From the Chair

Jeff Thomas

It has been a rather busy time since the publication of our last newsletter in March. As announced in June, the most notable recent news for the CPR is the grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHRPC) for funding our long-sought goal of producing Guidelines for Managing Congressional Papers. Officially starting on July 1, 2007, this one-year grant provides $37,500 to cover the costs of the writing, editing and publication of the Guidelines. The grant will be administered by the CPR Task Force on Guidelines for Congressional Papers Repositories working through the offices of the Society of American Archivists.

Cynthia Pease Miller is contracted as the author for the publication, with members of the CPR Task Force serving as the editorial board. As outlined in the grant, plans call for Cynthia to produce a first draft prior to the 2007 SAA Conference. The editorial board will meet with her on August 28th in Chicago to go over the draft and suggest any necessary changes.

Continued on Page 2


The Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress met on June 25, 2007 in the LBJ room of the Capitol. Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate, presided at this semi-annual meeting that was designed to set an agenda for the next two years of her chairmanship. Committee members introduced items for discussion regarding committee goals, many of which were outlined in the executive summary of the committee’s Fourth Report (available on the Center for Legislative Archives site). Following lively and extensive discussion, it was determined that three issues would receive immediate attention: the gift tax issue, education of staff regarding electronic records preservation and of members on the preservation of their papers, and updating the guides to House and Senate collections at the Center for Legislative Archives.

The gift tax issue will be revisited by Robin Reeder and Karen Paul who were named to head a task force. It also was determined to form a “working group” to meet with office and systems managers to address preservation of electronic records and to highlight preservation of members’ papers at orientation events for new members. In connection with this, it was suggested that each body consider adopting a “sense of the House/ Senate” resolution encouraging the preservation of members’ papers. It was also agreed that the Center for Legislative Archives would produce a plan to begin updating the Guides to House and Senate records in their custody.

Karen Paul, Senate Archivist

In This Issue:

ACSC Conference Summary (Karen Paul) .............................................10
Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress ...............................1
CPR Candidates .................................................................9

From the Chair .........................................................1
Institutional News ..................................................3
National Archives Preservation
Conference Summary (Karen Paul) 12
SAA Annual Meeting Events ......3
From the Chair (cont. from page 1)

Representatives from the SAA publications staff will meet with Cynthia and the editorial board later in the day. Work on a final version will continue after these meetings, with a target date for publication being no later than June 30, 2008. The grant funds an initial run of 500 hard copies of the Guidelines to be distributed by SAA. The cost of a hard copy is yet to be determined. As stipulated in the grant, SAA will provide a free on-line copy of the publication through the Society’s web site.

This is an exciting time for the CPR as we finally have the means to fulfill a goal first proposed in 1985 at a conference on congressional papers held in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Further news on the progress of the project will be on the agenda for our meeting in Chicago.

Speaking of Chicago, I hope everyone has made plans to attend the SAA conference in August. The Steering Committee has lined up a day of events we hope will be interesting, informative, and entertaining for CPR members. The schedule for Wednesday, August 29th, includes a pre-conference session from 1 to 3 o’clock that afternoon, followed by our regular meeting from 4 to 6 pm. Reservations are in place starting at 6:30 at a near-by restaurant for members to gather to eat, drink, catch up with old friends, and make new acquaintances. A separate announcement about the restaurant, the menu offered for the dinner, and the cost will be forthcoming in July.

The pre-conference session planned for the early afternoon consists of an informal panel discussion focusing on the acquisition of new collections by various CPR members as a result of the November 2006 elections. Included on the panel are Chris Burns of the University of Vermont; Brian Keough of the University at Albany, State University of New York; Rebecca Johnson Melvin of the University of Delaware; and Abigail L. Dixon of History Associates, Inc. located in Rockville, Maryland. Chris, Brian, and Rebecca each will talk briefly about their respective new acquisitions, while Abigail will provide some insights on the role her company played in closing various congressional offices as a result of the elections. There will be plenty of time for questions and remarks from the audience, so please come prepared to share your own experiences or insights.

The pre-conference session will take place in the Video Theater of the Chicago Public Library’s Harold Washington Library Center located at 400 South State Street. Look for an announcement in August with details on transportation options to the library. The theater seats ninety people, so space at the session should not be an issue. However, for planning purposes I ask that members wanting to attend the pre-conference session register with me either by email at thomas.1082@osu.edu or by telephone at 614-688-8429.

Our regular business meeting will take place from 4 to 6 pm in the Fairmont Hotel. As in the past, the meeting will include the election of new officers, updates from various congressional historical offices, and a report on the May 2007 meeting of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress. Highlighting the meeting is a program by Naomi Nelson and Alan Haeberle on the correspondence management systems used by the U.S. Senate. Naomi’s presentation will include an overview of the history of the various systems used in the past by the Senate, followed by information about the Constituent Mail Analysis Project she developed at Emory University using the papers of former Senator Sam Nunn. Alan will provide an update on the mail systems currently in use by the Senate.

As I write, SAA currently is offering discounted rates for rooms at a fourth conference hotel due to the sellout of rooms reserved at three other hotels. So if you have not already done so, make your reservations without delay for what evidently will be a well-attended conference.

I look forward to conversations about CPR activities with everyone in August. Please let myself or a member of the Steering Committee hear from you if you have any issues, suggestions, or ideas you want discussed when we meet. In the meantime, have a great summer!

Jeff Thomas
Mark Your Calendar!

Congressional Papers Roundtable Pre-Conference Program
Wednesday, August 29, 2007
SAA Meeting, Chicago, IL

1 – 3 pm  Pre-conference session on Acquisition of New Collections
Video Theater of the Chicago Public Library’s Harold Washington Library Center, 400 South State Street.
Chris Burns of the University of Vermont; Brian Keough of the University at Albany, State University of New York; Rebecca Johnson Melvin of the University of Delaware; and Abigail L. Dixon of History Associates, Inc. located in Rockville, Maryland.

4 – 6 pm  CPR Annual Meeting at Conference hotel, Fairmont Hotel
Featuring a program by Naomi Nelson and Alan Haeberle on the correspondence management systems used by the U.S. Senate.

6:30 – Informal Dinner, to be arranged.

Members wanting to attend the pre-conference session or dinner should contact Jeff Thomas by email at thomas.1082@osu.edu or by telephone at 614 688-8429.

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

University of Mississippi

The Modern Political Archives is pleased to announce the opening of File Series 2: Public Relations of the James O. Eastland Collection. The 133 boxes and 74 canisters in this series comprise eleven subseries: (1) photographs, negatives, & slides; (2) audio recordings; (3) audiovisual recordings; (4) clippings; (5) floor speeches; (6) other speeches; (7) scrapbooks; (8) original political cartoons; (9) press releases; (10) newsletters & publications; (11) public relations correspondence; and (12) published writings & interviews. The finding aid is available online at http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/general_library/files/archives/collections/guides/latesthtml/MUM00117.html.

In January 2007, the Modern Political Archives received a $1,000 grant from the University of Mississippi Provost Office to restore and make digital access copies of selected audio reel-to-reel recordings in the collection. Among those reels were a 1957 speech Eastland delivered at a Belzoni, Mississippi Citizens’ Council rally as well as campaign jingles for the senator’s 1972 campaign. Also included were three reels of a Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing in 1972 to take the testimony of Dita Beard regarding allegations of ITT bribes to effect a favorable antitrust settlement from the Justice Department. Since the U.S. Senate retains ownership
of official committee records, the original and master DVD-R copies of these hearings were transferred to U.S. Senate Archivist Karen Paul for placement at the National Archives. However, the Eastland Collection retains digital access copies.

Other complications arose during the processing of the Eastland Collection. In August 2006, the Modern Political Archives transferred three boxes of classified documents to the campus security officer’s vault and notified the Center for Legislative Archives of their existence. The local FBI office took responsibility for its classified records the following month. By November, they had returned all but four documents. After determining an appropriate means for secure transfer, the Information Security Oversight Office received delivery of the remaining documents in May 2007 (the delay apparently due to the high classification ratings involved and the wide array of originating offices).

Processing uncovered fourteen boxes of material belonging to other congressmen mistakenly shipped to the University of Mississippi in the 1970s as part of the Eastland Collection. Karen Paul generously agreed to identify and make initial contact with the appropriate repositories. Over the course of the fall of 2006, the Modern Political Archives shipped one box of John Jackson Sparkman audio reels to the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library at the University of Alabama; seven boxes of Homer Earl Capehart papers to the Indiana State Library; one box of Gale W. McGee audio reels to the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming; four boxes of Harry Pullman Cain’s files to the Special Collections of the Washington State Historical Society; and one box of George McGovern’s files to the Seely G. Mudd Manuscript Library at Princeton University.

During the fall election season, the Modern Political Archives installed an exhibit entitled “Follow the Campaign Trail to the Archives & Special Collections” in two 5’ x 12’ display cases in the main library. Featuring campaign material for state offices dating from the early nineteenth through the twentieth centuries, formats included broadsides, posters, electoral tickets, bumper stickers, scrapbooks, LP recordings, pamphlets, correspondence, postcards, and publications. The political collections also contributed a case to a Special Collections exhibit “Civil Rights & Civil Wrongs” designed to coincide with the dedication of the campus civil rights memorial and the anniversary of the university’s integration. Entitled “Corresponding with Congress,” this display case included a 1931 letter from W.E.B. DuBois to U.S. Senator Pat Harrison and a 1958 letter from Byron De La Beckwith (convicted in 1994 of the 1963 murder of NAACP Mississippi field officer Medgar Evers) to U.S. Representative Thomas G. Abernethy.


Leigh McWhite
At the African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO), located in Oakland, California, we have acquired and are currently processing the Ronald V. Dellums (D-CA) congressional papers. Dellums was elected to represent the 9th Congressional District of California, an area of Alameda County that includes the cities of Berkeley and Oakland. He was elected to office in 1970 and served from 1971 to 1999 (the 92nd to 105th Congresses, respectively). While in office Dellums held several significant committee memberships and leadership positions, including the Chairmanship of the House Armed Services Committee and membership in the Congressional Black Caucus, the latter of which he co-founded. Throughout his career Dellums was identified with his pacifist anti-war values, socialist ideology, and his activist stance on such issues as civil rights and the abolishment of South African apartheid. As a result of these and other related concerns, Dellums was placed on the infamous “Nixon’s Enemies List.” This collection is a significant addition to the AAMLO collections, and strongly supports the mission of AAMLO, which is "dedicated to discover, preserve, interpret and share the historical and cultural experiences of African Americans in California and the West for present and future generations." AAMLO is a "unique resource on the history of African Americans in Northern California and the [San Francisco] Bay Area" (Oakland Public Library, 2007).

The collection is comprehensive and includes various committee files, hearing and report books; correspondence with constituents and colleagues; legislation sponsored or co-sponsored by Dellums; personal files; staff files; press files and other publications; and subject reference files. Significant items in the collection include the wide variety of constituent issues as reflected in their voluminous correspondence, invitations and schedules for various political functions including the Clinton inauguration, and photographs. Also included are memorabilia from Dellums’ career and life, video recordings of tributes upon his retirement from Congress and extensive documentation of his work involving budget authorizations for the Department of Defense. Given how long he held his office in the House of Representatives, processing this collection has presented some interesting challenges. The collection contains a variety of non-paper record formats that require a unique set of preservation considerations and reflects the evolution of technology and its incorporation in the Congressional office environment. The presence of a set of electronic records on computer tape brings to the forefront one of the challenges in archival practice presented by them: we do not have the hardware or software to access what information is on these tapes, how to document it in a human-readable manner, and determine whether or not they are records at all.

As Dellums served in 14 Congresses spanning six presidential administrations, these papers offer unique insight into modern American political history, especially during the latter years of the Cold War and the fallout of the tumultuous decade of the 1960s. The collection documents Dellums’ firm stand against apartheid in South Africa and his role in the authoring and passage of the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, a bill that had such significant cross-party support that Congress was able to override then-President Reagan’s veto. These papers are a valuable source of evidence regarding Dellums’ congressional activity in support of the expansion of the civil rights movement into support for women’s rights, abortion rights and federal support for the war on AIDS. Perhaps most significant is the documentation of Dellums’ role as representative of a district widely known for its virulent anti-war demonstrations and marked political activism.

As of June 2007, approximately 30 linear feet has been processed and described. A collection guide and inventory has been created and is updated as record series are amended or completed. The current version of the collection guide has been encoded in EAD for distribution and viewing over the World Wide Web via the Online Archive of California (OAC). We anticipate posting this collection guide to the OAC in late July 2007.

Lori A. Lindberg and Supriya V. Pidady-Wronkiewicz, consulting archivists
Loyola University Chicago

Loyola University Chicago is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Henry J. Hyde papers. Mr. Hyde, J.D. '49, served in the Illinois state house of representatives from 1967 to 1974 and the U.S. House of Representatives from 1975 to January 2007. He was a member of the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on International Relations, chairing the Judiciary Committee from the 104th through the 106th Congresses and the International Relations Committee for the 107th and 109th Congresses, and was involved with two historic impeachment trials – the 1986 impeachment of Harry E. Claiborne, judge of the United States District Court for Nevada, and the 1998 impeachment of President William Clinton. The Hyde papers join the papers of former Congressman Dan Rostenkowski (Illinois state house of representatives and state senate, 1952-1956; U.S. House of Representatives 1959-1995) as the foundation for Loyola’s Center for Public Service, which focuses on leadership by highlighting the impact that individuals can have upon society through their dedication to public service.

Kathy Young

Arizona Historical Foundation – Arizona State University

The vastness of congressional collections lends to the constant discovery of new and exciting material while in the midst of processing. The Personal and Political Papers of Senator Barry M Goldwater is no exception. Although these papers have appeared in a previous edition of the CPR newsletter, there is more to the story.

In the past six months, we have unearthed a number of unique items including 1940 film footage of Goldwater rafting the Grand Canyon, rare photographs documenting Arizona’s territorial history, and territorial documents. However, we were not prepared for the discovery of another collection buried within the Senator’s papers.

These turned out to be the papers of Morris Goldwater which were passed on to his favorite nephew, Barry. Suddenly, it explained what we saw elsewhere as either partly processed or unidentified material. This led us to other Arizona Historical Foundation collections, ephemera, and Director’s special projects. By the time we had extracted all of the Morris Goldwater material, we had over forty linear feet of original political and business documents dating as far back as the 1870s. The collection contains numerous ledgers, memorabilia, and Masonic records. The finding aid can be found at http://www.ahfweb.org/download/MGoldwater_MSS_8.pdf.

For the record, Morris Goldwater was a prominent citizen, Mason, and public servant of Prescott, Arizona. He was the mayor of Prescott on and off for a total of 20 years. His political career also included roles as councilman of Prescott, member of the 12th Territorial Council of Yavapai County, Chairman of the Territorial Democratic Central Committee, Supervisor of Yavapai County, President of the 20th Territorial Legislature, and Vice President of the Arizona Constitutional Convention. Morris was a respected and influential participant in both territorial Arizona and its emergence as a state. As such, he was also Barry’s role model.

In 1964, Barry honored his uncle by nominating him “Man of the Century.” Morris was awarded that honor with a plaque that still stands in Prescott, Arizona. His legacy continues in a collection that is now fully processed and opened for researchers. We’d like to think that this is exactly what Barry Goldwater had in mind when he deeded the original papers to AHF.

Erica K. Johnson, MA
Project Archivist & Librarian
University of Vermont

The University of Vermont Libraries is pleased to announce the establishment of the University Libraries Center for Digital Initiatives (CDI). The CDI will serve as the gateway to the University of Vermont’s collections in digital form. The CDI will provide the infrastructure, equipment, and expertise to fully realize the creation, administration, delivery, and preservation of digital library content at UVM. The CDI has been made possible through a congressionally directed grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The first collection to be digitized is the Vermont Congressional Papers, which will document selected aspects of the legislative history of Vermont’s members of Congress. Content selection will focus on issues that were important for individual members as well as issues that have been important over time such as dairy farming, water quality, and education. The Congressional material is organized into a main Congressional Papers collection and then some more specific sub-collections (Congressional Speeches, Letters Home from Washington, Dairy and the US Congress, Congressional Portraits).

The Letters Home from Washington collection features Warren R. Austin (Senator, 1931-1946), Jacob Collamer (Representative, 1843-1848; Senator, 1855-1866), and Samuel C. Crafts (Representative, 1817-1824; Senator 1841-1842). The letters document travel to and from Washington by horse, boat, train, and airplane; lodging in boarding houses, hotels, and homes; social life in Washington; significant local and national events; and legislative issues under consideration in Congress. Austin’s letters are particularly strong in their coverage of his frustration at being a minority Senator during the era of Roosevelt and the New Deal; his activities on the Judiciary Committee; and foreign affairs questions such as the Neutrality Act. The letters of Crafts and Collamer both extensively cover the question of slavery, discussing Missouri statehood, John Brown, the annexation of Texas, and the Civil War.

The Dairy and the US Congress collection documents legislative issues relating to dairy such as milk pricing, subsidies, and oleomargarine. Vermont’s congressional delegation has a long and active history in matters relating to Vermont’s dairy farmers and the dairy industry. George Aiken, Elbert Brigham, James Jeffords, and Patrick Leahy all served on Agriculture committees and their collections document many of the agricultural issues that faced Congress in the 20th Century.

The Congressional Portraits collection features individual and group portraits of Vermont members of Congress. The Congressional Speeches collection features speeches made on the floor of the United States House of Representatives and Senate by Vermont Congressmen. Topics covered include the environment, education, agriculture, World War II and selective service, the Mexican War, the tariff and international trade, slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction. The speeches date from 1828 to the present and a wide variety of Congressmen are represented.

The CDI website is http://cdi.uvm.edu/

Chris Burns
Missouri Historical Society

Please join the Missouri Historical Society on October 15, 2007 to Celebrate National Archives Week with a “sneak preview” of the Richard A. Gephardt Papers!

Beginning at 6 pm in the Grand Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Building, Gephardt Project archivists will treat attendees to a demonstration of the collection databases and a preview of the video oral history project. Political Science Professor Daniel E. Ponder of Drury University will give an overview of the collection. A selection of Gephardt campaign memorabilia will also be on display.

In conjunction with the Association of St. Louis Area Archivists (ASLAA), plans are being made for a Gephardt related archives week poster that will be available at the event.

Gephardt Papers archivists have just recently finished folder level data entry in Archon for the 1,342 boxes of Gephardt manuscript material. Thomas E. Pulhamus and A.J. Million are in the process of scanning thousands of photos that will also be available on-line. In addition, Jim Hone and Kelly Kreft have digitized hundreds of hours of video spanning Gephardt’s career.

Project team members will spend the rest of the year processing an ancillary collection, The Gephardt Campaign Collection, which was received from Gephardt’s St. Louis campaign manager last year. This collection includes speeches, presidential debate preparations and other interesting manuscript materials.

In addition to processing, Gephardt archivists are all contributing to the creation of a Gephardt Papers web site. We hope the web site will provide context for the large collection, as well as be an educational and research tool.

Richard A. Gephardt Project Team Members: (L to R back row), Dina Young, Daniel Ponder, Theresa Fitzgerald, Diane Everman, Thomas E. Pulhamus, (front row) A.J. Million, Jim Home, Morgan Davis, Catherine Riggs, Kelly Kreft

A sample of Gephardt campaign memorabilia

Morgan R. Davis, Head Project Archivist
Richard A. Gephardt Papers
CPR Steering Committee Candidates

There will be a slight change in the slate of candidates presented for the openings on the Congressional Papers Roundtable Steering Committee this year.

Jean Bischoff, the current vice chair/chair elect, has informed the Steering Committee that she has accepted a job as University Archivist at Elizabeth City State University (North Carolina), beginning in September. Because of her new responsibilities, she will unfortunately be unable to serve as chair of CPR for the coming year.

Kate Cruikshank (Indiana University), who was already our nominee for the position of vice chair/chair elect, has agreed to step up to be nominated as chair for the year 2007-2008. Linda Whitaker (Arizona Historical Foundation) has agreed to be our nominee for vice chair/chair elect, to be chair in 2008-2009.

For the two open positions on Steering Committee, serving 2007-2009, we have nominated John Murphy (Brigham Young University) and Walter Ray (University of Southern Illinois Carbondale). We are confident that all these candidates will make excellent officers for the Roundtable. We will still accept write-in candidates for any of these positions if anyone wishes to volunteer or put forward the name of someone willing to be nominated. Remember that the bylaws state that for chair, and vice chair/chair elect, only individual members of SAA and the Congressional Papers Roundtable are eligible.

All members of the Roundtable may vote, and any member of the Roundtable who is unable to attend the annual meeting may request an absentee ballot from the committee chair. The ballot below may be used as an absentee ballot. Please return these ballots to me either by regular mail (to arrive before August 25) or copy the ballot into an email mail message to send electronically. The postal address is Alan Haeberle, 9207 Whitney Street, Silver Spring, MD 20901. For email, please send to <azansvan@yahoo.com>.

Alan H. Haeberle, Chair, Nominating Committee
Immediate Past Chair, Congressional Papers Roundtable

Chair
M.L.S. Indiana University, Ph.D. University of Wisconsin, M.A. University of Washington, B.A. Colorado College.
Vice Chair/Chair-elect
Linda A. Whitaker: certified archivist and librarian at Arizona Historical Foundation located in the Hayden Library, Arizona State University. Political papers experience includes processing papers of senators Dennis DeConcini (D-AZ) and Barry M. Goldwater (R-AZ); retro-conversion of the finding aids into EAD for the collections of congressmen Morris K. Udall (D-AZ) and Stewart Udall (D-AZ); and field collecting and collection development for Arizona political papers. Secretary of the Conference of Intermountain Archivists (CIMA), 2003-2005, co-chair of the program committee, 2006. Currently serves as chair of the Arizona Library Association-School of Information Resources and Library Science Committee. Member of CIMA, SAA, Congressional Papers Roundtable; served on CPR steering committee, 2005-2007.

BA, English Literature, University of Arizona, 1974. MA, Information Resources and Library Science, University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science, 2002. Prior to entering the archives and library field, served as head nurse at several major teaching hospitals.

Steering Committee (2 positions)

John M. Murphy: curator for 20th Century Western American manuscripts in the L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University. Recently completed arrangement of Senator Abram O. Murdock papers; also worked on papers of Senator Arthur Watkins and Senator Reed Smoot of Utah. Previously at the University of Arizona, worked on the papers of Stewart Udall, Morris Udall, Dennis DeConcini, and James McNulty.

MSLIS (Archives Concentration), Simmons College; MA in Comparative History, Brandeis University. Member SAA and CPR. Current member, SAA Standards Committee; past member, SAA Ethics Committee. Served as President, SAA Security Roundtable. Member and past president, Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists (CIMA).


Previously Assistant Archivist at the University of Notre Dame Archives, arranged and described the papers of women religious.

PhD, Theology, University of Notre Dame; MDiv, St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary; MA, Russian, Middlebury College; MA, International Relations, Boston University; AB, Grinnell College. Memberships: SAA, CPR, MAC.

Association of Centers for the Study of Congress 2007 Conference Summary

At its fifth annual meeting, the ACSC had 40 dues paying members and is now, in the words of the Treasurer, “able to pay its own way.” The sessions were lively, informative, and with good discussion. Highlights included a wonderful dinner in the LBJ room hosted by the Secretary of the Senate, and a tour of the Capitol Visitors Center.

Lee Hamilton, former member of Congress and Director of the Woodrow Wilson Center, gave an inspiring key-note address. He asserted that Congress is the most accessible part of the government, but that many people do not understand the impact Congress has on their lives or how to communicate with it.

He sees teaching this as a primary goal of ACSC and its member institutions. Wilson strongly advocates the preservation of members’ papers because scholars can learn a lot about members through study of their papers. They are an excellent teaching device. He also spoke of the need to reach ordinary citizens, the people who breakfast at McDonalds every morning. It is vital that they understand for the sake of the health of representative democracy.

Richard Baker hosted a strong session on Using Congressional Collections. C. Lawrence Evans from the College of William and Mary, and Legislative Studies Quarterly Editor, sketched the evolution of
political science studies and said that now there is a need to look at history to test theories. (Example: Sara Bender’s study of the blue slip (unacceptable nominees) found back to Wilson era in NARA; Don Lapinski’s study of Senate holds, found in Howard Baker papers.)

He said records of committees are the most untapped resources by political science today and that this is an area that will attract young scholars.

**Advice**
- First, focus more on creating and mounting good finding aids. Ex. Carl Albert Center collections are exemplary.
- Create one web site that expands description.
- Consult with scholars to comment on contents of collections to give added value.
- Involve scholars in appraisal.
- Create a web page structured around a standard college course syllabus. Include documents that illustrate the process. The tutorial would be of value to professors and teachers.
- Find ways to bring more undergrads into collections processing and research.

Paul Milazzo, Ohio University published *Unlikely Environmentalists: Congress and Clean Water, 1945-1972.* The book is the story of Congress taking the lead in this issue and building stakeholders. A synthesis of old and new interests rather than a knee jerk reaction to the environmental movement. In 1940’s and 50’s clean water was need for economic growth. This combined with environmental movement and earth day. The 1972 act is steeped with language of ecology, but the reason it was passed was that it combined many interests, some longstanding.

**Sources:** Printed, federal agencies (EPA, Army Corps), National Journal, League of Women Voters. Senate Committee. Records of the Public Works Committee – water resources development projects, dams to retain water to wash away pollution, case study of use of experts, memos, mark-ups, 7 versions of the bill, staff reports, briefing memos, interest groups reports and letters, conference committee notes, exec session transcripts.

Milazzo also interviewed staff members and found out about a film that the committee produced in 1953 Troubled Waters. He found the film in the archives!

**Advice:** Link between members’ papers and committee records through finding aids.
- Regularize and strengthen the committee archives
- On-line finding aids- highlight sources that matter: constituent mail, documents showing staff interactions, memos, mark-ups
- List of staff and where they can be reached
- Provide help with navigating restrictions
- Save audio and video, put it on-line. This is valuable for classroom use.

A fascinating session on oral history presented much useful advice and described oral history as the “road map” to a large collection and a necessary technique to find out what is going on behind the scenes and what actually motivated people to vote the way they did.

Frank Mackaman: Where is the Web Taking Us? OR Where Will We Take the Web?
Roy Rozenweig, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University

General trends in technology are toward open source, open access and open education. New technologies give new opportunities for achieving educational goals we always have had.

The second generation of the web services–myspace, youtube, wikipedia, flicker – facilitates sharing of information, videos, photos. While the Oxford Dictionary of biography is better written, Wikipedia is read by a lot more people.

The “History Matters” web site (http://historymatters.gmu.edu) contains a lot of resources, and presents ways to help students learn to use and evaluate them as well as add their interpretations, information.

The center is developing a server that facilitates accumulation of shared collection notes and public domain documents, supports scholarly group discussions and accumulates bibliographic feeds.

Finally, Richard Hunt led a discussion of a potential project for ACSC that would support strengthening access to our collections. The project is based on digitizing and updating the *Encyclopedia of Congress* and using it as a base to include relevant documents, finding aids, bibliography, video, audio, etc. etc. The ACSC will hold a working meeting this summer to plan for a digitization project.

*Karen Paul*
There was a record turnout for this two-day conference on the current status of digitization of archival materials for preservation. For someone not conversant with the technicalities and science of digitization, it provided a good overview of where we are in our evolution to a digital world.

As you would guess, all panelists emphasized the speed of technological change, but they seemed somewhat reassuring in their ability to live with it. They described preservation as part of a continuum: where current practice is geared more to access and supporting in-house use than the preservation of an exact copy or surrogate, as they say. As technology matures, it will more readily support the maintenance of an exact copy. Various formats (photos, motion picture film, video) are at different stages along this continuum.

Steven Puglia, manager of NARA’s Digital Imaging Lab, delivered a keynote address explaining that user demand and expectations have changed preservation practices dramatically. In about 4 years time, preservation has moved from analog reformatting to digital in all types of media. While analog storage requires maintaining chemical and physical stability, digital storage requires an absolute ability to deal with system obsolescence. The digital process is more complex, more expensive, and more risky if it is not done properly.

A reliable digital system must have functionality, longevity, and fidelity. To achieve this, it is necessary to implement continuous long-term management of lab equipment and of the processing, including the collection and migration of detailed metadata (information describing the origin and structure of the material). I have a copy of his paper if anyone is interested.

There were presentations by staff from IMLS, NEH, and NHPRC all federal grant making agencies that support digital preservation and access projects. NEH has five new digital humanities initiatives and has since the 90’s been funding a number of digital projects like the Walt Whitman Archive and the Journals of Lewis and Clark. NHPRC is expecting to open a new program in digitizing historical records for a June 2008 deadline and has been funding electronic records projects aimed at building trusted digital repositories (planning and building the necessary infrastructure). IMLS is interested in funding the establishment of state-wide shared digital libraries to achieve economies of scale. They also believe that microfilm as a preservation option will be phased out over the next five years.

Pierre Gamache, Director General, Care of Collections, Library and Archives of Canada described a total reorganization of the National Library, Archives, and Portrait Gallery which was combined into one institution in June 2004. This was driven by digital issues and the need to make the institution much more pro-active in making Canadian heritage known. They do mass digitization of entire collections as well as thematic digitization. A Canadian Digital Information Strategy was produced in 2005 to be implemented in Fall 2007.

A second day was devoted to case studies of preservation of static and dynamic media. These covered everything from copyright issues to file format and resolutions, to storage and infrastructure building and the use of Digital Asset management Systems (systems that manage the workflow, production and migration).

Comments during discussion offered food for thought:

Jim Lindner, Director of Media Matters emphasized the importance of recording provenance for digital images. Because digital surrogates are so pervasive, their definition has become irrelevant- we cannot identify what is “original” in the digital world. What is important is provenance of digital image. Provenance gives the history of the image and therefore defines its authenticity.

Jason Love, NARA, recounted that the Supreme Court used to send NARA 1/4 inch tape. Now send recordings on flash cards which are very unstable. NARA must deal with new media as it comes in the door. In some ways this is less challenging than having to use older media and equipment. Not only are parts a problem, but finding people to run it is equally difficult.

Greg Lukow, Library of Congress, announced the opening of a National Audio Visual Conservation...
Center in Culpeper VA. See web for full information. This will be “a place of last resort” as it is expanding services to outside customers and partners, including archives, libraries and museums in both the public and private sectors- are buying up all old systems to use for parts.

Michael Hamilton, NARA- Is developing a way to process classified digital- the records of the 9/11 commission is a model NARA project.

Summary:
• All agreed that microfilm will be phased out as a preservation medium in about 5 years time.
• Audio preservation in now totally digital preservation.
• Film in now preserved as JPEG with an XM wrapper.
• Video is still problematic; currently it is digitized to tape, still evaluating storage formats. They are moving toward bit streams on servers, and will be looking at JPEG 2000 as it becomes available. The good news is that the cost of storing 1 hour of video is 4 times cheaper on digital tape, and the cost of digital migration is cheaper.