



Congressional Papers Roundtable

NEWSLETTER

Society of American Archivists

June 2010

From the Chair

by Brian Keough

Before you know it, we will be enjoying Washington DC and the SAA 2010 conference. I have just returned from the 2010 annual conference of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC) that was held on May 19-21.

The ACSC was founded in 2003 as an independent alliance of organizations and institutions which promote the study of the U.S. Congress and each year presents a wonderful schedule of sessions of interest to us all. This year was no exception as the ACSC program committee organized a number of exciting sessions. In particular, I really enjoyed the session with three former Members of Congress, Martin Frost (D-TX), Louis Stokes (D-OH), and Robert Walker (R-PA), who took an active interest in donating their papers and who shared their observations on the process. It was very useful to hear the perspectives of members and all three had some great stories to tell the audience.

The other session that I did not want to end was a panel of journalists from *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Hill*. I surely benefited from listening to the details about their daily activities as journalists covering Congress, hearing how they utilize the House and Senate History offices and got me thinking about the usefulness of journalist's papers.

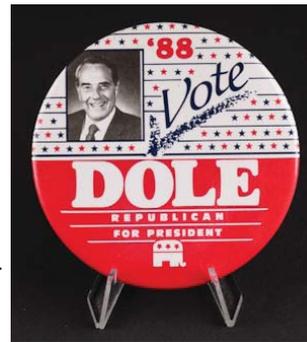
The final day of the conference featured an inspiring talk by David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States. We are lucky to have

(Continued on page 4)

Congressional Papers Roundtable Elections July 6-20, 2010

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce **your** 2010 CPR candidates for Chair-Elect and Steering Committee. We are especially proud of the fact that these candidates represent the full spectrum of archival experience (2 years to 25+ years). They work in geographically dispersed locations (literally spanning the continental U.S. and beyond) and have diverse educational backgrounds and responsibilities. The tie that binds is a commitment to and passion for congressional collections.

In short, these individuals are us. Choosing one for Chair-Elect and two for the Steering Committee won't be easy so we are giving the CPR membership plenty of time to deliberate. Please feel free to contact the candidates if you want to know them better or to learn more. The



Memorabilia from the collection of the Dole Institute

statements are brief by design.

At its August 2009 meeting, the SAA Council approved revised policies concerning group elections. The pertinent language from the Council Handbook may be reviewed online at archivists.org/governance/handbook/section9.asp

and archivists.org/governance/handbook/section10.asp.

The voting timeline comes later than last year for CPR but the online ballots will be available longer from July 6-20, 2010. We will announce the election results as soon as they are known to insure a smooth transition. **Please see candidate bios and statements on Page 2.**

*Linda A. Whitaker, Chair
Betsy Pittman
Lori Schwartz*

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Congressional Papers Roundtable Candidate Statements

Candidates for Chair-Elect

The chair, vice-chair/chair-elect, and the immediate past chair serve as officers of the roundtable. Only individual members of SAA and the Congressional Papers Roundtable may hold these positions.

The chair directs and reports the activities of the roundtable, organizes and conducts the annual meeting of the roundtable, chairs the steering committee, acts as liaison for the roundtable to other bodies, appoints roundtable committees as needed, chairs the Program Committee, and handles administrative matters.

The vice-chair/chair-elect serves as acting chair in the absence of the chair and participates as a member of the steering committee in all its activities.

The immediate past chair serves as a member of the steering committee and as chair of the Nominating Committee.

The officers make a commitment for three years to serve one year each as vice-chair/chair-elect, chair, and immediate past chair. Each is expected to attend the annual meeting.

Name James F. Cartwright, MA, MS, MLIS
Title University Archivist
Institution University of Hawai'i

Education

BA, English, Brigham Young University
MA, English Literature, Brigham Young University
MS, History, University of Utah
MLIS, University of California, Berkeley

Experience with Congressional Papers

Member, CPR, 1992- present
Steering Committee, 1997-1999
Author, [Reference Works for Congressional Papers Repositories: A Bibliographic Essay](#)
Chair, Committee for Planning Senator Spark Matsunaga Papers at University of Hawai'i

What do you bring to the CPR chairmanship?

Through experience in SAA roundtables and Association of Hawaii Archivists, I have learned leadership skills of listening to various options and facilitating discussion leading to consensus and decision making.

What would you like CPR to do in next four years?

Not having been directly involved with any of our congressional papers for several years, I do not know of all the recent developments and issues facing congressional papers collections. I will spend much of my time as vice chair/ chair elect learning what issues and programs need attention and discovering how I can most effectively channel our efforts. I will always be open to suggestions from members of the roundtable.

Name Ben Rogers, MS, MA
Title Director
Institution W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University

Education

BA History, College of Charleston, Charleston SC
MS, Information Science, University of North Texas, Denton TX
MA, Church Music, Southwestern Seminary
MA ,Theology, Southwestern Seminary

Experience with Congressional Papers

Collections Manager, Baylor Collections of Political Materials, 1991-2002
Director, W. R. Poage Legislative Library since 2002
Oversee all aspects of the library, two other full-time employees and up to 12 student workers
See Collection Overview: <http://www.baylor.edu/lib/poage/index.php?id=58750>

What do you bring to the CPR Chairmanship?

I hope my twenty years experience with congressional papers will offer some insight for others faced with the task of processing large amounts of materials. I have also worked to make the legislative library visible through lecture, exhibits and events as well as developing an extensive web presence for all collections. Perhaps I can provide some input into working with other departments on campus to promote the collections.

What would you like CPR to do in the next four years?

I envision CPR reaching out to libraries and archives which hold congressional papers but do not have the resources to make them available through EAD or web pages. These collections are basically lost to researchers. Members of CPR could mentor these collections so that there is some online searchable record of them.

Candidate Statements, continued

Candidates for Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is composed of 10 members: the officers (chair, vice-chair/chair-elect, and the immediate past chair); four member representatives (two elected per year for two-year terms); and one representative each from the Office of History and Preservation of the House of Representatives, the Senate Historical Office, and the Center for Legislative Archives of the National Archives. The newsletter editor and the web editor serve as ex officio members (unless they also hold elected positions).

The Steering Committee directs and coordinates activities of the roundtable and approves appointments made by the chair if vacancies occur. Committee members help set agenda for the year, appoint a newsletter editor as necessary and contribute to the newsletter and to other activities, plan the annual program and SAA program sessions sponsored by the roundtable. Steering Committee members are expected to attend the annual meeting.

Name Burt Altman, MA, MLS, CA
Title Archivist/University Librarian
Institution Florida State University Libraries

Education

BA, Political Science, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York
MLS, Library Science, C.W. Post Center, Greenvale, New York
MA, History, Adelphi University, Garden City, New York
Certified Archivist

Experience with Congressional Papers

Since 1981, I have served as the Congressional Archivist for the Claude Pepper Library, at the Florida State University Libraries. I arranged, described, preserved, and created a finding aid for the Claude Pepper Papers. In addition, I developed and implemented a digitization project for this collection to enhance access to the late Senator's U.S. Senate Papers.

What do you bring to the CPR Steering Committee?

As a Steering Committee member, I feel that I would provide experience and fresh ideas in developing proposals for the roundtable program and SAA sessions sponsored by the roundtable. I would also be happy to make periodic contributions to the newsletter.

What would you like CPR to do in next four years?

During the next four years, I feel that CPR will become more actively involved in advocacy efforts. In addition, CPR will be more directly address Congressional Papers management issues, such as the appraisal, arrangement, description, and preservation of electronic records in these collections.

Name Chrystal Carpenter, MA, CA
Title Manuscript and Congressional Archivist
Institution University of Arizona Libraries, Special Collections

Education

BA, Anthropology, University of Arizona
MA, Information Resources and Library Science, University of Arizona

Experience with Congressional Papers

I joined Special Collections in the fall of 2008 to oversee the acquisition, processing, and research inquiries for congressional and political collections. The University of Arizona's holdings include Stewart L. Udall, Morris K. Udall, Dennis DeConcini, and Jim Kolbe among others. Member, CPR Electronic Records Task Force.

What do you bring to the CPR steering committee?

I would like to bring to the CPR steering committee my enthusiasm and passion for archives, my desire to promote and provide access to congressional collections, and my interest in electronic records.

What would you like CPR to do in the next four years?

I would like to see the continuation of progress by CPR in providing resources and standards for electronic records as well as an emphasis on outreach and public programming to promote the diverse resources found in congressional records. As a newer member of CPR, I would like to see us strengthen the connections with our fellow colleagues, as they are invaluable for their knowledge and experience.

Contact the Candidates

Chair-Elect (one position)

Jim Cartwright jimc@hawaii.edu
Ben Rogers Ben_Rogers@baylor.edu

Steering Committee (two positions)

Burt Altman baltman@fsu.edu
Chrystal Carpenter burkec@u.library.arizona.edu
Cary Osborne iroshi@lib.nmsu.edu
Jacque Sundstrand jsund@unr.edu

Candidate Statements, continued

Candidates for Steering Committee

Name Cary G. Osborne, MLIS
Title Political Papers Archivist
Institution New Mexico State University Library,
Archives and Special Collections

Education

BA (summa cum laude), Mary Baldwin College, Staunton,
Virginia
MLIS, University of Oklahoma

Experience with Congressional Papers

I served as graduate assistant in the Carl Albert Research Center, processing papers in the Congressional Archives for 20 months. After graduation, I was offered and accepted the position of Political Papers Archivist at New Mexico State University. For nearly two years, I have been processing the papers of Senator Pete V. Domenici.

What do you bring to the CPR Steering Committee

I would help remind long-time members of the excitement and eagerness new archivists feel as they begin their careers. As a member of the Steering Committee, I would hope to increase awareness of the value of congressional archives and the visibility of such resources to both researchers and members of Congress.

What would you like to see the CPR do in the next four years?

I would like to see the CPR play a more active role in liaising between politicians and congressional archivists, including helping a larger number of archivists meet potential donors of papers at all levels of government. Continuing the high quality programs at the annual conference is a must as they bring together archivists under both professional and social conditions that promote networking. I would also like to see a mentoring program for new members that will help smooth out their beginnings.

Name Jacque Sundstrand, MA, MSLS
Title Manuscripts & Archives Librarian
Institution Special Collections Department,
University of Nevada, Reno

Education

MSLS, with honors, University of Southern California
MA, History, University of California, Riverside

Experience with Congressional Papers

My work with congressional papers began in 2001 when I came to the Special Collections Dept. at the University of Nevada, Reno. The department already had three processed congressional collections (both House and Senate) but there were three more senators' papers waiting in the wings. I have nearly completed Senator Richard Bryan's papers. We also have an agreement of deposit with Majority Leader Senator Harry Reid.

What do you bring to the CPR Steering Committee?

I have a healthy, sometimes fearful, respect for these large and complex congressional collections and an inquiring mind. While it's an honor to have these papers it's also a challenge and a humbling experience to find out how little you know about the inner workings of these political offices. Consequently, this knowledge leads one to consider how to deal with these papers but to question if your decisions are the best ways to do so. I value the written information I've found in the professional literature but even more so the knowledge that other colleagues have shared at the CPR meetings and listserv.

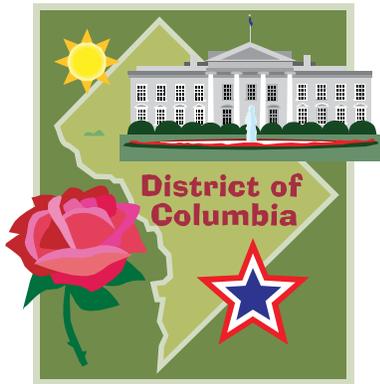
What would you like CPR to do in the next four years?

Help document the advice and mentoring of experienced CPR colleagues from the CPR listserv through more written guidelines, articles and "best practices." Also strengthen relationships between researchers and repositories to increase use of these papers.

(Continued from page 1)

am accomplished librarian and the helm of our profession. Overall, the ACSC conference was a wonderful experience, providing not only an opportunity to catch up with colleagues, but also a chance to have a few meetings with members of the New York's Congressional delegation. If you have not attended an ACSC conference and you have Congressional Papers, I encourage you to attend the May 2011 conference.

Speaking of conferences, I also attend the recent MARAC conference held in Wilmington, DE, and while there attended a session by Karen Paul, Sheryl Vogt, and Betsy Pittman where they spread the word about the great work of Congressional archivists. Karen Paul gave a detailed timeline and update on the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress. Sheryl Vogt, current president of the ACSC, described the interdisciplinary goals of that body. Betsy Pittman concluded the session with a discussion of a collaborative idea that is in development to create a model Encoded Archival Context (EAC) project.



SAA CPR Pre-Conference Schedule Wednesday, August 11, 2010

The Congressional Papers Roundtable (CPR) will present its SAA pre-conference activities on Wednesday August 11, 2010. The Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives will be our host for a morning program and for the annual CPR Business meeting. The lunch and Capitol Visitors Center tour require an RSVP, so please let me know if you is below and also available at the CPR web page: <http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/cpr/events.asp>

Wednesday August 11, 2010

**9:00-11:30 am: Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives Building, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.
Program:**

- Matt Fulgham. Welcome and presentation on the Center for Legislative Archive
- Jan Zastrow, Archivist for Senator Harry Reid, "Survey of Senate Archivists"
 - Tour National Archives Collections and Vault

11:30-12:30 Networking lunch. National Archives Building, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Boxed lunches (RSVP required*)

12:30-2:30 pm: CPR Business Meeting. National Archives Building, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.

Agenda:

- Chair report
- Steering Committee Introductions
- CPR election results (Linda Whitaker)
 - Karen Paul (Senate)
 - Robin Reeder (House)
- Matt Fulgham (Center for Legislative Archives)
 - Sheryl Vogt (ACSC)
 - Tom Hyry (SAA Council)
- E-records task force report (Leigh McWhite)
- "Envisioning the Future for the CPR Web site in the new Drupal Environment" (Jill Severn and Robin Reeder)
- CHARM (Capitol Hill Archivists and Records Managers)

2:30-3:00 pm: travel to National Archives Building to Capitol Visitors Center

3:00-4:30 pm: Capitol Visitors Center tour with Curators (RSVP required*)

4:45 - 6:30 pm: CPR Steering Committee Meeting. Hart Senate Office Building 801A, located on Constitution Avenue between 1st and 2nd streets, NE

Agenda:

- Welcome and introductions
- 2011 pre-conference ideas – Chicago
 - Session proposals
 - E-Task force

***RSVP is required for the lunch and for the Capitol Visitors Center tour.
Please email Brian Keough by August 1, bkeough@albany.edu**

Richard A. Baker Graduate Student Travel Grant

The [Association of Centers for the Study of Congress](#) is now accepting applications for the 2010 Richard A. Baker Graduate Research Travel Grant. The grant supports graduate-level research conducted at member repositories of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC) ([eligible research sites](#)). An award of up to \$500 may be used to underwrite travel, lodging, copying and other research expenses.

Each application will be evaluated on its merits. Primary consideration will be given to projects involving the substantive study of issues related to the study of Congress. Each proposal should be aimed at a discrete end product such as a book, dissertation, thesis, article, docu-



mentary, film, exhibit, Web site or social networking site. Budgets may be approved in whole or in part. Each award recipient is required to acknowledge the award in any resulting published work(s) and donate a copy of the work(s) to ACSC and the sponsoring archival repository. The recipient may also be requested to submit a brief article summarizing their findings and research experience for publication by ACSC.

The Baker Award honors ACSC founding member and U. S. Senate Historian Emeritus Richard A. Baker.

To apply, please send the completed [application](#) to the Scholarship and Awards Committee chair, Julia Collins (jcollins@suffolk.edu), by April 18, 2010. Award notification will take place in mid-May 2010.

New Congressional Oral History Website

Beginning in 2004, the Office of the Clerk authorized the first oral history program for the U.S. House of Representatives. Created to make the rich heritage of the U.S. House of Representatives more accessible to Members, staff, scholars, and the general public, the program seeks to include interviews with a wide variety of House employees such as Member aides, committee staff, support staff, technical assistants, and family of Members. Select former Representatives also are interviewed. Interviews are conducted by the Office of History and Preservation (OHP).

The collection and preservation of the stories and experiences of people who have worked on Capitol Hill greatly contributes to the historical record of the U.S. House of Representatives. Detailed descriptions of legislative processes and procedures, personal and political anecdotes, and recollections about the evolving nature of the institution, represent a vital source of information about the inner workings of Congress. Recording the memories of people who have worked in various capacities at the Capitol allows current congressional staff the opportunity to familiarize themselves with past House practices, which in turn may inform those making decisions and planning policies in the present. By providing such a

resource, the Clerk's Office also seeks to promote further interest in and study of the history of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Oral history interviews are recorded using audio and/or video equipment. OHP produces transcripts, interview summaries, and electronic copies of the recordings. Audio and video recordings will be archived and made available publicly through the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and the Library of Congress. Original recordings—as well as any supporting documentary materials such as letters or pictures—will be stored and protected according to archival standards.

For more information about OHP's oral history program contact the Office of History and Preservation at (202) 226-1300, or via email at history@mail.house.gov.

The Office of History and Preservation (OHP) collects, preserves, and interprets the heritage of the House of Representatives. Established under the [Office of the Clerk](#) in 2002, OHP provides a variety of services concerning House history, the House's art and artifacts Collection, and the records of the House.

<http://oralhistory.clerk.house.gov/>

CPR Electronic Records Survey & Task Force

Facing an onslaught of questions and concerns about electronic records in congressional collections, then CPR chair Linda Whitaker invited members of the CPR listserv to complete a survey on the subject in the summer of 2009. Forty-six respondents answered questions covering repository demographics; types and amounts of e-records in their holdings; access and preservation realities; methods of donations; appraisal decisions; personal concern about their repository's ability to manage e-records; and interest in training opportunities.

The following is a brief synopsis highlighting the most significant findings from the survey:

- Although 78.6% of respondent's repositories possess congressional collections with electronic records, few have policies or standards in place for managing them.
- Many repositories do not have staff whose job description includes electronic records management for archival collections.
- Many repositories cannot access a significant percentage of the e-records in their congressional collections.
- Over half of the respondents could not estimate the file size of their e-records nor could they identify the software used.
- Researchers do not have access to e-records in many of the respondents' repositories.
- A large majority of archivists have little or no control over the types of files and media they receive from donors.
- Repositories receive a wide variety of electronic file types and media, including those reliant upon proprietary software.
- Most survey respondents do not think their repository can adequately manage archival e-records.
- Most respondents believe their repositories would send personnel to a workshop on managing e-records in congressional collections.
- There is a clear need for professional standards on managing e-records in congressional collections.

Faced with data that clearly demonstrated the depth of the problems involved with congressional collections in the digital age, the CPR Steering Committee appointed an E-Records Task Force to address the issue further. Co-chairs Betsy Pittman and Leigh McWhite lead a group that includes Chrystal Carpenter, Ted Clark, Benjamin Goldman, Abby Griner, and Mark Wolfe.

The CPR Electronic Records Task Force is charged with creating and publicizing the following:

- Checklist of the questions/actions that repositories should ask/take when acquiring a new congressional collection.
- Template for an electronic records policy that members can refer to when formulating their institution's own policies.
- List of resources which would include individuals and organizations available to offer advice; vendors who can assist with data recovery, migration, or preservation; grant opportunities for digital preservation; online resources; and a bibliography of relevant literature.

The Task Force will also provide the CPR Steering Committee with proposals and recommendations developed as a result of their work and will provide updates at CPR annual meetings.

Any CPR members with insight or suggestions on any of the above tasks are encouraged to contact Leigh McWhite (slmcwhit@olemiss.edu), Betsy Pittman (Betsy.Pittman@uconn.edu), or any other member of the Task Force.

What Can A Senate Archivist Do For You?

Reprinted from *UNUM: Newsletter of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate*, Winter 2010

by *Karen Paul*

In celebration of American Archives Month, more than 40 staff met on October 5, 2009, to discuss, “What can an archivist do for you?” Because there has been a dramatic shift away from paper to electronic recordkeeping in Senate offices, and with information generated and residing on multiple platforms, there is no better time for committees and member offices to hire a trained archivist—someone who can manage the information resources of an office. Offices that are not engaged in systematic management of their electronic records simply will not have historical documentation to consult. For committees, this would be a disaster. For members, it will seriously undermine one of the most important sources for documenting Congress.

Committees are required by statute and standing rule to preserve their records, and members have agreed unanimously under H.Con.Res. 307, 110th Congress, to “do everything possible to preserve their papers.” The only way to accomplish this with certainty is to provide for the professional management of the information resources of the office records.

Today, there are 21 trained archivists working in the Senate. Secretary of the Senate Nancy Erickson invited them to attend a brown bag lunch in the LBJ Room of the Capitol to share their answers to, “What can an archivist do for you?”

Elisabeth Butler, Archivist of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

When people think of an archivist, they think paper records. But so much of congressional work takes place electronically, and electronic records, like paper, need to be categorized, ordered, and accessible. But they also require additional care because of their fragility and easy duplicability. An archivist can organize documents and folders on the servers so that staffers can find information; determine which electronic records to keep or destroy; make sure electronic records are properly archived or are in suitable formats for long-term preservation; help staff manage their own documents and e-mails to maximize their efficiency; and more crucially, can help ensure the integrity of documents during system migrations. Without an archivist, an office can quickly become overwhelmed and is more likely to lose documents crucial to its ongoing work.

Katie Salay, Archivist of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee

Archivists help you tell your story. The final version of a bill that was passed, the published hearing transcript, the *Congressional Record*—these documents only tell part of the story. If we rely solely on published material, the rest and best part of the story will get lost. An archivist in your office helps you identify and preserve documents and papers that represent the complete picture. How an idea developed into a piece of legislation, how decisions were made along the way, the roles that people played, the challenges they faced and overcame—these are the important pieces of the story that are told by the archives. An archivist makes sure that the work that you do is preserved in the historical record.



Katie Smith, Archivist for Senator Joe Lieberman

Archivists are the bridge builders between the past, the present, and the future. You need that memo from 1989? We know where to find it! You want to store that strangely shaped gift from the last CODEL? We can do that! You want your legacy as a member of Congress to be organized, managed, and preserved so it can be included in the halls of history? That is what we are here for!

Karen Paul, Senate Archivist

Archivists become the institutional memory of the committee or member office. They help new staff quickly become effective contributing members of the team by providing them with records management training and guidance that they will desperately need to stay on top of their work. Archivists are able to do research in the historical records of the office. A byproduct is increased understanding of the history and mission of the office, and a better understanding of one’s role in the larger scheme. Archivists are the key to preserving the best evidence of members’ contributions or a committee’s vital role in shaping our country’s history. Their management of committee records supports effective committee oversight over time. Their management of records documenting committee work on legislation is fundamental to legislative history. The archivist’s ability to provide perspective and information from past occurrences is especially important given the current rate of staff turnover. Archives do not just happen; they need archivists to build them!



INSTITUTIONAL UPDATES

Baylor University

Spring Lecture

LBJ: Architect of American Ambition

On March 18, Poage Library held its fourth annual lecture. Dr. Randall Woods, distinguished professor of history from the University of Arkansas presented a lecture based on his book, *LBJ: Architect of American Ambition*. Forty-five local and out-of-town guests attended a lunch with Randall Woods and his wife, Rhoda, at the Mayborn Museum Complex on the Baylor Campus.

After lunch, guests came to Poage Library to have books signed and to preview the new exhibit, *LBJ: Texan, Politician, President*. The 4 o'clock lecture was attended by approximately 110 people from the Baylor campus and local communities. A reception and book signing took place in Poage Library after the lecture. Fifty copies of Woods' book were given away along with a number of Poage Library 30th anniversary totes, cups and pens.



Exhibit opens

LBJ: Texas, Politician, President

Our new exhibit features the LBJ materials collection of George Meyer of Georgetown, Texas. Over 600 items collected over the last 35 years are on display in the library. The exhibit was created by Heather Mauger, a graduate student in museum studies, and Gaurav Gupta, a graduate student in the business school. Scott Meyers and the Digital Media Studio in the main library printed eight oversize graphics for the exhibit. Benna Vaughan, Bob Bullock Project Director created displays about LBJ books and LBJ's visit to Baylor in 1965 from materials loaned to us by Baylor alum, Dub and Sue Wright. Vanessa Onguti and Shuang Wu, student assistants, created two exhibits using LBJ personal items.

The exhibit opening featured six media stations: two videos about LBJ, a "Hello Lyndon" recording by Ed Ames, and three slide shows of George Meyers' materials: LBJ photographs, LBJ political items, and LBJ 3D objects.

Photographs of the lecture and exhibits are online at poagelibrary.winkflash.com. Heather is also creating an online exhibit on Flickr to compliment the physical exhibit. A photo album is in the works about the day's events which will be presented to Randall Woods.

- Ben Rogers

Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

Southern Illinois University Carbondale Opens Senator Paul Simon Papers

The Special Collections Research Center of Morris Library, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, officially opened the Senator Paul Simon papers to researchers with a traveling exhibition and public programs throughout the state of Illinois. The kickoff event was held in Carbondale on October 18, 2009. Subsequent events took place in Chicago, Troy and Benton, Illinois. Speakers included Edward M. Smith, Gene Callahan, press secretary to then Lieutenant Governor Paul Simon, Charles Klotzer, assistant to Paul Simon at the Troy Tribune and founder of the St. Louis Journalism Review, Simon's widow, Patti, and his children, Sheila and Martin. The exhibit, "Paul Simon: Compassion, Vision, Courage," was produced with the help of a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council.



Exhibit set up in the Special Collections Research Center (photo by Jeff Garner)

Travel Grants Announced

Morris Library's Special Collections Research Center and the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute of Southern Illinois University Carbondale announce the availability of two annual travel stipends of up to \$750 for research in the Senator Paul Simon Papers. For details visit the SCRC website: <http://www.lib.siu.edu/departments/speccoll/index.html>.

-Walter D. Ray

Senate Historical Office

Senate Hires First Deputy Archivist

Alison White became the first Deputy Archivist of the United States Senate in October 2009. She “hit the ground running” due to the heavy workload generated by large numbers of transfers of committee records to the Center for Legislative Archives. One of her first major projects was to help develop better descriptions of committee records. This was accomplished by expanding the basic transfer documentation to include a scope and content note, information about the committee staff creating the records, and a form to more fully document electronic records being transferred to the Center. She also is participating on the Task Force established by the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress to develop a new on-line finding aid for Senate records.

Alison came to the Senate from the University of Virginia Law School where she worked as both archivist and librarian with a background in digital curation. She will be attending CPR activities at SAA this August so be sure to introduce yourselves to her!

- Karen Paul

University of Oklahoma

When Sam Rayburn was elected as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1941, he remarked, “I’ve always wanted responsibility because I want the power responsibility brings. I hate like hell to be licked. It almost kills me.” A man who both loved the House and power, Rayburn went on to become the longest serving Speaker in U.S. history. Celebrating the role of the Speaker, second only to the presidency in political power and influence, the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives created a new exhibit, “The Evolution of the Modern Speaker: The Search for Power in the House.” The exhibit examines how the speakership has evolved, concentrating on those who have held the office from Carl Albert to Nancy Pelosi. The exhibit explores questions that plagued all Speakers, but which have changed in the modern period. Such questions include: What is the relationship between the majority and minority in the House? How should the Speaker shape the legislative agenda? To what, or to whom, is the Speaker’s responsibility? The office of the Speaker reflects the person holding the office and the events surrounding their service. The exhibit is currently on display at the Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma.

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Carl Albert Center, the Congressional Archives also created an exhibit reflecting on the Center’s history. Focusing on the programs and players of the center, one is reminded of the rich opportunities the Center has provided OU students and Norman community members. From fellowship programs to lecture series, the Center has deepened our understanding of how policy and those who generate it influence our lives. The exhibit is currently on display at the Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma.

-Jeanene H. Letcher

University of Kansas

Dole Archives Visiting Fellow

The Dole Archives welcomed former Senate historian Richard Baker as our inaugural Dole Archives Visiting Fellow. Baker visited the campus of the University of Kansas from March 1-3, 2010 where he toured the Dole Archives facilities and met with the archives staff and archives advisory board members.



Baker participated in two evening programs, one at the Dole Institute and one at the KU Edwards campus, as well as conducted two class lectures in the history department. Faculty, staff and members of the community had opportunities to meet Baker at both a breakfast reception and a dinner.

Oral History

Oral histories from the collection of the Dole Archives continue to be aired on C-SPAN3. To date we have contributed 15 oral histories, the most recent being those of former Dole staffers Scott Reed, Walk Riker and Kerry Tymchuck. Once aired, the oral histories are available through the on-line C-SPAN video library.

Summer Exhibit

This summer the Dole Archive is hosting a traveling exhibit entitled “Changing the Face of Power: Women in the US Senate.” The exhibit features over 30 photographs of women Senators taken by photojournalist Melina Mara. The exhibit which runs through July 21 is sponsored by Humanities Texas.



Student assistants installing exhibit (photo by Judy Sweets)

Processing and NHPRC grant

As of May 2010, processing in the Dole Archive is continuing on schedule. Approximately 55% of the collection has been processed and arranged. Folder level data-entry into our Archon database at a rate of almost 300 folders daily. We expect to meet an exceed all requirements in completion of our NHPRC detailed processing grant deadline next year.

-Morgan R. Davis
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University of Mississippi

The Modern Political Archives (MPA) web presence has expanded tremendously over the 2009-10 year. Of particular importance was the creation of a distinctly separate MPA section within the larger Archives & Special Collections website. As well as a main page (http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/general_library/archives/political/) and links to MPA subject guides and collection finding aids, it offers suggestions on using congressional collections and reference assistance with print and online resources related to the federal government and the state government of Mississippi.

In addition, the website now holds links to one major online exhibit and three digital collections. "Hail to the Chief!: An Exhibit on Presidents & Mississippi in Presidential Elections" (http://apollo.lib.olemiss.edu/hail_to_the_chief/) gives new life to the physical installation created for the 2008 presidential debate on the university's campus. To commemorate the 90th anniversary of women's right to vote in Mississippi, MPA created the Mississippi Woman Suffrage Association digital collection, offering a selection of the organization's publications from its origins in 1897 through 1917 (<http://clio.lib.olemiss.edu/archives/suffrage.php>). Although the Presidential Debate Collection Photographs do not include images of the party nominees or the actual debate, they do capture scenes outside the debate hall of the general public, political activists, vendors, and the national press (http://clio.lib.olemiss.edu/archives/debate_photos.php). Finally, the C.K. Berryman Cartoons digital collection showcases twenty-six original pen-and-ink drawings by the *Washington Star* editorial cartoonist that feature U.S. Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi (<http://clio.lib.olemiss.edu/archives/berryman.php>).

Collections with recently posted finding aids include the John Sharp Williams Collection containing the research files of his biographer George Coleman Osborn (<http://purl.oclc.org/umarchives/MUM00480/>). A Mississippi Democrat, Williams served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1893 to 1909 and in the U.S. Senate from 1911 to 1923. The Featherston Collection focuses primarily on the papers of Winfield Scott Featherston, a Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives between 1847 and 1850 (<http://purl.oclc.org/umarchives/MUM00181/>). Featherston rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Confederate Army and remained active in state politics after the war. Two other major collections completed during this period are the papers of Hilton Waits, a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives (1931-1960, 1964) and chair of its Ways & Means Committee (<http://purl.oclc.org/umarchives/MUM01706/>), and the Mississippi Supreme Court files (1980-1995) of Chief Justice Arnis Hawkins (<http://purl.oclc.org/umarchives/MUM01718/>). At this point, all MPA collections open to researchers have online finding aids...now if only we can finish processing all the collections that *should* be opened!

Outreach efforts this Spring included a one-week temporary exhibition at the Gertrude Ford Center for the Performing Arts during the theatre production "The RFK Project." Eleven cases traced the relationship of Robert F. Kennedy with the university and the state. To coincide with the airing of the Ken Burns documentary series on the National Park System, MPA also created a display entitled "Gulf Islands National Seashore Material in the James O. Eastland Collection." Using correspondence with colleagues and constituents, committee prints, bill drafts, and National Park Service reports, the exhibit educates viewers on the variety of resources available in congressional collections.

-Leigh McWhite

University of South Carolina

South Carolina Political Collections' big news for 2010 is its move to the new state-of-the-art Ernest F. Hollings Library for Special Collections. The three story building provides approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of space being shared by SCPC, the University's Rare Books and Special Collections unit, and the Library's digital activities unit. Please visit our website for more information and photos. We anticipate receiving LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification. The move is planned for May, 2010 with a grand opening in June. SCPC is eager to have you visit and tour our new facility.

This spring the online weekly journal, Statehouse Report, began a new feature highlighting one SCPC photo in each issue. Statehouse Report provides a weekly summary and analysis of the activities of South Carolina state government and particularly the state legislature. The feature is linked to SCPC's blog [<http://scpoliticalcollections.blogspot.com/>] and is garnering excellent exposure for our collections.

- Herb Hartsook

University of Hawaii—Manoa

The University of Hawaii at Manoa Library is pleased to announce that former Representative (1991-2010) Neil Abercrombie has donated his papers to the Hawaii Congressional Papers Collection. Rep. Abercrombie resigned from the House at the end of February to run for governor of Hawaii. The papers will be closed to researchers for 15 years. These papers join those of former representatives Thomas Gill, Patricia Saiki and Ed Case and of former senators Spark Matsunaga and Hiram Fong.

- Ellen Chapman

Ohio State University

The Ohio Congressional Archives at The Ohio State University announces the completion of the processing of the Ralph S. Regula Papers. The collection consists of one hundred twenty-two cubic feet of materials dating from 1972 to 2008 that document the career of Ralph Regula (R-Navarre) as a congressman in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 16th District of Ohio. Open to researchers, a finding aid for the collection is available online at <http://library.osu.edu/find/collections/ohio-congressional-archives/>

Ralph Regula's career in public service began in 1960 when he became a member of the Ohio State Board of Education. After four years on the state board, Regula was elected as a Republican to the Ohio House of Representatives, where he served from 1965 to 1966. Beginning in 1967, he served for six years in the Ohio Senate. In 1972, Regula ran for the seat in the U.S. House of Representatives being vacated by Frank T. Bow, who was retiring from Congress after serving for twenty-two years as a Republican for the 16th District of Ohio. Regula won the general election in 1972 by a 57% margin, and went on to win seventeen consecutive re-election campaigns by an average of more than 65% of the vote. Regula retired from Congress in January 2009 after thirty-six years of service, which made him the longest continuously serving congressman in Ohio history.

Upon entering Congress in January 1973, Regula became friends with Gerald Ford, who at the time was the house minority leader. Regula backed Ford as the replacement to Spiro Agnew when Agnew was forced to resign as vice president in October 1973. After Ford became president following the resignation of Richard Nixon in 1974, he helped a little-known Regula obtain a seat on the House Appropriations Committee. Regula went on to serve thirty-four years on the committee, a position that provided him with significant clout among his peers in the House. During most of his tenure on the Appropriations Committee he was a member of the Interior Subcommittee. Regula became chair of the subcommittee in 1995, making him one of the thirteen House appropriations "cardinals."

Term limits on chairmanships imposed by the Republican Party Caucus forced him to resign as chair of the Interior Subcommittee at the end of 2000. However, as the second-ranking Republican on the Appropriations Committee, Regula had his pick among six other subcommittees. Starting in 2001, he chaired the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee. Regula kept this chairmanship until 2007, when he became the ranking minority member of the newly formed Financial Services Subcommittee.

Throughout his career, Ralph Regula maintained a low-key approach in Congress. He never appeared on any televised political talk show, even though he held powerful positions in Congress. Well-liked and respected by colleagues on both sides of the political aisle, as a moderate

Regula worked to forge common ground on the policy issues in which he held an interest. In funding his re-election campaigns Regula refused to accept money from political action committees representing businesses, trade unions, or other special interests. This disinterest in political fundraising, and his subsequent lack of contributions to national Republican coffers, probably was a major factor in Regula's defeat by Bill Young of California in a 2004 campaign for the chairmanship of the House Appropriations Committee. Regula spent his time in Congress advocating for the needs of his constituents in the 16th District and for the economic development of both his home state and the country as a whole. By one conservative estimate, through his committee work Regula directed more than \$450 million in federal funding to national parks, universities, transportation projects, hospitals, and various research and development programs.

University of Louisville

On November 11, 2009, the University of Louisville proudly dedicated the new Senator Mitch McConnell and Secretary Elaine L. Chao Archives. The McConnell-Chao Archives, a program of the university's McConnell Center, is responsible for managing and preserving the personal papers of University of Louisville graduate, Kentucky's longest-serving US Senator, and Republican Leader Mitch McConnell and the personal papers of the former US Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao (2001-2008). Chao, who has held several federal executive-level positions, was the first Asian Pacific American woman to serve in a President's Cabinet.



Sec. Chao and Sen. McConnell with guest Sen. John McCain at opening celebration

The Veteran's Day event began with a program open to the public with Senator John McCain as the guest speaker. The formal archives dedication followed and featured welcoming remarks by University of Louisville

(Continued on page 13)

President James Ramsey and McConnell Center Director Gary L. Gregg and brief comments by Senator McCain, Senator McConnell, and Secretary Chao. After the ribbon cutting ceremony, Senators McCain and McConnell and Secretary Chao held a press conference in the archives. Located in the university's Ekstrom Library, the McConnell-Chao Archives includes a civic education gallery open to the public during normal library hours. This self-guided, interactive educational exhibit designed for students and the general public offers insights into the lives of Senator McConnell and Secretary Chao and encourages visitors to discuss and reflect on many aspects of the U.S. political system. Among the interactives are a Citizenship Test that lets visitors test their American history and government knowledge, and an opportunity to critique some of the Senator's successful campaign ads, guided by commentary from two political experts.

Two films reveal more personal sides of the leaders. In *Inspired to Lead*, the Senator provides an intimate tour of the Senate's colorful history, while Secretary Chao's *Promise of America* recounts the inspiring journey her family took from war-torn China to the U.S., and the role the immigrant experience played in her own development and success. These films, directed by Solid Light, a Louisville-based museum and exhibit design firm, have won four Telly Awards, which honor the best local, regional, and cable television commercials and programs, as well as video and film productions, and work created for the Web.



News Round-Up

Student Charged in Theft of Historic Documents

Wall Street Journal, March 15, 2010

"An 18-year-old Drew University student was arrested on charges of stealing documents dating back to 1766 that included letters from Presidents Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

William J. Scott, a freshman at the Madison, N.J., university allegedly pilfered dozens of valuable historical documents while working as an employee of the United Methodist Archives Center. The majority of the letters were written by John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodism, and were valued at between \$5,000 and \$12,000 each, according to the criminal complaint."

Archives Gone Wild: Congressional 'study centers' erected as statesmen's legacies are all the rage, do they matter?

By Alex Beam, Boston Globe, May 25, 2010

"I was planning to check in on the forthcoming Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate, which will be using \$60 million of taxpayers' money to set up shop on the campus of the University of Massachusetts Boston. I have no doubt that, like the John F. Kennedy Library next door, this institution will dedicate itself to burnishing the memory of the man whose name is on the door, and little else.

Imagine my surprise when I learned that nebulous, legacy-buffing 'institutes' and 'study centers' erected in memory of forgotten or soon-to-be-forgotten solons are the rule, rather than the exception, in latter-day America.

Cases in point: The Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas; the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd University in West Virginia, and the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma. Good grief. I remember Carl Albert — the 'little giant from little Dixie' — but I can't imagine anyone else does.

Congressional study centers are all the mode, says Betty Koed, associate historian for the Senate Historical Office in Washington. 'They've become kind of trendy in the last 10 years,' she notes. 'The Kennedy Institute is merely the latest addition.'"

Rep. George Brown Archive Donated to UC-Riverside

UC News May 24, 2010

Rep. George Brown Jr., a lifelong Democrat who represented the Inland area in Congress for 14 terms, was a visionary who championed the environment, alternative energy, human rights and education.

Details of that legacy — from his first political post as mayor of Monterey Park, Calif., to his chairmanship of the House of Representatives Science Committee — survive in 525 boxes and nine file cabinets of personal papers donated recently to the University of California, Riverside by his widow, Marta Brown.

"I donated George's papers to the university so students could have access to them, as well as policymakers," Mrs. Brown said. "So much of the work he was involved in during the 1960s and '70s is relevant now, particularly science and technology, and alternative energy. He was looking at other ways of generating energy because he could see that we would run out of natural resources."