

# Descriptive



# NOTES

The newsletter of the  
Description Section of the  
Society of American Archivists

## FROM THE CHAIR

Joyce Chapman



Welcome to 2012, folks. It's set to be a big year ... potential apocalypse, the last centennial solar transit of Venus, the London Olympics, the final film of the Twilight saga, AND the 76<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Society of American Archivists in San Diego.

If you were unable to attend the 2011 section meeting at the annual conference, please see the meeting minutes in the newsletter below or on the Description Section website:  
<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/description-section/description-section-minutes>

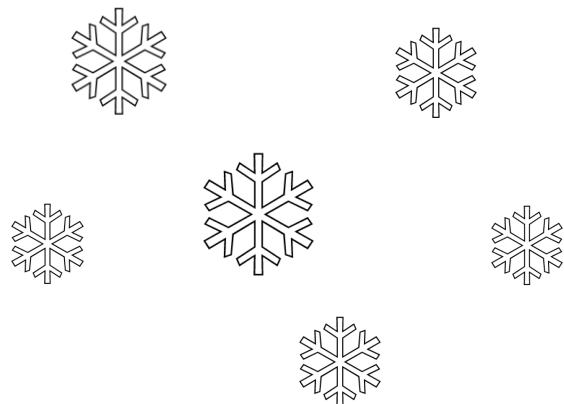
The section received a large number of excellent session proposals to consider for endorsement for SAA 2012 this year, but was only able to endorse two. The section's Steering Committee elected to endorse "Hybrids and Legacies: Challenges of Finding Aids in the Digital Age," submitted by Alexis Antracoli, Eira Tansey, Jane Zhang, Olga Virakhovskaya, Lucinda Poole Cockrell, and Suzanne Maggard, and "Linking Data across Libraries, Archives, and Museums," submitted by Su Kim Chung, Corey Harper, Patricia Harpring, Perian Sully, and Anila Angjeli.

I encourage all of you to consider running or volunteering for a Section leadership position for 2012-2013. Positions that will become available include Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Secretary, and several at-large Steering Committee members. You may contact me at any time over the course of the year if you are interested in more information on these positions.

SAA is accepting proposals for student papers and posters through February 1, 2012 so please encourage students to apply. See the call here: <http://www2.archivists.org/conference/2012/san-diego/student-call>.

I would also like to remind you that the section is beginning to plan its 2012 meeting. Please contact me with ideas for the development of the meeting's agenda or program.

I look forward to seeing you all pre-apocalypse, in San Diego.



### In this issue:

From the Chair.....	1
From the Vice Chair, From the Editor.....	2
Section Leadership, Annual Meeting minutes.....	3
News & Notes.....	5
Subcommittees	
News from institutions	
RDA news	
Announcements	
Feature Articles.....	17
<i>Collaborative EAD Conversion and Implementation Project at the Smithsonian Institution</i> by Barbara Aikens	
<i>Describing a Hybrid Manuscript Collection</i> by Alexis Antracoli	
<i>Online dating profile, comic</i> by Rebecca Goldman.....	19



**FROM THE VICE CHAIR**

*Jennifer Meehan*

The start of a new year means that the next SAA annual conference is on the horizon. It might still seem rather far off, but will be here before we know it. So there's no time like the present to start thinking about the 2012 Description Expo. As in past years, the Description Expo will gather and present online prime examples of archival description that reflect discovery and access, and/or expose "hidden" collections in new and creative ways. In keeping with this year's conference theme of "Beyond Borders," we particularly invite submissions that move beyond the real and imagined borders of archival description by, for example, bridging the analog/digital divide, overcoming institutional and collection boundaries, and advancing the processes, products, and systems of description and access.

The SAA Description Section encourages you to share your project with the larger community by entering it in the SAA 2012 Description Expo. Entries will be gathered through July 31, 2012. Projects will be presented on the Description Section website beginning in August 2012. If you have a project that you would like to enter in this year's Expo, please send a project description (300 words or less) along with a link to the project to me at [jennifer.meehan@yale.edu](mailto:jennifer.meehan@yale.edu).

**FROM THE EDITOR**

*Olga Virakhovskaya*

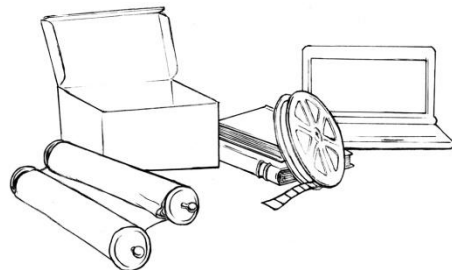
Happy New Year!

This is my first issue of *Descriptive Notes* as Editor. For your reading pleasure we've included the minutes of Description Section's Annual Meeting in Chicago, national and international news, featured articles by Barbara Aikens and Alexis Antracoli, and a comic by Rebecca Goldman.

This issue comes out during the week preceding the ALA's mid-Winter meeting in Dallas, TX. Our ALA cataloging colleagues will entertain important discussions regarding RDA, Functional Requirements models, and Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative. To bring you up to date on latest RDA-related developments, a section on RDA news and announcements is included. You will find RDA Toolkit news, reports by various groups, and RDA training opportunities--including using RDA with DACS and RDA for rare materials.

As you probably have noticed, this issue has a slightly different look. I'm eager to get your feedback and opinion on the new format and the content provided at [volga@umich.edu](mailto:volga@umich.edu)

Enjoy your newsletter!



## SECTION LEADERSHIP

**Joyce Chapman**

Chair

**Jennifer Meehan**

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect

**Donnelly Lancaster Walton**

Secretary

**Jerry Simmons**

Immediate Past Chair

**Christine de Catanzaro**

Steering Committee Member

**John Nemmers**

Steering Committee Member

**William Landis**

Council Liaison

**Elizabeth Nielsen**

Web Liaison

**Olga Virakhovskaya**

Newsletter Editor

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

### Society of American Archivists

#### Description Section Meeting

Submitted by Donnelly Lancaster Walton, Section secretary

August 26, 2011

#### I. Welcome, introductions and general business

- Chair Jerry Simmons introduced Steering Committee members and other section leaders
- *Description Notes* newsletter editor Sarah Keen and webmaster Janet Carleton's terms of office have come to an end; Simmons asked for volunteers to take these positions
- Vice Chair Joyce Chapman reported on this year's Description Expo, which featured projects from 10 participants

#### II. 2011-2012 Vice Chair/Chair-elect election results

- Simmons introduced Jennifer Meehan as the new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

#### III. Announcements and Reports from Subcommittees, Liaisons and other groups

Tom Hyry: introduced the new SAA Council Liaison, Bill Landis

Council activities: SAA adopted EAC-CPF as a standard; the Meeting Task Force will be formed soon; at the business meeting Saturday there will be a discussion about online voting

Rob Spindler: 2012 Program Co-Chair

The 2012 theme is "Beyond Borders." He encouraged members to submit proposals and reminded us that the new SAA rule is that people can only be on one proposal. SAA has institutionalized the Lightning Sessions. October 3, 2011, is the deadline for submission of proposals.

Alex Lorch: Archives Program Officer, NHPRC: NHPRC archives programs

Discussed three different programs that might be of interest to members

Jennifer Schaffner: RBMS

- RBMS has been collaborating with SAA on creating companion standards, especially for manuscripts
- Also working on security guidelines and issues relating to loaning and borrowing

OCLC Research:

Gave update on ArchiveGrid (working on the search interface) and Single Search

Diane Ducharme: Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (DCRM-MSS)

- Charged with developing a manual for single-item, post-1600 manuscripts
- Have had 4 meetings since last year at SAA and have incorporated comments into areas 1 and 4

- Still unclear how it will work with RDA
- Welcomes comments on the current draft

Gordon Daines: Technical Subcommittee (TS) Describing Archives: a Content Standard

- DACS is under revision
- Committee met Wednesday at SAA and discussed comments; still accepting comments
- One recommendation is to put it online; an online version probably won't be free
- Will probably remove Part III due to lack of use
- Hope to create companion website

TS Encoded Archival Context /EAD tag usage research

- Now a SAA standard
- EAC-CPF schema being published online
- At their first meeting at SAA on Tuesday the members decided to work on a tag library— will be a dynamic document
- Need to work with TS EAD on a revision since the first standard is really a draft

Annie Ross and Brad Westbrook: ArchivesSpace, Archon and Archives Toolkit

- Archon and Archivists' Toolkit are merging to form ArchivesSpace
- Partners: NYU, UCSD, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Planning phase ended June 2011
- Partners are committed to providing pathways for current users to move forward
- Beta is expected between November 2012-February 2013

Archon:

- Four maintenance releases since August 2010

Archivists' Toolkit:

- 5 maintenance releases since August 2010
- 3 community users have created plug-ins
- AT reference project continues

Mike Rush: TS Encoded Archival Description

- Received over 125 comments on the proposed revisions
- Working meeting planned for March 2012 (funded by 3 sources)
- Hope to release draft revision in late 2012 and ask for comments
- Open to ideas for new name of EAD

#### **IV. New Business**

Daniel Pitti spoke about the IMLS grant he and Kathy Wisser received for *Building a National Archival Authorities Infrastructure*, which will promote the use of EAC-CPF. The grant also supports a meeting in the spring of various institutions and persons, hosted by NARA, who will look at a business model for what is necessary to establish a sustainable National Archival Authorities Cooperative (NAAC).

#### **V. Presentation**

*Digitization and EAD at the JFK: A Marriage of Opportunity* by, Erica Boudreau, Digital Archivist, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library

Chair Jerry Simmons adjourned the meeting.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Subcommittees

#### **Technical Subcommittee on Describing Archives (TS-DACS)**

*Gordon Daines*, TS-DACS Chair

TS-DACS is currently working on recommended revisions to DACS. The group is proceeding apace, and community feedback will be requested as the subcommittee completes draft revisions, hopefully in early summer 2012.

#### **Technical Subcommittee on EAD: EAD Revision Progress Report**

*Michael Rush*, TS-EAD Co-Chair

The revision of EAD 2002 is well underway. The Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Description (TS-EAD) held an EAD Revision Forum at the SAA 2011 Annual Meeting. The forum included presentations on EAD tag usage research, the revision process, input received during the comment period, possible changes under consideration, and technical considerations relating to schema design. Presentations from the revision forum are available at the SAA Standards Portal (see <http://www2.archivists.org/groups/technical-subcommittee-on-encoded-archival-description-ead/encoded-archival-description-ead>).

TS-EAD is currently preparing for a three-day working meeting to be held this March at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University with the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, and the Nationaal Archief of the Netherlands. A separate meeting of the Scheme Development Team will follow in the late spring.

Upcoming milestones for the revision include the release of a draft schema late in 2012, followed by a second comment period next winter. TS-EAD currently plans to release the new version of EAD in the summer of 2013.

Slides from the EAD Revision Forum held in August at the 2011 SAA Annual Meeting are now available via the SAA Standards Portal. If you were unable to attend or would like to revisit any of the presentations, please visit <http://www2.archivists.org/groups/technical-subcommittee-on-encoded-archival-description-ead/encoded-archival-description-ead>.

### News from institutions

#### **Social Networks and Archival Context (SNAC) news**

*Daniel Pitti*

Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities  
University of Virginia

Funded by a two-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, phase one of Social Networks and Archival Context (SNAC) finishes in April 2012. SNAC is a collaborative project of the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities (IATH), University of Virginia; School of Information, University of California, Berkeley; and the California Digital Library. SNAC has three objectives:

- demonstrate that the names and descriptions of corporate bodies, persons, and families in existing Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aids can be programmatically extracted into Encoded Archival Description-Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families (EAC-CPF) authority records;

- match and combine these EAC-CPF records with one another, then match against, and enhance with, data in existing archive, library, and museum authority records;
- demonstrate that records resulting from this systematic processing can be used to build a prototype archival access system that provides unprecedented integrated access to and innovative socio-historical context for understanding distributed archival records.

SNAC has extracted nearly 175,000 EAC-CPF records from approximately 30,000 finding aids provided by the Library of Congress, Northwest Digital Archive, Online Archive of California, and Virginia Heritage. Combining EAC-CPF records that can be reliably determined to describe the same entity results in 128,787 records. Though there are many successful matches, many records for the same entity do not match, and some records for different entities falsely match. SNAC researchers will continue to fine-tune accuracy of the extraction and match/merge processing.

The final report on SNAC will include suggestions regarding descriptive practice, particularly with respect to formulation and tagging of names, and will also make recommendations for revising the EAD and EAC-CPF standards.

The SNAC project collaborators hope to secure additional funding in order to vastly increase the quantity and diversity of the source data and to expand the research agenda.

See <http://socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/> for additional information.

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### **Building a National Archival Authority Infrastructure**

*Katherine M. Wisser and Daniel V. Pitti*

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has funded "Building a National Archival Authority Infrastructure," a project to promote the use of the new SAA standard Encoded Archival Context – Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families (EAC-CPF). This project will involve two complementary activities. The first is a scholarship program for attending regional SAA EAC-CPF workshops. The activity is a community-based exploration of the requirements for establishing a sustainable National Archival Authorities Cooperative (NAAC).

Coordinated by Simmons College, the scholarship program will provide twenty participant registrations for each of seven regional workshops to be held in the next calendar year. The first will be held in Austin on March 23, 2012 and scholarship applications are still being accepted. Please contact Kathy Wisser ([wisser@simmons.edu](mailto:wisser@simmons.edu)) or Solveig DeSutter ([sdesutter@archivists.org](mailto:sdesutter@archivists.org)) for tentative dates of other workshops.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) will host three meetings devoted to exploring the business, governance, and technological requirements for establishing a sustainable National Archival Authorities Cooperative (NAAC). The Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities (University of Virginia) and NARA staff will organize the meetings that will gather research and government (state and federal) archivists and librarians, scholars, funding agency representatives, and other stakeholders. The first meeting will take place in May 2012 in Washington, D.C. The two following meetings will gather small teams to address the requirement areas. The outcome will be a whitepaper that will present a blueprint for NAAC.

The project will promulgate use of EAC-CPF by assisting the community in acquiring the professional understanding and skills necessary to employ it; and lay the groundwork for establishing NAAC that will enable the community to build collaboratively an historical resource that will provide integrated access to and context for understanding the American record.

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## **Description project at Penn State**

*Doris Malkmus*

Special Collections Library

Penn State University

Penn State recently "completed" a 5-year initiative to create basic collection level information for its more than 5000, non-book collections. At the outset of the project, three quarters of the collections already had catalog records, with approximately 1250 collections to be updated and brought into compliance with DACS. As data was created, the Special Collections Cataloging Team used it to create MARC records, and submit them to the Penn State catalog and OCLC. In addition, catalogers added Library of Congress Subject Headings, and created name authority records for thousands of individual creators, organizations, and university offices. Hopefully, these name authority files will be converted to EAC at some point, while this year, the basic collection information will be incorporated into online EAD finding aids. Online, search-able finding aids will bring to light the particulars of many unexpected "finds"--deep and rich troves of information from faculty research papers, the waxing and changes in diverse labor unions, and the creative process of a wide variety of authors and artists.

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## **Successful Launch of the Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library**

*Krystal M. Thomas*

Dickinson State University

The Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University launched its new website and digital library in November 2011. This new portal to discover and explore Theodore Roosevelt and his era includes a digital library compiling documents and artifacts from the Library of Congress, Harvard University, the six National Park sites dedicated to Roosevelt and Dickinson State University. These partners digitized the materials on-site and then staff at the TR Center cataloged and indexed the materials for inclusion in the new digital library. Additional documents are being added to the digital library weekly.

The new website also includes an articles database, information for Roosevelt scholars, students and educators, as well as our newly redesigned blog.

For more information and to visit the new site and digital library, visit us at <http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org>.

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## **Newly cataloged: manuscript collection treasures**

Clements Library, University of Michigan

Some of the greatest and largest collections held by the Clements Library have been recently re-catalogued online thanks to a 2009 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Under this grant, the Manuscripts Division processed over 400 collections. Included are some of our most famous, many underused and unknown items, and a selection of recent acquisitions. Most of the grant-funded finding aids are currently available.

The new finding aids describe our magnificent American Revolution and British collections, such as the [William Petty, 1st Marquis of Lansdowne, 2nd Earl of Shelburne Papers](#), [Henry Clinton Papers](#), [Thomas Gage Papers](#), and [Thomas Townshend, 1st Viscount Sydney Papers](#). Many of these include appended subject and other indexes.

The finding aids introduce readers to our holdings pertaining to the French and Indian War era, the War of 1812, slavery and abolition, social and religious reform, Native American history, the Northwest Territory, westward expansion and the Gold Rush, and the Civil War eras. One of many examples of underused collections is the [Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, Slave Records](#), a register of black and mulatto children born in Dauphin County between 1780 and 1825.

Finding aids for several of our collections comprising single manuscripts, such as the [African American History Collection](#) and [Native American History Collection](#), are now accessible online. These include short descriptions of hundreds of significant individual items.

To access manuscript finding aids through Mirlyn, navigate to [mirlyn.lib.umich.edu](http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu), narrow your search to the William L. Clements Library, and search for topics in your area of interest. Then, look to the column on the left for the format link to "Archive," "Manuscript," or "Mixed Material." Each Mirlyn record includes a link to the more comprehensive EAD format finding aids. Source: Originally published in the William L. Clements Library's Winter 2012 Electronic Newsletter <http://www.clements.umich.edu/e-news/enews-index.php>

### **IMLS Collaborative Planning Grant: Planning for a Western Archival Network**

The University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library and partners, Orbis Cascade Alliance, the University of New Mexico, and the Utah Academic Library Consortium, will carry out a 12-month collaborative planning project to explore ways to improve end-user access to Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aids. Project partners will examine ways to realize cost efficiencies through shared technical and/or administrative structures that strategically centralize key functions and distribute others as appropriate to provide optimal user experiences, support efficient workflows for staff, and minimize contributor and administrative costs. The grant will run from October 2011 through September 2012

For more information see Orbis Cascade Alliance web site:

<http://www.orbiscascade.org/index/imls-collaborative-planning-grant>

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### **Library of Congress Publishes Initial Plan for Bibliographic Framework Transition**

Library of Congress is pleased to release for dissemination, sharing, and feedback the initial plan for its Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative. The plan is available at:

<http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition/news/framework-103111.html>

Additional Links: Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative Website <http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition/>

Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative Listserv <http://listserv.loc.gov/listarch/bibframe.html>

Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control Website <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/>

Sources: AUTOCAT Digest October 30-31, 2011 (#2011-290) and OCLC-CAT Digest November 7-8, 2011 (#2011-252)

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### **Library of Congress LCCN Permalink Service**

September 07, 2011. The Library of Congress is pleased to announce an expansion of its LCCN Permalink Service for the Library's name and subject authority records. These persistent URLs are based on the Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN). As with bibliographic records, LCCN Permalinks are displayed on authority record entries in LC Authorities <http://authorities.loc.gov/> Create an LCCN Permalink. Simply begin your URL with the LCCN Permalink domain name--<http://lccn.loc.gov/>-- then add an LCCN.

*Examples:* <http://lccn.loc.gov/n79018774> or <http://lccn.loc.gov/sh85026371>

LCCNs should be formatted according to the [info:lccn](http://info:lccn) URI specification

<http://info-uri.info/registry/OAIHandler?verb=GetRecord&metadataPrefix=reg&identifier=info:lccn/>

How LCCN Permalink Works. An LCCN Permalink retrieves a MARCXML-formatted record using the Z39.50/SRU protocol. Both valid and cancelled LCCNs (MARC 21 fields 010a and 010z) are searched. Authority record displays for LCCN Permalink follow the labeled display found in LC Authorities. MARCXML and MADS versions of the records are also available. Displays link to entries in LC Authorities <http://authorities.loc.gov/> and the LC Online Catalog <http://catalog.loc.gov/>--and, where appropriate, to entries in the Virtual International Authority File <http://viaf.org/> and LC Authorities and Vocabularies <http://id.loc.gov/>

Additional information on this service is available on the LCCN Permalink FAQ <http://lccn.loc.gov/lccnperm-faq.html>. Specific questions can also be sent to the Library of Congress through Ask-A-Librarian <http://www.loc.gov/rr/asklib/ask-digital.html>

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**Proposed Revision to the Broadcast WAVE Metadata Embedding Guidelines.** The Audio-Visual Working Group of the Federal Agencies Digitization Guidelines Initiative (FADGI) has drafted a revision to the guideline for metadata to be embedded in Broadcast WAVE files. This proposed version (2.0) of the Guidelines refers to Version 2 of EBU-TECH 3285: Specification of the Broadcast Wave Format, published by the European Broadcasting Union in May, 2011. Version 2 of the FADGI Broadcast WAVE Metadata Embedding Guidelines is a substantial revision of Version 1 and incorporates loudness metadata (in accordance with EBU R 128 [2]) and which takes account of the publication of Supplements 1-6 and other relevant documentation. The Proposed Version 2.0 document is posted for the public comment here: <http://www.digitizationguidelines.gov/guidelines/digitize-embedding.html> until February 21, 2012. Remarks about Version 2.0 of the Guidelines and Introductory Discussion documents (both found at the above URL) are welcome. BWF MetaEdit Has Also Been Updated BWF MetaEdit <http://sourceforge.net/projects/bwfmetaedit/> (at SourceForge) is a free, open source tool that supports embedding, validating, and exporting of metadata in Broadcast WAVE Format (BWF) files, including support for the Federal Agencies Guidelines presented above. BWF MetaEdit was developed by the FADGI, supported by AudioVisual Preservation Solutions <http://www.avpreserve.com/>. BWF MetaEdit has recently been updated to make the tool conform to Version 2 (May, 2011) of EBU-TECH 3285: Specification of the Broadcast Wave Format. Source: Archives digest: December 21, 2011. Posted by Jimi Jones, Library of Congress.

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### **History of Medicine Finding Aids Consortium updated**

The History of Medicine Division (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd>) of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) is pleased to announce the latest release of its History of Medicine Finding Aids Consortium (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/consortium/index.html>), a search-and-discovery tool for archival resources in the health sciences that are described by finding aids and held by various institutions throughout the United States. As with the initial release the new content crawled consists of finding aids delivered as EAD, PDF and HTML from a diverse institutional cohort. NLM is the world's largest medical library and a component of the National Institutes of Health. The site now indexes over 3,000 finding aids from 20 institutions. NLM invites libraries, archives and museums which include in their collections archival materials related to the history of medicine and health sciences to join. For more information about the project or requests to join the Consortium, please contact John P. Rees, Archivist and Digital Resources Manager, NLM, at [reesj@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:reesj@nlm.nih.gov). Source: Archives digest: December 05, 2011.

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**OCLC 2010/2011 Annual report available:** <http://www.oclc.org/news/publications/annualreports/default.htm>

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### **OCLC Research is developing a new, freely available discovery system for ArchiveGrid® to replace the current subscription service by June 2012.**

ArchiveGrid is a discovery service that provides access to detailed archival collection descriptions, making information available about historical documents, personal papers, family histories and other archival materials held in archives throughout the world. It includes over a million descriptions of archival collections held by thousands of libraries, museums, historical societies and archives worldwide and enables researchers to learn about the contents of these collections, contact archives to arrange a visit to examine materials or order copies—all from one simple, intuitive search. Anyone seeking historical collections can use ArchiveGrid's powerful search engine and user-friendly interface to retrieve results that include the title of the collection, holding institution, brief description and a link to an extended description. Primary sources can be hard to find on the Web, but they are found quickly and easily in ArchiveGrid, along with contact information for the archives and repositories where these materials are held. Although ArchiveGrid is currently available as a subscription service at <http://www.archivegrid.org>, it will eventually become a free discovery system. To facilitate this transition, OCLC Research is developing a new ArchiveGrid discovery interface that is now freely available. To try it out, go to <http://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/>.

Many opportunities are available for OCLC Research Library Partners to participate in the ArchiveGrid project and test the new interface throughout this transition. If you'd like to include your collection descriptions in ArchiveGrid and expose them to researchers worldwide, go to <http://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/collections/>. For more information about additional opportunities, contact [Bruce Washburn](mailto:bruce_washburn@oclc.org) <bruce\_washburn@oclc.org>. The new ArchiveGrid discovery Interface will provide free, comprehensive access to an increasing number of archival collections to scholars and researchers everywhere. Source: <http://www.oclc.org/research/activities/archivegrid/default.htm>

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### **OCLC announces future enhancements to Connexion Client**

Connexion client 2.40 is expected to be released in the March/April 2012 timeframe:

Changes to controlling headings (Expected: 02 2012)

Connexion client version 2.40 (Expected: 04 2012)

- Global Library Manifestation Identifier
- New command Classify on the Tools > Options menu
- RDA workforms to use RDA versions of the existing AACR2 workforms to create records
- MARC Update 2011 changes
- Macro changes

For more information about enhancements go to

<http://www.oclc.org/connexion/interface/client/enhancements/future.htm>

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### **RDA news**

#### **Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative: Update from Beacher Wiggins (Director for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Library of Congress)**

In May 2011 Deanna Marcum, the Associate Librarian for Library Services (now retired), announced an initiative to review the bibliographic framework to better accommodate future needs. A major focus of the initiative is to determine a transition path for the MARC 21 exchange format in order to reap the benefits of newer technology while preserving a robust data exchange that has supported resource sharing and cataloging cost savings in recent decades. In October 2011 a high-level general plan was published on the Initiative Website (URL <http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition/>) that indicated the approach would be oriented to semantic Web and linked data technology.

Some of the initial "requirements" for the Initiative would be broad accommodation of description rules such as *RDA: Resource Description and Access*, *CCO (Cataloging of Cultural Objects)*, *DACS (Describing Archives: A Content Standard)*, and others; consideration of all types of metadata (including e.g., preservation, technical, and rights, in addition to traditional catalog descriptive metadata); and consideration of the needs of all types and sizes of libraries. In addition, the Initiative would be sensitive to the existing metadata infrastructure with a continuation of maintenance of MARC as long as needed, development of compatibility with and transition paths for MARC-based records, and collaboration with infrastructure institutions.

This work will be carried out in consultation with the format's partners--Library and Archives Canada and the British Library, and the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, other national libraries, the many agencies that provide library services and products, the many MARC user institutions, and the MARC advisory committees such as the MARBI committee of ALA, the Canadian Committee on MARC, and the BIC Bibliographic Standards Group in the UK.

The Library has established a Website at URL [www.loc.gov/marc/transition](http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition) that will be the central place for plans, news, and progress of the Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative. It will indicate formal channels established for working with the community, receiving feedback and input from various sources and stakeholders, and proceeding in this major undertaking. The Library has also established BIBFRAME, an electronic discussion group for constant

communication during the effort of reshaping our bibliographic framework. Interested colleagues may subscribe to BIBFRAME from the Website at URL [www.loc.gov/marc/transition](http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition).

**Summary of Progress on US RDA Test Recommendations** September 5, 2011. Summary of Progress on US RDA Test Recommendations to JSC is available on Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA web site: <http://www.rda-jsc.org/summaryprog.html>

**Final Report of the FRBR Working Group on Aggregates available** September 12, 2011  
<http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/frbrg/AggregatesFinalReport.pdf>

**RDA Toolkit Releases.** RDA Toolkit has announced the content of the November 8 release. Improvements to the RDA browse and to search result display have been made. The release also includes updates to Library of Congress Policy Statements. Read the details: <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/content/274>. January 2012 release emphasizes speed. A new release was pushed to the live site of RDA Toolkit on January 10, 2012. The latest release to RDA Toolkit features a marked improvement in the chapter loading times. The faster RDA Toolkit is also becoming more diverse. To prepare for the addition of non-English versions of RDA instructions, icons have been added to the user interface. Library of Congress

Policy Statements (LCPS) have been revised and updated. For more information about January 2012 RDA Toolkit release go to <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/content/318> The next release is currently scheduled for February 14, 2012.

Source: RDA Toolkit <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/>

**RDA Toolkit webinars** November 16, 2011. RDA Toolkit Essentials are new bimonthly live webinars for those new to RDA Toolkit who would benefit from a tour of the product. The webinars will cover central topics such as login, navigation, and user-created content. You'll also learn more about available subscription options. The hour-long webinars will conclude with a Q&A session. RDA Essentials is free and open to everyone. In early November we will publish the first of our new series of interviews with participants in the U.S. RDA Test. These interviews will address the impact of the test on institutions, lessons learned from the test, how testers see the future of RDA. Our first interview is with Armin Siedlecki of Emory University <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/blog/281> On October 5th we launched our Development Blog <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/development> The new blog focuses on RDA Toolkit development issues and plans, and it combines with the Virtual User Group meetings to create an active avenue of communication between RDA Toolkit users and staff <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/virtualusergroup> Source: <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/>

### **Upcoming ALCTS continuing education webinars for Winter/Spring 2012**

RDA and Moving Images-on March 14. Presenter: Kelley McGrath, University of Oregon.

RDA and 3D Objects and Kits-on March 28. Presenter: McGrath, University of Oregon.

Rare Materials and RDA: Exploring the issues – on May 23. Presenters: Robert L. Maxwell, Brigham Young University and John Attig, Penn State University.

Archival Materials: Using RDA with DACS – on May 30. Cory Nimer, Brigham Young University.

Additional details, fees and other information (including links to registration) are posted at <http://www.ala.org/alcts/events> as they become available. Sources: AUTOCAT Digest January 3-4, 2012 (#2012-4) and ALCTS web site <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/index.cfm>

**AACR-RDA survey.** November 1, 2011. If you were in a cataloging-related position during the use of both AACR1 and AACR2 cataloging rules, your participation in a research survey would be greatly appreciated. The survey focuses on the perspectives of catalogers who worked with both sets of rules about their implementation and work experiences with them. In addition, responses are sought on how to incorporate the new RDA cataloging standard into the profession, based on earlier experiences with AACR1 and AACR2. While there has been much in the cataloging literature about the theoretical development and use of AACR1, AACR2, and RDA, few studies have examined the views of individual

catalogers on the practical implementation and use of these rules and standards. Participants in the survey will not be personally identified, and the information provided could be very helpful in better understanding the transition and implementation processes of differing cataloging rules and standards. The results of the survey will be submitted to a professional journal for publication consideration. If you are interested in participating in the survey, please click on the link provided below or copy and paste it into your Web browser window to access the survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AACRRDAsurvey> Source: AUTOCAT Digest Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2011 (#2011-291)

**Chris Oliver chosen to copy edit RDA.** November 11, 2011.

ALA Publishing, acting on behalf of the Co-Publishers of RDA: Resource Description and Access and under the direction of the Committee of Principals <http://www.rda-jsc.org/rdacop.html>, is pleased to announce the selection of Chris Oliver as Copy Editor for improving the readability of RDA.

In its June 2011 report, the U.S. RDA Test Coordinating Committee recommended that RDA be reviewed for clarity. As copy editor, Ms. Oliver is charged with improving the readability of RDA instructions without altering the meaning or intent of the instructions. This work is already underway. Ms. Oliver will first submit reworded chapter 9, followed by chapters 10, 11, 6, and 17. The work on these five chapters will be completed and put forward for approval by the Joint Steering Committee and review by the U.S. RDA Test Committee by June 2012. It is anticipated that the experience and knowledge gained from work on the initial chapter will inform the subsequent work and schedule. Details about how and when these chapters will be made available online (via RDA Toolkit) and in print will be shared in January 2012.

Source: RDA Toolkit blog <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/blog/288>

**New Chair of Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA.** December 20, 2011. Dr Barbara Tillett was elected as the new chair of JSC at its November meeting in Glasgow, Scotland. Dr. Tillett is Chief of the Policy and Standards Division (PSD) at the Library of Congress.

## **Announcements**

### **Call for participation. DC-2012: International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications**

International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications: "Metadata for Meeting Global Challenges"  
3-7 September 2012, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Metadata plays a significant role globally in information systems shaping how we know, monitor and change social and governmental systems affecting everything from the environment, human rights and justice to education and peace. DC-2012 will explore the global, national and regional roles of metadata in addressing global challenges such as food security, the digital divide, and sustainable development; and metadata's role in solving problems in the environment, medicine and health, government, agriculture and food, information access, human rights, justice, education, and peace.

DC-2012 will bring together in Kuching the community of metadata scholars and practitioners to engage in the exchange of knowledge and best practices in developing languages of description to meet these global challenges. Complete information about topics, submissions procedures and categories, author guidelines, and other useful information available at the conference web site <http://purl.org/dcevents/dc-2012>

Submission Deadline: 23 March 2012; Author Notification: 25 May 2012; Final Copy: 29 June 2012

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### **Call for papers: Subject Metadata IFLA Satellite Post-Conference Beyond Libraries-Subject Metadata in the Digital Environment and Semantic Web**, 17-18 August 2012. National Library of Estonia, Tallinn, Estonia

Organized by the IFLA Classification and Indexing Section <http://www.ifla.org/classification-and-indexing> and the National Library of Estonia <http://www.nlib.ee/en>

Conference theme: Beyond libraries - subject metadata in the digital environment and semantic web. The conference will explore the role of different kinds of subject metadata in the digital environment and the semantic web, in libraries and beyond libraries.

Possible topics include:

Use of library subject metadata by other communities

Cooperation of libraries with other partners (museums, archives, publishers, etc.) in creation and reuse of subject metadata and knowledge organisation systems (KOS)

Traditional and new methods of providing subject access: competition or co-existence?

Users, their needs and subject access behaviour in the digital environment

Users as creators of subject metadata

The deadline for submitting papers is 15 February 2012.

Additional information is available <http://www.nlib.ee/tallinnsatellite>

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### **Call for projects: International Council on Archives. The 2012 Programme Commission (PCOM)**

Do not miss the 2012 PCOM call for projects! PCOM invites members, branches and sections to submit proposals for ICA support to archival projects. Visit the ICA website <http://www.ica.org/> to know more about the call, the process and to get the PCOM forms. The ICA/PCOM invites members, branches, sections, committees, and others to submit proposals for ICA support to archival projects. Young and new professionals can also apply in the framework of a specific call.

Proposals will be accepted no later than 1 March 2012. For further information visit <http://www.ica.org/3725/call-for-projects/propose-your-project.html> and/or contact [programme@ica.org](mailto:programme@ica.org)

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### **Call for participation: 12th ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL 2012)**

June 10–14, 2012 Washington, DC, USA

Hosted by The George Washington University and The Library of Congress <http://www.jcdl2012.info>

The ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries is a major international forum focusing on digital libraries and associated technical, practical, organizational, and social issues. JCDL encompasses the many meanings of the term digital libraries, including (but not limited to) new forms of information institutions and organizations; operational information systems with all manner of digital content; new means of selecting, collecting, organizing, distributing, and accessing digital content; theoretical models of information media, including document genres and electronic publishing; and theory and practice of use of managed content in science and education.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Full Papers due January 23, 2012

Short Papers, Panels, Posters & Demos, Workshops, Tutorials due January 30, 2012

Notification of acceptance for Workshops and Tutorials: March 1, 2012

Notification of acceptance for Papers, Panels, Posters & Demos: March 21, 2012

Doctoral Consortium Abstract submissions due March 31, 2012

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### **Call for papers: Journal call for papers from Library Hi Tech News.**

Library Hi Tech News (LHTN), is actively seeking submissions. LHTN is an established (1984+) print and online monthly journal that quickly publishes articles of interest to our international readership. The journal's major focus is on developments in library technology. Although not formally peer reviewed, LHTN is indexed in Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA), Library, Information Science and Technology Abstracts (LISTA), Scopus, INSPEC, Current Index to Journals in Education and others. Published by Emerald Publishing Group, LHTN is interested in articles of varying lengths, reports from relevant conferences, and case studies of library use of technology. The editors will work with authors that are new to LIS publishing, and those who are seeking outlets for reporting on practical uses of IT in libraries. Publishing your article in LHTN can be "a place to start," analogous to a "poster session in print" and does not preclude publishing a more fulsome piece in a peer-reviewed journal at a later date. Readers consider LHTN the source to

hear what's coming next in terms of technology development for academic and public libraries. Submissions particularly welcome in the following areas (for example):

New Web Browsers/Search Engines, Virtual Reference/Pilots/Experiments, Library Uses of Skype/VOIP, Integrated Library Systems (ILSs) and ILMS, Blogging, Discovery Tools/Federated Search, Library Mobile Applications, EContent/Ebooks/Digital Collections, Social Networks/Collaboration, Virtual Worlds, Instructional Technology, Content Management Systems, Library as Publisher, Twitter Applications for Libraries, Gaming and Simulations, Digital Textbooks, New Library Learning Spaces, Digital Preservation/Data Curation, Virtual Conferencing, Citation Managers, Digital Video Technology for Library Users with Disabilities, LibGuides and similar products, Data Visualization, EScience/EResearch/Cyberinfrastructure, Open Source Software, Cloud Computing, Metadata and Tagging, Crowdsourcing, Web analytics tools, Web 3.0 and the semantic web.

For a free sample issue, please see: <http://info.emeraldinsight.com/products/journals/journals.htm?id=lhtn> We look forward to hearing your ideas, and to reading your submissions for LHTN.

Thank you very much,

Martin Kesselman and Laura Bowering Mullen, Co-Editors of LHTN

[martyk@rulmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:martyk@rulmail.rutgers.edu) , [lbmullen@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:lbmullen@rci.rutgers.edu) Source: AUTOCAT Digest - Jan 10-11, 2012 (#2012-11)

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#### **SAA workshops:**

##### **EAC-CPF: Encoded Archival Context - Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families**

Fri, Mar 23, 2012 Austin, TX

Instructor: Katherine M. Wisser

##### **Arrangement and Description of Electronic Records**

Wed, May 23, 2012 Chicago, IL

Instructor: Christopher J. Prom

For more information and to register go to:

[http://saa.archivists.org/4DCGI/events/319.html?Action=Conference\\_Detail&ConfID\\_W=319&Time=761141441](http://saa.archivists.org/4DCGI/events/319.html?Action=Conference_Detail&ConfID_W=319&Time=761141441)

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#### **Webinars on NHPRC Electronic Records Projects Grants**

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission will be hosting webinars to answer questions about its Electronic Records Projects grants. The webinars will take place on Monday, January 23 at 3 p.m. and Wednesday, February 8 at 4 p.m. Applications will be accepted for 1) Start-up projects that develop the capacity of institutions to prepare to capture and preserve electronic records through program planning; 2) Collaborative projects that establish and/or improve electronic records archives by engaging in effective and innovative collaborations; or, 3) Professional Development projects that develop and offer professional education curricula, basic and advanced institutes, or research seminars. For more details see the full grant announcement at

<http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/electronic.html>. Applications are due on June 7, 2012. NHPRC staff will review drafts submitted by April 2, 2012. SPACE IS LIMITED. To register for the January 23 webinar, go to <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/65221874>.

To register for the February 8 webinar, go to <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/474330982>. After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

System Requirements:

PC: Windows 7, Vista, XP or 2003 server

Mac: Mac OS X 10.5 or newer

Nancy J. Melley

Director for Technology Initiatives National Historical Publications and Records Commission National Archives and Records Administration 202-357-5452 Source: Archives digest: January 10, 2012

### **LRTS Request for Grant Proposals**

Library Resources & Technical Services (LRTS) announces the availability of grants of up to \$1,000 (funded by an Association for Library Collections and Technical Services grant) to assist authors with preparing literature reviews. The purpose of the grants is to provide funds that will be used for clerical and research support, thereby allowing the author/s to concentrate on analyzing the resources and writing the literature review. Possible support tasks might be collecting citations, sorting and organizing citations by themes and categories, locating and gathering resources to be reviewed, verifying citations, funding purchases of articles not owned by the home institution of the author, and so forth. Funding also could provide a mentoring opportunity by funding assistance by a library school or information science student. Highly cited, literature reviews provide an essential professional service to practitioners, scholars, and students by identifying the key themes and the most important publications appearing in successive two year periods. Books and articles by accredited scholars and researchers, i.e., primarily peer-reviewed publications provide the basis for a literature review. A good literature review is evaluative, selective, and critical, and goes beyond summarizing and quoting from the selected sources. Literature reviews explain why the sources cited are important and valuable, may compare them to prior works, and create a structure that organizes the two-year body of content to make it comprehensible and to identify themes, not only for those who have followed the developments it describes, but to future researchers. All sources referenced appear in the endnotes; a separate bibliography is not published. Although commissioned, LRTS literature reviews go through the same double-blind peer review process as unsolicited manuscripts.

LRTS seeks authors for the following topical areas and coverage periods:

Collection Development and Management literature published 2011-2012

Cataloging/Classification/Metadata Management literature published 2011-2012

Preservation and Reformatting literature published 2011-2012

Papers should be submitted not later than June 30, 2013. Grant recipients will be required to submit progress reports to the LRTS Editor in June and December each year.

The grant proposal must include:

1. Requester name, title, and contact information
2. The literature to be reviewed (see list above)
3. The requester's credentials to write the literature review
4. Amount requested
5. Budget plan and rationale for how the funds will be expended

Proposals are due by January 31, 2012.

Applications and inquiries should be submitted to Peggy Johnson, LRTS Editor, [lrtseditor@ala.org](mailto:lrtseditor@ala.org).

Source: AUTOCAT Digest - Jan 10-11, 2012 (#2012-11) Posted by Peggy Johnson, Editor, Library Resources & Technical Services

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### **SAA Spotlight Award -- nominate a colleague!**

Established in 2005, this award recognizes the contributions of individuals who work for the good of the profession and of archival collections, and whose work would not typically receive public recognition.

- Participating in special projects
- Exhibiting tireless committee or advocacy work
- Responding effectively to an unforeseen or pressing need or emergency
- Contributing innovative or creative ideas to the profession
- Performing extraordinary volunteerism
- Quietly but effectively promoting the profession

If you do, please consider nominating that person for SAA's Spotlight Award! Deadline for nominations is Feb. 28, 2012.

For more information and nomination forms visit the SAA web site

<http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-spotlight>

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**Nominate a publication for SAA's Preservation Publication Award!**

***Meg Phillips***

Chair, SAA Preservation Publication Award Subcommittee

Dear Colleagues:

I am serving on SAA's Preservation Publication Award Subcommittee this year and we are currently seeking nominations for the prestigious Preservation Publication Award. We need your help in identifying excellent preservation publications, and I rely on you to think of the deserving electronic records preservation publications released last year.

Do you know of an outstanding preservation-related work published in 2011? Would you like to see the author(s) or editor(s) recognized for contributing to preservation and the archives profession? Please consider submitting a nomination prior to the deadline of February 28, 2012.

The nomination form is available online at <http://www.archivists.org/recognition/Awardsform.pdf>

Further information can be found at: <http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-preservation> I encourage you to check out the list of previous winners at the bottom of the page for inspiration. Past winners have published important works on a wide range of preservation topics, including general archives and electronic records preservation, special media conservation, facilities standards for archives, and emergency preparedness and response.

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**Society of American Archivists Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award**

The Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award Subcommittee of the Society of American Archivists seeks nominations for the 2012 award.

This award recognizes an archivist, editor, group of individuals, or institution that has increased public awareness of a specific body of documents through compilation, transcription, exhibition, or public presentation of archives or manuscript materials for educational, instructional, or other public purpose. Archives may include photographs, films, and visual archives. Publication may be in hard copy, microfilm, digital, or other circulating medium.

Eligibility: Individual archivists and editors, groups of individuals, organizations.

Application Deadline: All nominations shall be submitted to the Awards Committee by February 28.

For more information on SAA awards and the nominations process, please go to

<http://www.archivists.org/recognition/index.asp>. Source: Ica-1 mailing list January 5, 2012

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**International Federation of Television Archives (FIAT/IFTA) Archive Achievement Awards.** Nominate a Project for the Archive Achievement Awards 2012. The FIAT/IFTA Archive Achievement Awards are designed to honour the most outstanding initiatives that promote the value and use of audiovisual archives. Any initiative that raises the profile of audiovisual archives, any project that showcases audiovisual archive content, any program that valorizes the use of archive in an outstanding way, is eligible to enter. The deadline for nominating is March 30, 2012. More information available <http://www.fiatifta.org/>

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## FEATURE ARTICLES

### **Collaborative EAD Conversion and Implementation Project at the Smithsonian Institution**

**Barbara Aikens**

*Chief, Collections Processing*

*Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution*

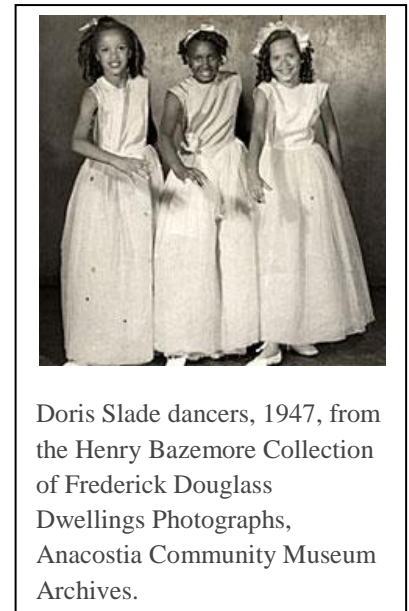


The Smithsonian Institution has 16 individual archival units <<http://sirismm.si.edu/siris/SIASC/index.htm>> with collections that collectively measure over 122,000 cubic feet, making its holdings among the largest in the United States. The scope of the collections is equally staggering and covers nearly every facet of our nation's rich heritage. All of the archival units participate in a shared bibliographic system and web-based Collections Search Center <<http://collections.si.edu/search/>> that indexes the Institution's digital content along with catalog records and textual resources from the library, archives, and museums.

In 2010, we received funding from the Gladys Delmas Kriebel Foundation to contract with nationally recognized EAD expert Michele Combs to complete an EAD Gap Analysis Study of representative finding aids from the participating units. She prepared individual reports that identified gaps in each unit's archival descriptive practices and recommendations for addressing the gaps and moving forward with SI-wide EAD implementation. Michelle's work resulted in a much needed blueprint for the SI archivists for implementing EAD on an institution-wide level. Among her many recommendations was to hire a SI-wide EAD manager.

In October 2011, the Smithsonian hired Mark Custer (formerly at East Carolina University) as the SI EAD Manager. Funding for the position was awarded from a centralized funding pool.

In just a few months, Mark has accomplished much. He is planning and directing unit-specific conversion strategies, such as mapping schemas and scripts to automate the conversion of existing electronic metadata. At the same time, he is assisting interested units implement Archivists Toolkit (AT) for EAD authoring. The central SIO OCIO office's Libraries and Archives Support Branch (LASSB) is supporting AT as a shared repository for the resulting EAD XML files. Mark is also working with graduate interns who are assisting with the hands-on legacy conversion and ingest into AT. Nearly 100 multi-level EAD finding aids have either been newly created or converted.



Doris Slade dancers, 1947, from the Henry Bazemore Collection of Frederick Douglass Dwellings Photographs, Anacostia Community Museum Archives.

Over the next two years, Mark and the project staff will develop shared resources—authoring templates, stylesheets, training, guidelines and manuals, and best practices. The project envisions a “MARC-first” workflow and plans to ingest each unit's collection-level MARC records into AT to create a large number of "stub" EAD finding aids. Fortunately, most of the archival units have collection-level MARC catalog records for nearly all of their collections. We recognize that several archival repositories have used this methodology for creating standardized stub EAD records that can be enhanced with component level descriptions and container listings as resources allow.

The ultimate goal of the project will be an integrated online experience for our users that allows searching across all of the Smithsonian's vast archival resources and associated digital content. Although we may be a bit late in getting started, we will certainly benefit from the admirable work done by existing consortia websites

such as the Northwest Digital Archives, Online Archive of California, Rocky Mountain Online Archive, and many others – as will our users.

For more information, please contact Barbara Aikens, Project Director at [aikensb@si.edu](mailto:aikensb@si.edu) or Mark Custer, EAD Manager at [custerm@si.edu](mailto:custerm@si.edu) .

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## **Describing a Hybrid Manuscript Collection**

*Alexis Antracoli*

Drexel University Libraries

Last year the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan acquired the papers of former Michigan governor Jennifer Granholm who served as governor for two terms (2003-2010). It was the first of collection of gubernatorial papers accessioned by the Bentley to contain a large volume of electronic records, a 35 gigabyte hard drive and 500+ pieces of removable media (CDs and DVDs), and thus presented new arrangement and description challenges. The primary descriptive challenge was in conceiving a finding aid that would preserve the provenance and context of the records as received from the governor's office, while also making clear whether materials were digital or analog. As the project archivist responsible for the arrangement and description of the collection, I set out to arrange and describe the collection with these priorities in mind.

In collaboration with the Bentley Historical Library staff, I explored several options for managing the hybrid nature of the collection in the finding aid. One option considered was the creation of a separate digital materials series that would create two subgroups within the finding aid. One grouping would describe the analog portion of the collection and the other subgroup would describe the digital files. In this situation, the digital materials would have been arranged independently of the arrangement of the analog materials. A second option was to remove the digital materials, both those on CDs and DVDs and those from the hard drive, and create a separate digital materials series that directly mirrored the arrangement of the analog portion of the collection. This would have preserved more context than the first option. The third option considered was to integrate the arrangement and description of the digital materials with the analog materials without creating artificial series or subgroupings. This would fully preserve the context of the records, especially for those digital materials that came on removable media and had direct connection to the analog materials in the folders that they arrived in. In collaboration with Bentley Library staff, I chose the third option, which was perhaps the most time intensive, but allowed me to preserve fully the context and provenance of all of Governor Granholm's papers.

Making this choice resulted in a finding aid where records were arranged in the functional series to which they belonged, regardless of whether they were analog or digital. For materials on the hard drive, where the connection with the paper materials was not known, I created separate Office Server Files subseries described mostly at the folder level. However, for materials that came on CD or DVD I preserved the relationship to the individual folder. This required more attention to detail, more time, and more granular description than would have been used in an analog only collection. For example, while the digital files will not be stored at the item level, preserving the original order of the collection often required item-level description, a practice that would not have been implemented for paper records. Governor Granholm made hundreds of video messages that were organized at the item level by her staff. Each folder contained a script for the message and a DVD of the governor delivering the message. While processing the collection, a copy of each message was created in an MPEG-4 format for access and preservation reasons and the DVDs were kept in the collection. This file will eventually be delivered to researchers. In order to make it clear to users that the folders included both analog and digital materials I included the title of the folder along with a further level of description for the script, the DVD, and the file derived from the DVD. An example is:

Folder level: Video Greeting for Hispanic Business Coalition, 2006

Item level: Script  
Item level: DVD  
Item level: MPEG-4 file

For other series and subseries, such granular description was not necessary, but in all cases, including an item level description of the digital file was required to indicate that it was a digital file and facilitate access. I provided links to the digital materials mostly at the series level, except for cases where the size of the digital deposit required smaller packages bundled at the subseries or folder level.

While this system worked for the Granholm papers, it is unclear whether such a granular and collection-specific approach is sustainable or necessary over the long term. What is clear is that hybrid collections present new descriptive challenges that the archival community will need to find creative solutions to. In particular, finding ways to preserve provenance and context in a world where electronic records are abundant and time and resources scarce will be a major challenge. If anything, this project highlighted the need to create systematic approaches to managing and describing electronic records in order to facilitate the timely processing of collections.

**ONLINE DATING PROFILE, comic by Rebecca Goldman, La Salle University**



**Dee Dee**

Date of the unit: 1985-

Extent: 5.1 linear feet

Acquisition information: Single

Physical location: An archives near you!

**Abstract:**

Fictional character seeks same for imaginary fun! Looking for someone who shares my commitment to a minimal-processing lifestyle.

**Biographical note:**

I am an imaginary archivist. I like talking doc boxes, metadata standards, and all things old and evidential.

**Physical description:**

Glasses and cardigans. Mostly grayscale.

**Restrictions on access:**

No hipsters or genealogists.

