

**RBMS 2013 Conference Program Planning Committee, ALA Annual Meeting
4:00pm - 5:30pm Disneyland Hotel - Frontier Board Room**

Members attending: Jennifer MacDonald, Co-chair (University of Delaware) Athena Jackson, Co-chair (University of Miami); Alexander Johnston (University of Delaware); David Faulds (Emory University); Rebecca Fenning Marschall (UCLA); Mark Greenberg (University of South Florida);

Guest: Mark Danley (University of Memphis)

Absent: Derek Mosley (University of Louisiana-Lafayette); Beth Kilmarx (Binghamton University); Randy J. Olsen (Church History Library, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)

I. Welcome and introductions: David Faulds agreed to record the minutes

II. Report on proposal: Approved by ALA

Program Title:History on Fire! How Libraries Mitigate Loss of the Cultural Record Due to Disaster or Destruction

Program Description:

Fires and other disasters have impacted our physical holdings of the historical record in libraries. When disaster strikes, how do we, as stewards of cultural heritage, mitigate the loss of rare and unique items? How do we fill in historical gaps, inform our researchers, and work with risk management specialists to ensure that we can rebuild (insofar as possible) what is lost? Speakers will address these questions from historical and practical perspectives.

III. Speaker and Moderator Ideas

The group offered ideas for topics and listed potential speakers who could represent the following categories:

1. A librarian or archivist who will discuss the practical aspects of filling the historical gap beyond disaster preparedness. One who will discuss how to fill the intellectual gap rather than mending the physical destruction.
2. A scholar sharing his or her experiences researching a historical event and encountering challenges due to the loss of cultural objects and materials.
3. A person who has grappled with insurance and risk management issues relating to the market value of the loss of cultural objects and materials.

IV. Ideas for speaker topics were submitted by the committee for further review including: research related to the Chicago Fire; 1973 National Records Center fire in St. Louis, the 1890 census loss, the British attack on Washington in the War of 1812, or early American cultural records loss.

V. Co-sponsorship: The committee will ask the following groups to see if they would like to cosponsor (in name only) the program:

WESS

Library History Round Table

VI. ACRL update: Program is not 2 hours but 90 minutes only. The co-chairs will make sure the Section is apprised of any changes.

VII. Next Steps: Secure moderator and 2 speakers by end of July. Post meeting update: Alice Schreyer (AUL for Humanities, Social Sciences, and Special Collections, University of Chicago) has agreed to moderate the session, and she is also considering our speaker ideas.

VIII. No new business

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted by,

David Faulds
Emory University