

## **RBMS Executive Committee Minutes**

ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Diego, CA

Monday, 10 January 2011

8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., San Diego Convention Center, Room 23 C

**Call to order**                      The RBMS Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Henry Raine at 8:00 a.m.

### **1. Introductions /**

#### **Attendees**

*Executive Committee*      Mike Kelly (Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Amherst College), Deborah J. Leslie (Past Chair; Folger Shakespeare Library), Jeffrey Makala (Member-at-large, University of South Carolina), Kate Moriarty (Secretary; Saint Louis University), Fernando Peña (Member-at-large; Grolier Club), Henry Raine (Chair, New York Historical Society), Nina Schneider (Member-at-Large, Clark Library-UCLA)

#### *Guests*

Tom Abbott (ACRL Vice President/President-Elect Candidate, University of Maine-Augusta), James P. Ascher (University of Colorado at Boulder), Anne Bahde (San Diego State University), Steven Bell (ACRL Vice President/President-Elect Candidate, Temple University), Lois Fischer Black (Lehigh University), Erin Blake (Folger Shakespeare Library), Alvan Bregman (University of Illinois), Adam Burling (ACRL Staff Liaison, ACRL), Katie Carr (Independent), Annie Copeland (Pennsylvania State University), Danielle Culpepper (Rare Book School, University of Virginia), Erika Dowell (Indiana University), Christian Dupont (Atlas Systems), Ellen Ellickson (Yale University), Jane Gillis (Yale University), Hjordis Halvorson (Newberry Library), Eric Holzenberg (Grolier Club), Athena Jackson (Louisiana State University), Elizabeth Johnson (Indiana University), Mary Lacy (Library of Congress), Martha Lawler (Louisiana State University-Shreveport), John Lehner (ACRL Board Liaison, University of Houston), Arvid Nelsen (University of Minnesota), Jennifer Nelson (Robbins Collection, University of California-Berkeley), Margaret Nichols (Cornell University), Melissa Nykanen (Pepperdine University), Garth Reese (University of Idaho), Elizabeth Robinson (Library of Congress), Jennifer Schaffner (OCLC Research), Molly Schwartzburg (University of Texas), Heather Smedberg (University of California-San Diego), Steven Smith (Texas A&M University), Elaine Smyth (Louisiana State University), Michael F. Suarez, S.J. (Rare Book School, University of Virginia), Shannon Supple (University of California-Berkeley), Diane Warner (Texas Tech University)

- 2. Review and finalize agenda (Henry Raine)**
- Henry Raine added to New Business, 9.4. Report on ARL statistics. Items 9.1. Virtual committee meetings and 9.2. Virtual committee membership will be discussed as a unit.
- Raine also announced that the visits from the two candidates for ACRL Vice President/President-Elect (15.1) would occur at 8:30 a.m. for Steven Bell and 11 a.m. for Tom Abbott.
- No other adjustments were requested by attendees. The agenda was approved.
- Secretary's note:* Information Exchange reports from January 9, 2011 are appended to the end of these minutes. A list of acronyms used follows the Information Exchange reports.
- 3. Meeting protocol (Henry Raine)**
- Raine reminded attendees that the meeting is informally run according to Sturgis' *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure*, that motions are not required, and that matters requiring a vote will be clearly stated prior to the vote by the Executive Committee members.
- Raine also reminded attendees that they do not need to report if they already did so at the January 9, 2011 Information Exchange.
- 4. Approval of minutes from ALA Annual 2010 (Henry Raine)**
- The minutes of the June 28, 2010 Executive Committee meeting were approved.
- 5. Reminders for committee chairs (Kate Moriarty / Henry Raine)**
- Kate Moriarty asked for Information Exchange reports as soon as possible and reminded chairs that Annual 2010 final and Midwinter 2011 draft or final minutes are due February 9.
- Raine reminded committee, discussion group, and task force chairs of their responsibility to attend their meetings and the Executive Committee meeting and to attend Information Exchange and the RBMS preconference orientation or have someone represent them.
- 5.1. Meeting schedule, meeting room setups (Henry Raine)*
- Raine requested that chairs email him with any problems with room setups and to include the following information: committee name, hotel name, nature of the problem. Upon querying attendees as to whether there were any problems, none were brought up.
- Deborah Leslie commended ALA for scheduling RBMS meetings in fewer different locations.
- Raine stated that he scheduled discussion groups so that they did

not meet concurrently for those who wanted to attend all of them. He will continue to do so if everyone is satisfied with that method.

**6. Consent agenda  
(Henry Raine)**

*6.1. Approved a motion to allow the Society of American Archivists to adapt the RBMS Diversity Toolkit*

Raine explained that today's vote is to ratify that the Executive Committee votes on these items took place virtually over ALA Connect since the Annual 2010 Executive Committee meeting.

The consent agenda was approved.

*6.2. Approved the RBMS Membership and Professional Development Committee's recommendation that ACRL staff manage the New Members Social at the 2011 Preconference*

**7. Updates from the Executive Committee  
(Henry Raine)**

Raine reminded attendees that most Executive Committee discussion takes place on ALA Connect and that we as a section should become accustomed to going there and following and contributing to the discussion. He gave a brief summary (below) of each of the items.

*7.1. Discussed the Association of Research Libraries' "Principles to Guide Vendor/Publisher Relations in Large-Scale Digitization Projects of Special Collections Materials" on ALA Connect and made a recommendation to the ACRL Board to lend its support to the document*

The document outlines nine principles. The Executive Committee recommended it with a few changes in language.

*7.2. Received*

Raine explained that the reason for the jump in funds from \$1,500

*notification from ACRL that the section's FY2011 budget is \$2,195.00*

for FY2010 to \$2,195 for FY2011 is the new formula ACRL uses for determining budgets: a base allocation of \$1,000 plus an additional \$0.75 per section member over 200 members.

Raine stated that the Executive Committee is open to proposals for using the funds and emphasized that it is important to spend the entire budget so that funding continues. He asked that committees or individuals contact both the Budget & Development Committee and the Executive Committee with their ideas.

7.3. *Worked with ACRL to apply for a \$3,000 grant from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation to make Vols. 1-12 of RBML available online through the HighWire platform*

The grant was approved.

7.4. *Held a brief email discussion of the ALA Digital Archives Planning Survey*

The Executive Committee was only given a two-day deadline for completing the survey. We were late in responding but were told that we would be taken into consideration in the future.

7.5. *Discussed a request from Patricia Hswe and Marisa Ramirez to support a petition to start a new ACRL Digital Curation Interest Group, and sent a response indicating our support and suggesting that other ACRL sections might also be interested*

Raine added that anyone in ACRL can start an interest group if they gather 25 or more signatures.

## **8. Old business**

8.1. *Recommendations* Raine gave a history of the discussion by explaining that the

*from the “Final Report of the RBMS Guidelines for the Digitization of Special Collections Task Force” (Henry Raine)*

purpose of the Guidelines for the Digitization of Special Collections Task Force was to create guidelines for RBMS and that three action items emerged from the Annual 2009 Executive Committee meeting. RBMS has implemented the second action item, “Exec. will look into renaming the document, *Guidelines for the Digitization of Special Collections: Principles for Digital Content*, in a way that makes it clear these are not ACRL guidelines,” by renaming it *Digitization of Special Collections: RBMS Principles for Digital Content*. We have also implemented the third action item, “Decide where the *Principles for Digital Content* document will live on the RBMS website,” by including it in the RBMS newsfeed, providing a link to it from the “Electronic Publications” section of the Publications page, and including a link to it from the task force’s page.

The remaining action item is to decide on “concrete actions to take in pursuing recommendations and options presented in the report.” Raine read the three organizational options for implementing the steps recommended by the task force, which can be found on page 3 of the report and which, here abridged, are: a) establish a standing committee or interest group, b) establish a standing committee or interest group which would do its work virtually, c) appoint a “Digital Special Collections Liaison.”

It was observed that there are many ALA groups working on digitization issues and that not only do we not want to reinvent the wheel, we want to keep track of what others are doing. For this reason, the discussion focused on a collaborative entity, such as an ACRL interest group or discussion group, or a liaison, rather than an RBMS standing committee.

An idea was proposed to, as a starting point, convene a one-time discussion group, with the possibility of renewal, at a future conference in order to identify the issues, and then appoint a liaison to explain our concerns to others and to hear their concerns. It was also suggested that we move the discussion to ALA Connect and/or RBMS-L.

An observation was made that it has been helpful having the principles on the RBMS site and that it would be good to see RBMS continue to play a role in emerging digitization standards, guidelines, and practices as they apply to special collections.

Two action items resulted from the discussion:

1. Raine will start a discussion on either ALA Connect or RBMS-L on the task force’s recommendations.

2. Mike Kelly will schedule, at a time at which all can meet, a discussion group at Midwinter 2012 to further discuss the task force's recommendations. The decision regarding appointing a liaison will happen after these two steps.

15.1. *Visits from candidates for ACRL Vice President / President-Elect: Steven Bell*

Steven Bell introduced himself, made a statement, and answered questions.

## 8. Old business (cont.)

8.2. *Translation of "Your Old Books" into Spanish (Mike Kelly)*

Kelly stated that he responded to the request to translate *Your Old Books* into Spanish but has not heard back from the librarian. Kelly was asked to make one more attempt to contact the person.

It was suggested that we move ahead with the translation even if we do not hear back from the initial contact. Athena Jackson stated that she could identify someone with the necessary language skills. The idea was well-received but the Executive Committee will wait to vote on it until Kelly has made his final contact attempt.

It was also suggested that we add to the bottom of the document's web page a statement regarding who to contact if you are interested in translating the document into other languages. The Executive Committee will follow up on this after the meeting.

The issue of who should coordinate translations also came up. It was generally agreed that this would fall in the Publications Committee's purview. The Executive Committee will contact the committee to inform them that they may be getting requests.

### Action Items:

1. Kelly will make a final attempt to contact the librarian who offered to coordinate the Spanish translation.
2. If Kelly does not hear back from the librarian, the Executive Committee will vote on moving forward with a Spanish translation.
3. The Executive Committee will work with the Publications Committee to construct a sentence regarding interest in translating the document and will ask the Web Team to add it to the web page.
4. The Executive Committee will contact the Publications Committee regarding their role in coordinating translation

requests and projects.

*8.3. Traditional Cultural Expressions:*

*Nurturing Understanding and Respect (Christian Dupont)*

As a member of the ALA Presidential Task Force on Traditional Cultural Expressions, Christian Dupont reported that the task force has produced a report (not a policy statement) that will be presented to ALA Council II at Midwinter. The Society of American Archivists and the American Indian Library Association (AILA) have both submitted responses to the document. AILA did not endorse the report but recognized that a greater understanding of the issues has been made. RBMS did not submit a response but was represented in the development of the report by Dupont and Jeffrey Makala. At this point there is no action for the Executive Committee to take but to stay abreast of the issue. Dupont has sent periodic updates to RBMS-L and will likewise post a summary there of the outcomes of the Council meeting.

**9. New business**

*9.4. Report on ARL statistics (Christian Dupont)*

Dupont reported that ARL is considering adding new metrics to its survey of special collections and archives. The organizers do not currently need input from RBMS but it could be fruitful to start a discussion on the issue. Dupont will provide the Executive Committee with some additional background information and the committee may discuss possibilities for follow-up on ALA Connect.

*9.3. Review of draft ACRL Plan for Excellence (Henry Raine)*

Raine reported that ACRL asked all section executive committees to put this on the agenda. The plan outlines three major goals: 1) value of academic libraries, 2) student learning, and 3) research and scholarly environment. ACRL has asked for feedback by February 1.

Raine had planned to re-post to RBMS-L the draft plan and initiate an online discussion on it but we were informed by John Lehner (see 15.2 below) that responses to the feedback survey should be by individuals, not sections. Raine had also given feedback on the draft at the ACRL Leadership Council meeting at Midwinter.

*9.1. Virtual committee meetings*

*9.2. Virtual committee membership (Shannon Supple/Athena Jackson)*

Raine provided some background on the issue: A number of ACRL sections have done away with Midwinter face-to-face meetings and are conducting them virtually instead. ALA recently issued a white paper on Midwinter--the overall gist supporting the continuance of Midwinter on a reduced scale--and included a discussion of virtual meetings. Raine asked Shannon Supple to report on the Seminars Committee's experience with its November 2010 virtual meeting using Dimdim and the use of Skype during Midwinter for virtual

participation of its co-chair, Lynne Thomas, and two other committee members. He also asked Athena Jackson to report on her experience with an intern who is a virtual member of the Diversity Committee.

Supple and Thomas are co-chairs of the Seminars Committee. They had a fair amount of technical difficulties during their November virtual meeting but nonetheless held a successful meeting. They used the free version of the ACRL-recommended software, Dimdim, which only allowed ten people to speak; others participated through the chat function. The agenda Thomas had posted was replaced after five minutes by an ad. The voice-over internet protocol did not work. The free version of Dimdim is no longer available so a new software will need to be found. They suggest finding one that allows more than ten people on the call. For the Midwinter meeting, Skype worked well and it allowed those who could not be present to engage in the committee's work. Supple observed that the virtual meeting plus a face-to-face meeting works very well for Seminars, which has consistent work throughout the year. The virtual meeting was useful for organizing the seminars, the face-to-face meeting for brainstorming. Having the virtual meeting made the face-to-face meeting more productive and left more time for brainstorming. The committee has not yet discussed its plan for future meetings but it is very possible that they will continue with a virtual meeting prior to the face-to-face one at the conference.

Jackson reported that her virtual intern is also a virtual student and thus comfortable with the experience and productive. Jackson's first contact with the intern was when she did a school presentation with the RBMS Diversity Toolkit and she recommends having face-to-face contact with virtual members first, if possible. Jackson also recommended that virtual committee membership might work best with standing members as she has spent a significant amount of time training her intern on aspects of RBMS that are often learned from face-to-face interactions.

#### Additional discussion:

With ALA's encouragement of virtual membership and virtual meetings, surprise was expressed that its white paper on Midwinter strongly favored continuing the event rather than doing away with it.

Several RBMS committees lacked a significant number of their members this Midwinter due to funding issues. It was brought up that committees are not required to call a face-to-face meeting at

Midwinter but if they do, all members are required to attend. Virtual attendance fulfills this requirement and there is a check box on the ACRL volunteer form, "I am interested in serving as a virtual member on a committee." However, the cost per meeting of providing Skype is \$1,000 and ACRL has asked us to be judicious in our requests for it, thus inhibiting committees from following through with providing virtual access to their face-to-face meetings. It is permitted for RBMS to pay for it, but our section funds are limited. If virtual meetings are held outside of Midwinter in place of face-to-face meetings, it is often possible for home institutions to provide the necessary support.

Adam Burling mentioned that if a request from a section for internet and AV to support virtual attendance at a face to face meeting at Midwinter or Annual is not made by the meeting request deadline, ALA would not cover the costs, the section would be required to cover the costs out of its basic services funds.

Bearing in mind these constraints, it was suggested that RBMS committees be encouraged to hold virtual meetings before conferences with the option of also holding a face-to-face conference meeting and that chairs consider carefully and provide a strong rationale for virtual member participation at ALA in order to justify the request to ACRL. It was also suggested that RBMS disallow virtual chairs but allow virtual co-chairs so long as one of the co-chairs is present at the face-to-face meeting. Also, a question was raised about whether we should provide access to Executive Committee meetings for virtual co-chairs.

Action items:

1. Kelly will issue a note to committee chairs from the Executive Committee outlining the various options, the available support, and the timeline for requests.
2. Adam Burling will be sending to section leaders a report of the ACRL/STS Virtual Participation Task Force which outlines the services available and the pros and cons of each.

15.2. ACRL Board,  
Leadership Council  
(John Lehner)

John Lehner presented two items.

Bylaws proposal: There will be a proposal on the spring election ballot to amend the way in which dues increases are handled. It proposes giving responsibility and decision-making authority to the ACRL board to determine possible fee adjustments, with a cap imposed using the Higher Education Price Index. The current bylaws require that increases must be put to a vote of the entire membership, which has resulted in fewer but larger dues increases

than is anticipated with the proposal.

ACRL Plan for Excellence: ACRL is looking for feedback on the latest draft, circulated in early December. Feedback was also received at the Leadership Council meeting at Midwinter. There is a blog and a survey, and we are requested to respond to the survey as individuals, not as a section.

## 10. Programs and conferences

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|---|--|
| 10.1. <i>2011 Preconference Program Planning (Steven Smith)</i>                   | No action items. Most of the programming is in place and preparations are coming together well.  |
| 10.2. <i>2011 Preconference Local Arrangements (Elaine Smyth)</i>                 | No action items.   |
| 10.3. <i>2011 Annual Conference Program Planning (Ellen Ellickson)</i>            | No action items.   |
| 10.4. <i>2012 Preconference Program Planning (Nina Schneider, Shannon Supple)</i> | No action items.   |
| 10.5. <i>2012 Preconference Local Arrangements (Lynda Claassen)</i>               | No action items.   |
| 10.6. <i>2012 Annual Conference Program Planning (Gerald Cloud)</i>               | No action items.   |
| 10.7. <i>Conference Development (Erika Dowell)</i>                                | The committee had one action item. They recommended that the request by the University of Minnesota to host the 2013 Preconference be approved by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve. |

The committee also received a strong proposal from the University of Iowa and asked them to resubmit it at another time.

## 11. Task Forces

### 11.1. *Guidelines for Borrowing and Lending Special Collections* (Hjordis Halvorson)

Hjordis Halvorson asked about the timeline involved in getting the guidelines approved by the end of Annual 2011. The task force will incorporate the feedback received at the Midwinter public hearing and from individuals and will submit it to the Executive Committee for review roughly in March. The Executive Committee asked for 10 days to review the document. It will then be submitted to the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee (SAC). Halvorson will determine SAC's deadline and inform the Executive Committee as to when it can expect to receive the document.

## 12. Publications

### 12.1. *Publications* (James P. Ascher)

The committee had one action item regarding photographic documentation of preconferences. The results of the committee's survey on the issue were that 73% of respondents were comfortable with photos of them being posted without asking permission, 20% wanted permission asked first, and 6.9% did not want their photos posted at all. The committee's proposal to the Executive Committee is to post photos without permission from the 2011 preconference and have a robust take-down policy.

Discussion included comparisons to ACRL, which posts photos without permission and has never had a request to take down a photo, and Rare Book School, which posts photos without permission and captions but invests staff time in internal documentation of the photos. ACRL legal counsel advised against providing an option to opt out of the photo posting as it sets up a legal expectation regarding images from a public event.

There was also discussion on the function of the photos. Would they be an ephemeral short-term documentation or do we want them to reside in the archives and serve as historical documentation?

The proposal was rephrased as: The Publications Committee, in consultation with the 2011 Preconference Program Planning Committee and the 2011 Preconference Local Arrangements Committee, will post photos of the 2011 Preconference without getting permission and will have a robust take-down policy. The Publications Committee will announce to RBMS-L when the

images are posted. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve.

12.2. *News Editor*  
(Ethan Henderson) No action items.

12.3. *Web Team*  
(Shannon Supple) No action items.

12.4. *RBM Editorial Board* (Beth Whittaker) No action items.

### 13. Standing committees

13.1. *Archivist / Records Manager*  
(Chatham Ewing) No action items.

13.2. *Bibliographic Standards*  
(Stephen Skuce) No action items.

13.3. *Budget and Development*  
(Elaine Smyth) No action items.

The committee's recommendation to the Executive Committee is to maintain support for preconference scholarships at \$15,000. The \$15,000 may come from excess revenue from the previous year's preconference and other sources. For the 2011 Preconference, RBMS has \$5,000 in ACRL Action Plan money, to be matched with \$2,500 in contributions from the check box on the preconference registration form, and from the Friends of ACRL.

The committee also supports the recommendation of the Regional Workshops Committee that the Executive Committee approve ten \$100 student discounts for RBMS regional workshops, to come out of the section's Basic Services funds.

13.4. *Diversity*  
(Athena Jackson) No action items.

13.5. *Exhibition Awards* (Molly Schwartzburg) No action items.

13.6. *Membership and* No action items.

*Professional  
Development  
(Katie Carr)*

Katie Carr thanked The Executive Committee for approving in November the committee's recommendation that ACRL staff assist with the New Members Mixer at the 2011 Preconference.

13.7. *2011  
Nominating (Mary  
Lacy)*

No action items.

15.1. *Visits from  
candidates for  
ACRL Vice  
President /  
President-Elect:  
Tom Abbott*

Tom Abbott introduced himself, made a statement, and answered questions.

### **13. Standing committees (cont.)**

13.8. *Regional  
Workshops (Jane  
Gillis)*

No action items.

13.9. *Scholarships  
(Diane Warner)*

No action items.

13.10. *Security (Alvan  
Bregman)*

No action items.

13.11. *Seminars  
(Shannon Supple)*

No action items.

### **14. Discussion groups**

14.1. *Collection  
Development (Lois  
Fischer Black)*

No action items.

14.2. *Curators and  
Conservators  
(Beth Kilmarx)*

No action items.

14.3. *Manuscripts and  
Other Formats  
(Diane Warner)*

No action items.

14.4. *Public Services* No action items.  
(*Nicolette  
Dobrowolski /  
Susan Walker*)

14.5. *Technical* No action items.  
*Services* (*Ann  
Copeland / Ellen  
Ellickson*)

## **15. ACRL**

15.3. *ACRL Budget* No action items.  
*and Finance* (*E.C.  
Schroeder*)

15.4. *ACRL* Raine explained that ACRL sections, interest groups, and  
*Communities of* discussion groups are communities of practice. The Communities of  
*Practice Assembly* Practice Assembly met for the last time at Midwinter. Because of  
(*Henry Raine*) scheduling conflicts, the communities of practice will find a  
different way to communicate with each other in the future.

**16. Closing business** Raine asked for any other items of new business. None were  
brought up.

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

## Information Exchange Reports

ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Diego, CA

Sunday, 9 January 2011

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m., San Diego Convention Center, Room 07A

### Secretary's Announcements

Chairs were asked to submit to Moriarty: 1) their Information Exchange reports as soon as possible, 2) draft minutes of 2011 Midwinter meetings by February 9, and 3) final minutes of 2010 Annual meetings.

### Programming

*2011*

*Preconference*

*Program Planning*

*(Baton Rouge) –*

*Steven Escar Smith*

The 2011 RBMS pre-conference planning committee met on Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at the Manchester Grand Hyatt, Edward C/D room, at 4:00 pm. Jackie Dooley served as recorder. Previous minutes were approved with minor modifications. Updates were offered on local arrangements by Elaine Smyth and fundraising by Henry Raine. Steve Smith updated everyone on the plenary sessions. Christian Dupont reported on the assessment plenary and other related programs. Maggie Kopp reported on case studies, Pat Bozeman on discussion sessions, Shannon Supple on seminars and short papers, and Steve Smith reported on the workshops. There was a brief discussion of photographic documentation at the pre-conference, led by James P. Ascher. The meeting adjourned a little after 5:00 pm.

*2011*

*Preconference*

*Local*

*Arrangements*

*(Baton Rouge) –*

*Elaine Smyth*

The 2011 Preconference Local Arrangements Committee looks forward to welcoming attendees to the 52nd annual RBMS Preconference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, June 21-24. The preconference will be held at the Hilton Capital Center Baton Rouge (given 4 Diamonds by AAA Hotel Rating), with singles and doubles at \$139 per night. Full and part-day tours will be offered on Tuesday, before the preconference begins, and attendees are encouraged to take advantage of the Booksellers Showcase which will open at 9:30 that morning at the Hilton. Thursday will be spent on the LSU campus, followed by a picnic supper at the LSU Rural Life Museum. A charter bus will be available for those going on to ALA in New Orleans. The preconference website and registration are expected to be available in mid February.

*2011 Annual*

*Conference*

*Program Planning*

*(New Orleans) –*

*Ellen Ellickson*

At its Midwinter meeting, the 2011 Conference Program Planning Committee decided to shorten the title of the program to: You Can't Always Get What You Want (But Sometimes You Get What You Need): Special Collections in Tough Economic Times. Our panelists for the program will be Ellen Dunlap of the American Antiquarian Society, Kris Kiesling of the University of Minnesota, and Rich Oram of the Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin. Also, the Library Leadership & Management Association (LLAMA) has agreed to co-sponsor the program in name only.

*2012  
Preconference  
Program Planning  
(San Diego) –  
Nina  
Schneider/Shannon  
Supple*

The 2012 Preconference Program Planning Committee convened for the first time on Sunday, January 9, 2011. Eighteen attendees spent the morning brainstorming themes and potential plenary session speakers. The committee co-chairs will take into consideration feedback from the 2010 Preconference, as well as suggestions for seminar topics to narrow down the excellent suggestions that came out of the meeting. We encourage individuals who are interested in becoming involved in the Preconference and the Section, to consider volunteering for this committee.

See: [http://rbms.info/committees/interest\\_form.shtml](http://rbms.info/committees/interest_form.shtml)

*2012  
Preconference  
Local  
Arrangements  
(San Diego) –  
Lynda Claassen*

Report not received.

*2012 Annual  
Conference  
Program Planning  
(Anaheim) –  
Gerald Cloud*

The 2012 Conference Planning Committee met for the first time on 8 January 2011, at 4:00-5:30 p.m. Hilton Bayfront. Committee members held an open discussion of potential topics; the committee settled on “The Current State and Future of Bibliography and Special Collections Role therein.” Also discussed were potential speakers—none have yet been approached. Members will work to identify and recruit speakers and clarify the topic for their next meeting at ALA annual, and in the meantime prepare the ACRL proposal for submission in May 2011.

## **Publications**

*Publications  
Committee –  
James P. Ascher*

James P. Ascher, Chair of Publications reported that the Committee continues to fill its role of facilitating publications in electronic and print environments, by both helping other Committees with their needs and collaborating with the Web Team, the A/V Team, the New Editor, The Listserv Editor, and the Editor of RBM. This last six months, a few major projects moved forward: Everett Wilkie and Christopher Cook collaborated with a Wikipedia editor to create a page for the RBMS which can be viewed and edited. It can be seen at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rare\\_Books\\_and\\_Manuscripts\\_Section](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rare_Books_and_Manuscripts_Section) . Melissa Hubbard and James P. Ascher collaborated on surveying the Section regarding its privacy concerns relative to the need of photographic documentation. The report can be viewed in its entirety on ALA Connect ( <http://connect.ala.org/node/112263> ) but showed that a plurality of the Section thought that documentation needs outweighed their individual privacy concerns. Ethan Henderson, Christopher Smith, and the Web Team continue to collaborate to develop a successor to the Newsletter in the form of a revamped digital newsfeed. The Committee

unanimously approved the mock-up and so a live version should be rolled out soon. Everett Wilkie proposed relaxing the prohibition on attachments to rbms-l to allow doc, docx, and txt files which was approved by the Committee unanimously. Lastly, the Committee continues to struggle to revise their charge and draft statements of responsibility for the various working groups. We welcome experienced members of the Section who would like to volunteer to help with visioning the role of Publications moving forward.

*RBM – Hjordis  
Halvorson for Beth  
Whittaker*

1. ACRL received a \$3000 grant from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation to provide digitized archives of *Rare Books & Manuscripts Librarianship (RBML)*. The grant provides funding to assist in making volumes 1-12 of *RBML*, the predecessor of *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage*, discoverable and available online through the HighWire Press platform, completing the publication's online archive. We thank everyone at ACRL, RBMS, the *RBM* editorial board, and the KU Libraries who contributed to make this happen. Scanning has already been completed by staff at KU and we hope to have the backfile available in early 2011.
2. At the end of December, we went live with Editorial Manager software to manage the submission, review, and publication process for *RBM*. This software, which is already used by *College & Research Libraries*, will allow for automated tracking of the entire submission, editing, and publication cycle. Authors, reviewers, and editors create an account that will allow them to manage their tasks without cluttered inboxes and multiple versions of files. All submissions to *RBM* will be received through this interface, rather than being sent directly to the editor. Although we have tested this interface, we expect there may be a "beta" period, so we appreciate the patience of the *RBM* community.
3. Issue 12.1, which features content from the 2010 RBMS preconference, is in the editing stage. Issue 12.2 looks to be full of exciting articles and reviews, as well. We are very pleased that submissions are up, and encourage anyone who has questions about publishing in *RBM* to contact Beth Whittaker, or a member of the editorial board.
4. Our ACRL sister journal *College & Research Libraries* has been actively pondering the sustainability of a hybrid print/electronic model, and has proposed moving to a completely open access model for the electronic version by April 2011. Currently 74 percent of *RBM's* circulation is institutional subscriptions. We welcome

discussion about the future of *RBM* as a print / electronic journal.

5. The editorial board will be collaborating with RBMS to distribute a survey about distribution options for the journal in the coming months. Please be on the lookout for more information.

*News editor –  
James P. Ascher,  
for Ethan  
Henderson*

See the Publications Committee report above.

*Web Team –  
Shannon Supple*

The Web Team is composed of three web editors, multiple committee liaisons, and our web editors emeriti. The current web editors are Shannon Supple (web editor, 2010-2011), Christopher Thomas Smith (senior web editor), and Jason Kovari (assistant web editor). Our liaisons are Randal Brandt, Katie Carr, Eva Rose Guggemos, Melissa Hubbard, Christine Megowan, Kate Moriarty, and Lynne M. Thomas. Our esteemed web editors emeriti are John Pull, Christian Yves Dupont, and James P. Ascher.

Since the website statistics were last reported (11 June 2010) until 7 December 2010, rbms.info has had 57,553 visits, and 103,994 page views with an average of 1.81 pages per visit. Once again, a substantial percentage of the views were for “Your Old Books” (37,705 page views, 36.26%), followed by the main page (12,479 page views, 12.00%), the Controlled Vocabularies (5,641 views, 5.42%), the preconference index page (3,060 views, 2.94%) and the Membership and Professional Development Committee’s Educational Opportunities Directory (2,450 views, 2.36%).

Projects on which the Web Team is currently engaged, in addition to ongoing website updates, include experiments with the Drupal-based platform headed by C. Smith, thesaurus design for the Controlled Vocabularies group using TemaTres headed by J. Kovari, an online gallery for the Exhibition Awards Committee headed by J. Kovari, collaborative editing for DCRM(B) Examples and DCRM(G) groups using digress.it headed by J. Ascher and C. Megowan, social media experiments on Twitter and Facebook headed by L. Thomas and S. Supple, posting minutes to the website headed by K. Moriarty, a website usage and needs survey headed by S. Supple and J. Kovari, and posting Preconference audio, video, and image files, headed by M. Hubbard.

All of this work could not be done without this outstanding and dedicated team.

## **Committees & Task**

**Forces**

- RBMS Archivist/Records Manager – Chatham Ewing* No report.
- Bibliographic Standards – Jennifer Nelson for Randy Brandt for Stephen Skuce* The Bibliographic Standards Committee (BSC) met Saturday morning from 8:00AM to noon. Along with encouraging reports from the four DCRM modules in progress—Manuscripts, Graphics, Music, and Cartographic—and the team developing new Examples to Accompany DCRM(B), the Committee had a lively debate on a discussion paper prepared by John Attig and Robert Maxwell entitled “Reconsidering DCRM in the Light of RDA.” The Committee identified some next steps and will be distributing the discussion paper to the wider rare materials cataloging community via the DCRM-L listserv. From 7:30-10:00PM on Saturday, an enthusiastic crowd gathered for a public hearing on *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Graphics)*, wrapping up a long but productive day for the BSC.
- Budget & Development – Elaine Smyth* The RBMS Budget & Development Committee congratulated the organizers of the 2010 RBMS Preconference on a very successful event, which yielded excess revenue of \$35,321. This will be divided between ACRL and RBMS, giving RBMS a total of \$17,650 available in 2011-2012 for scholarships, the 2011 preconference, and other projects that The Executive Committee might wish to sponsor. The new chair of the Budget & Development Committee will be E.C. Schroeder.
- Conference Development – Erika Dowell* The Conference Development Committee met Sunday morning and heard reports on last year’s very successful Preconference and the equally successful Conference Program, as well as reports on planning for 2011 and 2012 programs.
- The committee identified the need for a template or RFP to help guide the creation of proposals for hosting the Preconference. We need to make sure that we get all the information we need for decision-making. Martha Conway will lead this task.
- We also identified the need to give some structure to our efforts to audio record our programming. It is time to take these efforts from the experimental stage into regular practice. We will be bringing together representatives from the Conference Development Committee, the Budget and Development Committee, and the Publications Committee audio-visual team to work on this.
- We heard a report on the revision of the Preconference Planning Manual. The revision is in a draft version, and we hope to complete it

this year. The current version is very out of date. We will remove it from the web site in the near future, and temporarily replace it with a notice that the manual is under revision.

The committee also heard proposals for hosting the 2013 Preconference and will be recommending a site for approval at the Executive Committee meeting tomorrow.

*Diversity – Athena  
Jackson*

The Diversity Committee met early this morning for an engaging conversation covering 5 main topics.

1. Our History of the Committee Document draft is scheduled to be completed for review by ALA Annual in New Orleans, 2011. This document, which will be on the Diversity link at rbms.info will offer a narrative reflection on our committee's history plus goals for the future.
2. We also asked Membership & Professional Development to administer a section survey, to update the 1997 RBMS survey. In the 1997 survey, it was suggested to update the statistics every 5 years. We are pleased that they agreed to pursue this action, and we hope to assist in question construction with regard to diversity in the field.
3. We also continued discussion about our committee members playing active roles in other committees (either formally or informally) within RBMS and in ALA proper. To that end, we are investigating opportunities with ACRL Diversity to collaborate and streamline initiatives throughout the Division.
4. At the upcoming preconference in Baton Rouge, we are sponsoring a seminar entitled, "Tell Us Your Story: Putting Diversity into Action." Speakers will address how they incorporate diversity initiative into their core job responsibilities.
5. Finally, we concluded our meeting brainstorming ideas for future preconference diversity-related programming in order to sustain our trend in keeping diversity on the section's radar.

*Exhibition Awards  
– Molly  
Schwartzburg*

At our judging meeting on Saturday, the Exhibition Awards Committee selected winners in five fields. As always, it was an invigorating and exciting conversation.

In our Sunday business meeting, we attended to the following key issues:

1. We discussed the committee's planned revision of judging criteria for the category of Electronic Exhibitions. Despite the fact that the current criteria were created just a few years ago, growing sophistication in this field requires that we make a number of substantive changes to the current text. Related to this, the committee will be sponsoring an online

seminar this spring. James P. Ascher and Jason Kovari will mount on the commentary site "[digress.it](http://digress.it)" various documents relating to the design and implementation of electronic exhibitions, with the goal of sparking discussions about the language used to discuss the category of online exhibitions. The committee encourages all interested members of RBMS to keep an eye out in the next few weeks for an invitation to join the seminar.

2. The committee also discussed the possibility of revising the Brochure category, which does not account for the diversity of non-catalog print publications produced in conjunction with brick-and-mortar exhibitions, and has caused some problems when the chair assigns submissions to the appropriate judging categories. We expect to discuss this category in depth at our business meeting at Annual.

3. The committee is continuing to work on a new website to showcase past award winners; an effort to create such a site in Omeka turned out to be too labor-intensive for our volunteer committee, and we hope to work with the RBMS Web Team, the Publications Committee, and the award endowment donors to come up with a new, streamlined solution that can be implemented quickly and updated easily.

4. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Leab awards and the committee concluded our meeting by discussing ways to acknowledge this landmark throughout 2011.

*Membership &  
Professional  
Development –  
Katie Carr*

Membership & Professional Development met Saturday morning.

The Committee discussed renaming the New Members Event at the Preconference and decided on the name "New Members Mixer (all are welcome)."

The Buddy Program continues; there was one buddy request for the ALA Midwinter meeting.

The Diversity Committee approached M&PD about working on a Membership Survey, and Athena Jackson spoke to M&PD on Saturday about this project. M&PD looks forward to working with Diversity on a new survey of RBMS membership.

As of November, the total number of members of RBMS was 1,808, up 4.51% since last November.

The Mentoring program is in serious need of mentors. M&PD discussed targeting newer members as possible mentors and contacting former mentees to serve as mentors. M&PD would like to strongly

encourage all members of the RBMS Executive Committee to serve as mentors, as well as all Committee Chairs. The mentor volunteer form can be found at [http://rbms.info/committees/membership\\_and\\_professional/mentoring\\_program/mentor\\_application\\_form.shtml](http://rbms.info/committees/membership_and_professional/mentoring_program/mentor_application_form.shtml).

*2011 Nominating – Mary Lacy* – The committee would like to thank all the candidates who agreed to stand for election in 2011. They are:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect:

Erika Dowell

Robert Maxwell

Member-at-large:

Sarah Fisher

William LaMoy

Secretary:

Ann Copeland

Martha Lawler

*2012 Nominating – Deborah J. Leslie* – The committee comprises chair Deborah J. Leslie, Eric Holzenberg, and Jennifer Nelson. We are working on nominations for the spring 2012 election, terms to begin in July 2012, of vice-chair/chair-elect and member-at-large. Anyone is free to nominate themselves or a colleague; please contact the chair. And if approached to stand for election, remember that we all have benefited immensely from the time, expertise, and energies of others, and that you'll have lots of help, and please say yes.

*Regional Workshops – Jane Gillis*

The Regional Workshops Committee met on Saturday, January 8, 2011 in the Hilton Bayfront, from 4-5:30PM. We discussed the two workshops that the committee is sponsoring this year. The first, Latin for Rare Materials Catalogers, was presented at the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Friday October 22, 2010. Many thanks to ACRL and Tory Ondrla, who decided to go ahead with the workshop in spite of not having the minimum number of attendees. Fourteen people attended; reviews were outstanding. With hard work by people at the Lilly and the presenters, the workshop only lost about \$400. Discussion centered on reasons why so few people registered for this workshop that had 11 on the waiting list from the Philadelphia Preconference. Possibilities included cost, economy, location. Will we only be able to hold workshops in major cities? The idea of scholarships for library school students arose and it was decided to ask Budget and Development for scholarship money. We will email those on the waiting list to ask why they did not come to the workshop at the

Lilly. The second workshop, *Building Collections: Acquiring Materials and Working with the Antiquarian Book Trade*, is scheduled for Friday, February 11, 2011 at UC Berkeley, just before the San Francisco Bookfair. The committee will be using ALA Connect to mount a generic evaluation form to be used for all workshops and a manual with host responsibilities, proposal form for hosting, timeline and budget.

*Scholarships –  
Diane Warner*

No report.

*Security – Alvan  
Bregman*

The RBMS Security Committee met on Saturday, 8 January 2011 in the Hilton Bayfront Hotel, San Diego. The room was very well set up, with internet connection. There were about 10 visitors in addition to the 6 members present of the committee. The Chair reported that the long-awaited Security Manual was making its way through the ALA editorial process and it was hoped to see it in print within a year. The committee discussed the internal guidelines for its online publication, “Incidents of Theft”, and will draft revisions to these through online discussion in time for Annual 2011. The committee discussed interactions with local bookshops, in the event that library materials were found there for sale. We also discussed the responsibility of professional booksellers to keep records of the identities of those who sell them special materials. Under “New Business”, the committee began a discussion of possible new initiatives and projects it could undertake in order better to promote the newly revised and integrated ACRL/RBMS Guidelines regarding Security and Theft. One area for possible attention was to define best practice in conducting inventories. The committee actively solicits comments from all RBMS members on issues relating to security and ideas for possible projects in this area that would be valuable to the profession.

*Seminars –  
Shannon Supple*

The RBMS Seminars Committee met virtually on November 16, 2010 via conference call and again in-person and via Skype on January 8, 2011 at the ALA Midwinter meeting. The committee, along with our esteemed seminar organizers, have created eight seminars for the 2011 Preconference on a variety of topics. The 2011 seminars are:

1. Assessing Special Collections: Techniques and Benefits
2. Cataloging & security (title TBA)
3. Hidden Collections & Small Budgets
4. Pecha Kucha with Our Stuff: Teaching with Rare Books, Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections
5. Yes, We Scan!: Making and Managing User-Initiated Digital Copies
6. Digital Intermediation of Physical Stuff: How Technology Influences the Movement of Books from Bookseller to Curator

to Cataloger to Professor

7. Tell Us Your Story: Putting Diversity in Action
8. Next generation library catalogs and rare book cataloging in the new metadata environment (title TBA)

At our Midwinter meeting, those present also brainstormed an array of potential seminar ideas for the 2012 Preconference. We welcome additional future seminar ideas and volunteers to organize them.

*Guidelines for  
Borrowing &  
Lending Special  
Collections Task  
Force – Hjordis  
Halvorson*

Saturday morning, January 8, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. a public hearing was held to discuss the current draft of the Guidelines for Interlibrary and Exhibition Loan of Special Collections Materials. 23 people attended, including librarians from special collections of various types and sizes, access services, interlibrary loan, and public service librarians, archivists, administrators, preservation/conservation representatives, and representatives from OCLC Research and SHARES. The task force is very pleased with the helpful input from a wide range of professionals. We also have begun to receive written comments about the draft. About a month ago we posted the draft on the RBMS website and solicited comments via a variety of listservs. Again, these comments, coming from different perspectives, have been very useful. I strongly encourage you to give us your feedback, even if it is a simple affirmation. The task force is going to be doing the next stage of editing in the coming weeks, which I hope will get us close to the final product. We are aiming to bring the final draft for approval in June – that means we really need your input soon.

**Discussion Groups**

*Collection  
Development –  
Lois Fischer Black*

A dozen colleagues met with Co-chairs Mark Greenberg and Lois Fischer Black on Saturday morning to share news of recent acquisitions and to discuss Special Collections collection development methodologies. Recent acquisitions of note included a Renaissance astronomy collection at the University of South Carolina, a collection of children's books at the University of South Florida, and both a Holocaust Collection and the papers of a prominent Los Angeles architect to the University of Southern California.

We discussed at length the opportunities and pitfalls of working with university faculty. Curators are often urged to accept materials that are out-of-scope or in unusual formats, such as scientific equipment or furniture.

Discussion next shifted to the benefits of collaborative collection development, As Mark Greenberg shared his experience at the University of South Florida working with writers, scholars, and collectors in Cuba, Latin America, and South America. In addition to

the benefits of having knowledgeable remote scouts on site, there is a cost savings to the university, as staff need not travel extensively to build this collection.

In closing, we discussed potential topics for the annual conference. Possible discussion topics include: deaccessioning practices and working effectively with development officers.

*Curators &  
Conservators and  
Public Services –  
Beth Turcy  
Kilmarx*

This discussion group was well attended by 24 librarians who work as curators or conservators, or in Public Services. It was a lively discussion, and how the various libraries deal with the increasing demand for digital reproductions depends on the library, its staffing, its policies, and technology. A great variety of responses, but again, a lot is handled on a case by case basis.

*Manuscripts &  
Other Formats –  
Lois Fischer Black*

Twenty attendees met Saturday afternoon to discuss topics relevant to Manuscripts and Other Formats. Those present began with reports on grants and collections received, as well as news of initiatives such as digitization projects.

Discussion quickly shifted to our primary topic, "innovation in instruction." Attendees shared accounts of their efforts to engage faculty and students in the use of unpublished collections. One intriguing class assignment mentioned required use of three primary source items, two of which were required to be drawn from the institution's own Special Collections. Other projects described entailed the transcription of diaries and letters that would ultimately serve as the foundation for a digital project. However, the most common outcome of classroom assignments shared was exhibits. Many of those present described internships and class projects which culminated in the installation of physical and virtual exhibits.

Conversation next shifted to community use of collections. In addition to the genealogists we often see in Special Collections, mention was made of artists in residence who create work based on collections, including both art and performance pieces. Participants also described community events, such as city-wide archives fairs used as marketing opportunities to promote use by non-traditional audiences.

Attention next shifted toward our final discussion topic of the session, preservation of those "pesky" other formats. Attendees acknowledged that we all have audio and video formats in our collections. As this topic merits more attention, we will revisit LPs, VHS cassettes, reel-to-reel tapes, and other formats in New Orleans. Attendees expressed interest in discussing reformatting and learning about grant funding with

which to accomplish this.

*Technical Services*  
– *Ellen Ellickson*

In its meeting, which was attended by some 40 people, TSDG first discussed where libraries placed provenance information: in the bibliographic record, the holdings record, or the item record. Then a report on OCLC WorldCat Local was presented and discussed and, finally, there was a conversation about printed material in archival collections and whether libraries catalog the printed material separately or simply include a listing in the finding aid and also whether the printed material is housed with the collection or separately.

### **Liaisons to Other Groups**

*ACRL  
Communities of  
Practice* – *Henry  
Raine*

The ACRL Communities of Practice Assembly met, probably for the last time, on Friday, January 7, from 4:15 to 5:15. At this meeting, ACRL section chairs and vice-chairs, as well as chairs of interest groups and discussion groups gave reports on upcoming programs and other activities. Because of ALA no-conflict policies, it may not be possible to hold this meeting at future conferences, so the Communities of Practice will discuss alternatives for sharing information. A working group of the ACRL Board issued a draft document entitled “ACRL Communities of Practice – Proposed Policies and Procedures” for discussion at Midwinter, and requested feedback by January 15.

*ACRL Budget &  
Finance* – *E.C.  
Schroeder*

Report not received.

*ACRL Leadership  
Council* – *Henry  
Raine*

The ACRL Leadership Council meeting was held on Friday, January 7, from 2:00 to 4:00. Following updates from the ACRL President and Vice-President, the meeting consisted of small table discussions on the draft *ACRL Plan for Excellence*, which identifies three goals and objectives for the next five years: Value of academic libraries; Student learning; and Research and scholarly environment. Participants were asked to comment on the following questions: 1. In considering a 3-5 year planning cycle and a focused strategic plan, is there anything you expect to see in the goals and objectives that is not included?; 2. Given the three goal areas, what suggestions do you have for activities and projects that ACRL should undertake to advance the plan?; 3. Is there anything in the draft plan that is not clear. A representative from each table recorded feedback from attendees.

The meeting also included a report on an ACRL Bylaws revision proposal which would result in a new system for adjusting membership dues. Dues adjustments would no longer require approval of the membership by vote, but would be determined by the ACRL Board,

which would be authorized to approve dues adjustments not to exceed the percentage change in the Higher Education Price index. The last ACRL dues increase was in 2005. This proposal would allow for yearly adjustments, which would mean gradual changes to membership dues, rather than large increases.

The meeting also included an announcement of the upcoming ACRL 2011 conference, to be held in Philadelphia from March 30 to April 2, 2011.

*American Printing  
History  
Association  
(APHA) –  
Fernando Peña*

APHA's Annual General Meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. on January 29, 2011 at the New York Public Library. For those who have never attended, our annual meeting is an opportunity to meet fellow members from around the country, to network, to gather news and to hear some important speakers. Our meeting marks the end of "Bibliography Week" in New York, when similar groups like the Bibliographical Society of America and the Grolier Club hold their annual meetings. The meeting is free and open to non-members, so all are welcome.

As always, our meeting will feature the presentation of our prestigious annual awards for distinguished contributions "to the study, recording, preservation or dissemination of printing history." For 2011, the Individual Award will be presented to Hendrik D. L. Vervliet, who has published widely on printing and typography, especially 16th century French type design. The 2011 Institutional Award will go to the MFA Program in the Book Arts of the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Science. Accepting the award will be Steve Miller, Professor & MFA Program Coordinator. Both recipients will be in New York for our annual meeting.

APHA has recently announced the details for its 36th Annual Conference, "Printing at the Edge". The two-day event will take place on October 14–15, 2011, at UC San Diego, with Richenda Brim of the Getty serving as program chair and Lynda Claassen of UCSC as site host and local arrangements.

The conference theme draws inspiration from San Diego's unique geography: the city sits at the southwest corner of the United States, at the edge of the United States, at the edge of the international border with Mexico, and at the edge of the Pacific Ocean. What have been the transformative moments in printing history that have changed the direction of printing, typography, papermaking, bookbinding, or book design, and moved us to a new edge? What are today's frontiers? Where is tomorrow's edge? Conference organizers have issued a call for papers, and proposals are due on March 14. More details are available on APHA's website at [www.printinghistory.org](http://www.printinghistory.org).

APHA is in the preliminary stages of planning its first annual conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, scheduled for October 2012, with Arvid Nelson of the University of Minnesota serving as site host and local arrangements. The conference topic has yet to be decided, but sessions and tours will take place at the University of Minnesota's campus and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts.

*American  
Booksellers'  
Association of  
America (ABAA) –  
Ron Lieberman*

No report.

*Association for  
Library  
Collections and  
Technical Services  
/ Preservation and  
Reformatting  
Section  
(ALCTS/PARS) –  
Donia Conn*

News from the Preservation Front:

Yale University and NYU are starting their second season of IMLS Fellows in Preservation Administration. The fellowships are 9 months long and are a way to give new graduates valuable experience in project management and working inter-departmentally with other preservation professionals as well as other disciplines across the library.

Michele Cloonan of Simmons College presented the new University of Delaware/Simmons College model for training library conservators. The pilot project funded by Mellon began this fall at the University of Delaware. Students in the book conservation track from Delaware, Buffalo, and NYU will come to Simmons in the summer to learn preservation management, digital collection management, library management and the history of the book or manuscript, depending on their interest. The question still remains about whether conservators need an MLIS or if the core courses are sufficient. These discussions will be ongoing.

Charlie Kolb of the NEH shared news at the large PARS meeting. There have been deadline changes for many of the NEH grants to earlier than usual. Please check the NEH website for details. Although no FY2011 budget has been passed, the request came for NEH to decrease its request by 5%. For FY2012, the request is for a 10% decrease. The requested decreases come as there were a record number of applications for grants in 2010. For grants moving forward, the NEH is being more stringent in upholding the costshare for grants so be sure to find out what is possible for you. Finally, there has been a mandate to measure grant products so be sure to keep this in mind when applying.

*Association of  
Research Libraries*

ARL's Special Collections Working Group, which falls within ARL's Transforming Research Libraries area of work, continues with a

*(ARL) Special  
Collections  
Working Group –  
Jackie Dooley for  
Mark Dimunation*

renewed charge that includes a focus on collection development issues for the 21st century. These include collaborative collection development, born-digital collections, and intellectual property rights for digitization. Anne Kenney is now the committee's very proactive chair.

*Bibliographical  
Society of America  
(BSA) – E.C.  
Schroeder for  
Daniel Slive*

Recent 2010 Programming:

St. Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies:

In October 2010, BSA sponsored a session at the St. Louis Conference on Manuscripts held at the Knights of Columbus Vatican Film Library of Saint Louis University. The conference session was entitled "Editing the Christian Bible: Redactional Elements in Manuscripts of the New Testament between the Second and the Tenth Century."

Future 2011 Programming:

2011 Annual Meeting:

BSA will hold its annual meeting on January 28, 2011 in New York at the Grolier Club. The New Scholars program will include three presentations on the following topics: "Invention and Implementation: New Bibliographical Features in Chinese Translations of Western Science Books, 1860-1920," "The Enlightenment and Modernization of Authorship: The Self-Publishing Authors in Paris, 1750-1791," and "Walter Scott and the Authoress: Anonymity and the Nineteenth-Century Novel Market." The annual address will be delivered by Carol C. Clark, Professor of the History of Art and American Studies at Amherst College. Her talk is entitled "Haunted Paintings in the World of Print: Charles Deas (1818-1867)."

2011 California Book Fair ABAA/BSA Lecture in San Francisco:

BSA and ABAA will be co-sponsoring a lecture at the California Book Fair in February in San Francisco, on February 12, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. Adrian Johns, professor in the Department of History and chair of the Committee on Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science at the University of Chicago, will be speaking on "The Promise and Peril of a Universal Library."

2011 SHARP 19th Annual Conference in Washington DC, July 14-17, 2011:

BSA will be proposing a panel on "Artists and Scientific Books" intended to cover subjects such as the production of books on science intended for artists, bibliographical and material evidence of scientific books used by artists, and the artistry and design of scientific books.

Please stay tuned and please check the BSA website for additional information on BSA programs throughout the year.

Thanks.

*Government  
Documents Round  
Table (GODORT)  
– Manon Theroux*

The Midwinter Meeting of the GODORT Rare and Endangered Government Publications Committee (REGP) served primarily as an information exchange session at which liaisons from various groups gave brief reports. Two items of possible interest to RBMS members:

1) A joint project between the Library of Congress and the Government Printing Office to digitize back runs of the Congressional Record and the Statutes at Large (including many 19th-century volumes) and make them available for permanent public access via the GPO website has finally received congressional approval.

2) A “Collaborative Federal Depositories Program” established under the auspices of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (with grant funding from the IMLS) has resulted in the founding of “Centers of Excellence” at several universities. Each center is creating a comprehensive collection of historical documents issued by a single federal agency (e.g., the focus at the University of Kentucky’s center is the Works Progress Administration). Program components include inventory, cataloging, preservation, access to digital content, reference expertise, and working cooperatively with other depository libraries to fill gaps in the centers’ collections.

The REGP group also held a brainstorming session to identify possible activities the committee might undertake in the future. These included: co-sponsoring workshops and programs, adding new content to the GODORT wiki, and drafting guidelines for weeding government document collections (suggesting general retention criteria and identifying specific volumes of known rarity, importance, and value).

*International  
Society of Library  
Associations &  
Institutions (IFLA)  
– E.C. Schroeder*

Report not received.

*Joint Committee  
on Archives,  
Libraries &  
Museums (CALM)  
– Jeffrey Makala*

CALM met at SAA’s annual meeting in Washington in August 2010 and at ALA Midwinter in San Diego at this conference. CALM will be sponsoring a program at ALA Annual in New Orleans in June 2011 titled “Convergence, Commoditization & Sustainability: Alternative Funding Sources for Libraries, Archives, and Museums.” The bulk of recent CALM activity has been in representing the LAM community in

ALA's Traditional Cultural Expressions Presidential Task Force. CALM, RBMS, and other organizations, such as SAA, have all been working to include our unique perspectives as curators and managers of some of these types of materials into the work, and resulting report, of the Task Force.

*Maps and  
Geography Round  
Table (MAGERT)  
– Nancy A.  
Kandoian*

MAGERT (ALA's Map and Geography Round Table)

The board passed a proposal to change the name and acronym of the round table to Map and Geospatial Information Round Table and MAGIRT, respectively, to more accurately reflect the concerns and activities of round table members. The change will need to be confirmed by a vote of the full MAGERT membership and by approval from the appropriate ALA authorities. (The pronunciation of the acronym would not change: hard G, accent on the second syllable.)

The MAGERT program for the annual meeting 2011 in New Orleans is titled "There's a Map for That," and the panelists will tell about 7 free online mapping resources for the interest of general reference librarians. Some are static resources, some are interactive, and some have map-making capability. The program is being co-sponsored by RUSA, and there may be additional co-sponsors. RUSA is also organizing a program for which MAGERT is a co-sponsor, concerning local history and maps. The panelists include 3 map librarians.

MAGERT's online, open-access, peer-reviewed journal, *Coordinates* (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/libmap/coordinates.htm>), is in need of a new editor. David Allen, the editor and force behind the creation of *Coordinates*, would like to pass the mantle to someone else now that he has edited it for the several years of its existence and now that he is retired. A subgroup of the MAGERT Publications Committee prepared a report on the journal and made recommendations for the realignment of its focus more toward practical articles of interest to the practicing librarians of MAGERT membership and away from more theoretical articles on cartography and the history of cartography. Also, a new host is being sought for the journal; the current host, SUNY Stony Brook, was David Allen's institution, where it originated. The committee is looking into the Texas Digital Library as a possible permanent new home.

MAGERT continues to publish its newsletter, base line, online with open access, 6 time/year, at <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/publicationsab/baseline/baseline.cfm>. Committee meeting reports can usually be found in base line issues that follow meetings, and some committees are beginning to engage in activities or communicate via ALA Connect.

*Society of  
American  
Archivists (SAA) –  
Jennifer Schaffner*

Report not received.

*Society for the  
History of  
Authorship,  
Reading &  
Publishing  
(SHARP) – Garth  
Reese*

No report.

## Other

*OCLC Research –  
Jackie Dooley for  
Jennifer Schaffner*

The Program Officers within OCLC Research who work in support of the RLG Partnership have published several reports relating to special collections within the past few months, and more are on the way. Information on all current projects is available on the “mobilizing unique materials” section of the OCLC Research website: <http://www.oclc.org/research/partnership/default.htm>

I reported on the following at Info Ex and have indicated below which project reports have been published, and which are forthcoming in spring 2011:

### Survey on Special Collections and Archives

A detailed survey of 275 special collections and archives in academic and research libraries throughout the United States and Canada identified norms across the community and made recommendations for community action and further research. Published.

As an outcome of one of the recommendations in the survey report, Ricky Erway unpacked the many possible meanings of the phrase "born digital" in the essay, Defining "Born Digital."

### Barriers to Using EAD

Identification of barriers to implementing Encoded Archival Description (EAD) and practical suggestions for getting around those obstacles. Published.

### Develop a Holistic Approach to Archival Collections Assessment

This activity looks at existing archival collections assessment activities across institutions, puts them into context, and makes recommendations for best practice. Report forthcoming.

#### Library, Archive and Museum Collaboration

An investigation into the incentives and strategies for deep and transformative collaboration among libraries, archives and museums (or LAMs). Documents and streaming audio from conference on website.

#### Rapid Capture: Mass Digitization of Special Collections

An investigation into the digital capture methods of those who are making progress digitizing special formats at scale. Report forthcoming.

#### Sharing Special Collections

Streamlining procedures for successful delivery of rare and unique materials to users will maximize use of increasingly limited staff and financial resources. Report forthcoming.

#### Streamlining Photography and Scanning

This working group is addressing workflow and policy issues arising from digitizing (and copying) materials from special collections. Report on digital camera use in reading rooms published early 2010; companion report on scan-on-demand workflows forthcoming.

In addition our October 2010 conference for European Partnership members that was held in Oxford was a huge success and introduced us to both dynamic colleagues and current issues in their context.

<http://www.oclc.org/research/events/2010-10-12.htm>

As of July 2011, the RLG Partnership will transition to become the OCLC Research Library Partnership. This transition represents OCLC's increased commitment to support for research libraries. The opportunities for collaboration with Partnership program officers will continue, and new opportunities will be available for learning more about the work of our research scientists. Dues will be far lower than in the past. Formal announcements will be forthcoming in the near future.

*Rare Book School  
– Michael Suarez*

Report not received.

*Southern  
Methodist  
University (SMU)  
Program during  
ALA Midwinter  
2012 (Dallas) –  
E.C. Schroeder for  
Daniel Slive*

A one-day program for RBMS members is being planned for Friday, January 20, 2012 when ALA Midwinter 2012 will be in Dallas. There will be no charge for the program, which will be sponsored by and held at Southern Methodist University (SMU) with co-hosting by Bridwell Library and DeGolyer Library, the two major special collections on campus. SMU is approximately 20 minutes from downtown, where ALA meetings and hotels will be located. There is a light rail line from downtown to a station close to campus so commuting from downtown

will not be difficult. SMU is also approximately 20 minutes by car from Love Field airport, and approximately 45 minutes from DFW airport.

Daniel J. Slive, Head of Special Collections at the Bridwell Library, and Russell Martin, Director of the DeGolyer Library, have organized a program which will include presentations, tours of Bridwell, DeGolyer, and the Arts Library Special Collections, opportunities to view exhibitions, and a reception. The proposed schedule allows attendees time to return downtown for ALA registration and meetings later that Friday afternoon and evening.

To date, three speakers representing special collections, archives, and archival education in Texas have agreed to discuss the following topics:

Public history / training archivists:

Dr Gerald Saxon, Dean of Libraries at the University of Texas at Arlington

<http://www.uta.edu/history/transatlantic/saxon.htm>

Presidential Libraries / National Archives and Records Administration / George W. Bush Library at SMU:

Alan Lowe, Director of the George W. Bush Presidential Library

<http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2009/nr09-45.html>

Regional collections:

Steve Davis, Southwestern Writers Collection, Texas State University – San Marcos

<http://alkek.library.txstate.edu/swwc/press/index.html>

We look forward to seeing our colleagues in Dallas and at SMU. For more information, please contact Dan Slive at: [dslive@smu.edu](mailto:dslive@smu.edu)  
Thanks.

*Grolier Club –  
Eric Holzenberg*

Report not received.

**Submitted**

February 9, 2011. Kate Moriarty, *Secretary*.

## Acronyms

<b>ABAA</b>	Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America
<b>ACRL</b>	Association of College and Research Libraries
<b>ACRL/STS</b>	Association of College and Research Libraries Science and Technology Section
<b>AILA</b>	American Indian Library Association
<b>ALA</b>	American Library Association
<b>ALCTS/PARS</b>	ALA Association for Library Collections and Technical Services Preservation and Reformatting Section
<b>APHA</b>	American Printing History Association
<b>ARL</b>	Association of Research Libraries
<b>BSA</b>	Bibliographical Society of America
<b>BSC</b>	ACRL/RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee
<b>CALM</b>	Joint Committee on Archives, Libraries & Museums
<b>DCRM</b>	Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials
<b>DCRM(B)</b>	<i>Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books)</i>
<b>DCRM(G)</b>	<i>Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Graphics)</i>
<b>DCRM-L</b>	Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials Listserv
<b>EAD</b>	Encoded Archival Description
<b>GODORT REGP</b>	ALA Government Documents Round Table Rare and Endangered Government Publications Committee
<b>GPO</b>	Government Printing Office
<b>IFLA</b>	International Federation of Library Associations & Institutions
<b>IMLS</b>	Institute of Museum and Library Services
<b>LLAMA</b>	Library Leadership & Management Association
<b>MAGERT</b>	ALA Maps and Geography Round Table
<b>MLIS</b>	Master's of Library and Information Science
<b>NEH</b>	National Endowment for the Humanities
<b>OCLC</b>	Online Computer Library Center, Inc.
<b>RLG</b>	Research Libraries Group
<b>RBM</b>	<i>RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage</i>
<b>RBML</b>	<i>Rare Books &amp; Manuscripts Librarianship</i>
<b>RBMS</b>	ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section
<b>RBMS-L</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Listserv
<b>RDA</b>	<i>Resource Description &amp; Access</i>
<b>RUSA</b>	ALA Reference and User Services Association
<b>SAA</b>	Society of American Archivists
<b>SAC</b>	ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee
<b>SHARP</b>	Society for the History of Authorship, Reading & Publishing
<b>TSDG</b>	ACRL/RBMS Technical Services Discussion Group