

ACRL/RBMS Security Committee

ALA Annual Virtual Meeting

June 19, 2020, 10-11:30 CT

Attendees: Kim Bell, Queen's University Library (member); Barbara Bieck, New York Society Library (co-chair); Lori Birrell, University of Arkansas; Lois Black, Lehigh University; Sarah Cahalan, University of Dayton, Ohio (member); Diane Dias De Fazio; Elizabeth DeBold, Folger Shakespeare Library (member); Moira Fitzgerald, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library (member); Margaret Gamm, University of Iowa (co-chair); Alexander Jasinski; Cassia Kisshauer; Taylor de Klerk, UNC Chapel Hill; Jennifer Lowe, St. Louis University; Christopher Lyons, McGill University (member); Kathleen Monahan, Boston College; Stacie M Parillo; Garth Reese, William Reese Company (member); Natalia Sciarini, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library; Carly Sentieri, University of Wisconsin-Madison (member); Jay Sylvestre, University of Miami

Absent members: Eileen Dewitya, Nicholas Martin, Miriam Nelson, Sara Schmidt

I. Welcome

Barbara Bieck called meeting to order at 10:10 CT.

II. Introduction of incoming members and thank you to outgoing members

Thank you to outgoing members for their work over the past years. Welcome to the 5 new members joining us for the 2020-2022 cycle.

III. Selection of Recorder – Garth Reese

IV. Approval of Minutes for January and April Meetings

V. Chairs' Report / Updates on Ongoing Projects and Initiatives

a. Status of State laws project: A few members still to update their assigned sections; once finished, Eileen will update the webpage.

b. Status of Security Audit updates: Nicholas Martin was not able to attend this meeting, his report will come later.

c. Incidents of Theft report:

This is Barbara Bieck's last Incidents of Theft report. Christopher Lyons has volunteered to take over the compiling of Incidents of Theft.

In May, Thomas McGeary, formerly of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign was sentenced to two years of probation for the theft of two rare music books from the University's library; in April, Dirk Obbink was arrested for the alleged theft of papyrus fragments (many of which found their way to the Museum of the Bible, which has subsequently returned thirteen fragments.) On the day of this meeting, it was the second day of sentencing for Greg Priore and John Schulman in their Carnegie Library case; both pled guilty – Priore received twelve years probation and three years house arrest, Schulman received twelve years probation and four years house arrest.

VI. New Business

a. Discussion of the next revision of the ACRL/RBMS Guidelines Regarding Security and Theft in Special Collections

i. There are several important topics not covered in the most recent revision, including collections movement and offsite storage, maintaining security during facilities renovations or construction, working with outside contractors, working with facilities staff, donors and special events, working with insurance providers and risk management, exhibitions, the acquisitions process, etc.

b. Review of working edit document.

i. Please note this working document is only available to committee members. If you are not on the committee but are interested in contributing, we ask that you submit comments on the current Guidelines to the committee co-chairs at margaret-gamm@uiowa.edu and BBieck@nysoclib.org.

ii. Suggestions related to future revision included: distributing a survey prior to holding a participatory session, including language and suggestions for prolonged absences and interoffice/outgoing mail, modifying the tone of the guidelines, including more 'suggestions for implementation', using gender neutral language and building a tool that might help institutions create and review their own security policies.

iii. Committee agreed to rewrite the document to third person plural. Security concerns regarding events and donor visits, and collections security during renovations are to be addressed in new, separate sections. The committee has been asked to read through the document and suggest further edits to make sure it is scalable and applicable to all institutions, with an eye toward safety and security for researchers considering the current climate. Suggestion is to revise the overview section to frame the overall document, addressing requirements of respect for the individual, for staff and all users. Discussion of further changes appear in the working document.

iv. Barbara and Margaret will determine how to divide up sections for revision among the membership and contact committee.

b. Brainstorming for security survey

i. Timing - As time was running short, the committee was not able to address the survey timing directly, so there will likely be another meeting between now and January to work on guideline edits and the survey.

VII. Adjournment – The committee adjourned at 11:00am CDT.