RBMS Seminars Committee
ALA Annual Meeting 2011, New Orleans, LA
Saturday, 25 June 2011
1:30-3:30 p.m.
Sheraton New Orleans, Waterbury BR

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Co-chair Shannon Supple (UC Berkeley), Danielle Culpepper (RBS, in-coming co-Chair), Laura Micham (Duke, in-coming co-Chair), Douglas Denne (Hanover College), Aislinn Sotelo (UC San Diego), Martha Lawler (LSU), Megan Lewis (Duke), Donia Conn (NEDCC), Emily Epstein (University of Colorado), Anne Bahde (Sand Diego State)

Guests: Francis Lapka (Yale), Becky Fenning (UCLA), Ellen Cordes (Yale), Deborah Whiteman (Santa Clara Univ.), Kitty Luce, Jennifer Schaffner (OCLC), Jessica Pigza (NYPL)

1. Co-Chair Shannon Supple called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Other members were going to join in on Skype but the equipment did not show up to allow for this.

2. The minutes of the 2011 Midwinter meeting were approved following introductions.

3. Co-chair Shannon Supple introduced Danielle Culpepper and Laura Micham as 2012 committee Co-chairs.

4. Review of seminars presented at RBMS 2011 preconference in Baton Rouge, LA

Overall good comments, no complaints heard.

> *Seminar A: Z702 is for Book Thief: The Role of Technical Services in Collection Security:* 61 attendees, good presentation, shocked many people into the reality of security for our collections, Ellen Cordes's video of Smiley caught in the act of stealing was chilling for many in the audience. A question arose if the video could be made available to the greater community and Ellen will check on this with Yale.

> *Seminar B: Yes, We Scan!: Innovative Approaches to User-initiated Digitization:* 85 attendees, 3 excellent presenters. There was a question as to a way to keep the conversation that had started at the seminar going. A wiki or blog was suggested. No action item created, however. Good comments overall – "useful," "presenters well prepared," and "diverse points of view." The panelists and liaisons organized conference calls during preparation to bounce ideas off of one another and to prevent overlap. This was a good idea.

> *Seminar C: Digital Intermediation of Physical Stuff: How Technology Influences the Movement of Books from Bookseller to Curator to Cataloger to Professor:* 83 attendees. This program was a slam dunk! Good questions, a little backlash from some parties but

overall, a good exchange of ideas. This program has many engaged parties with a good twitter stream on #RBMS11.

Seminar D: "Tell Us Your Story": Putting Diversity in Action: 30 attendees. Fewer people made for very good discussions. Good twitter feed.

Seminar E: Assessing Special Collections: Techniques and Benefits: 41 attendees, good information, lots of questions at the end but some thought a bit archives heavy where the understanding was it would be more book oriented.

Seminar F: Hidden Collections and Small Budgets: No report

Seminar G: Pecha Kucha with Our Stuff: Teaching with Rare Books, Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections: 105+ attendees, positive comments all around, good cross section of collection sizes and a good way to encourage newer professionals to present at preconference. The format was uniquely suited to the topic. The discussion was not as lively as we would have liked but most figured there was information overload. Presenters and coordinators/liaisons both agreed this was a very labor-intensive program and the liaisons felt there was a lot of presenter anxiety. It was recommended that future Pecha Kuchas be organized by a small group with two committee liaisons.

Seminar H: Next Generation Library Catalogs / Rare Book Cataloging in the new metadata environment: 62 attendees. Good response and a positive review in the MS and Other Formats Discussion Group at ALA. This may be a topic we want to repeat or look at a similar topic. One of the presenters (Eric Lease Morgan) was on Skype and the connection cut out throughout the presentation.

5. Report on RBMS 2012 from the Preconference Program Planning Committee (San Diego, CA).

There will be 10 seminars (3, 3, and 4 concurrent sessions). The theme of the preconference is "Futures!" – no subtitle! There will be three plenaries and more small sessions, including discussions, seminars, and short papers. The preconference hotel will be the Westin San Diego, $169/night.

6. Proposed Seminars for 2012

1. Practical Security [Ellen Cordes]
Following up on my suggestion Jan 2011 Midwinter meeting for a seminar on the new edition of the RBMS Security Guidelines, I am submitting the following preliminary thoughts and would be happy to work with others on putting together a group of speakers -- LSOs, security specialists, and others who have implemented effective training programs for library and museum staff --who have experience with implementing the recommendations of the RBMS guidelines and who can speak to working with Risk Management staff, under-writers, security equipment vendors, police, lawyers, architects, alarm companies, etc.

There are several ways to focus of this seminar:
1) Keep it a general overview of major issues -- collections, physical space, staff, readers, law
2) Focus on workflows / procedures that should be implemented for security of collections from ordering to reader use and storage [much of this will presumably be covered in the talk at the preconference 2011 from a TS pov, but is there a separate program for PS issues]
3) Focus only on staff training
4) What you need to know about security equipment, working with vendors, architects, risk management staff, local police, General Counsel's officials, etc.

* Discussion helped to narrow down some issues. It was thought that 2 sessions would be good, one for infrastructure and one for people. These could be a seminar and discussion group or some such. Adding a case study would be good. Be sure to focus on small libraries and booksellers to bring in everyone. Also look at in-house thefts and medium-rare books in the stacks. Also take into account modern MSS.

2. Special Collections 2.0 – new technologies [Mattie Taormina]
With the rapidly increasing use of digital research across all arts and humanities disciplines and the explosion of new user-centered technologies, Special Collections nationwide are exploring how to use these interactive tools for outreach and enhanced information delivery. This panel will feature practitioners that have successfully implemented current, interesting, and provocative technologies such as linked data, image annotation, and crowdsourcing, for use in their repositories and collections. We will explore how cultural heritage professionals have re-purposed their online digital collections to make them mobile accessible for increased outreach and collection discovery. Additionally, some repositories have mashed up their resources with geospatial data to enable patrons to discover historic resources in the places in which they occurred. One approach to this panel will be to include participation from a vendor, our sister institutions (museum), and our users so that a variety of views can be represented.

* Would this work as a Pecha Kucha? Possibly but there is a lot of background information people may not know so it would be difficult. Could possibly be done as 2 sessions, one for background, one Pecha Kucha – or have a website for pre conference information to get people up to speed?

Good session though as it would unite outreach, digital collections, and user services. Use caution if asking vendors to be on the panel, we don't want it to be an advertisement.

3. What makes a successful collaborative collection development project? [Jackie Dooley]
The OCLC Research survey of special collections archives shows that only 5-6% percent of the responding academic and research libraries have formal collection development collaborations in place; ARL's 1998 survey had the virtually identical data. One of our recommended action items is "Move toward formalized collaborative collection

development. Define key characteristics and desired outcomes of an effective collaboration. Identify barriers. " What makes a successful collaboration? What factors make it desirable? Would we better serve researchers if collections were better sited at the most appropriate institution? Do few special collections engage in such activity because we don't know how? Has anyone defined appropriate characteristics? Do we have things to learn from colleagues who collaborate on "general" collection development? Is there possibly a role for RBMS to play in fostering such collaborations to better coordinate collection development and thereby benefit scholars' work.?

4. Models for collections assessment [Merrilee Proffitt]
In recent years an increasing number of large institutions (such as the Smithsonian and UC Berkeley) and special collections consortia (such as PACSCL) have conducted collections assessments, with a variety of objectives in mind. Reasons range from inventory control, priority setting for processing, preservation analysis, and digitization projects. What are the characteristics of an effective assessment? What characteristics of these models are generalizable?

5. Metadata – not just cataloguing and EAD but what happens to our metadata when we turn it over [Bib Standards]

Could be in conjunction with a metadata structures workshop?

6. Intro to RDA [Bib Standards]

7. How to work if your department is in different buildings but still one group [Public Serv/Tech Serv DG]

8. Consolidated Service Points in Spec Coll? [Hjordis Halvorson]

9. Linked Data [Jennifer Schaffner]

10. AV formats[MSS and Other Formats disc. Grp: Lois Fisher Black]

11. 21st century donor relations (possibilities: intellectually property rights, tax laws, born digital ingest and access; ownership, appraisal, donation vs. purchase; challenging new subject areas like human rights, abortion etc.) [Laura]

12. Realia – pop culture/role playing games: interaction of collector/curator, tech svs, public svs, and, possibly donors [Laura on behalf of Duke colleagues]

13. PS/Outreach/Reference – networking with non Spec Coll ref librarians, breaking down barriers

14. Mentoring (could this be a discussion session?) [D. Whiteman]

15. The Future of the Printed Book (plenary)

16. Digital Humanities (Plenary)

17. Bookseller show and tell Pecha Kucha

18. Book History Pedagogy [Doug Dinne]

19. Team Teaching with our Collections – a faculty/spec coll librarian presentation.

20. Next Generation Cataloguing and how it affects access/use in classroom

21. Master EAC Records and linking

22. More ideas, brainstormed during the committee's Midwinter 2011 meeting in San Diego, CA:

- Practical handling guidelines for handling when scanning (Donia) [workshop?]
- Tips and tricks for caring for rare book collections (e.g., what to do with smelly books) (Donia)
- Grant-writing (Emily) [workshop?]
- Preservation of audio-visual collections (Anne) [workshop?]
- Technological progress in translation tools for catalogers, et al. – What to do when you don't know that language (Elizabeth)
- Special collections cataloging and RDA implementation (Lynne)
- Resource sharing and cooperation between institutions in California, elsewhere in touch economic times (e.g., 2CUL, ReCap) (Elizabeth)
- Collaborative collection development (Jackie: http://wikis.ala.org/acrl/index.php/What_makes_a_successful_collaborative_collection_development_project%3F)
- Models for collection assessment (Merrilee Proffitt: http://wikis.ala.org/acrl/index.php/Models_for_Collections_Assessment)
- Cloud-sourcing Research Collections: Managing Print in the Mass-digitized Library Environment (Jackie)
- Guidelines for borrowing and lending special collections materials (Hjordis)
- Practical implications of RBMS Security Guidelines (Michael)
- DCRM(G) (Ellen) [workshop?]
- Examination of recent consolidations of multiple special collections departments/locations at institutions (Hjordis)
- Creative solutions to space management problems for public services or collections (Heather)
- New technological innovations (Jackie and Elizabeth)
- Working with volunteers and interns
- Tapping subject-specialty and technological expertise
- Revisiting Core Competencies (Lynne)
- Born-digital materials: next level and next steps (Anne)
- Legal issues with digital collections

- CLIR fellows and assessment (Hjordis)
- Working with digital collections librarians for metadata/public service implications of other metadata schemas (Aislinn)
- Book arts in southern California (Jennifer S.)
- Advances in digital humanities scholarship (Hjordis)
- Skill sets of hiring decisions and matching recruiting efforts to those skill sets (Heather)
- Cultural institutions (LAMs) and object management (Francis)
- EAD (Ellen) [workshop?]
- Digital humanities scholarship
- Book arts and fine press printers in Southern California (Jennifer) [forum?]

7. A HUGE thanks to Shannon and Lynne for their excellent leadership and much thanks to all those committee members cycling off of the committee this year.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35PM.