

Joint VMS/VMCAS/AMIS Section Meeting Minutes Archives Records 2018

4:15pm - 5:30pm, August 16, 2018

Compiled by Sharon Mizota, VMCAS outgoing chair

Council report - Amy Cooper Cary

- New Council Liaisons: Melissa & Ricky
- Approved resolutions to honor indiv & groups who contributed to SAA
- Endorsed protocols for Native American archival materials
- Improving annual meeting:
 - Assess & review meeting structure to continuously improve
 - Bring increased diversity of all kinds to panels
- Approved motion to form a new task force: considering vendor exhibits, sponsorships & advertising. Nov. 2018 council meeting will consider recommendations
- Internships: graduate archival subcommittee report
- Update from Accessibility Task force on best practices for accessibility

Kim Andersen, VMS, Business Meeting

- Updates posted on website
 - 75% members prefer news via email
 - 9% do not have social media
 - 53% use sm for personal use
 - 9% for business
 - 38% use it for everything
- Call for content for Views - please publish
- Alexis Peregoy, Education chair resigned, so no education report
 - Sort of looking for a new person - need to discuss more
- [Election results are in](#)
- Standing rule revisions of articles passed
- \$250 to spend on things - SAA pilot funding has been approved to be permanent
- Treat, moving off as member of Large

Tre Berney, AMIS, Business Meeting

- Added moving image to recorded sound section last fall
- Ballot special call - approved 89% to 11%
- Working with AMIA to do digitization workshops - possibilities for cross-pollination with VMS/VMCAS, esp. With digital asset management
- [Election results posted on site](#)
- WGBH preservation fellowship program:
 - New AV archivists, partnerships with MLIS institutions that didn't have AV archiving programs before. Digitizing for American Archive of Public Broadcasting
 - Immersion week; partnered with community radio station, KOPN
 - Making AV education part of archival education

- Fellows summarized their projects working with various local media organizations

Keynote Address

Sandra Varry introduced Dr. Richard Urban, Corning Museum of Glass

Dr. Richard Urban

- Managing Digital Assets: A Journey
- Working across libraries, archives, museums
- First time at SAA
- Digital Asset Manager & Strategist
- Digital Media dept. Separate from library, museum & archives, overseeing all digital materials
- Migration from MediaBin to Piction
- Also changing ILS from Voyager to Alma
- Mimsy XG collection mgmt; Alma feeding into Piction DAMS
- ArchivesSpace also there, but not well connected
- Tension between item level & archival description
- Technical debt from the past
- Item level description in the past; how are we going to change these systems and how we change mindsets?
- What's the role of DAMS for born digital?
- What is an asset? What are the policies that govern what we treat as assets.
- One of top 3 museums on Youtube. But videos waiting to be managed.
- Records retention policy is old and mainly focused on paper > trying to take a fresh look and how it applies to digital assets - do we need these things forever? How do things become part of institutional archive?
- What's our preservation strategy & platform?
- Revisiting rights metadata. Oriented to internal processes, Trying to change policies > outward facing, standards based.
- Continuing Education: Build capacity to deal with changes. Introducing Adobe Bridge to apply base level metadata. Developed local controlled vocab. Managing tagging & organizing in DAMS.
- Working at scale - command line tools. Process finding aid metadata into embedded metadata
- Digital records retention > move to cloud-based storage
- 75-85% of personal drive are video & digital images - doing an assessment. Are they assets?
- Email retention; records retention discussions - how to build a sustainable preservation model
- When we talk about collections it's what we care about. Revisiting access through Web site. Drupal based, talks to different systems.
- Connecting museum records with library records - collection/accession - finding aid

- Users come in through Google, but other parts of Web site don't link to finding aids or catalog. How do we link so people can follow those relationships, linked data?
- Want to look at IIIF. Not about metadata; how do we represent archival context at item level? IIIF allows you to build links and hierarchies where they exist. Bring together different formats. IIIF users group on Web site.
- Question: how did you get support from higher ups? It's surprising for a small institution.
- IT is very motivated; lots of duplicative stuff - it's in their interest to reduce storage. Now it's unmanaged. Trying to bring thought and care to that. What is sustainable? Who are our audiences? We're doing some more evaluation. We are the world leader in this niche.

Sandra read a message from incoming VMS Chair.

Discussion of merger of VMCAS/VMS

Q: How did VMCAS split from VM?

Gerri & Kim: Group of people who wanted to talk about cataloging & metadata; formed a roundtable.

VM came out of AV & Architecture branched off also

People didn't have enough time to talk about what issues they had specific to niche markets.

That was before the Internet. There's no longer a need for in person meetings - communicate in real time on listservs & conference calls

It's not that big a loss to not be at annual meeting.

Merging makes sense given competition with programs because it gives you more of a chance to get to the VM Section meeting.

Gerri: We used to select programs to endorse

Kim: Sections endorsed proposals - that would be part of the selection process for the primary committee. We don't do that anymore.

This year 3 sessions that dealt with visual materials; only one of the speakers in one of those. We can submit more proposals?

If we were to merge, how would we maintain concentrated conversations so listservs don't get out of control?

So that there's still two voices - you can join both or you can join one. Should the sections be merged but have separate listservs?

Not a good idea because the point of merging is to get more eyes - get more interest together

Not enough folks to spread around to be officers in volunteer positions. We can't keep it going. Even VMS has to do encouragement to keep it all going.

History: VMCAR - roundtables were more like circles to talk about latest projects. The need was rooted more in trying to establish cataloging standards. Made more sense then. That has gotten resolved; necessity diminished. Can't come up with someone to run, seems like idea no longer necessary. Got caught up in transition from roundtables to Sections. Unless members can come up with goals that rise to the level of a Section, it doesn't make sense to be separate.

Roundtables were much less formal, smaller. Designed for people to get together on a personal basis. If we merge, we still need to make sure we provide the members with opportunities to come to sections and exchange news, sit at tables. Need outlet for delving into problems together. Combine, but find ways to retain intimacy.

How can we structure meeting with time for breakouts in smaller groups? Subcommittee for VMCAS should not dissolve entirely.

SAA has supported sessions in advance of conference. Whole day sessions, etc. Dedicated just to session topics - think SAA would be receptive now to a Visual Materials pre-conference session.

Congressional papers has two meetings: business & program. Could be an option. Business meeting doesn't have to be what it used to be. Can be shared electronically.

Discussion of AMIS training programs

Handoff to AMIS Chair - what about partnerships for training opportunities with other orgs? AMIA?

Great idea to run workshops in metadata and digitization. Local training at WGBH - not as intimidating as you think.
General gestures of approval.

Appreciation for bringing up topic. SAA hasn't done a lot with AV programs. Would appreciate joint work with AMIA because before we had to go to AMIA for training. If we have to choose one conference, would go to the one that has training/more beneficial.

VMS would want to partner too.

ARSC host 1-2 day workshops with tape repair & digitization; more disc-based stuff, vinyl - could be a partner.

Hiring manager for digitization operations said she has problems finding the right skill set - not experienced with AV. Not knowing where to start, standards, metadata. It's a challenge to onboard - huge learning curve. Do mentorships & training - it would be great to get professionals with more AV skills. Students who have the skills find jobs more quickly.

Took ARSC program - got experience with reel to reel - sessions with hands on experience with equipment would be good.

Announcement:

In 3-4 mos. Library of Congress Special Collections will be have hiring about 40 people, including motion picture, photographs, performing arts, etc. From supervisor to technician.
www.Jobsusa.gov