding four new scientists and new equipment to the program. Current and upcoming research topics include: the testing of inert polyester films for encapsulation and other preservation purposes; the deterioration mechanisms, vulnerability, and causes of sticky shed syndrome of magnetic tapes; and the aging properties and chemical interactions of historic, gelatin-sized papers, particularly in reference to the chemical binding of metallic ions. All research reports will be mounted to the Library of Congress' website as well as have alerts posted to the ConsDistList.

Additional notes:

- There are upcoming changes to the LOC website, including information for the public on preserving family treasures.
- Tours of the LOC conservation lab and research and testing facilities are being planned for ALA Annual in DC, 2007. All are newly renovated.

Digital Preservation

University library's preservation departments reported on developments in digital preservation. Reporting on current trends were the University of Chicago and Columbia University. Both noted the importance in separating "digitization" and "digital preservation" as two separate programs. Policy statements and program development in the area of digital preservation can benefit greatly from the experience of preservation officers who built programs for analog reformatting and preservation of surrogate formats during the microfilm project development in the 1980s, much of the process and management of which is directly translatable to digital. Funding is the most major hurdle, but most preservation programs realize that some funding may have to come from existing preservation dollars. Most important at this point in program development is to try to cooperate and disseminate programs and policies so that each individual institution is not creating its program from scratch, thus reducing the risk of unnecessary duplication of effort.

Water Disasters in High-Density Storage: A Preliminary Test

Tom Schneiter of the Harvard Depository reported on a preliminary test to evaluate the extent and nature of a water disaster, such as a discharged sprinkler head, in a high-density storage facility. Current predictions estimate that even one accidentally discharged sprinkler head in a high-density facility with 35 foot tall shelving could damage upwards of 30,000 items. Specific concerns for a water disaster in such a facility include wet books falling off shelves from heights, the immobility of lift vehicles on wet surfaces normally used for retrieval of shelved materials, and personnel management and safety under such conditions.

The timed observational study, run at Harvard, consisted of a controlled water source from a soaker hose placed on top of one, three-shelf shelving unit with 750 discarded books and unbound paper materials, and allowed to run for over 3 hours. Observations were taken over the study and included:

- 1) Books swelled laterally, not horizontally.
- 2) Bound materials swelled less than unbound papers.
- 3) Two minutes into the study, trays used to shelve books were already holding 1.5 – 2 inches of standing water
- 4) In under ten minutes the trays showed deformation and in less than 30 minutes the first tray failed.

- 5) After one hour the shelves showed signs of stress, but the back stops (metal lips on the backs of shelves) did not fail, which prevented books from falling down the back of the shelving
- 6) In 45 minutes, the trays fell apart and books started falling to the ground.
- 7) After 3 hours, however, most distortion and movement slows down, and the majority of physical damage occurred in the first two hours of the study.
- 8) After 4-5 inches of books swelled and fell off the shelves, the materials stabilized and no further swelling and book falling was noted.
- 9) At end of test, all trays failed and broke along their glued seams, however none of the steel shelves failed though they did show significant stress to the structure.
- 10) Water soaked trays could be moved with books intact, if moved carefully.

Other Notes:

- The NEH and other federal funding agencies using grants.gov will be changing to Adobe Acrobat for easier grant filing.
- PARS is seeking input and participation from other sections and divisions. If you have any suggestions for topics for future PARS programs or initiatives, please contact me.

j. GODORT/MAGERT (M. North)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

GODORT/REGP is looking forward to its program at June Annual entitled, "What difference does it make what Congress published? American history in the earliest Congressional Documents," which will focus on late 18th- and early 19th-century government publications. 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 (Schroeder)

Rick Clement's Dean has changed his mind, so we don't have a rep right now. Dimunation pointed out that Marcia Reed is going to Durban and seems to go to IFLA frequently. Schroeder said that he will approach Reed to see if she is willing to take this on. Slive asked what is Susan Allen's status, and Dimunation said that she is not sure of her eligibility. Schroeder encouraged any one who is interested to let him know, keeping in mind that there is no institutional support for attendance.

[IE] Report given by Marcia Reed

At the IFLA 2006 RBMS Preconference in Hangzhou, China based at the Zhejiang Provincial Library on August 14-16, 2006, more than a hundred researchers and librarians from Asia, Europe, Australia, and the Americas convened for three days of stimulating lectures, field trips, demonstrations, and a stunning theatrical performance. A well-orchestrated array of presentations focused on the history of Chinese written and printed culture and libraries. Principal topics included the history of Chinese printing with wood blocks and moveable metal type (before Gutenberg), papermaking, binding, and the collecting of books and printing blocks.

In addition to the warm and cordial welcome that was extended by the hosts, one of the highlights of the conference was the cultural evening performance at the Hangzhou Theatre of "The Story of the Library of the Fan Family," an opera about publishing and collecting. On the following days we visited a traditional papermaking and printing village at Hua Baozhai, the Library of Tianyi Pavilion

Library at Ningbo (from the Fan family), the Huzhou Writing Brush Museum, and the Jiaye Ancient Library of printing blocks.

In Seoul, Korea at the IFLA 72nd World Library and Information Congress on Monday August 21, 2006, the Rare Books and Manuscripts section program was inspired by the early invention of printing and by more recent technological innovations in Asian countries. Titled “West by East – East by West: Cultural and technological exchange – Old technology, new technology, collecting and describing rare materials,” the session comprised of four papers that dealt with the integration of materials among cultures from diverse perspectives. Hee-Jae Lee (Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul, Korea) spoke on the history of “Korean Typography in the 15th Century;” Izumi Koide (Shibuwa Ei’ichi Memorial Foundation, Tokyo, Japan) discussed a fascinating collection of images in “Picturing Westernization and Modernization: A Wood-block Print Collection from late 19th Century Japan;” Valentina De Monte (Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, France) presented “De la Bibliothèque des Chinois en France au Fonds chinois de la Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon” on the development of Chinese collections in France; and Ching-chi Chen (Simmons College, Boston, USA) described the effect of recent technological developments in “West by East – East by West: Cultural and Technological Exchange in the Case of Global Memory Net.”

1. BSA (D. Slive)

Nothing further to report.

[IE]

2007 BSA Programming:

2007 Annual Meeting

The BSA Annual Meeting will be held next Friday, January 26, at the Morgan Library & Museum.

The New Scholars Program will begin at 2:00 p.m., with the following scholars presenting their research:

Christopher Hunter (University of Pennsylvania)

"Sans aucun alliage étranger: The Printer's Copy of the First Complete Edition of Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography*"

Eli MacLaren (University of Toronto): "The Magnification of Ralph Connor: *Black Rock* and the North American Copyright Divide"

Thierry Rigogne (Fordham University): "Printers and Booksellers between State and Market: The Structural Transformation of the French Book Trade in the Age of Enlightenment"

Following a brief business meeting at 4:00 p.m., Bettina Wagner, Head of Manuscript and Incunable Cataloguing at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich, will present the annual lecture.

Looking further ahead, I am pleased to announce the following:

“The Books of Venice: A Conference on the Book in Venice”

March 9-10, 2007. Venice, Italy

BSA will be cosponsoring a SHARP-organized conference concerning the history of the book in Venice from the sixteenth century to the present. Keynote addresses will be delivered by Lilian Armstrong (Wellesley College), Neil Harris (Università di Udine), and Marino Zorzi (Biblioteca Marciana). There will also be a half-day lecture and workshop entitled “Printing in the Shadow of Aldus Manutius” led by Peter Koch of Editions Koch. Other cosponsors of this conference include the Biblioteca Marciana, the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti; the event has been generously supported by the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation.

Nineteenth-Century Book Conference

“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 at 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 Morgan Library & Museum (“Victorian Bestsellers”), the Grolier Club (“Illustrating the Good Life: The Pissarros’ Eragny Press, 1894-1914”), and the Fales Library (“Nothing New: The Persistence of the Bestseller”). Related exhibitions and events will be held during Spring 2007 at Bard Graduate Center, Rare Book and Manuscript Library of Columbia University, Museum of Biblical Art, New-York Historical Society, and New York Public Library. Members of the planning committee for this conference include Mark Samuels Lasner (Chair), John Bidwell, Mike Kelly (local arrangements chair), Eric Holzenberg, Peter Trippi, and Daniel J. Slive.

Plenary presenters and their papers will include the following:

Petra ten-Doesschate Chu (Seton Hall University): “French Book Illustration”

Marie E. Korey (Massey College, University of Toronto): “The Vizetelly Publishing Firm”

Margaret D. Stetz (University of Delaware): “The Victorian Book Goes to Hollywood”

John Sutherland (University College, London): “The True Birth of the Bestseller”

Michael Winship (University of *Texas at Austin*): “Two Early American Bestsellers: Rowson’s Charlotte Temple and Stowe’s Uncle Tom’s Cabin”

Twelve short papers will also be delivered (chosen from approximately 55 proposals received) and presentations at the Museum of Biblical Art and the Grolier Club will also be given. Receptions will be held at the Grolier Club, Fales Library, and the Morgan Library & Museum.

48th Annual RBMS Preconference

June 19-22, 2007. Baltimore, MD.

“Ephemera”

BSA will be a cosponsor of the 2007 RBMS Preconference, officially sponsoring the keynote address to be delivered by Michael Twyman. The preconference will be devoted to ephemera, collections of which have been traditionally neglected by libraries and underutilized by scholars.

15th Annual SHARP Conference

July 11-15, 2007.

Minneapolis, Minnesota.

A proposal for a BSA-sponsored panel devoted to photographic illustrations in 19th-century books submitted by committee member Caroline Duroselle-Melish has been accepted. To be moderated by Caroline Duroselle-Melish, the session will include the following speakers and papers:

Anne Peterson (DeGolyer Library, Southern Methodist University): “Alexander Gardner and the Photographically Illustrated Book”

Claudia Funke (Avery Library, Columbia University): “Reading the Building, Reading the Photographic Book: The First American Architectural Books Illustrated with Photographs”

David Whitesell (American Antiquarian Society): “Sun Pictures’ Through a Clouded Lens: The Bibliography of 19th-Century Books Illustrated with Mounted Photographs”

13. Old Business (Schroeder)

None.

14. New Business (Schroeder)

a. ABAA Book Fairs

For the last several years Eric Holzenberg has been organizing the ABAA book fairs, and Schroeder thank him for his service, to great applause. Holzenberg received a formal motion of thanks, read by Reagan:

RBMS would like to thank Eric Holzenberg for his nearly six years of dedicated service to RBMS as the unofficial coordinator of the RBMS information booths at the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America's book fairs across the country. Through his efforts and leadership, more people are aware of RBMS and its mission, and our relationship with our ABAA colleagues has been strengthened.

Motion to pass was approved.

Schroeder asked how are we going to continue on with this important outreach program? He spoke with Holzenberg about arranging individuals in each city to coordinate volunteers to act as local ABAA organizers. Rachel Howarth and John Overholt in Boston did it this fall and have agreed to do it next year; Fernando Pena will do it for New York, but we need someone to oversee the entire process. Perhaps this could be a member-at-large task, or the task of the Membership and Professional Development Committee. Ellickson stated that she would need more info from Schroeder and Holzenberg because when she mentioned it to the committee, they were reticent.

Holzenberg pointed out that there is no reason why depots of material can't be stored in each city. He does not think it's necessarily a lot to do for an overall coordinator other than to send reminders and send a checklist. Dimunation asked who arranges the tables? Holzenberg replied that it is the RBMS liaison to ABAA, organizer, and ABAA; it is an easy conversation. The local person has a bit more work in New York since they're more reticent to give up space. Schroeder pointed out that San Francisco has no local person; he has emailed John Hock (?). He asked for other suggestions. Holzenberg stated that this is a table that includes info from APHA, RBS, etc., so it goes beyond RBMS. Slive stated that perhaps someone at the Bancroft, starting with Teresa or Peter Hampf, could be in charge, or we could ask them to find someone. Randy Brandt stated that he has no duties that take him to the book fair, which is made clear to him; this year the fair is over President Day's weekend, and he doesn't know if he will attend.

Belanger emphasized that we need to work out who's going to oversee this, and he recommends a czar with a three-year appointment. Kelly asked if there is a member-at-large who liaisons with Membership and Prof. Development? Gillis replied that she does, and Kelly rejoined, "Congratulations." Dimunation said that in his opinion the most appropriate place to figure this out is in Membership and Professional Development. Schroeder replied that he is comfortable with that and will contact Teresa and others about San Francisco since the immediate need is great. Brandt added that Shannon Supple is on Arvid's committee, and she is based in SF. John Overholt asked that he be notified when a person is secured because he has things he needs to send on to them, and Holzenberg added that a notice to volunteers needs to be sent out soon. Dimunation suggested that maybe some shipping costs can be absorbed by people attending the Codex conference, who could take materials with them. Halvorson added that the Membership committee thought there should be more banners. Holzenberg agreed and pointed out that the current logo is wrong.

Schroeder put the matter to rest and asked that Ellickson take this matter back to her group and mull it over. He would like a report by Annual for how we should proceed. [Sarah Fass of Membership and Professional Development has agreed to take on the role of ABAA Book Fair Czarina.]

Schroeder asked for a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:40pm.

Addendum from Dupont: please let him know about committee appointments.

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