

RBMS 2014 Preconference Program Planning Committee
ALA Annual Conference 2013, Chicago IL
Saturday, June 29, 8:30-11:30 am (with break and room change)
8:30-10:00 Hyatt Regency Chicago – Comiskey
10:30-11:30 Hyatt Regency Chicago – Columbus GH

Attendees: *Richenda Brim (co-chair, Getty), *Athena Jackson (co-chair, U. Miami), *Ellen Ellickson (Yale), *Christopher Smith (Yale), *Matthew Beacom (Yale), *Melanie Griffin (U. South Florida), *Alex Johnston (U. Delaware), *Beth Kilmarx (Binghamton U.), Sarah Horowitz (Augustana College), *Maggie Kopp (BYU), *Elizabeth DeBold (unaffiliated), Nicole Bouché (UVA), Erika Dowell (Indiana U.), *Daniel J. Slive (Bridwell Library, SMU), *Elizabeth Joffrion (Western Washington U.), Fernando Peña (Palmer School), *Jessica Pigza (New York Public Library), *Jessica Holada (Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences), Laura Micham (Duke), Jennifer Schaffner (OCLC Research), *Rachel D'Agostino (Library Company of Philadelphia), Shannon Supple (Clark Library, UCLA), *Juli McLoone (UT San Antonio), Meghan Constantinou (Grolier Club), *Heather Smedberg (UC San Diego), Katie Henningsen (U. Puget Sound), James P. Ascher (U. Colorado Boulder)
[* denotes Committee member]

1. Welcome and introductions.

2. Appointment of recorder.

3. Report from Local Arrangements. Su Kim Chung from University of Nevada, Las Vegas, reported via mobile phone on the plans as they are shaping up for Preconference tours, receptions, and events. The opening reception is being planned for the Nevada State Museum which has exhibits, many of them interactive, and a museum shop, and is located outside of town at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve which provides stunning views of the surrounding desert. The libraries of University of Nevada, Las Vegas will host an open house and a reception. Other attractions in town include: the Mob Museum; the National Atomic Testing Museum; the Neon Museum with its Neon Boneyard outdoor collection (best seen at night); a visit to Jubilee! the longest running show in Vegas, at Bally's (the Preconference hotel), which would include a backstage tour with a showgirl serving as a guide; and Zappos headquarters. Attractions farther afield include Hoover Dam and the Clark County Museum in Henderson, NV, with its Heritage Street, which houses eight historic buildings from earlier eras.

Other possibilities include meeting the experts of the History Channel show, "Pawn Stars," at the Gold and Silver Pawn Shop on the Las Vegas Strip and viewing the rare book collection of the magician David Copperfield, an event that would have to occur late in the evening, after his last show, and would be limited in the number of guests. Further, the co-

chairs are exploring the potential for a fundraising opportunity with regard to the Copperfield visit.

4. Theme recap. In our preliminary meeting in Seattle at Midwinter, the co-chairs explained the working title for the Preconference, "Retrofit." Inspired by Las Vegas as the Preconference site, they explained that they are inspired by the 1960 conference that was merely a one-day event. During the Midwinter meeting, they were considering themes that returned the focus to the artifact, book and manuscript. Possible plenary themes were brainstormed: archival research to recreate period movies and television shows (e.g. Mad Men); gaming research and games in special collections; collecting the 1960s; architecture; space, including aerospace and library building projects; library solutions and services from the 1960s that still work; textiles, collections and conservation (e.g. showgirls' costumes).

Possible plenary themes discussed in this present meeting at Annual included one that might be called "the book is the archive" or "book history in the stacks." It arises from the work of those including Andrew Stauffer, English professor at the University of Virginia and a reader-response scholar, who has been looking at 19th century books from the University's circulating collection to which over the years readers have added marginalia, tipped-in illustrations, and notes, to produce what might be called a hidden collection. Related themes might include the future of print collections, particularly serial print collections, in the light of large scale digitization projects and also the general fate of libraries whose collections are now frozen in time, such as Johns Hopkins' Peabody Library.

Another plenary could involve questions of space, both physical and virtual, in libraries, and such questions could also be related to Security Committee issues. Many libraries were constructed in the 1960s and are now being renovated. These could be examined in the light of their efficacy over the years as well as their future sustainability, as could the libraries being constructed now.

A third idea for a plenary could be one on the marketplace, to be presented by one to three book dealers representing different types of materials; the composition of the panel is still being reviewed. This plenary would deal with today's market and collecting trends. It would examine issues such as old materials being considered in new ways for today's market and new techniques and technologies for marketing, selling and providing access to old materials.

It was pointed out that all three of these general plenary themes deal, in their separate ways, with space/place: the space/place within a book into which readers can put their own contributions, the space/place within a library itself for our materials, and the space/place within the marketplace for current collecting trends in special collections.

Other plenary themes suggested later in the meeting were: the atomic era (including ephemera; the Manhattan Project; Los Alamos; who is collecting this material?), the space age (aerospace industry in Nevada; NASA video footage, Jet Propulsion Laboratory) and, as mentioned at Midwinter, archival research regarding movies and television shows, collecting the 1960s, and 1960s library ideas that still work.

5. Preliminary working schedule ideas.

The 2014 Preconference will take place June 24 – 27, 2014. Bally's Hotel & Casino. Las Vegas, NV

Preliminary Event Highlights (subject to later clarification):

Leab Awards Display
Opening Reception
ABAA Bookseller's Showcase
New Members' Mixer
Scholarship Breakfast
Restaurant Night
UNLV Open House

Tentative:

Tech Petting Zoo
Scholarship Bash (fundraiser idea – dinner dance)
Sherry Tasting (fundraiser idea)

6. Subcommittees. The full committee and visitors broke into selected subcommittees (Plenaries/Schedules, Talks/Posters, Discussion Groups/Regional Meetups) to discuss in greater detail the various types of programming that will take place in terms of their content and organization.

At the end of these individual sessions, brief reports were given as to the general themes discussed.

From these mini-chats, the co-chairs are devising a strategy for going forward with the proposed plenaries and attending programming to create a cohesive, informative, creative and enjoyable Preconference.

7. Adjournment. At the end of the meeting, a few ideas for social events at the Las Vegas Preconference were suggested. One was the idea of a 1960s dinner dance and another was a sherry party (actually scheduled at the original 1960 Preconference).