Preservation Section Annual Meeting Agenda: Thursday, July 27th from 2-3:15 pm, in Oregon BR 204.

I. We’ll start out with some announcements and updates from our Council Liaison and Chair Elect, then Jesse Johnston, Senior Program Officer for the National Endowment for the Arts Division of Preservation and Access will speak briefly about current programs of interest for preservation projects.

II. Following these announcements and updates, we will explore the intersection between preservation and public services though a panel discussion. We look forward to welcoming this year’s panelists to our meeting:

Daniel McCormack, CA, Archivist/Records Manager, Town of Burlington, Massachusetts: Representing the perspective of a lone arranger and archivist at a government agency, McCormack will present his perspective on instituting a preservation mentality in his patron base.

Erin Hammeke, Senior Conservator for Special Collections, Duke University Libraries: Representing the perspective of a conservator, Hammeke will speak to the necessity of educating library staff on proper handling and preservation theory so that staff members can pass this knowledge on to patrons.

Greta Reisel Browning, Reference Archivist/Librarian and Curator of the Rhinehart Collection in Special Collections at Appalachian State University: Representing the perspective of a special collections librarian at a public university, Browning will speak about instructing students on proper handling and will explore how preservation actions can sometimes interfere with and limit access.

I. Then be prepared to put your thinking caps on and jump onto a group brainstorming session! After the panel, we will brainstorm ways of bringing preservation into the reading room and will begin to build a guide of Best Practices for Materials Handling and Preservation in the Reading Room.

To do this we need your help! Over the next few weeks, take a look at the following questions and bring some ideas, questions, quandaries, conflicts, and reading room success stories to our conversation.

- What are our essential 5 rules for handling collection materials in the reading room?
- What is the most important preservation or handling message to convey to patrons?
- When is special handling of collection material “too much to ask” or “too much to expect” of our visitors?
- What handling issue causes the biggest problem in the reading room?
- How does staffing, physical space, and time limits restrict how we teach about handling?
- How can positive language create a welcoming environment for all patrons, regardless of research experience?