

RBMS Manuscripts and Other Formats Discussion Group
Saturday, June 25, 2011 10:30 am-12:00 pm
Sheraton New Orleans – Napoleon B3
New Orleans, LA

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Reports on recent conferences and meetings of interest to the group
3. News from individual repositories (acquisitions, processing milestones, etc.)
4. Individual member issues and queries
5. Discussion:
 - a. “Other formats” - what special challenges do they present? Curators, archivists, and librarians all have audio and video formats, as well as artifacts, in their collections. Formats, such as LPs, VHS cassettes, reel-to-reel tapes, and other formats all require special attention, ranging from preservation to storage to access. What measures are being taken to ensure their preservation, and how are we providing access to these long-forgotten formats? Attendees are encouraged to share news about their own reformatting efforts, with an emphasis on discussion of available grant funding with which to accomplish this.
 - b. What measures are Archives and Special Collections taking to facilitate use of unprocessed or partially processed collections in the reading room? Are repositories assigning additional staff to monitor researchers? How are reference questions handled with minimal information about collections in hand?