



Annual Report to SAA Council, 2007

The Science, Technology, and Healthcare (STHC) Roundtable is a forum for archivists with interests and/or holdings in the natural and social sciences, technology, and health care. STHC provides a means for its members to exchange information, solve problems, and share successes. STHC is a roundtable within the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and, as such, serves as an advocate for its members' interests, provides avenues of communication, and engages in special projects. It provides STHC archivists opportunities to network, virtually and electronically and provides SAA a medium to respond to national and international archival issues on behalf of the STHC community.

The Roundtable's regular programs and activities (the annual newsletter, *Archival Elements*; Web site; listserv; Roundtable annual meeting program; and the proposal, review -- and endorsement, when relevant -- of STHC-themed sessions for the SAA annual meeting) continued during the 2006 - 2007 reporting year. The STHC Leadership Handbook, created in 2005 and available on the STHC Web site, proved its usefulness in insuring consistency and continuity in Roundtable practices and procedures. It guided the Co-chairs through the 2007 selection processes for a new Roundtable co-chair and steering committee members and provided timetables for STHC leadership communications with members, including timely posting of the Annual Meeting notice and agendas to members.

STHC members Ewa Basinska and Elizabeth Phillips, *Archival Elements* editors; Rose Roberto, Webmaster; and Russell Johnson, listserv owner and administrator deserve special recognition for their efforts on behalf of STHC. Their ongoing work insures that the Science, Technology, and Health Care Roundtable provides services and resources to its members throughout the year, not just at the time of the annual meeting.

Archival Elements

The 2007 annual STHC newsletter, *Archival Elements* contained articles by R. Joseph Anderson and Orville Butler (Center for History of Physics, American Institute of Physics), "Initial Findings of the Project to Document the History of Physicists in Industry"; Suzanna Long (Department of Management and Marketing, Southern Missouri State University), "Managing Technology-Driven Change From a Non-Technical Tradition: An Exploration of Some of the Challenges Facing Modern Archives"; and Erik Moore (Academic Health Center, University of Minnesota), "Interpreting Privacy: A Survey of the HIPAA Privacy Rule's Application in Archives and Precedents for Future Directions." Shorter submissions from science, technology, and health care archivists and repositories included announcements on collections development, repository openings, publications and exhibitions projects, and conferences. *Archival Elements* posted notices and schedules of the 2007 Roundtable annual meeting programs, STHC-themed SAA sessions at SAA2007 Chicago Annual Meeting, and a message from the STHC Co-Chairs. *Archival Elements* has been distributed online since ca.1997. Issues from 2000 through 2007 are available at <http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/sthc/publications.html#newsletters>

Web Site

STHC Webmaster Rose Roberto updates the website regularly as new information becomes available. (Please see: <http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/sthc>). The agendas for the STHC Annual Meetings and information about the programs are posted on the Web site prior to the meetings. The site currently includes a description of the STHC, a list of steering committee members, publications (including the Leadership Handbook, a HIPAA resource page, annual meeting minutes, and current and past newsletters), and a link to the Roundtable listserv.

Listserv

Our listserv (sthc-l@lists.ucla.edu) celebrated its eleventh anniversary in August 2007. It currently has 210 subscribers. The listserv continues to be especially valuable for directing announcements and discussion to our subject-oriented audience.

Owner/administrator Russell Johnson periodically reposts announcements and other information that appeared originally in other sources.

SAA Annual Meeting Sessions

STHC endorsed two session proposals for the 2007 Annual Meeting. This was the maximum number of endorsements allowed. Alison Oswald's proposal "It's More than Just the Patent: Documenting Invention Records and the Makers and the Players" was accepted for the 2007 Program. John Zwicky's proposal on artifacts in archival collections was not accepted for the SAA program, but, recast as a five-person panel discussion, it was the formal program at the STHC Roundtable Meeting. Sessions developed for, but not selected by SAA, are a frequent source for substantive STHC Roundtable programming. A listing of sessions at the SAA Annual Meetings of interest to STHC members is posted on the Web site and available as a handout at the STHC Roundtable Annual Meeting.

Annual Steering Committee and Roundtable Meetings

The STHC Steering Committee Meeting and the Roundtable's Annual Meeting were held on August 29, 2007 at the Fairmont Chicago. Thirty-five members attended the Roundtable meeting. A formal program, "Caring for Artifacts in Archival Collections," was presented by John Zwicky, Chair (American Academy of Pediatrics), Carolyn Texley (Consultant, Ann Arbor, Michigan), Mott R. Linn, Jr. (Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts), Jennifer Searcy (Loyola University and Abbott Labs, Chicago, Illinois), and Judy Robins (American Society of Anesthesiologists, Park Ridge, Illinois). The panelists discussed the diverse ways by which artifacts join collections, how they are used as documentation, how they fit into the broader picture of archives, and best institutional policies and practices for effective and safe care and treatment. STHC thanks the speakers for their participation in the program and for tailoring the SAA proposal for the STHC audience.

STHC Governance

At the Roundtable's 2007 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Tim L. Pennycuff was elected STHC Co-Chair, 2007-2009. Paul Theerman continues as Senior STHC Chair through 2008.

During the reporting year, STHC Leadership actively reviewed and responded to the SAA Council Taskforce on Section and Roundtables report. STHC Co-Chairs and two other Steering Committee members attended the SAA Leadership Orientation and Forum in Chicago to discuss the revised SAA Council Bylaws. At the Roundtable meeting, STHC

attendees were briefed on key changes, how they will be rolled out, and on SAA's new AMS system and its ongoing implementation.

At the Roundtable Meeting, Jean Deken proposed that STHC recommend an SAA award to honor the late Joan Warnow Blewett. This award will recognize distinguished achievement in the field of science, technology, or healthcare archives. The Roundtable approved the concept as presented and authorized the STHC Steering Committee to draft award language and criteria. Following approval of the award language by STHC via the listserv, the proposal will go to SAA Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Goldblum (National Academy of Sciences)
Paul Theerman (National Library of Medicine)
Co-Chairs
Science, Technology and Healthcare Roundtable

12/27/07