



Congressional Papers Roundtable

NEWSLETTER

Society of American Archivists

March 2006

From the Chair

Alan Haeberle

Many members of the CPR who were able to attend the SAA conference last August will long remember their visit to New Orleans, especially because of the realization that we were among the last visitors to see that unique and wonderful city as it will never be again. Although I have never lived in or near New Orleans, and never visited the city except for those few days last summer, I could not watch or read the reports of Hurricane Katrina and its devastating assault on the Gulf coast without feeling a very real and personal sense of loss. This was not just another disaster du jour being whipped up by the incessant news appetite of the cable networks, a tragic and sad event that I could observe and feel pity for, but ultimately push out of my mind as I went on with my life. This was a real place, filled with buildings I had just seen and entered, streets I had walked and ridden upon only days before, and of course thousands of people, only a few of whom I had a chance to meet, whose lives were now changed in ways I could not imagine. Many if not all of us who were there must have had similar thoughts, along with frustration at being helpless to do much beyond

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Update on Tulane University

Only a couple of weeks after the CPR visited the Special Collections of the Tulane University Library, Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans. Among the untold victims were the congressional collections housed in the lower level of Joseph M. Jones Hall. These include portions of the T. Hale Boggs Papers, the Corrine Claiborne "Lindy" Boggs Papers, the F. Edward Hébert Papers and the David C. Treen Papers.

After the hurricane passed, I checked the stacks and everything was in order, but the flood waters spilling into the city caused by the breached levies forced me out of the city and eventually poured three and one half feet of water into the stacks. Although the lower level had never flooded in the 65-year history of the building, the area is below grade and we did not use the lower shelf of the stacks as a precaution. Those 16 inches were not enough.

I was in Chicago when I got word of water in the basement. Within two days I got my pass to enter the guarded city and began work with the recovery team from

Belfour pulling the sodden records from the stacks. In most cases the two lower shelves were soaked and some items from the upper shelves had fallen into the muck. They were still trying to remove the standing water when I arrived and we worked with headlamps with temperature and humidity reaching an equilibrium of 97 each. Mold flourished on volumes and boxes; some boxes fell apart; labels floated off. The contract work force carried items to a staging area where they were placed in plastic bags, boxed and labeled as best that could be. I thought it best to get things stable as soon as possible and not to take the time to insure that the contents matched the labeling. Some contents are now known only by the location where they were found, e.g., "Treen floor." The boxes were hand carried up the stairs to an awaiting refrigerated truck and taken to be frozen. Some 6,500 cubic feet (approximately 10% of the total collection) are awaiting restoration.

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From the Chair *(cont. from page 1)*

watch and send contributions to a relief fund, concern for colleagues left behind who had to ride out the storm, and perhaps a few guilty flashes of regret along the lines of “Dang! Why didn’t I get out and see more of the city while I had the chance?”

One of the best memories I keep of that trip was the tour and reception at the Special Collections of Tulane University Libraries arranged for the CPR by Jean Bischoff and conducted with charm and erudition by Bill Meneray. Bill has contributed a short article that you can read elsewhere in this newsletter about the effect of the storm on Tulane. Unfortunately several of their collections of congressional papers, stored in a basement, were damaged by the flood waters. As Bill reports, remediation efforts were undertaken as soon as possible, and while the outcome is not completely clear, it seems that prospects for restoration of most of the collection are fairly good. I can also note on the positive side that Bill reports that the Special Collections reading and exhibit rooms were spared any damage, and most importantly, the department has been able to retain all of its staff, although many of them have to deal with damaged or destroyed homes.

As I write this column, hearings are taking place in the Senate and a report has just been released by the House about what went wrong with the government’s response to Katrina. This tragedy has gotten many of us thinking about how our own ox has been gored, and I have spoken with other archivists, both in and out of CPR, about what role we as a profession might play in providing relief to at-risk cultural resources. Clearly the first priority in a disaster must be saving the lives and homes of the people living in the affected areas, and there are many government bureaucracies that are “supposed” to take care of this, along with private agencies that provide basic assistance. Is there a reasonable and effective way that we, as individuals and as a group, can respond directly with our special expertise? Of course, the first step is for all of us with responsibilities for collections, to review, or create if we have to, our own disaster plans. But I sense there is a wish and desire among many in the archives and library field to be able to reach out with real help when disaster strikes our colleagues in other areas. I hope we can see discussion and study of this critical topic in the coming year.

Looking forward, our annual meeting this summer will be in Washington, DC, the source of our livelihood, the mother lode of congressional collections. Our Roundtable meeting time has been set as it was last year, 5:00 – 7:00 pm on Wednesday, August 2. This is before the first regular sessions of the conference, but it allows us the two-hour time block that we have found we need to conduct business and present a meaningful program. We had a great turnout last year, and we hope that again, many of you will be able to arrive early enough to attend.

And we are planning a variety of pre-conference activities during the day on Wednesday. Arrangements are not yet complete but I want to alert everyone that the plans are afoot so you can schedule an earlier arrival if need be.

We hope to set up visits to both the Library of Congress and the National Archives downtown branch, as well some congressional offices where we can witness the environment and the processes that create the records we all work with. The sessions will largely focus on electronic records, and highlight programs being used on the Hill to capture and preserve digital records, or convert traditional records to digital formats. At our regular meeting later in the day we will summarize our findings from the earlier sessions, hear news from repositories around the country, discuss issues that may affect us such as a budget proposal to support congressional papers, and of course, hold our annual business meeting. I invite members to contact me if there are other topics or presentations you would like to hear about or contribute.

After the meeting we will be arranging a group dinner as has become our tradition the last couple years, a chance to relax and spend time together. Details will be forthcoming. Hope to see you there.

Tulane (cont from page 1)

We have done some tests on the materials and most of the documents are readable, if a little worse for wear. The documents will be thawed, gently washed, refrozen and then freeze-dried. When they are returned, we will merge them with the boxes that were not damaged.

*Wilbur E. Meneray
Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections,
Tulane University Libraries*



INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Rutgers University Libraries

Rutgers University Libraries' Special Collections and University Archives announced the initiation of the processing project for the papers of Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (1919-2001). The project team consists of Larry Weimer, a graduate of New York University's Archival Management program, and Soo Lee, a graduate of Rutgers' School of Communication, Information and Library Studies. The team can be reached at Lweimer@rci.rutgers.edu.

A member of the Democratic Party, Williams served New Jersey in the House of Representatives from 1953 to 1957 and in the Senate from 1959 to 1982. As a member of Senate committees responsible for social legislation, particularly in his position as

Lilly Library, Indiana University

"A Legacy of Honor: An Exhibition from the Congressional Papers of Lee H. Hamilton" opens January 17, 2006 and runs through April 1, 2006 in the Lilly Library Main Gallery at Indiana University in Bloomington.

The exhibit lays out the major dimensions of Hamilton's congressional career and provides a glimpse into the contents of his congressional papers. It is divided into three approximately equal areas of emphasis: Hamilton's relationships with and service to his 9th-district constituents; his ever-increasing role in foreign policy and foreign affairs; and the workings of Congress and Hamilton's lifelong commitment to making it the institution the founding fathers intended. This last emphasis extends the exhibit into Hamilton's ongoing post-Congressional career.

To learn more about Hamilton and view a guide to the manuscript collection, go to:

http://www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/overview/political_papers/hamilton.shtml

Kate Cruikshank

Chairman of the Labor and Human Resources Committee throughout the 1970s, Williams was at the forefront of legislation on a wide range of subjects concerning labor, pension plans, occupational safety, health, education, transportation, and more.

Williams resigned his Senate seat after his conviction on charges emanating from the FBI undercover operation known as Abscam. Williams placed his papers, amounting to over 2,000 cubic feet of material, with Rutgers when he left the Senate. The project is currently funded for two years as the result of a 2005 fundraising initiative that successfully garnered the donations needed for the resources to process this collection.

Larry Weimer

Mount Holyoke College Archives and Special Collections

The Ella T. Grasso papers, housed at the Mount Holyoke College Archives and Special Collections, have been processed and are now open to the public. Grasso, an alumnus of Mt. Holyoke, was the first woman governor of Connecticut and the first woman governor elected in her own right (1974). She was reelected in 1978 but resigned from office in 1980 due to illness. Grasso also served in the US House of Representatives from 1970 to 1974; the bulk of the documents in the collection date from those years. The collection provides primary sources on veterans' affairs, the Vietnam War, President Richard Nixon's impeachment, family planning and birth control, and education legislation.

Carl Albert Center

The Carl Albert Center at the University of Oklahoma is pleased to report that its congressional archives has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to conduct a preservation assessment. This assessment will be done by Sheryl Vogt, Director of the Richard Russell Center.

Carolyn G. Hanneman

South Dakota State University (SDSU) Library

The University Archives and Special Collections at the South Dakota State University Library are pleased to announce the acquisition in 2005 of the papers of former Congressman and Senator Thomas A. Daschle, who graduated from SDSU in 1969 with a degree in political science. This collection documents his distinguished 26-year public career in the US House and Senate.

Tom Daschle was elected to the House of Representatives in 1978, winning by fewer than 200 votes. He was reelected three times before running successfully for the Senate in 1986. He was reelected twice to the Senate before being defeated in 2004. Daschle is considered a populist politician, which helped the Democrat win elections in a predominately Republican state. Daschle quickly rose to leadership roles within Congress, becoming the Senate Democratic leader in 1994 and serving in that

position until his defeat in 2004, thus becoming the second-longest serving Senate leader in party history. He was a member of many committees during his tenure, including the Senate Finance Committee, the Democratic Policy Committee, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry, the Veterans and Indian Affairs Committees, and the Finance and Ethics Committee.

The Thomas A. Daschle Career Papers Collection consists of more than 2,000 linear feet of materials and over one terabyte of digital objects. The collection includes correspondence and records, photographs, audiotapes, videotapes, and other materials covering Daschle's professional life.

The collection is currently being processed and is not available for public use.

James Borchert

South Carolina Political Collections

✧ Plans have been finalized for the new home for South Carolina Political Collections, formerly Modern Political Collections, at The University of South Carolina. Groundbreaking for a wing being added to the main University library is planned for the spring of 2006 and it is hoped the facility will open during 2008.

The wing will include three floors. The ground floor will hold the public spaces including a reading room, conference/class room, and a flat floor auditorium that will be used for banquets as well as symposia and other public programming. The remaining two floors will go down, with a floor for processing, digitization, offices, and catering kitchen, and another floor housing compact shelving sufficient for current holdings and over 20 years of anticipated growth.

In designing the wing, the architects and University staff benefited greatly from visits and/or consultation with the following repositories: Baker Center, University of Tennessee; Byrd Center, Shepherd University; Clinton Presidential Library; Dodd Center, University of Connecticut; Dole Institute, University of Kansas; and Russell Library, University of Georgia.

✧ Through the support of the Schuyler L. and Yvonne Moore Endowment, SCPC is pleased to offer a paid summer internship with a stipend of \$2,000. The Moore Internship is awarded annually to a qualified student enrolled in an archival education program outside of South Carolina and is intended to help with the intern's travel and lodging expenses. Intern projects vary depending on the immediate needs of SCPC and the interests of the intern. The application deadline is 1 May. Applications should be addressed to: Summer Internship Program, South Carolina Political Collections, University Libraries, The University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, and include:

- Statement not exceeding 500 words explaining how an internship with SCPC fits the applicant's educational program and career goals;
- Current resume; and
- Two letters of recommendation including one from the head of the archival program in which the applicant is enrolled. That letter should clearly state the program's internship requirements, including the number of hours required to successfully complete the internship.

Herbert J. Hartsook

Eastern Kentucky University Archives

The Eastern Kentucky University Archives is pleased to announce that the Carl D. Perkins Papers are now open to researchers. These records document Congressman Perkins' career as a member of the US House of Representatives (Kentucky, 7th District) from 1949 until his death in 1984. After being elected to the House, he was appointed to the Education and Labor Committee. For many of his years on the committee, a conservative coalition frustrated many liberal initiatives supported by Perkins, but the landslide election of 1964 produced a liberal majority that was able to enact legislation fundamental to President Lyndon Johnson's program. Perkins became chairman of the committee in 1967, as it prepared to consider major anti-poverty legislation. Perkins helped formulate the Economic Opportunity Act, a centerpiece of Johnson's War on Poverty. He championed the Head Start program, adult education, federal assistance to libraries, school lunch programs, and federal aid for the construction of highways and hospitals in the Appalachian region. An early supporter of civil rights, Perkins supported President Truman's attempt to establish the Fair Employment Practices Commission, and was one of 11 Southern Democrats to vote for the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The Perkins Papers are divided into eight series: Application (constituent correspondence requesting

Louisiana State University (LSU)

Special Collections at LSU in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, received about 987 boxes of Senator John Breaux's papers in late Fall 2004. In August 2005 a team was hired and processing began. The team consists of Faye Phillips, Project Director; Phyllis Kinnison, Project Librarian; and Jacob Kimrey and Alanna Skinner, Library Associates.

By January 25, 2006, we had rehoused and processed 122 boxes. We were able to reduce the number of issue mail boxes from about 61 to 28. Other files that have been completed include Administrative, Research, Administrative Assistants', Legislative Directors', Bills Sponsored and Co-Sponsored, and Voting Records. We are currently working on the Legislative Assistants Files and General Legislation Files.

assistance in applying for jobs); Committee (constituent correspondence regarding specific legislation that is filed according to the committee which handled the particular subject); Departmental (constituent correspondence having to do with problems related to particular branches of government); General (constituent correspondence that is very general nature and does not usually relate to specific legislation or an application problem); Legislative (an artificial series comprised of material relating to legislative issues); Personal (includes reference material on various subjects and guest books); Reed Files (files maintained by Hartwell D. Reed as counsel to the Education and Labor Committee); and Specialized Formats (including plaques, awards, certificates, artifacts, motion picture film, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs).

The Perkins Papers are open to all researchers; however, appointments are preferred. Please contact the University Archivist at (859) 622-1792 or archives.library@eku.edu to make arrangements. A detailed finding aid may be found at the University Archives Web site: <http://www.library.eku.edu/collections/sca/default.php> (click on "Manuscripts").

Chuck Hill

Breaux's main legislative work involved preserving the wetlands. In addition to the devastation last year's hurricane season brought to our area, working with the Breaux collection has sparked in our team an increased awareness of that problem and has augmented our desire to become more personally active in finding a solution.

Phyllis Kinnison



Question from the Chair:

What would you like to have scheduled for either a full or half-day forum/seminar on the Wednesday prior to the opening of SAA in August? Send your ideas to Alan Haeberle

(alan_haeberle@hatch.senate.gov)

Center for America History

The Center for America History announces the opening of the Henry B. Gonzalez Congressional Papers in November 2006. The formal ceremony will take place in San Antonio, Texas, the date and place are yet to be announced.

Born May 3, 1916, Henry B. Gonzalez attended the University of Texas for three years before transferring to St. Mary's University in San Antonio, where he received his law degree in 1943. Gonzalez began his career in public service in 1953, when he was elected to the San Antonio City Council. In 1956, he was elected to the Texas State Senate, where he gained a reputation of being a "man of the people." Gonzalez carried this reputation on to Washington, DC in 1961 when he was elected to the US House of Representatives, the first Mexican American from Texas to hold such a position.

During his first term, Gonzalez was appointed to the Committee on Banking and Currency, now known as the Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Committee. As a member of this committee, Gonzalez worked for the passage of a number of legislative proposals, ranging from the New Frontier to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Elected as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development in 1981, Gonzalez worked on housing assistance legislation and battled President Reagan's attempt to cut public housing programs. During his six-year tenure as Chairman of the Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Committee, Gonzalez dealt with the collapse of the savings and loan industry, the restructuring of the federal deposit system, and led an investigation into the Bush administration's involvement in loans to Iraq.

Gonzalez retired from Congress in 1998, known as a man who spent 37 years fighting for the rights of the common man. He died on November 27, 2000 at the age of 84.

The Henry B. Gonzalez Congressional Papers Collection spans the entire political career of Gonzalez from his time of service on the San Antonio City Council to his retirement from Congress in 1998. The collection includes photos, letters, books, sound and video recordings, as well as documents ranging from correspondence with Presidents to constituent letters. Also included are Gonzalez's files on

proposed legislation and committee hearings from his time of service. The papers offer a detailed look at the life of Henry B. Gonzalez, as well as the development of Congress and the country during the four decades in which he served.

Heather Trent



Mark Your Calendar!

The Politics of Political Papers Conference of Intermountain Archivists Ogden, Utah

May 12, 2006

Collecting, processing, and managing political papers are not for the faint-hearted. These collections, often high profile and highly sought after, frequently sink into oblivion once they are donated. From the front end to the final deposition, panel members will discuss their experiences and strategies for survival in a tough and competitive environment.

Chair: Linda Whitaker, Arizona Historical Foundation

Speakers:

Charlotte Walters, University of New Mexico *From Benign Neglect to Dynamic Confrontation: Creating a Political Archives Program*

Alan Haeberle, Washington DC, Office of Senator Orrin Hatch

A View from the Hill: Preparing the Hatch Papers for Deposit

Karen Kearns, Idaho State University,
Big Collections, Small Repositories: Strategies for Coping

Linda Whitaker
How Love (almost) Killed the Goldwater Papers

Sam Rayburn Library and Museum

The Sam Rayburn Library and Museum has earned the distinction of being named a national landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Former employees of Speaker Sam Rayburn and the Directors of the Sam Rayburn Foundation presented the landmark plaque to University of Texas President Dr. Larry Faulkner during a ceremony on December 9, 2005. The presentation was included in the celebration held in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the groundbreaking of the historic site. The Sam Rayburn Library and Museum and the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin hosted the event.

Featured speakers for the 50th anniversary event were: the Honorable Ralph Hall, Congressman 4th District; the Honorable Kenny Marchant, Congressman 24th District; the Honorable Joe Barton, Congressman 6th District and Chairman, House

Energy and Commerce Committee; Dr. William Cunningham, former Chancellor, University of Texas System; Dr. Larry Faulkner, President, University of Texas; Dr. Robert Remini, Historian of the US House of Representatives; and Dr. Don Carleton, Director, Center for American History, University of Texas. More than 40 members of the Rayburn family were honored guests.

Preceding the program, music was provided by the Arlington Community Band and the Bonham High School Band. In addition, a solo performance was provided by the Reverend Cecil Jones, as well as a vocal performance by the Bethlehem Baptist Sanctuary Choir. Following the program, a reception was held on the grounds and the museum was open to the public to view the new permanent exhibit on Speaker Rayburn.

Heather Trent



In the News:

LBJ Oral History Project Online

(NCH Washington Update, Vol. 11, #35; 15 SEPTEMBER 2005)

The Scripps Library at the Miller Center of Public Affairs has made their "Lyndon B. Johnson Oral History" project available online. ([full story](#))

Constitution Day Events Held Across the Country

(NCH Washington Update, Vol. 11, #36; 23 SEPTEMBER 2005)

In an effort to comply with a new federal law mandating that publicly funded schools and universities as well as federal agencies should, in some way, observe Constitution Day (17 September), hundreds of institutions across the nation held events this last week to commemorate the nation's founding document. ([full story](#))

Brademas Center Makes Its Programmatic Debut

(NCH Washington Update, Vol. 11, #36; 23 SEPTEMBER 2005)

On 15 September 2005, the John Brademas Center for the Study of Congress, a new institution affiliated with New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, held its first public program: the annual Bernard and Irene Schwartz Lecture on Congress to a packed audience at the Library of Congress. ([full story](#))

"The Next Chapter." *The Burlington Free Press*, 05 Feb 2006

The first thing Connell Gallagher plans to do on his retirement from the University of Vermont, where he's worked for 36 years, is to go through the 75 or so boxes of papers that have accrued when he swept his desk of papers and correspondence and dumped the stuff into cartons. ([full story](#))

Congressman Bruce F. Vento Papers

The Minnesota Historical Society recently completed processing a rigorously-appraised addition to the congressional papers of the late Bruce F. Vento (DFL-MN), a 12-term representative from the predominantly working-class east side of St. Paul, Minnesota (4th Congressional District, 1977-2000). Throughout his 12 terms, Vento was a member of the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services and the House Committee on Resources. Allied with the liberal wing of the Democratic Party, Vento chaired the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands of the Committee on Resources from 1985 through 1994 and became a leader in consumer protection, human services, and environmental legislation.

Committee and issue files form the core of his collection. The focus is particularly strong in its documentation of financial services regulation, the savings and loan crisis, housing and community development, homelessness, veterans' assistance, the immigration and naturalization of Hmong veterans

and refugees, the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, energy policy, and natural resources management.

Other series include office and political records, federal legislation, and public relations. The office and political records contain biographical information, campaign files, VIP correspondence, form replies to constituent correspondence, daily schedules, and visitor registers. The section on federal legislation includes legislative profiles, printed bills, and voting records that provide ready reference to the status and text of bills introduced by Vento as well as documentation of his votes on the House floor. Public relations files include speeches, press releases, district newsletters, sound and video recordings, and materials related to his congressional forums and town hall meetings.

An inventory of the collection is available at <http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/00265.html>

Monica Manny Ralston

University of Central Florida Libraries (UCF)

The Special Collections Department at the UCF Libraries is pleased to announce that the Lou Frey Papers are available for research. These papers include correspondence, photographs, campaign materials, articles, minutes, printed government documents, framed materials, and artifacts that document Frey's life of public service.

A Republican in a district where most of the voters were registered Democrat, Lou Frey was elected in 1968 and continued representing Central Florida's 5th Congressional District until 1979. During his tenure, he served on the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, House Science and Technology Committee, the Republican Committee on Committees and the Republican Research Committee. His interests included Mobile Home Safety legislation, Noxious Weeds legislation, veterans' affairs, youth, environmental protection, and drug misuse prevention. The Watergate scandal dictated that he also interest himself in the activities of President Richard M. Nixon.

In 1974, *Time* magazine listed Frey as one of the 200 rising leaders in the country. Frey did not run for re-election in 1978. Instead, he decided to run for Governor of Florida; he subsequently ran again for Governor in 1986 and for Senator in 1980. Frey also worked for the election of Republican candidates; he chaired the committee to elect Gerald R. Ford in Florida in the 1976 election and co-chaired the 1996 Robert J. Dole campaign in Florida. Since then, Frey has served on the Florida Energy Commission and the Millennial Housing Commission. His membership on the Association of Former Members of Congress has taken him on fact-finding missions to several other countries, and he initiated a project that created the book *Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works*. Frey founded the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the UCF.

Judith Beale

Missouri Historical Society

In 2005, the Missouri Historical Society received 830 linear feet of files generated by the Capitol Hill and local district offices of former Congressman Richard A. Gephardt. With the aid of a congressionally directed IMLS grant, processing began in October 2005, and will continue through 2007. In addition to processing the papers of Gephardt's Washington DC office and his District office in St. Louis, project plans call for the creation of a database and companion Web site, as well as an in-depth oral history component.

The project members for the Gephardt collection are Morgan Davis, Diane Everman, Dina Young, Catherine Riggs, and Gwen Moore.

Gephardt served in the US House of Representatives from 1977 through 2004, representing Missouri's 3rd district. Gephardt served as majority leader from 1989 to 1994 and minority leader from 1995 to 2003. He was a presidential candidate in 1988 and 2004.

Morgan Davis



New Resources

Guide to Political Campaigns in America, edited by Paul S. Herrnson (457 pages, August 2005). A one-volume resource for a wide variety of US political campaigns and campaign activities.

The Geography of Presidential Elections in the United States, 1868-2004, by Albert J. Menendez (350 pages, August 2005). Offers commentary on the state results in each presidential election since Ulysses S. Grant won in 1868.

"Using Archival Sources in Legislative Research: Choosing the Road Less Traveled." *Extension of Remarks*, July 2005, Vol. 28, No. 2. Edited by Sean Kelly, Niagara University with contributions by CPR members and archivists Frank Mackaman, Rebecca Johnson Melvin, Linda Whitaker, Ida Brudnick and Jessica Kratz, and Marian Matyn.

<http://www.apsanet.org/~lss/Newsletter/july05/EOR-July-2005.pdf>

The latest in a continuing effort of political scientists Sean Kelly and Scott Frisch to work with political archival collections.

Legislative Indexing Vocabulary

<http://www.loc.gov/lexico/servlet/lexico?usr=pub&op=sessioncheck&db=LIV>

A thesaurus developed by the Congressional Research Service for use with legislative and public policy material.

C-Span Congressional Glossary

<http://www.c-span.org/guide/congress/glossary/alphalist.htm>

Personal and Political Papers of Senator Barry M. Goldwater: A Sneak Preview



The Latest Collection Vital Statistics

- Total Collection = 800+ linear feet (after initial appraisal and weeding)
- Personal and Political Series = 95 linear feet (100% processed)
- Legislative Files = 375 linear feet (0 % processed)
- 1964 Presidential Campaign = 24 linear feet (100 % processed, significant gaps in the record)
- Media Files = 200+ linear feet (10% processed, inventoried)
- Artifacts & Memorabilia = 150+ feet (15% processed, inventoried)
- Books (75 linear feet, now added to AHF library and ASU Gov Docs holdings)

Background

When Barry Goldwater founded the Arizona Historical Foundation (AHF) nearly 50 years ago, the last thing he would have expected is to find his papers in disarray. It is the ultimate irony, that a man who saved everything for posterity, would have a collection requiring tough interventions just so that it could be processed. This is a case study where misplaced feelings of love, devotion, and loyalty took a tremendous toll on the integrity of these papers. This is what happens when a politician reaches icon status.

Along the way, every agenda had been served, except for equal access to and longevity of the material itself. We have taken a tough stand on what others might find routine: professional and trained staff will weed and process it; all artificial restrictions have been lifted; equal access will be assured; nothing will be loaned; all collection-related material will be re-claimed; no special privileges to Goldwater family, friends, or former staff members; and we will share what we have learned with the archival community. This has been and will continue to be an object lesson in the management of political papers. Nothing in the *Records Management Handbook for US Senators* prepares you for what we experienced in the past year.

Year One

For all practical purposes this collection has remained largely unprocessed and hidden – a situation that has confounded and angered researchers worldwide. The reasons are many but not unheard of for those working with political papers: lack of funds, lack of trained archival staff, lack of knowledge generally about political papers, lack of archival supplies and dedicated processing space, sheer volume of boxes and physical chaos, artificial restrictions, and a curious emphasis on cataloguing artifacts and photos over processing print material. To complicate an already difficult situation, we discovered that many documents had been removed for exhibits and various research projects. Goldwater material was not confined to labeled boxes but could be found scattered throughout the AHF stacks.

Appraisal and processing began mid-January, 2005. Due to high research interest in this collection, we thought serial updates might help inform prospective users and colleagues working with congressional papers on some of the issues and decisions encountered as we work with the material. Two progress notes have been posted so far. You can find them at http://www.ahfweb.org/collections_goldwaterprogress.htm and http://www.ahfweb.org/collections_goldwaterprogress2.htm. Container lists in PDF for the Personal and 1964 Campaign Series can be also be found on our Web site. The front matter to the finding aid is a work in progress.

Next Up

Legislative files should be straightforward, right? Except that no print material exists for Barry Goldwater's first two terms, 1952-1964. Virtually every document created during that time was microfilmed. This represents about 400 rolls of microfilm, which over the years had been placed under restriction without benefit of rationale. (It certainly did not come from the donor who placed no restrictions on his papers.) The microfilm is indexed for dates and some alphabetical listings but documents of high interest relating to labor, Walter Reuther, Joseph McCarthy, and the Republican Party are very difficult to locate. With funding, we plan to digitize the microfilm. The process will include a search feature for each CD, which makes it self-indexing.

The remaining congressional sessions (90th-99th) are in their original folders but not their original order according to Judy Eisenhower, Goldwater's administrative assistant of 32 years. Original order was alphabetical according to Federal agency. Further, the folders themselves seem devoid of

background material, gray literature, and other material usually found in legislative files. I am not sure what this means.

Media Files are their own mare's nest. These are voluminous and contain every conceivable format. Some of the film is highly sought after such as political ads and a trip down the Colorado River in 1940. These are quite rare. The albums of news clippings documenting Goldwater's personal and professional life are disintegrating. Of particular interest are four albums dating from 1946 to 1950 documenting issues that led him to run on a reform platform for Phoenix City Council. For a city that has not kept its archival records well, this is a rich source for researchers. An AHF Board member is funding the digitization of 200 albums. Once digitized, these will be shrink-wrapped and placed in storage.

Look for more progress reports on our Web site. I am eager to see what other CPR members are experiencing. Please tell me that we are not alone!

Linda A. Whitaker, CA, Arizona Historical Foundation
linda.whitaker@ahfweb.org, www.ahfweb.org

Preserving and Expanding Access to Public Papers: A Report of the John Brademas Center for the Study of Congress

On October 25, 2005, the John Brademas Center for the Study of Congress hosted a day-long symposium on Presidential and Public Papers to explore the history of the 1974 Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act (PRMPA), its role today and current policy options and obstacles in archiving the papers of government officials.

Recent events in Washington, DC and around the country—from controversies over the writings of Supreme Court nominees to allegations of corrupt lobbying practices to the disclosure of the government's secret domestic surveillance program—have underscored the critical importance of public access to vital documents, which are often extremely hard to locate and to assemble in a meaningful way. Not since the Nixon Administration has the debate about public knowledge taken on such a sense of urgency.

Despite the heightened concern for access to governmental records, there is currently no policy for handling papers of Members of Congress. Creating a policy comparable to the Presidential Records Act of 1978, which governs the papers of Presidents, would help ensure that documents essential to an accurate and comprehensive understanding of our nation's history are preserved.

To address this important subject, the Brademas Center convened leaders in the field for a *Symposium on Presidential and Public Papers*. The symposium opened with a keynote address by Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States and featured three panels made up of archivists, historians, academics, lawyers, and a former member of the Nixon Administration. The panelists discussed the history of the 1974 PRMPA, its role today and current policy options and obstacles in archiving the papers of government officials.

Recognizing the vital importance of open access to all Presidential and congressional documents, we make the following recommendations:

Developing a Public Policy:

A policy devoted to the preservation of congressional records would lessen the number of collections lost, destroyed, or otherwise compromised. Archivists in the Senate and House of Representatives have developed records management guidelines for current members to follow so that their collections, when ready for donation, are more valuable and less bulky. However, the power of a statute would help archivists enforce these guidelines.

We recognize that there remain many challenges to creating an effective policy, including: 1) Members sometimes choose to donate their papers to inappropriate institutions —or simply do not donate them at all; 2) Modern methods of communications, such as email and the Internet, have created new complexities in archiving; and 3) There has been a fierce political debate over the scope of executive privilege that has left policy-makers struggling to find the right balance between that privilege and the need for transparency and accountability. These issues must be addressed—not ignored—in order to give the American people access to as much information about their government as possible.

Using the Current Presidential Libraries Approach for Congressional Papers:

The national and very public nature of the Nixon scandal brought archival issues—including the creation of, access to, and disposition of records of public officials—into the spotlight and ultimately led to the independence of National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) from the General Services Administration. NARA also had to develop, over many years, guidelines governing presidential papers, including how to distinguish between personal and political papers. Similar attention must also be paid to congressional collections. Access to these records is just as important.

We therefore recommend that the Presidential Library system—known for its ease of use, centralization of resources and funding opportunities—be used as a model for dealing with

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **Develop a public policy to govern the disposition of congressional collections, paying special attention to the preservation of online information.**
- **Use the approach that is currently employed for preserving presidential papers as a model for dealing with congressional collections.**
- **Focus more attention on potential funding sources for preserving congressional collections.**

congressional collections, both in terms of how to classify documents and how to catalogue and organize the collections. We acknowledge that there are some very real obstacles to effectively organizing congressional collections, including: 1) Collections are scattered all across the country in various kinds of repositories, making research both costly and time-consuming; 2) The methods of processing collections in those repositories are inconsistent; 3) Many repositories that receive large congressional collections do not have adequate resources to arrange, describe, and provide access to them; and 4) There are more than 10,000 former Members of Congress whose papers potentially could be archived.

These obstacles should not stand in the way of the goal of cohesively organizing and cataloguing congressional papers. The more quickly and efficiently historians and researchers can obtain these collections, the better our nation's history can be told.

Identifying Funding Sources:

Federal funds should be set aside for the preservation of the papers of public officials. There are other potential sources of funding as well: research universities could be encouraged to develop programs to preserve such collections and the Library of Congress could be given incentives to develop programs specifically for the preservation of congressional collections. We encourage a more in-depth exploration of these possibilities and urge our counterparts to exhaust all avenues of funding in support of this necessary endeavor.

There is much to be done if this issue is to be addressed effectively. However, we hope that this

brief report will be of use to policy-makers and researchers alike and will lay the groundwork for making strides on this important issue.

The Brademas Center is proud to contribute to the dialogue surrounding this issue. For more

information on the event and a detailed list of panelists, consult the Web site for the John Brademas Center for the Study of Congress at <http://www.nyu.edu/ofp/brademascenter/events.html>.

Annual Congressional Papers Roundtable Meeting

SAA Conference, New Orleans, LA August 17, 2005

Welcome – Naomi Nelson

SAA Council Representative – Elaine Engst

Elaine's successor will be Carla Summers.

The program committee guidelines have been revised. Starting in 2007, sections and roundtables can submit as many session proposals as they like but may endorse only two, which should be sent to the program committee with a letter of explanation. Endorsement does not guarantee a spot in the program. These guidelines will not be in effect for the 2006 meeting because it will be jointly sponsored by COSA and NAGARA.

SAA Strategic Priorities are on SAA's Web site and are: Technology, Diversity, and Public Support. Responses from individuals and groups are due by September 15, but will be accepted later. Send to Nancy Beaumont, nbeaumont@archivists.org

Program Committee 2006 – Marisa Bourgoïn

The deadline is October 7 for conference and pre-conference proposals; electronic submission is preferred. Tom Hyry and Bob Horton are serving as co-chairs of the program committee. There will be no formal endorsements from sections and roundtables this year since it is a joint meeting with NAGARA and COSA. Contact members of the program committee for advice and questions.

Roundtable Program: Classified Documents in Congressional Collections: What You Should Know

Bill Leonard, Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO), NARA

Dorothy Hazelrigg, Modern Political Collections, University Libraries, University of South Carolina

Dorothy Hazelrigg spoke about recent events concerning classified documents in the papers of former Governor John West, who also had previously served as an ambassador to Saudi Arabia. The

collection had come to the University in 1995 as a gift with the provision that it would be closed until 2005. As staff were preparing to open the collection as well as looking at an addition, they came upon some 1991 correspondence with the State Department relating to the release of records. The 1991 responses from the State Department were varied. Staff contacted the State Department to see if the 1991 censored material could now be opened. The first response from the State Department was that the documents needed to be reviewed again, and possibly the entire collection might need to be reviewed. Staff submitted 300 pages and were subsequently contacted by a State Department official, who stated that more recent executive orders are more restrictive. The State Department was especially interested in West's personal diary and original audio tapes, claiming that his security clearance as ambassador meant that the diary was subject to seizure and that West had done something illegal by donating his papers. After reviewing the documents sent in, the State Department decided to review the entire collection. A Diplomatic Security division took an interest and scheduled a visit. Two officers spent a week going through the collection, setting aside those documents needed for further review. They removed 1 ½ boxes from two collections and made employees sign non-disclosure forms. Staff have now received various decisions on the first documents sent in for review and no response on the papers removed by Diplomatic Security. The process was uncoordinated and bureaucratic.

Bill Leonard spoke about the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) in a talk titled "Classified National Security Information in Private Collections." While Leonard is a security professional, he stated that he is a historian by avocation. He outlined some of the downsides of classification: it distorts our understanding of history,

and our ability to hold leaders accountable is imperfect. Leonard discussed the history of executive orders, beginning with FDR, and noted that classification is Article II constitutional authority. He stated that each revised executive order generally revokes the previous order. The ISOO was created by the 1978 Executive Order, and is a component of NARA with a director appointed by the Archivist of the United States.

Leonard outlined the functions of the ISOO, specifically calling attention to the following: Executive Secretariat for the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP) and the Public Interest Declassification Board. He noted that anyone can challenge classifications and that agencies must review and demonstrate why items must be classified. Appeals that come before ISCAP result in about 60% of the documents being released. The Public Interest Declassification Board was created about five years ago but just recently was given money and had members appointed. This will provide another forum for declassification review.

Leonard went over several key concepts. Declassification can only be done by the United States Government. The automatic declassification provision of certain documents over 25 years old does not apply to personal papers; these must be reviewed by agencies. Agencies have to retain control of classified information and classified documents must have clear declassification markings.

Leonard outlined several practical considerations, stating that there is no concerted effort to go into private holdings, agencies are too busy, but that things do come up. He said that institutions that run into a situation with classified documents can contact the Center for Legislative Archives for congressional collections, and ISOO for other federal government materials. The ISOO can help facilitate proper interim storage and declassification review. The goal of the ISOO is to quickly open the holdings.

Task Force Reports

- Guidelines – Rebecca Johnson-Melvin
No report. The steering committee will discuss at their meeting.
- Bylaws – Naomi Nelson

These were republished in the newsletter. The steering committee has endorsed them and there will be a vote on them by members of the roundtable at the meeting today.

Election – Rebecca Johnson-Melvin

- Bylaws
- Slate:
 - Vice-chair/chair-elect – Jeff Thomas
 - Steering Committee (vote for 2) –Kate Cruikshank; Sonny Johnson; Linda Whitaker; Eileen Winkelman

Newsletter

Introduction of Chris Burns as new co-editor.

Newsletter report – There are 215 members of the roundtable, 169 of whom are members of SAA. We published two newsletters in the past year (March 2005, July 2005). Beginning with the March 2005 issue, we discontinued producing hard copies to mail to people. We now only distribute digital copies.

Web site – Robin Reeder

The newsletter continues to be put on the Web site. The steering committee members have been updated.

Reports from Congress

Robin Reeder, Office of History and Preservation, US House of Representatives.

There have been some staff changes and reorganization. A new records management manual for the committees of the House has been published. A records management manual for members will be published later this year. The 106th Congress committee records have been sent to NARA. The Office participated in 108th transition briefings, which happened at the end of Congress. Correspondence and Records Management manuals are being sent to new members of Congress. The research collections and bibliographies for the online Biographical Directory continue to be updated. A new print copy of the Biographical Directory is being produced.

Karen Paul, Senate Historical Office

Karen discussed the gift tax issue involving donations of papers of public officials. Legislation to

clarify and fix did not pass, as it was perceived that it was a Senate problem not a House problem. It is now seen to be an archivists' problem. The issue impacts collections with access restrictions. A 1996 IRS interpretation states that the retained right to control access to papers constitutes a split-interest gift and thus renders the gift of papers ineligible for the charitable deduction. This interpretation would render charitable gifts of personal papers with a retained right to control access subject to substantial and undeserved gift and estate taxation. The roundtable discussed this issue and decided that members of the House Ways and Means Committee should be contacted and asked to act on this matter.

Kate Snodgrass Mollon, Center for Legislative Archives

The congressional collections Web site has a new address: <http://www.archives.gov/legislative/repository-collections/>. Please send Kate updates and changes, her contact information is on the Web site, and the site is linked off of the CPR Web site.

Election Results

Bylaws were approved.

Vice-chair/chair-elect – Jeff Thomas

Steering Committee – Kate Cruikshank, Linda Whitaker

Other News

The CPR listserv is up and running, the Web site has information about it.

Let the steering committee know about this meeting format (2 hrs on Wednesday.)

Kate Cruikshank reported that five individuals put together a session for the American Association for History and Computing (AAHC) meeting on how technology affects our work. Carrie Daniels talked about MARC; Dennis Meisner talked about finding aids; Mark Shelstad talked about collaborative digital access; Kate Cruikshank showed online examples of the Dodd Papers and the George Mitchell Papers to show how access to collections can look like an online finding aid or something more dynamic; and Naomi Nelson introduced user research. The input

from the group showed that it was a roomful of librarians, that they wanted searching right up front, and that they wanted to get to a finding aid.

Tom Wilsted announced that the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress will meet at the University of Connecticut next year.

Rebecca Johnson-Melvin announced that the Legislative Research Section of the American Political Science Association's newsletter will feature articles by CPR members and link to the CPR Web site. They will also be offering a short course, two weeks, in Washington featuring archivists and political scientists.

The University of Montana will be holding a legislative papers workshop next year.

Plans for Next Year – Alan Haeberle

- The meeting will be held in Washington, DC.
- Pre-conference forum suggestions – half-day on Wednesday afternoon
 - Visits to Senate offices, particularly those practicing cutting-edge electronic record keeping
 - Managing memorabilia
 - Government Affairs Committee presentation on electronic record keeping
 - Library of Congress and blogging – NARA is archiving government sites, Library of Congress is doing influential blogging sites
 - Briefing of copies of videos of members' floor remarks – Library of Congress
- Program – Send annual meeting and program ideas to Alan alan_haeberle@hatch.senate.gov
 - Expand today's talk
 - Revisit David McCullough's essay (others or McCullough himself)
 - History of the House
 - Tax ramifications of accepting collections
 - Terry Eastwood – Role of Appraisal in a Democratic Society
 - Survey of what's in our collections, what's getting used
 - 1992 documentation of Congress needs to be updated – panel on this