



Congressional Papers Roundtable

NEWSLETTER

Society of American Archivists

November 2008

From the Chair

Linda A. Whitaker

A Voice from the Desert: You Are Not Alone

What is an archivist/librarian from a small, non-profit repository like the Arizona Historical Foundation, doing as Chair of CPR? The answer lies in the fact that AHF has the Personal and Political Papers of Senator Barry M. Goldwater. This isn't the only political collection among its buried treasures, but in this election year it's the one people want to hear about. So, let me share some observations about reference, processing, and outreach in the belief that our story could be your story.

Access to the Goldwater papers has been an issue from the very beginning when Goldwater and several close associates founded AHF in 1959. This was not due to deed of gift restrictions - there weren't any.

Mostly, it was the untoward result of the AHF Director's initial charge. His primary task was to complete a family history started by the Senator years earlier. Although *The Goldwaters of Arizona* wasn't published until 1986, much of that original material was sequestered for exhib-

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SAA Annual Meeting , August 30, 2008. San Francisco, California

Congressional Papers Roundtable Business Meeting
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

The meeting began with a notice from the SAA Program Committee regarding session proposals for the 2009 meeting in Austin, Texas. The theme of the meeting will be "Sustainable Archives."

Kate Cruikshank introduced the CPR Steering Committee members, and then Jeff Thomas introduced the CPR nominees for vacant positions. For Vice-Chair/Chair Elect the sole nominee was Brian Keough. For Steering Committee there were three candidates for two vacant positions: Chris Burns, Julia Collins and Leigh McWhite. Ballots were distributed to all attendees at the meeting. CPR members were also asked to vote on a proposed amendment to the by-laws which would allow the Roundtable to implement electronic voting starting in 2009.

Matt Fulgham from the Center for Legislative Resources, NARA, gave an update on recent activities there. The Electronic Records Archive (ERA) was designed to ingest and manage electronic records. Its original design was intended for the transfer of born-digital records from federal agencies, however as more and more congressional committees are moving to all electronic records the use of the ERA is expanding. A major initiative for the CLR right now is the ongoing description of a backlog of materials. The Center hopes to provide a basic level of description for all House and Senate commit-

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its, articles, and special projects. Over time, it became scattered over the entire repository - buried, hidden, disconnected and unavailable to staff and researchers alike.

Subsequent deposits arrived piecemeal, were stored in various areas and moved multiple times. Significant portions were used to populate monograph, general ephemera and photograph collections. Although many of these items became accessible through a special database, they no longer had context or direct connections to the Goldwater papers as a whole.

Through the years, access philosophies fluctuated with leadership. Some researchers required approval while others were allowed to remove material from the repository at will. Multiple inventory lists were created but proved difficult to navigate based on shelving and box descriptions. Tensions and accusations mounted as items were reported missing. While access languished, research needs went largely unmet.

This stopped in 2004. Based on all deeds of gift, we declared the Goldwater papers open and accessible to all – processed, partly processed, unprocessed. We went public with a new website and a webpage about the Goldwater papers http://www.ahfweb.org/collections_bmg.htm. In short order, we began fielding **reference** questions from around the world, not to mention queries from archivists working with political papers.

Here's what we learned:

- Distance reference requires more time and more specificity. On average four email exchanges occur before materials can be pulled.
- Distance researchers are willing to pay for additional staff research time, copying costs, and faster delivery.
- Reference doesn't have to be perfect to be effective. Pull relevant materials in advance. Get the onsite researcher close enough and proceed from there.
- Reference is a partnership. Do an exit interview. Did expectations match reality? What worked? What didn't? We learn far more from researchers than they do from us.
- Researchers recognize and appreciate effort and interest in their projects even if we can't always

find what they are looking for. Ask them to tell you if they find it elsewhere. Most will be happy to share that information.

- These collections are big so think bigger. Connect researchers to government documents, other collections, repositories, disciplines and people who could provide oral histories or interviews on a specific topic.

We made **processing and outreach** an interactive, inter-changeable and transparent process by taking our work into the reading room and online. What sprung out of necessity due to staffing and space, now has become routine. It's not for everyone but it works for us.

Here's what we learned:

- These are high profile collections that have been created at public expense. There is a public need to know where these collections are and what is being done with them.
- Processing is poorly understood (and the time frame barely tolerated) by administrators, boards, outside funders, donors, researchers and library colleagues. Even "More Product Less Processing" takes time. We show them that we don't waste time or resources in getting the job done.
- Public processing provides a venue to teach and demonstrate basic processing skills. Very few get to see archivists in action. Most are surprised at the volume and the physical aspects of the work.
- It offers a unique opportunity to observe and interact with users. This in turn has informed us about certain description, access points, and processing priorities.
- It provides a continual feedback loop regarding condition and overall utility of materials pulled.
- It is proof positive of progress as tables empty and fill, boxes come and go, and the acid free folders pile up on the sidelines.

Even in its semi-processed state, we have incurred no theft, no losses, and no damage to the Goldwater collection.

AHF is the poster child for every obstacle and opportunity afforded a repository that stewards political papers. It is a case study of everything that could go wrong and course corrections

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tee records, while also looking for preservation issues and prioritizing processing of documents.

Robin Reeder from the House of Representatives Office of History and Preservation gave an update on recent activities in her office. There has been a major archival outreach program to House members and committee that has been very successful. In addition, Robin worked on H. Con. 307, a resolution encouraging members to preserve their papers. A previous electronic records initiative has turned into a task force at the recommendation of the House Clerk, and that task force has already had one meeting. CPR member Jeff Thomas was appointed to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress. The House Office of History and Preservation is also preparing for a large influx of records from the 110th Congress, as well as continuing to

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that went right. Since 2004, we have fielded numerous phone calls, referrals and emails about the Goldwater papers and congressional collections generally. If you look for the FAQs in the new *Managing Congressional Collections* manual, you may find some of your questions answered there. Ours is a no-nonsense approach. We put the researcher first. We innovate. We take risks. We encourage you to do the same. So, let's talk...

update the on-line Biographical Guide to Congress.

Karen Paul from the Senate Historical Office was unable to attend the meeting. Her report was read by Kate Cruishank. The report began with a description of the passage of passage of H.Con.Res.307.

The Secretary of the Senate has been sponsoring quarterly "brown bag" archives discussions that focus on a different topic in-depth. Topics have included designing templates for archiving, electronic records best practices, and most recently, managing e-mail. (All of the presidential candidates offices have been sending staff to participate.) We also have established an archivists listserv that we use to broadcast helpful news items. For example, we have been using it with some success to encourage offices to send staff to the NARA archives training institute. If your archives has something that you would like to publicize, please send the info to Karen Paul at Karen-paul@sec.senate.gov

Karen has the articles assembled and permissions given for the Congressional Archives Reader. Hope to be proceeding along with that project momentarily.

SHO has published *Presidents Pro Tem: Presidents Pro Tempore of the US Senate since 1789* with a preface by Robert C. Byrd. S.Pub 110-18. Individual entries include sections on the officials' education, non-senate career, observations about the

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Are you
subscribed to
the CPR
Listserv?



Forgot to join CPR
when you renewed
your SAA
membership?

Want to subscribe to
the CPR listserv?

Not an SAA member
but want to join
CPR?

Or having trouble
with all of the above?

Send an email to
serviceceter@archivists.org

Tell them what you
need and they will
get the job done.

www.archivists.org/listservs/

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person from publications, and further readings. Available from GPO or the Senate gift shop.

The two most recent oral histories to open are MICHAEL A. JOHNSON, Deputy Assistant Sergeant at Arms (1980-2006) and JOHN D. LANE, Administrative Assistant to Senator Brien McMahon (1949-1952) For a complete list see the Senate website.

There is a good article in the Boston Globe about the oral history project that Senator Kennedy is sponsoring at the Univ of VA Miller Center:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/connecticut/articles/2008/07/19/oral_history_promises_new_look_at_kennedy/

The Senate Historical Office is developing a new feature--"States in the Senate" --for the Senate website. In this collaborative project, the historians, historical editor, photo historian, and historical writer began researching and writing time-lines and selecting illustrative images for each of the 50 states, highlighting persons and events of the state's history that relate to the U.S. Senate. When complete, the project will present an interactive time-line for each state, with links to relevant documentary and visual material. It is designed to inform senators, staff, and constituents about their state's historical role in the Senate.

Also underway are two new documentary online features, a Documentary History of Senate Impeachment Trials and a Documentary History of Major Senate Investigations. In addition to a narrative history of each case, we are planning to include many original source documents (presented in facsimile, jpg or pdf images). We are interested in including relevant items from members' papers. Betty Koed is the contact.

Kate Cruishank gave an update on two pieces of legislation, H. Con. Res. 307, which was successfully passed and distributed to the membership at the meeting. CPR members were encouraged to also examine H.R. 6056: Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR) and contact their representatives.

Jeff Thomas unveiled the brand new SAA publication "Managing Congressional Collections" by Cynthia Pease Miller. The book was for sale in

the SAA bookstore for \$16. Since the last meeting, the book had undergone four major revisions before it was handed over to SAA in October.

The panel presentation was entitled "Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Restrictions and Policy Issues in Congressional Papers Collections." The first speaker was Leigh McWhite who spoke on her experiences developing privacy policies and deeds of gifts for the Modern Political Archives at the University of Mississippi.

After finding that the traditional deed of gift used by the archives did not encompass the privacy concerns and access restrictions typical to congressional collections, Leigh conducted a review of literature on privacy issues in archives. Viewpoints on how much responsibility the archives has to protect privacy are varying.

In writing a new policy, Leigh decided that some restrictions are necessary, especially for case files. Although congressional papers are not subject to privacy laws, however, most staffers working with case files do have to sign a confidentiality agreement.

Dorothy Hazeling spoke about her experiences processing the Senator Hiram Fong Papers at the University of Hawaii. The Senator gave no recommendation to the archives concerning privacy and confidentiality, forcing the archive to develop their own policies. Privacy issues were especially of concern in personnel files, service academy files and case files. One solution Dorothy used was to collect aggregate data to retain in the archive, then to shred the individual files.

Jan Zastrow then spoke on how she developed a privacy policy for the Fong Papers. Their policy outlines how information from protected record series can be used by researchers. It allows for a researcher to aggregate data, but not record any names or identifications of individuals.

2008 Meeting attendance

Pre-conference meeting: 24
Regular business meeting: 56

SAA Pre-Conference Meeting

"Congressional Collections: The Users Perspective

Wednesday, August 28, 2008, 10-11:30
San Francisco, CA

Sean Kelly and Scott Frisch are political science faculty from California State University-Channel Islands. They have recently authored a book entitled *Jimmy Carter and the Water Wars: Presidential Influence and the Politics of Pork* (Cambria Press, 2008). They were addressing the Roundtable as scholars and users of congressional papers.

After a brief introduction by Kate Cruikshank, CPR Chair, Sean Kelly began by explaining the different research methods used by political scientists. As opposed to historians, political scientists are focused on data and searching for statistical irregularities. Much of the research in political science is conducted outside of libraries, utilizing surveys and interviews.

Sean explained that data can come from a number of sources. Some examples he gave from congressional papers included letters from members of congress asking for committee appointments and constituent mail. Addressing the archival practice of sampling from large series such as constituent mail, Sean expressed concern that the sample may not represent the particular informa-

tion they would be looking for, such as geographical representation. At the same time, he recognized that archives face time and space considerations that effect processing decisions.

When asked about the arrangement of the collections he has used, Sean placed a much greater importance on description, saying that in the course of his research inadequate description has been the largest barrier to use of congressional papers.

Sean expressed frustration about restrictions placed on collections, saying that he wished there would be more case-by-case access granted to restricted collections. In addition, he said that unprocessed collections should not necessarily remain restricted just because they are un-processed.

Sean and Scott both found digitization of documents to be less useful than expected, and asked that resources not be wasted digitizing materials. Using the example of the Senator Heinz Papers (which have been digitized completely, they said that they do not trust digital documents and prefer to use the actual paper archives. They did say that digitizing materials for use in the classroom is an example of good digitization.

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Congressional Papers Guidelines Now Available



A project of the Society of American Archivists' Congressional Papers Roundtable and funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, *Managing Congressional Collections* serves the needs of administrators and archivists who work with these specialized collections.

The Guidelines include chapters on soliciting or donating congressional collections, administering a congressional collection, transferring papers, processing, and reference services and outreach. The Guidelines were written by founding Congressional Roundtable Member Cynthia Peace Miller.

Available through the SAA bookstore on-line, \$19.95.
<http://www.archivists.org/catalog/pubDetail.asp?objectID=2391>

News Flash!

Did you know that the Law and Political Science Section of Academic and College Research Libraries recently released new Political Science Research Competency Guidelines?

See this link
<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/PoliSciGuide.pdf>

While primary sources are only briefly mentioned, the table format is illustrative of how document types within congressional collections could be described. Our intrepid political scientists Sean Kelly and Scott Frisch from California State University Channel Islands are seeking a grant to create a similar resource for primary sources in their (and our) ongoing quest to get political scientists back into the archives.

We'll keep you posted on their progress. In fact, should they receive the grant, your input regarding this research tool will be key.

Black Americans in Congress

The Office of History and Preservation, Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives announces the publication of *Black Americans in Congress, 1870–2007*. The volume contains biographical profiles on each of the 121 African Americans to serve in Congress



Sen. Hiram Rhodes Revels

from Senator Hiram Revels of Mississippi and Representative Joseph Rainey of South Carolina in 1870, through the end of the first session of the 110th Congress. Contextual essays introduce four generations of Members, and 10 appendices provide information on a range of topics: African-Americans in Congress by state and by Congress; chairs of committees and subcommittees; and chairmen and chairwomen of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Black Americans in Congress is accompanied by a website (<http://baic.house.gov>) which features additional artifacts from the House Collection as well as lesson plans and classroom activities based on the book for students and teachers. *Black Americans in Congress* is available for sale through the Government Printing Office.

Additional books in this series include *Women in Congress, 1917–2006*, published by the Office of History and Preservation in March 2007.

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Sean and Scott answered a number of questions from CPR attendees. When asked how archivists should disseminate information about congressional papers they suggested that potential researchers be told as explicitly as possible how the papers may be of use to them. They remarked that most political scientists have never been trained how to do research in archives and libraries and that for many political scientists there is a potential for lost time and resources spent doing archival research that is not fruitful. Sean and Scott primarily use the Congress Biographical Guide in locating collections. In the course of their research sometimes they are looking for specific information and sometimes they find things accidentally that leads to future research.

In offering suggestion for archivists, Sean and Scott advised that copies of bills and published documents are among the least useful items in congressional collections. Items that would be of use, but are rarely found include oral histories and information of congressional office staff. They also suggested the potential for cooperation with Government Documents librarians.



INSTITUTIONAL UPDATES

Baylor University

On September 18, 2008, the W. R. Poage Legislative Library opened an exhibit of original editorial cartoons titled *Drawing Power*. The exhibit was a joint effort with Bob Darden, professor of journalism, who personally owned most of the 109 cartoons. The library partnered with the Waco Tribune-Herald, the Baylor departments of Journalism and American Studies, the Baylor Lecture Series, and the Bullock Archive. The exhibit showcases over 100 original cartoons from 18 cartoonists displayed in Moody, Jones, and Poage libraries. Erin Wolfe, our museum intern, worked for a year planning and creating the exhibit and coordinating related events through Bob Darden. Benna Ball and Mary Goolsby also worked tirelessly with Erin to pull everything together.

Guest cartoonists included Pulitzer Prize winner Ben Sargent of the Austin American Statesman, Bill DeOre, and Dan Foote. Clyde Peterson, aka CP Houston, was unable to attend because of Hurricane Ike.

Events began at 11:30 a.m. with a barbecue lunch in Castellaw Communications building hosted by the Department of Journalism. Cartoonists Ben Sargent, Dan Foote and Bill DeOre along with Dawna and Jerry Hamm arrived early in order to interact with students and guests during lunch.

The Reception started at 2:00 p.m. with opening remarks by Bob Darden, Dean Pattie Orr, and Ben Rogers. Attendees made their way through the exhibit dispersed throughout Moody, Jones, and Poage libraries. Student workers and library staff wearing *Drawing Power* t-shirts were stationed throughout the libraries to guide patrons from one floor to the next.

After the reception, the cartoonists participated in a panel discussion moderated by Bob Darden. Journalism students provided questions for the cartoonists related to their profession. Darden

concluded the event by asking the three visiting cartoonists to draw their favorite caricatures on the blackboard.

The Emmy Parrish Lecture Series activities began with a dinner in the Moody Library Allbritton foyer at 6:00 p.m. The Department in American Studies was the sponsor of this event with cartoonist Ben Sargent as guest speaker. His presentation took place in the renovated area on the Garden Level in front of the Ray I. Riley Digitization Center.



Poage Legislative Library has partnered with political collector and author Ben Guttery to publish *Representing Texas*. Ben Guttery is a Senior Program Manager with the Federal Aviation Administration in Fort Worth. His hobby since he was a teenager growing up in Austin, Texas, was collecting campaign buttons and political memorabilia. He has donated both these collections to Poage Library. [www.baylor.edu/lib/poage/guttery/index.php?id=57172] Mr. Guttery's first book *Encyclopedia of African Airlines* (McFarland & Co.) was published in 1998.

Representing Texas is a compendium of biographies of the men and women who have represented the state in the United States and Confederate Congresses. These biographies include infor-

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mation about the representative's birth, education, marriages, family, experiences, profession, elections, congressional record, and death records including burial site. In addition to the biographies there are lists of U.S. Senators by succession, U.S. Representatives by district, Representatives and Senators to the Confederate Congresses, Confederate Congressional Districts by county, U.S. Congress session dates, U.S. Congressional Districts by county, and Confederate Congress session dates. A complete set of U.S. Senate election returns and U.S. Representative election returns from Texas completes the work. Also included is a bibliography. The work was completed following interviews with living ex-members of Congress and current, sitting members of Congress from Texas. The work is the only one to address the topic specific to Texas and is valuable reference for any Texas library and any history or political researcher. There are also photographs of all but six congressmen.

Poage Library staff spent nine months updating the manuscript and preparing it for publication. It was published by a print-on-demand publisher, BookSurge, in Charleston, South Carolina for \$99. BookSurge is now owned by Amazon, so all books they published are listed in multiple online sites including Amazon. The library is using the book with The Standing Committee, our friends-of-the-library group and to promote the library with members of the Texas congressional delegation. All manuscripts and media materials for the book have been deposited in the library. Copies can be ordered online or through Poage Library for \$25 including shipping.

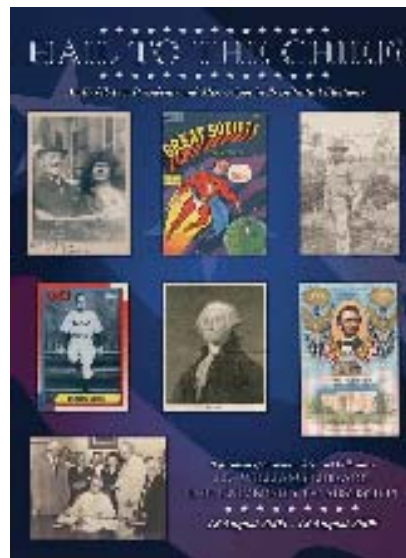
Ben Rogers, Poage Legislative Library

University of Mississippi

During an awards luncheon at its 2008 conference, the Mississippi Library Association gave special recognition to the U of M Libraries for its presidential debate programming stating "This unique project showcased the library's services and special collections and the utilization of technology. It presented a once in a lifetime event with

national/international implications."

The Modern Political Archives was involved in all aspects of the library's debate-related activities, which included an online Presidential



Debate Subject Guide; a series of three Brown Bag programs highlighting politically-related archival holdings; the installation of "Hail to the Chief!: An Exhibit on Presidents & Mississippi in Presidential Elections"; the publication of a *Keepsake of Presidential*

Portraits to commemorate the debate and use in library development; and hosting a reception for archives and library donors to officially open the exhibit.

The library submitted its award entry as an online website which now serves as a digital record of these activities (see http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/general_library/debate2008/).

Leigh McWhite

University of Hawaii

Jan Zastrow, head of the Archives & Manuscripts Department and Congressional Papers Archivist at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Library, is taking a one-year professional leave of absence to work as archivist in the office of Democratic Majority Leader Senator Harry Reid. She began her new post Oct. 1 and will return to Honolulu Sept. 30, 2009.

Jan is enjoying all the professional development opportunities the Metro DC area has to offer, particularly the ability to interact daily with other Capitol Hill archivists on some of the unique challenges of the records of Congress, especially electronic records. Her new email is Jan_Zastrow@reid.senate.gov.

Willamette University

Willamette University's Archives and Special Collections announces the opening of the Dennis A. "Denny" Smith Papers. The collection documents Smith's service in the US House of Representatives (Oregon, Second and Fifth Districts) from 1981 to 1991. Smith, a native of Ontario, Oregon, was first elected as a Republican to the Ninety-seventh Congress in 1980 to serve Oregon's Second District. The 1980 census gave Oregon another congressional district and in 1982 Smith was elected as the first representative from Oregon's Fifth Congressional District. While in Congress, Smith sat on the Budget Committee, the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and the Veteran's Affairs Committee. In the early 1980s Smith focused on Pentagon spending. In January, 1984, he was successful in forcing further testing of the Aegis guided-missile cruiser. Later that year the Divad (division air defense) program was shut down as a result of Smith's investigation into overspending and poor test results. After an unsuccessful campaign in 1990, he was succeeded by Democrat Mike Kopetski. In 1994, Smith was the Republican nominee for governor of Oregon and lost to Democrat John Kitzhaber. Since leaving Congress, Smith has served as chairman of Eagle Newspapers, a family owned newspaper business, and has remained active in local and national politics.

The Dennis A. "Denny" Smith papers document Smith's campaigns from 1980 through 1990 and his legislative and voting record representing Oregon in the 97th Congress through the 101st Congress. The collection also contains materials collected by the Friends of Denny Smith (FODS) including press clippings from 1981 to 1990. The Daily Schedule file sorters in the Personal/Political series contain a detailed record of appointments, invitations, and roll calls for Smith from 1985 to 1990. This collection is open to researchers.

Finding aid at: <http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/findaid/ark:/80444/xv06863>

Willamette University's Archives and Special Collections is also pleased to announce that the Michael J. Kopetski Papers are now open to researchers. These records document Congressman

Kopetski's career as a member of the US House of Representatives (Oregon, Fifth District) from 1991 to 1995. During his time in Congress, Kopetski sat on the Agricultural Committee and the Ways and Means Committee. He worked on bills dealing with MFN (Most Favored Nation) status for China, nuclear weapons testing, and the Forest and Community Survival Act of 1991. Kopetski was the point person responsible for successfully getting NAFTA through the House of Representatives in 1993. He also worked closely with Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield to get the Opal Creek National Reserve legislation through the House in 1993. He was not a candidate for reelection in 1995. Since leaving Congress, Kopetski has worked as a lobbyist.

The bulk of the Michael J. Kopetski papers consist of materials generated and received by the office of Kopetski during his two terms representing Oregon's Fifth District in the U.S. House of Representatives including: constituent and issue mail; roll call votes and voting records; campaign files for the 1988, 1990, and 1992 congressional elections; press releases and speeches; legislative and committee files; and audio and visual materials. Records generated and received by Kopetski's office during his two terms in the Oregon State Legislature are also in the collection. This collection is open to researchers.

Finding aid at: <http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/findaid/ark:/80444/xv39691>

Mary McKay

Congratulations new CPR Steering Committee Members!

**Brian Keough, Vice-Chair/Chair Elect
SUNY Albany**

**Chris Burns
University of Vermont**

**Leigh McWhite
University of Mississippi**

University of South Carolina

Construction is underway on a new state-of-the-art home for SCPC. The three story building should be completed by Spring 2010 and will provide approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of space to be shared by SCPC and the University's Rare Books and Special Collections unit.

SCPC has inaugurated a blog designed to excite interest in studying contemporary South Carolina. Staff will post at least one entry each week announcing newly opened collections, exhibits and other events; featuring photographs and other materials we seek help in identifying; discussing issues documented in one or more collections; and sharing favorite quotes and documents. Visit our blog at <http://scpoliticalcollections.blogspot.com/>

Among the new collections being received by SCPC are the papers of John Drummond. Drummond is South Carolina's senior state senator, has served in the Senate since 1967, and was president pro tempore from 1996 to 2001. Drummond is among South Carolina's most famous WWII veterans. He saw action as a fighter pilot in the European Theater and was shot down over Germany in 1944 and held for ten months in a German POW camp. SCPC currently houses over 85 collections.

Herb Hartsook

University of New Mexico

The papers of Joseph M. Montoya are now available for research. The finding aid to the collection is available at: <http://rmoa.unm.edu/docviewer.php?docId=nmumss386bc.xml>

Joseph Montoya was elected to the Eighty-fifth Congress in 1957. He served four successive terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He resigned in November 1964 after being elected to fill Senator Dennis Chavez' remaining unexpired term. Montoya's first full term as U.S. Senator began in January 1965. He attained powerful positions on the Appropriations and Public Works Committees, the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activi-

ties, notably serving as Watergate Committee member and IRS Hearings chair.

Throughout his career, Senator Montoya authored, co-sponsored, or actively supported legislation in the areas of civil rights, consumer protection, the elderly, agriculture, environmental protection, economic development, equal opportunity, education, health, and veterans. In 1976 he was defeated for office by Harrison "Jack" Schmitt. The Center for Southwest Research is part of the University Libraries, University of New Mexico. For more information:

cswrref@unm.edu

<http://elibrary.unm.edu/cswr/index.php>

Beth Silbergleit

New Mexico State University

Work has begun on the papers of Senator Pete V. Domenici in the newly established Political Papers Archives at New Mexico State University. With more than 2,100 boxes already in house, and several hundred more expected before the end of the year, the Political Papers Archives has a very large presence.

The majority of the material – over 2,000 boxes – arrived at the University in November 2007. During the summer of 2008, archives staff members managed the Herculean task of wrestling the boxes onto new shelving in numerical order, condensing the amount of occupied space by a large percentage, and unwrapping and checking most of the memorabilia.

In the meantime, the search for an archivist was ongoing. On August 18, Cary G. Osborne, MLIS, arrived to fill that position. A recent graduate of the University of Oklahoma, she arrived just at the beginning of the first annual Public Policy Conference, which will be one of the cornerstones of the Domenici Public Policy Institute. The conference was held in honor of Senator Domenici, who will be retiring from the Senate at the end of the current term.

Once the conference was concluded, work began in earnest on the organization and process-

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ing of thousands of documents, hundreds of pieces of memorabilia, and hundreds of tapes, DVDs, and other A/V items. The collection spans a career of 36 years or six terms in the U.S. Senate, and encompasses chairmanships of major committees, two major military campaigns, and the current financial crisis among many other issues.

Major series within the collection will include those issues on which the Senator worked tirelessly much of his career. Among them were the federal budget, energy, nuclear proliferation, and mental health. Papers from the regional offices will be in separate series according to their locations.

The hundreds of pieces of memorabilia include plaques, framed pictures, flags, paper weights, decorative items, and so many more. Most of these have been opened and examined, some found in need of repair or clean up, then re-wrapped for safe keeping. Eventually they will be restored where needed, and displayed in the new facility, probably on a rotating basis.

Anyone with questions or suggestions or who would like to discuss any aspect of this or other congressional archives can reach Cary at iroschi@nmsu.edu.

Cary G. Osborne

South Dakota State University

The semi-trailer rig containing the physical bulk of the Thomas A. Daschle Congressional Career Papers left Washington D.C. at approximately 9 a.m., Friday December 10, 2004 and arrived at South Dakota State University early the next week. The 26 pallets on board represented the papers (1000+ ft.), media and artifacts from the Suitland NARA and offices in the Hart Building and the Capitol. In the weeks that followed, deliveries from Denver NARA (560 ft.), 3 South Dakota state offices and personal residences arrived to supplement the original delivery. A separate effort to collect the digital parts of the collection resulted in the delivery of a filled external hard drive and several hundred DVD's. In all, slightly in excess of a Terabyte of data.

Most of the papers eventually landed in the

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University of Kansas

Archivists at the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics completed processing the Dole House of Representatives Papers, 1960-1968 over the summer. The collection documents Senator Dole's first eight years in national politics and contains



exciting glimpses of what would become the major accomplishments of his 28 year career in the Senate. Agriculture, nutrition and education are heavily represented subject areas as well as files documenting local and state politics.

The finding aid for the House Papers as well as the complete folder level finding aid for the Dole Photograph Collection are available on-line through our Archon database. <http://www2.ku.edu/~archon/cgi-bin/index.php>

The House Papers were used heavily during the fall semester by University of Kansas students enrolled in the "Historians Craft." Students were required to conduct research in the Dole Archive using an abbreviated finding aid supplied to them in advance.

Morgan Davis, Senior Archivist, began work at the Dole Institute in May 2008, followed by two new Assistant Archivists Catherine Riggs and Robert Lay. These archivists join Archivist for Media and Exhibits, Judy Sweets.

Morgan R. Davis

core stacks of the old library on campus. Parts of this space had been unused for more than 20 years. The initial clean-up process for this area was interesting, as was the process of adapting core-stack shelving for archival storage. Inventory and stabilization of the collection began immediately. Environmentally sensitive material – a/v and digital media, photographs and organic artifacts – were stored in the H.M. Briggs library, a considerably more modern facility located a few blocks from the old library.

Staffing was provided, and formal processing began in September of 2005. This initially focused on the physical part of the collection. The immediate goals for the digital portion were to back up all of the data on a 2-Terabyte RAID located in the archives office. This began as soon as the first files were received (January 2005) and continued as material became available. The bulk of this collection is made up of 466 Gigabytes of digitized media clips, with a date range from 1994 to 2004. Another 200+ GB arrived stored on an external hard-drive shipped from Brookings to Washington, filled and returned to Brookings. The remainder of the digital collection came as CD's and 3.5" floppies.

Processing procedures began using standard archival practice. This didn't work, in that close estimates of a timeline for completion were measured in decades (the results of this phase are, however, very handsome). After processing the earliest part of the collection (the House years), our processing technique for the Senate papers changed to a modification of the so-called MP-LP system. In addition, some refinements of other parts of the material-handling process were similarly streamlined – e.g., we dropped a 17-step process of putting Mylar-covered labels on

the boxes and bought some large stamps and markers at a local business supply store.

The current inventory of the physical collection is 1029 processed boxes, 268 unprocessed boxes of clippings files, and 405 unprocessed boxes of constituent files. The clippings files are awaiting integration with a digital clippings index. The constituent files (retained on the Archivist's advice (me) and at the Senator's request), will be appraised for retention on an item-by-item basis, and processed separately. The digital part of the collection will likely grow by about 25% as we convert analog media to digital storage. A more aggressive approach has been invented on-site to process the digital material, and materials will be indexed and migrated to accessible formats as they are



Core stacks at South Dakota State University



Senator Tom Daschle

processed over the coming 2 years. The collection also includes more than 20,000 photographs and several hundred artifacts, ranging from award plaques to a full-size winter-count buffalo robe.

The physical papers are scheduled to come on-line sometime in 2009. The processing of the papers themselves has been completed to the folder level. Staff are now verifying the folders – some 67,000 of them – to check labels against the db and institute whatever final repairs and corrections are necessary. Additional steps include continuing to bring the digital materials online, and providing adequately furnished and equipped physical space for researchers. The 'final' objective – we'll be updating the collection for years – is to have the digital materials available online, as well as a searchable pdf of the complete physical collection database to the folder level.

Stephen Van Buren, PhD, C.A.

Tarleton State University

Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas has begun to process the Charles W. Stenholm Congressional papers with the hiring of a Collections Archivist. Stenholm was a conservative Democrat who represented Texas' conservative 32 county, 17th District (Abilene) for 26 years (1979-2005). A member of the House Committee on Agriculture for his entire Congressional career, Stenholm became the committee's ranking Democrat during his last 8 years ending in 2004. He was founder and co-chair of the conservative Democratic Blue Dog Coalition. During the 1980's, Stenholm was a leader of the Boll Weevils, a coalition of southern members of the House who defected as a group from the Democratic party to vote with Republicans on budgetary and tax bills. He also organized the Conservative Democratic Forum during the Reagan administration. Called the "godfather of fiscal austerity," Stenholm's consistent push for fiscal responsibility in the federal budget resulted in House passage of his Balanced budget Constitutional Amendment in the 104th Congress, but was defeated by one vote in the Senate.

The Stenholm papers are currently housed in 359 boxes (448.75 linear feet) and consist of subject and case files, correspondence, photographs, video tapes and CDs; agricultural, defense, and energy issues; the Conservative Democratic Forum; and President Clinton's impeachment.

Gary Spurr

Louisiana State University

In 2004, former Senator John Breaux (D-LA) donated his congressional papers to the LSU Libraries Special Collections, and the following year, processing of the collection began, thanks to a \$297,600 grant from the U. S. Department of Education. The grant ended in October, and processing of the majority of the collection is complete. The finding aid will shortly be available at <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/ppapers.html>.

In 1972 John Breaux was elected as a Democrat to represent the Seventh District of Louisiana in the U. S. House of Representatives in a special election to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Representative Edwin Edwards. Upon his election he became the youngest member of the U.S. Congress at the age of 28. Congressman Breaux served on three committees and one subcommittee: the House Select Committee on Committees, the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee (of which he became the senior member), the House Public Works and Transportation Committee, and the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment (of which he was chairman). To address the problem of wetlands loss, Breaux and Senator Malcolm Wallop (R-WY) authored an amendment to the Sport Fish Restoration Act (known as the Wallop-Breaux Amendment) that increased the excise tax on sport fishing products in order to provide funds for wetlands restoration projects not only in Louisiana, where wetlands loss was the greatest of any other state, but nationwide. Breaux served in the House of Representatives for fourteen years.

(Continued on page 14)

Are you interested in CPR leadership?

The Nominating Committee is in the process of identifying candidates for Chair-elect and two slots on the steering committee for the 2009-2010 year.

If you are interested, please contact Kate Cruikshank, cruiksha@indiana.edu, tel. 812-856-4601. It would be helpful if you could include a summary of your experience and interests with regard to congressional papers and your thoughts on how you would like to see the Congressional Papers Roundtable develop. Help us chart the future of the CPR!

(Continued from page 13)

In 1986 Breaux was elected to the U. S. Senate to replace the retiring Senator Russell Long. His main concern while in the Senate continued to be the preservation and restoration of wetlands, which led to the passage of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, S. 3252 (also called the Breaux Act). The act established a fund to support wetlands restoration projects using the same excise tax strategy as the Wallop-Breaux Amendment. Since it was only authorized for ten years in 1990, Breaux introduced S. 1119 in 1999, which reauthorized the Breaux Act until 2009. Before leaving office in 2005, Breaux pushed through S. 2495 once again reauthorizing the Breaux Act and providing funding until 2019.

As a senator Breaux served on several committees including Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Finance; Senate Rules; various subcommittees; and the Special Committee on Aging, of which he was chairman. In 1996 Breaux was instrumental in the passage of the welfare reform and health insurance reform bills. He chaired the National Bi-Partisan Commission on the Future of Medicare and co-chaired the National Commission on Retirement Policy where he fought to strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

Breaux was also an important leader in the Democratic Party. In 1993 his colleagues elected him to the position of Deputy Majority Whip, which he would hold for the remainder of his career. He was also a founder of the Centrist Coalition and a founder and chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, an organization advancing a progressive agenda for Democratic politicians. Breaux remained in the Senate until his retirement early in 2005.

The John B. Breaux Papers consists of four subgroups—U.S. Senate Office Files, Campaign Files, Social Files, and U.S. House of Representatives Files. The first three subgroups have received extensive processing; the House subgroup, consisting of 251 boxes, will receive minimal processing and box level description. In addition to the usual paper formats found in a Congressional papers collection, the Breaux Collection contains photographs, microfilm, VHS tapes (31 boxes), audio tapes, CDs, DVDs, maps, memorabilia, monographs and scrapbooks.

The Senate Office Files document his dealings with fellow senators and representatives, meetings of the commissions and committees on which he served, voting records within the Senate, research materials on important issues, and Democratic Party activities. The files kept by Senator Breaux's legislative staff are included here, especially those of his projects director, Johnny Broussard. The subgroup also contains press materials, which include a photographic collection of Senator Breaux's period in office. Some of the issues covered in the Senate Files include the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Central American Free Trade Act (CAFTA), healthcare reform, waterways and fisheries, taxes, Social Security, welfare reform, base closures in Louisiana, military construction, oil and natural gas, preservation and conservation of wildlife and its environment, and homeland security.

A major portion of the collection consists of case files which contain personal information of constituents. The processing team decided to examine that section for personal information and discard it rather than restrict it. Since that type of information can also be found in other parts of the collection and after researching the issue on the Congressional Papers Roundtable, a use form was created to ensure the privacy of individuals. When they sign the use form, researchers agree to use sensitive or personal information only in statistical aggregate, not to reproduce in any way any personal information, and not to publish direct quotes or entire forms of personal information.

Processing of the collection began in August 2005, with the processing team consisting of Faye Phillips, Project Director; Phyllis Kinnison, Project Archivist; and Jacob Kimrey and Alanna Skinner, Library Associates. When the project concluded in October, those working on the project included Phyllis Kinnison, Project Archivist; Robert Lay, Jr., Library Associate, and Tara Laver, Curator of Manuscripts. More information about the project is available at <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/breaux.html>.

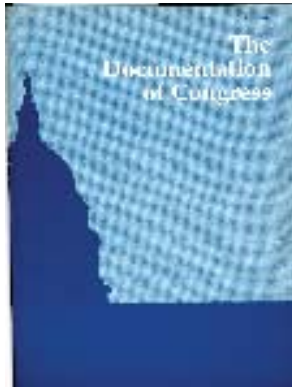
In addition to the continuing work on the House papers, plans for a Fall 2009 exhibition and opening are ongoing.

Phyllis Kinnison and Robert Lay



News Round-Up

Out of Print Publication Now Available On-line



The Documentation of Congress: Report of the Congressional Archivists Roundtable Taskforce on Congressional Documentation was published in 1992.

This 191 page report “establishes a working definition of the ‘functions’ of Congress, analyses and evaluates the sources that

document these functions and makes recommendations that are designed to strengthen and improve the preservation of the documentary record of Congress.”

The publication had been made available through the Internet Archive under a Creative Commons public domain license. You may download the PDF at <http://www.archive.org/details/TheDocumentationOfCongress> .

Historic Campaign Ads From the NBC news Archives



Campaign ads from the 1950s through the the 1970s are now available free of charge through the iCUE portal at hulu.com.

The videos are available at <http://www.hulu.com/historic-campaign-ads> (via <http://www.spellboundblog.com>)

SAA Scholarship & Awards Nominations

Each year the Society of American Archivists sponsors an awards competition to recognize achievements in the archival profession. Winners are selected by subcommittees of the SAA Awards Committee. Awards are presented during a ceremony held in late summer at the SAA Annual Meeting.

You may nominate individuals and institutions for a variety of awards recognizing distinguished service, publications, advancements in archival description, archival advocacy and many other areas.

Deadline for most award nominations is February 28, 2008. Please see the SAA Awards website for more information or to download a nomination form. <http://www.archivists.org/recognition/awards.asp>

CRS Web Harvesting Project

Stanford University has begun using Archive-It, a service of the Internet Archive to collect and curate reports from the Congressional Research Service.

From their description: “Congressional Research Service (CRS) is a “think tank” that provides research reports to members of Congress on a variety of topics relevant to current political events. However, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) does not provide direct public access to its reports, nor are they released to the public via the Federal Library Depository Program (FDLP). There are several organizations that collect and give access to subsets of published CRS Reports. This collection attempts to bring all CRS Reports together in one place.”

The collection can be viewed at <http://www.archive-it.org/collections/1078>.

