



Annual Report to SAA Council, 2008

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 include

- the annual newsletter, *Archival Elements*;
- the Web site;
- the listserv;
- the Roundtable annual meeting program; and
- the proposal, review—and endorsement, when relevant—of STHC-themed sessions for the SAA annual meeting) continued during the 2007-2008 reporting year.

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 2008 annual STHC newsletter, *Archival Elements* contained articles:

1. "Be Careful What You Wish For: How to Manage Artifacts in an Archival Repository," by Carolyn Texley, Mott Linn (Clark University), Judy Robins (Museum of Anesthesiology), Jennifer Searcy (Abbott Laboratories), and John Zwicky (American Academy of Pediatrics). This was based on the program at the 2007 STHC Roundtable meeting.
2. "The Development of Science and Slavery in Britain" -- Rose Roberto (University of Leeds), based on an exhibit at the Brotherton Library in connection with the marking in Britain of the 200th anniversary of the slave trade.

Shorter submissions from science, technology, and health care archivists and repositories included announcements on collections development, repository openings, publications and exhibitions projects, conferences, and grants opportunities.

Archival Elements posted notices and schedules of the 2008 Roundtable annual meeting programs, STHC-themed SAA sessions at SAA 2008 San Francisco Annual Meeting, and a message from the STHC Co-Chairs. *Archival Elements* has been distributed online since

1997. Issues from 2000 through 2008 are available at <http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/sthc/publications.html#newsletters>

Web Site: STHC Webmaster Rose Roberto updates the Website (<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/sthc/index.html>) regularly as new information becomes available. 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, and their contact information
- publications, including
 - Annual Reports to SAA council, 2002-2007
 - Annual meeting minutes, 2005-2006 (2007 to come)
 - *Archival Elements* newsletter, 2000-2008
 - the STHC Leadership Handbook
 - a HIPAA resource page
- a link to the Roundtable listserv, and its archives

Listserv: Our original listserv (sthc-l@lists.ucla.edu) celebrated its twelfth anniversary in 2008. At the annual meeting, the decision was made to phase out the current listserv. The last message was posted July 22, 2008. Great thanks are due to owner/ administrator Russell Johnson for directing announcements and discussion to our subject-oriented audience, and reposting announcements and other information that appeared originally in other sources. The Roundtable will henceforth use the listserv supported by SAA.

SAA Annual Meeting Sessions: STHC endorsed two session proposals for the 2007 Annual Meeting. This was the maximum number of endorsements allowed.

“Using Local and International Anniversaries for Outreach Opportunities,” by Rose Roberto of the University of Leeds was accepted for the 2008 Program.

“CBI and CDC: Using Technology for Clientele Outreach,” a poster session proposed by Stephanie Horowitz of the Charles Babbage Institute, University of Minnesota, was accepted for the 2008 program.

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 27, 2008, at the San Francisco Hilton. Thirty-seven members attended the Roundtable meeting.

Will Snow of the Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Services presented the program: “SALT: Self-Archiving Legacy Toolkit,” a project of the Library. The speaker discussed a digital manuscripts project using the papers of Edward Feigenbaum, a noted computer science academician, that allows interaction between Dr. Feigenbaum and the site and features many attributes of Web 2.0.

The Roundtable also continued the discussion of the proposed Joan Warnow-Blewett Award for excellence in archiving in areas of science, technology, and healthcare, proposed by Jean Deken of the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, and resolved to move the discussion to a formal proposal in 2008/2009.

STHC Governance and Operations: At the Roundtable's 2008 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, Stephen E. Novak of the Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library, Columbia University, was elected STHC Co-Chair, 2008-2010. Tim L. Pennycuff, of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham, continues as Senior STHC Chair through 2009.

As noted above, the Roundtable decided to phase out its own listserv in favor of the listserv structure sponsored by SAA, and will mount an initiative to move all current subscribers to the new venue.

A call was made for program submissions for the 2009 SAA meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Theerman (National Library of Medicine)
Tim L. Pennycuff (University of Alabama at Birmingham)
Co-Chairs
Science, Technology and Healthcare Roundtable
December 8, 2008