Discoveries in Denver: The 2008 Annual Meeting

by Meg Loew Craft

This year’s annual meeting in Denver focused on the theme of Creative Collaborations and featured a wealth of cross-specialty topics, case studies, and projects. Nearly 40 abstracts were submitted in the initial call for papers, and with such an abundance of excellent submissions, it was very difficult for the planning committee to choose! Almost one thousand participants gathered in sunny Denver to meet, discuss current issues, and collaborate together. Thanks to everyone who submitted abstracts, helped to plan a successful meeting, and presented their work at this meeting.

The first three talks focused on international collaborations. In “A Peruvian-American Conservation Collaboration,” Camille Myers Breeze of Museum Textile Services discussed the motivations, rewards and frustrations of setting up and operating an annual educational program, the Pre-Columbian Textile Workshop. Chris McGlinchey presented “David A. Siqueiros and His 1936 New York Experimental Workshop: an Artist’s Collective Influenced by Politics and Science,” a collaborative study by Mexican and American art historians, conservators, scientists, and artists of the collective workshop—collaboration in itself. Financed by the Communist Party during the 1936 presidential election, David Siqueiros and compatriots began using paint (based on cellulose nitrate) for home use, and this collective has continued to document and share their work among its members. As the topic of her Ph.D research, Morwenna Blewett delivered “A Calamitous Collaboration: the Conservation and Restoration Profession in the Service of the Nazi Looting Machine,” and covered the complex interactions between Nazi agencies, officials, dealers, art historians, and conservators using newly discovered documentation.

The second group of four papers addressed large collaborative treatment projects for a photographic panorama, a map, a Louise Nevelson outdoor sculpture, and recovery activities after hurricane Katrina. “The Cincinnati Waterfront
From the Executive Director

Temperatures are rising in DC, and AIC is keeping pace by stepping up activities! Just one example is the new website being launched at summer’s end. Be sure to take advantage of all it has to offer!

The lead article in this issue of AIC News describes the highlights of the 2008 annual meeting in Denver. We’ve enjoyed the feedback on this outstanding meeting. Thank you to all who made it so successful! Now is the time to begin to plan for the 2009 meeting in Los Angeles. Mark your calendars for May 19-22 and take advantage of the discounted rates by registering today.

Annual reports serve a variety of purposes for organizations—providing stakeholders, such as members and donors, with a snapshot of the state of the organization. In the past, the AIC/FAIC annual report was printed as an insert in AIC News. It included a consolidated financial report and the narrative was geared to the membership. Beginning with the 2007 fiscal year, we have produced an expanded annual report that is posted on the website at http://aic.stanford.edu/news/index.html. The foundation has a separate narrative, though the two organizations are linked by the consolidated audited financial reports. The reports have also been designed as a print piece to be included with cultivation materials that are sent to potential donors and perspective FAIC board members.

Certification is the current hot topic of AIC. Take time now to learn more about the proposed program and how it developed. See the program summary on page 4 and go to http://aic.stanford.edu/certification/index.html on the website. The Certification Implementation Task Force is hard at work talking with the officers of each specialty group and our advisors. Questions are being addressed and the answers to them can be found in the “Frequently Asked Questions” section of the certification page. Our goal is to have a sustainable program that provides value for our members and for the end-users of conservation services. Yet, only with the support of the majority of our members will a certification program for conservators be successful. Look for the short online survey coming soon and let us know if you are committed to this major step in professionalizing and promoting the field.

―Eryl P. Wentworth
Executive Director, AIC/FAIC

Correction: The byline in the obituary for Caroline K. Keck in the March issue of AIC News (Vol. 33, No. 2) should have read: “This memoriam was taken from a text written by Joyce Hill Stoner for a future issue of Studies in Conservation and was embellished by Rick Kerschner. Most of the facts came directly from information provided by Caroline Keck in the FAIC Oral History File at the Winterthur Museum.” We apologize for the error.
AIC News

AIC Board Elections

The AIC Board of Directors welcomes its newly elected members, who are already fully engaged in board activities.
- Brian Howard, Treasurer (2008–2010)
- Ralph Wiegandt, Director, Specialty Groups (2008–2011)

All three are to be thanked for their volunteer services on behalf of our members.

Revisions to the Commentaries

The Digital Photographic Documentation Task Force has recommended to the AIC Board changes to the commentaries based on advances in technology. The recommendations are posted on the AIC website at http://aic.stanford.edu/about/coredocs/index.html for review and member comments. Following an August 1 deadline for comment, the AIC Board will discuss any potential revisions based on comments and hold a vote. Please send comments to Brett Rodgers, brodgers@aic-faic.org, by August 1 to have your opinion considered prior to the board vote. A revised version of the commentary on Documentation will be published in the next Directory, and on the website.

Report on the Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting was held on April 23rd following the Issues Session and conclusion of the General Session. Complete minutes from this meeting can be found on the AIC website at http://aic.stanford.edu/news/index.html. The AIC Annual Report for 2007 can also be found on the AIC website.

All reports indicated that the organization is fiscally healthy, involved in multiple exciting new projects and thankful for the many contributions that members and staff have been able to provide. In addition to welcoming new officers, reviewing the status of ongoing topics such as financial status, certification, the completion of the digital documentation project, the new public lecture and current FAIC projects, members asked for a ‘‘green’’ task force, presented a plea for more diversity within the organization and sensitivity to those who are not as technologically savvy. Please visit the website to review the minutes and this year’s annual report.

—Meg Louv Craft
Vice President, AIC Board

Green Task Force

During the AIC Annual Meeting in Denver, Paul Himmelstein presented a proposal signed by an extensive list of AIC supporters to develop a Green Task Force that will assist members and the AIC in implementing environmental sustainability actions. The AIC Board of Directors and attendees at the annual business meeting approved the following revised motion:

“We therefore propose that the Board of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works (AIC) create a task force to investigate implementing green practices for AIC itself and the conservation profession. Such a study should be complete within two years from this meeting date. The task force will report to the Board through official channels.”

AIC is seeking up to seven members to serve on the new task force, charged with investigating the implementation of green practices for AIC itself and the conservation profession. The task force will regularly report to the AIC Board through the Director of Committees and Task Forces and will submit its recommendations within two years. The Green Task Force will communicate through email and conference calls and should consider including corresponding members who can provide additional expertise.

To be considered for service, please send a letter of interest to Cathy Hawks at cahawks@aol.com by August 1, 2008.

New AIC Website

AIC’s newly redesigned website is expected to launch at the end of the summer. New features will include member login, online commerce, an updated guide to conservation services, improved navigation, and much more. A launch date will be announced soon.

Research Websites; OSG Supports New Initiatives

At the 2008 Object Specialty Group (OSG) annual business meeting, the group received two requests for funding assistance from non-OSG groups. Arlen Heginbotham, representing a group of conservators and researchers associated with the Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG), requested $2,000 for the development of a wiki-based on-line database and website for the description and identification of nails, screws, and other fasteners. Rachael Perkins Arenstein, representing the Integrated Pest Management Working Group (IPM-WG), requested a similar amount for upgrading their website, www.museumpests.net (see New Materials and Research, p. 17).

The WAG request will result in a Wikipedia style on-line database of fasteners, with descriptions, measurements, and photographs that will be useful to archaeological, historic object, architectural and wooden artifact conservators, as well as others in associated fields. During discussion, some concerns about content were expressed: archaeological conservators in the OSG were immediately concerned that structural as well as furniture fasteners would be included. Heginbotham assured the group that the wiki format of the database would allow for continuous expansion and inclusion of materials of interest to all users. The ensuing discussion made it clear that a multitude of users, including non-conservators such as curators and archaeologists, would ultimately find this very useful, and the group also requested that it be expanded to other fasteners and hardware over time. The major concern expressed by OSG members was that the database would have a permanent home, and continued maintenance and upgrading so our investment would not be lost.

This project represents a funded collaboration between specialty groups and other allied professionals; similar amounts were pledged by the ASG, WAG and the Early American Industries.

Please note: The name of the Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Committee has changed to the Emergency Committee.
The Nominating Committee is looking for individuals to run for the following AIC Board positions: President, Vice-President, and Director, Committees & Task Forces. If you are interested in running, please get in touch with one of the committee members, Jessica Johnson (johnsonjs@si.edu), Teresa Moreno (tkmoreno@email.ari-zona.edu) or Mary Striegel (striegelm@nsula.edu).

—Jessica S. Johnson, Chair, Nominating Committee

Association.

The IPM-WG’s request was made to provide long-term funding for their existing website and database. The $2,000 pledged by the Object Specialty Group at the 2008 Annual Meeting will be used, in conjunction with other funding currently being solicited from other institutions, to improve the design and navigability of the website. The hope is that, after a visit to the website, visitors should be able to easily access the IPM-WG’s Tools and Resources to answer three basic questions:

• How do I prevent pests from infesting my collection?
• How do I identify pests that I have found in my collection?
• What do I do if I have pests in my collection?

The IPM-WG is interested in working with other AIC specialty groups to ensure that their project continues to meet the needs of the various conservation disciplines and the broader museum community.

The IPM-WG is an ad-hoc group of collection managers, conservators, entomologists, and other professionals interested in issues surrounding the implementation of integrated pest management in museums and other collection-holding institutions. The group focuses on providing free online resources to make it easier for the broader museum community to develop and implement their own IPM programs.

These two newly funded initiatives are in keeping with AIC’s request that SGs reduce their cash reserves to a fraction of their annual expenditures. OSG is attaching minimal “strings” to these grants: the recipients must provide regular reports of their activities, and report on how the money is being used. In addition, they must make public presentations of the final product, either in print or at the annual conference. Both of these websites will provide services that are important to conservators, museum professionals, and the wider interested public.

—Howard Wellman, outgoing chair of OSG

Proposed AIC Certification Program

Brief History

Following the work of a certification task force formed in 1997, a November 2002 AIC member vote provided a mandate to proceed with developing a proposal for a certification program. Early in 2003, the AIC board of directors created a Certification Development Committee (CDC), chaired by Terry Drayman-Weisser and charged with recommending a plan for a certification program for conservators, including a mechanism for recertification or renewal. The CDC was structured to make use of the expertise of the Membership, Bylaws, and Education & Training Committees and to include working groups from each AIC Specialty Group. For over four years, the committee and its working groups explored all aspects of certification, gathered member input, and developed recommendations for a program for conservators. See AIC News, March 2006, for a complete summary of the CDC and its activities at http://aic.stanford.edu/library/documents/06_mar_aicnews.pdf or .html.

The final steps in the planning process were to incorporate a management and financial structure into the program recommendations. In 2005, Ruth Seyler was hired as membership director and brought with her years of experience in certification programs. A staff team including Ruth Seyler, Eryl Wentworth, and Eric Pourchot began working with committee members, and two certification consultants were brought into the process in 2006. The goals were to:

• Review the proposed program in light of more recent changes in AIC, its membership, and the field
• Test its recommendations through electronic surveys reaching up to 87% of membership
• Develop a management structure
• Examine the economic feasibility of pursuing the proposed exam model

In April 2007, the AIC Board of Directors determined that the CDC had completed its charge and work should continue through a Certification Implementation Task Force (CITF), which was charged to:

• Complete the steps necessary to further define what would be a credible and sustainable certification program for AIC
• Develop a timeline for certification implementation that includes the member vote
• Provide forums for continuing member education and information dissemination to involve members in the process and increase member commitment to certification
• Pursue funding for program development
• Manage the process through the initial testing phase

The CITF incorporates board, member, staff, and consultant expertise, in addition to advisors representing such stakeholders as training programs and end users of conservation services. The task force members have continued to explore issues such as the best type of exam for practicing conservators and concerns regarding costs for both the applicants and AIC itself. An exam model was developed to address both issues.

The proposed program incorporates most of the recommendations made by the Certification Development Committee. However, it proposes an exam comprised of short essays rather than a multiple-choice exam. Multiple-choice exams were found to be expensive to create and maintain because of the number of questions that need to be
AIC Seeking an E-Editor

The AIC e-editor will provide oversight of the AIC website content, with a particular emphasis on content for professional conservators. The e-editor is approved by the AIC Board, works in cooperation with the AIC publication manager, and reports to the executive director. The AIC member holding this contract position receives a stipend of $3,000 annually. Goals, as specified in the position description, are reviewed each year, as is an agreement to renew.

The ideal candidate will:
• Be knowledgeable about AIC and its membership
• Have excellent communication skills and experience with electronic communications
• Have strengths in marketing and promotion
• Be able to work effectively with members and staff

The e-editor will work from home or own office. Telephone, email, and internet connections are required. Current AIC membership required. Applications will be accepted through August 1. To apply, please send a letter of interest to Eryl Wentworth at ewentworth@aic-faic.org.

AIC Certification Program

Please note: The following reflects the proposed Certification Program as of May 2008. Some portions are still being developed and refined and will be continuously reviewed by appropriate experts. In order to provide a credible certification process, the AIC Certification Program should have the ability to adapt and evolve as experience is gained and as the profession and technology changes.

A Certification Commission will be created to oversee the program. It will be independent from the AIC Board and have its own budget structure. The details of how the Commission will work remain to be developed. AIC staff will administer the program and manage the process of developing questions, grading exams, and tracking the program.

Volunteers trained by education specialists will develop questions and grade exams. Both staff and volunteers will market the program to the end users of conservation services. Funds will also be budgeted annually for administration, outreach, and marketing.

Based on the recommendations from the CITF and survey results, the AIC Board of Directors determined that a short essay format is the type of certification exam that will best meet the needs of our members by:
• Allowing for more originality and diversity of conservation approaches than a multiple-choice exam
• Tailoring more questions to particular specialty areas, but allowing candidates some flexibility in choosing which questions from a group of questions to answer
• Costing less for AIC and its members than a multiple-choice exam
• Containing the flexibility to adjust the requirements based on demand or new issues facing the field of conservation

Exam Structure
The exam will consist of:
• Eight short essay (100 to 250 words) questions on general conservation. Candidates will be able to select their 8 questions from approximately 11-20 choices.
• Two case studies that would require slightly longer answers (500-800 words). Candidates would be able to choose from a number of case studies in each of the specialties represented by AIC Specialty Groups.
• All candidates earn the same certification regardless of specialty, but they can, by question selection, tailor their exam to their strengths.
• Initially, essay questions would be based on topics identified by the AIC Specialty Group Working Groups from the CDC.
• The test run exam (see below) will be proctored. Following the test run, proctored versus un-proctored exams will be evaluated. Either way, it is proposed that three exam dates be offered annually. If un-proctored, completed exams could be sent to AIC in paper-based or electronic formats.

Test Run
• Grant funds will be secured to develop the pilot project, part of which is the test run.
• The first 75 Professional Associates and Fellows, each with a minimum of ten years of experience, will be allowed to apply to take the first exam, which will be proctored.
• This group will be trained to serve as reviewers.
• During the test run, candidates will also serve as reviewers of other candidate’s exams.

Exam Requirements
• A cumulative total of 7 years full-time experience in a combination of conservation education, training, and work experience (including pre-program and apprenticeships). At least 4 of these years spent working and/or studying in a specialty area (as defined within a material specialty).
• Whether proctored or un-proctored, Associate members will be required to submit two sets of documentation reports with their application to take the exam as examples of conformance to the Guidelines for Practice.
• If an un-proctored exam were offered, two documentation reports would need to be submitted with the application for PAs and Fellows.
• AIC membership is required to take the exam. However, a membership application and two sets of documentation reports can be submitted for approval along with the certification application. Please note: It is acceptable to require membership for participation in a certification program as long as membership is open to anyone. It is not considered...
Exam Grading

- A blind review process* will be implemented. Grading will be done by two trained reviewers in the candidate's specialty. If the grades are too far apart, then the application will be sent to additional reviewers.
- The reviewers will be drawn from the ranks of current PAs and Fellows.
- The reviewers will be trained by education specialists and will use specially designed rubrics for each question, which will outline how to award and subtract points based on the answers given.
- Reviewers will be trained to view all established acceptable forms of conservation approaches as appropriate, regardless of whether it is what “they would do.”
- Reviewers will be trained to evaluate new or different conservation approaches on their own merits.
- Reviewers will be instructed on how to discount minor flaws in writing such as grammar and sentence structure errors, which are frequent in examinations of this type, so that they do not influence the grading.
- The AIC Certification Commission, an independent body, will review all failing exams and will have the right to change the score if it is appropriate.
- AIC will investigate how to offer an oral version of the exam for those with writing disabilities.

* In a blind review process, only the AIC office would know the names of candidates. Candidates will be instructed on how to depersonalize their applications. An application number will be assigned to each application, which will be the only identifying mark on the application when it is sent to the reviewers. If at any time a reviewer thinks they know the identity of a candidate, they will be required to inform the AIC office. Because all failing applications will be reviewed (also in a blind review process) by the Certification Commission, there is an additional check against bias in the review process.

Recertification

- Certified individuals will need to recertify every three years. The initial recommendation from the Recertification Working Group was for five years; however, it is extremely difficult to successfully track both conservators and recertification credits over that amount of time.
- The cost to recertify will be about $75.
- To recertify, a yet-to-be determined number of Recertification Credits would need to be earned. The Recertification Working Group has made suggestions about how this may be done and have suggested a wide range of educational activities that might qualify for Recertification Credits, including taking a work-related workshop, giving a professional presentation, publishing an article in a conservation journal, or attending the AIC annual meeting, among others.
- An alternative to Recertification Credits, a previously certified member may take the exam at the current fee structure.

Next Steps to Implement the Proposed Program

Over the summer of 2008, task force members will contact each specialty group through their officers, and will work with advisors to answer questions and refine the proposal. Information will be added to the certification page of the AIC website and an additional article will be included in the September newsletter. A short survey to members will gather feedback on the program before plans for a member vote are finalized.

Currently, a September 2008 member vote is being scheduled to provide approval to AIC to implement the proposed program. Following approval, a grant proposal will be written and submitted to several granting agencies to assist in completing such tasks as developing a job task analysis and hiring an education specialist to assist in developing test questions. The proposal will also incorporate the test run and will cover the first two years of certification implementation.

Please watch your email for a link to the upcoming survey. AIC will be adding information to the website and disseminating additional information throughout the summer.

—Certification Implementation Task Force: Catherine Hatoks, Facilitator, Terry Drayman-Weisser, Thomas Edmondson, Nancy Pollak, Eric Pourchot, Ruth Seyler, Eryl Wentworth

Tomb of the Unknowns

AIC has agreed to serve as a consulting party to the repair of the Tomb of the Unknowns Monument at Arlington National Cemetery, and Martin Burke has agreed to be our representative. While the scope of work is separate from the repair/replacement issue, which is on hold while a report to Congress is being prepared, this effort will help inform decisions regarding future repairs or potential replacement.

AIC and the Blue Shield—Cultural Property Conservation in Emergency Situations

AIC is continuing to work in partnership with the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield to provide training on emergency cultural property conservation to Civil Affairs troops. The board has also formally approved AIC support of the ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. Committee hearings have taken place, and a vote is anticipated in this term.

Summit of Research Scientists in Preservation

AIC is a co-sponsor of the two-day “Summit of Research Scientists in Preservation” being organized and hosted by the Library of Congress on July 24-25. Thirty senior conservation scientists, including international participants, have been invited to share the goals of research in which they are currently involved and to identify essential lines of research needed to meet today's preservation challenges. Results of this summit include dissemination of research priorities, stronger international networks of scien-
tists, and increased opportunities for collaboration.

**FAIC News**

**FAIC Scholarships and Grants Awarded**

The following individuals received FAIC Individual Professional Development Scholarships in the February awards cycle:

- Mary Jo Davis, Hands-on Workshop for Pulp and Paper Basics
- Janice Stagnitto Ellis, "Mastering Inpainting" workshop
- Anna Grishkova, "Digital Inkjet Printing for Conservators" workshop
- Hildegard Heine, "The Modular Cleaning Program: A Systemic Approach to Cleaning Artworks" workshop

Dana Hemmenway, Treating the Second Anglo-Afghan War Album: Negotiations Between Book and Photography

Scott Homolka, Washi Tour of Japan

Stephanie Lussier, Washi Tour of Japan

Catherine Magee, IIC 22nd Biennial Congress

Six awards were made from the Carolyn Horton Fund:

- Annie Wilker, Internship in Disaster Planning and Recovery
- Jennifer Johnson, AIC Annual Meeting
- Valeria Orlandini, ICOM–Committee for Conservation 15th Triennial Meeting
- Stephanie Watkins, Hiromi Paper International Washi Tour
- Yasmeen Khan, Treating the Second Anglo-Afghan War Album
- Adam Novak, AIC Annual Meeting

Three awards were made from the Christa Gaehde fund:

- Marikea Kaye, Hiromi Paper International Washi Tour
- Jane Dosman, Internship
- Robin O’Hern, Indo-Persian Paintings Workshop

A FAIC Lecture Grant was made to Camille Myers Breeze, to give a lecture on “Climate Control for Historic Structures.”

The next deadline for FAIC scholarships and grants is September 15. Guidelines and application forms are available on the AIC Website or from the AIC office.

**FAIC/NEH Scholarships Awarded**

The following individuals received FAIC/NEH Individual Professional Development Scholarships in a special May awards cycle:

- Hildegard Heine, Plastics workshop
- Rebecca Kelly, Plastics workshop
- Steven Pine, Plastics workshop
- Nancy Purinton, Tracing Paper Workshop

These scholarships are provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and help support attendance at NEH-funded workshops. The next deadline for FAIC scholarships and grants is September 15. Guidelines and application forms are available on the AIC Website or from the AIC office.

**Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowships**

Thirty-three fellowships have been awarded since the program began in 1994. Of the twenty-three manuscripts completed to date, ten have been published, and at least five authors are currently working with publishers. The projects have spanned a wide variety of topics and have added greatly to the breadth and depth of published materials available in the field of conservation. Fellowships have been awarded for publications emphasizing analytical methods, the history of technology, deterioration agents and treatment materials and applications, environmental topics, and historical treaties and conservation decision-making.

Here is a sampling of reviews from *JAIC* of published fellowship projects:

- Michele R. Derrick, Dusan Stulik, and James M. Landry, *Infrared Spectroscopy in Conservation* (Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Trust, 1999). “The book is highly readable and covers the practice of IR spectroscopy difficult to find in other infrared spectroscopy texts. The authors’ emphasis on sample acquisition and preparation is excellent, and any analytical chemist will tell you that sample preparation is everything...This book is a wonderful contribution not only to conservation science, but to allied fields.” (Reviewed by James R. Druzik.)

- Pamela B. Hatchfield, *Pollutants in the Museum Environment: Practical Strategies for Problem Solving in Design, Exhibition and Storage* (London: Archetype Publications, 2002). “This book evolved from a 1996 workshop on the preservation of museum collections that focused on air pollutants, primarily those that attain significant concentrations indoors and may present a risk to collections. The author’s audience is broad, encompassing curators, conservators, registrars, preparators, and virtually everyone who at some time or other makes or implements decisions that influence the long-term care of collections—even including those involved in building construction...The information is important, and it is clearly a growing body of knowledge that will only get tighter and more complete in future editions.” (Reviewed by James R. Druzik.)

*continued on page 10*
Daguerreotype Panorama: A Story of Creative Collaboration—From Creation to Conservation and Public Access,” presented by Ralph Wiegandt, explored the collaboration between a conservator and a historian and resulted in rich historical detail that was not evident at the project’s outset. Elmer Eusman from the Library of Congress detailed the housing of the Waldseemuller 1507 World Map, using practices of the Project Management Institute (PMI) to guide this complex project involving multiple professionals and organizations. A project of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the treatment of the outdoor sculpture “Atmosphere and Environment XII,” by Louise Nevelson, was documented in “Addressing Crevice Corrosion in COR-TEN™ Steel Outdoor Sculpture.” Because of size, weight, and an outdoor display environment, conservators were required to work with industrial suppliers and contractors with specialized skills and equipment to complete the work on schedule and budget. Lois Price delivered the final paper of the treatment-focused section, “The Winterthur/University of Delaware Katrina Recovery Project: a Model for Cultural Heritage Institution Partnerships.” This paper chronicled how conservators partnered with two devastated institutions—Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Presidential Library and Home and the Ohr-O’Keefe Museum of Art—to coordinate preservation recovery activities within with the constraints of trying to function in a disaster area.

The third topic addressed during the General Session was museum expansion and renovations. Several large U.S. museums are undergoing or have recently completed major projects, and this topic was explored as a way to allow the conservation community to share their successes and lessons learned, with others contemplating construction projects. The selected papers represented the responsibilities of architects, conservators, and architectural conservators; safeguards taken during a specific major museum expansion; and tactics to install artwork in a new museum wing.

“Collaborations on Built Heritage Projects: Conservator Roles, Responsibilities and Liabilities,” authored by David Wessel and delivered by Katharine Untch, illustrated case studies of museum renovations for which design and construction industry procedures were significant in project design for the treatment of cultural resources. Barbara Heller presented “Standards and Methodologies to Safeguard Collections During Construction,” which highlighted activities employed to protect the collections at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) during an extensive renovation of existing structures and construction of an addition, at a cost of over 158 million dollars and within a 6-year time frame. The final presentation was “The Team Approach to Installing a New Museum Wing,” delivered jointly by Jessica Fletcher and Michele Assaf from the Denver Art Museum. The presenters explored the challenges that new architecture can present in installing and maintaining collections in a different kind of space, and they discussed how collaborative teams from all existing staff departments were utilized to meet these needs. Discussions following the talks were lively and indicated the commonality of issues, especially those raised during construction projects.

In addition to the General Session, the AIC specialty groups presented many hours of valuable programming at the 2008 Annual Meeting. The specialty group sessions were broad in scope, and many appealed to members from multiple specialties. Specific information about presentations can be found in the meeting abstracts or by contacting the specialty group chair.

Travel support for nine general session and specialty group speakers, coming from the U.K, Belgium, Italy, Australia, and Singapore, was provided by a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. Twenty conservators from Latin American and the Caribbean were able to attend the meeting and present posters with support from a grant from the Getty Foundation.

The local arrangements committee was instrumental in putting together some special opportunities for annual meeting attendees. A guided tour of Dinosaur Ridge and Red Rocks was a great introduction to two famous natural history sites. In addition, the tour highlighted some of the challenges of conservation in an outdoor venue. For members with a more metropolitan focus, an “Art and Architecture” tour took members to three historic house museums: the Molly Brown House Museum, Byers-Evans House, and the Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art. The expert-led tour gave attendees a sense of Denver’s diverse past and a look of the conservation issues facing small historic house museums.

Among the highlights of the conference were tours of the private Anschutz Collection of Western Art. Local Arrangements Committee Member Randy Ash, who has served as
one of the collections conservators, was able to arrange these tours for AIC.

Meeting attendees enjoyed workshops on interview techniques, environmental monitoring, respirator fit testing, and digital imaging. Additional workshops were also conducted in Spanish for the Latin American and Caribbean scholars.

The AIC Opening Reception, held at the Denver Art Museum, included a presentation of the 2008 Forbes Medal award to Anne-Imelda Radice, director of the Institute for Museum and Library Services. AIC honored Dr. Radice for her career-long dedication to the understanding, appreciation, and support of conservation and preservation of our cultural heritage. Most recently, Dr. Radice created, and is providing leadership for, the IMLS initiative “Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action,” which includes a National Conservation Summit, four forums on conservation across the country, the distribution of 2,000 Conservation Bookshelves, and collaborative planning grants that will advance every state’s collective conservation goals. Dr. Radice’s outstanding commitment to conservation and preservation is reflected in this national initiative that is raising public awareness and inspiring action.

Following the presentation, members mingled in three party rooms, each with a different theme, to make new friends and reconnect with each other. In addition, the fourth floor galleries, which houses the Denver Art Museum’s outstanding Pre-Columbian collection, were open during the reception.

No annual meeting would be complete without the AIC exhibit hall. With over 50 booths, the largest North American gathering of conservation suppliers had something for everyone. Thank you to all of our exhibitors for helping to make our Annual Meeting a success.

Even if you missed out on the 2008 Annual Meeting, you can join us for the 2009 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. The theme is Conservation 2.0—New Directions. This theme will highlight the ways in which emerging technologies will affect the conservation field. General session abstracts are due by August 15. Make your plans to join us in LA today. Registration is open. Visit http://aic.stanford.edu/meetings/registration.html to register.

The 100-watt light bulb in this toy oven will bake a cake in 12 minutes!

How long will it take one to cook your collection?

Pure-white, stone-cold, fiber optic light with No UV and No IR gives you:

- **Beauty** - NoUVIR has perfect color (Color Rendition Index is 100%).
- **Safety** - NoUVIR ends photochemical and photomechanical damage!
- **Savings** - NoUVIR has documented 70% gallery energy savings!
- **Quality** - NoUVIR 10-year warranty covers hardware and fiber!

What else could you ask for?

NoUVIR Research®
We invented conservation lighting!

The hottest thing in exhibit lighting has no heat at all!

Call (302) 628-9933 for a free 130-page catalog and design manual.

www.nouvir.com
Max Schweidler, The Restoration of Engravings, Drawings, Books and others: Works on Paper, translated, edited, and with an appendix by Roy Perkinson (Los Angeles, Getty Publications, 2006). “Max Schweidler’s long out of print book, Die Instandsetzung von Kupferstichen Zeichnungen, Büchern usw: (The Restoration of Engravings, Drawings, Books etc.) was originally published in Germany in 1938….This book’s translation is greatly broadened by the knowledgeable, intelligent, well-informed notes added by the translator in all sections plus a comprehensive glossary….It greatly expands the knowledge and adds to the history of restoration and conservation of art on paper that had been so secretive and certainly is difficult to describe without encouraging amateurs to take up the practice.” (Reviewed by Jane McAusland.)

Marianne Webb, Lacquer: Technology and Conservation; A Comprehensive Guide to the Technology and Conservation of Asian and European Lacquer (Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann, 2000). “At long last a book has been written that looks at the range of materials, technologies, and treatments available for both Asian lacquer and Western japanned objects….This book is a guide to the technology and conservation of Asian and Western lacquer for the professional conservator and student. It will assist both the beginner and the experienced conservator in making informed decisions on identification and treatment of lacquer and japanned objects.” (Reviewed by Donna Strahan.)

George Wheeler, Alkoxysilanes and the Consolidation of Stone (Los Angeles: Getty Publications 2005). “For conservators, conservation scientists, and conservation students working on the preservation of stone, a comprehensive and critical summary of the extensive and sometimes contradictory literature on alkoxysilanes compounds has been needed since the 1981 AATA bibliography on the subject by Carol Grissom and

**FAIC "Take A Chance" Grant, $1,500 Award**

Applications are encouraged for this fund, established in honor of Carolyn Rose, which helps defray costs for innovative conservation research or projects that may not otherwise be funded. Applicants must be current members of AIC. The deadline for receipt of applications is February 1, 2009. Download the guidelines and application at [http://aic.stanford.edu/faic/grants/documents/tacapp.pdf](http://aic.stanford.edu/faic/grants/documents/tacapp.pdf)

Norman Weiss. George Wheeler, director of conservation research at the Historic Preservation Department at Columbia University and research scientist at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has successfully filled this need with a remarkable book from the Getty Conservation Institute’s Research in Conservation series of softbound publications.” (Reviewed by Dale Kronkright.)

Applications for FAIC Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowships are due November 1. Guidelines and applications are available on the AIC Website or from the AIC Office.

The fellowships are designed to give conservation professionals release time from their professional responsibilities in order to complete book-length manuscripts. The maximum fellowship length is eighteen months, so candidates normally need to have all basic research completed prior to the start of the fellowship. Successful applications typically include a detailed outline of the work as well as one or more completed sample chapters. Applicants must be AIC Fellows or Professional Associates.

For more information about the publication fellowships, contact Eric Pourchot, Professional Development Director, in the AIC Office: epourchot@aic-faic.org; (202) 452-9545 ext. 5, or see http://aic.stanford.edu/faic/grants/index.html

—Susanne Gansicke, Chair, Publications Committee and Eric Pourchot, AIC Professional Development Director

**September 15 Deadline for FAIC Grant and Scholarship Applications**

Applications are due September 15 for requests for funding in six categories that support projects by AIC members. Guidelines and application forms are available at [http://aic.stanford.edu/faic](http://aic.stanford.edu/faic) or from the AIC office. All materials must be received by the published deadlines for consideration.

Small Meeting Support Grants are intended to help defray the costs, up to $2,500, to develop and hold small meetings of AIC members. A small meeting is defined as one that has more than five but less than twelve people. Meetings may include seminars, research, brainstorming, problem solving or other continuing education endeavors that support both professional development and the conservation profession. The small meeting grant is intended to create a participative environment where problem(s) are solved and decisions are made on a subject, problem, or idea. The grant can also be used to facilitate communication among meeting participants, so funds could be spent on telephone, video, or web conferencing expenses.

Individual Professional Development Scholarships offer support of up to $1,000 to help defray professional development costs for AIC Fellows or Professional Associate members.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Individual Professional Development Scholarships of up to $1,000 are available to all AIC members to support attendance at 2008-2009 FAIC workshops supported by a grant from the NEH: “Adhesives for Conservation,” “Bleaching Techniques,” “Plastics and Rubber” and “Paper and Water.”

Lecture Grants offer up to $500 for the purpose of presenting public lectures to help advance public awareness of conservation.

Regional Angels Grants offer up to $1,000 toward the development and implementation of volunteer projects that bring teams of conservators to work with collections in need of care around the country.

Workshop Development Grants offer up to $1,000 to help defray costs for development and presentation of regional...
Call for Annual Meeting Workshop Proposals

Proposals for workshops to be held in conjunction with the 2009 AIC Annual Meeting are due by October 1. The workshop date is Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

Some topics that have been requested by members that might lend themselves to one-day or half-day sessions in a hotel environment include:
- Documentation (various aspects)
- Material science (various materials)
- Analytical instruments
- Suction table techniques
- Laboratory design
- Pest management
- Exhibit mounts (including seismic)
- Collections management
- Identification techniques (various – woods, printing techniques, etc.)
- Storage
- Packing, transit
- Evaluation of previous conservation treatments
- Working with special materials, such as wax or feathers

Individuals or groups considering organizing a workshop are encouraged to contact Eric Pourchot, AIC Professional Development Director, early in the process for assistance with planning and budgeting, at (202) 452-9545, ext. 5 or epourchot@aic-faic.org. Proposal forms are available on the AIC website.

Health and Safety

Some Chemical Things Considered: Bisphenol A

Characteristics [1 & 2]
Chemical formula: C15H16O2
CAS#: 80-05-7
Molecular wt.: 228.29
Boling Point °C: 220
Melting Point °C: 150-155
Vapor Pressure: 3.91X10⁻⁷ mm. Hg, 25°C
Synonyms: BPA, Bisphenol, 4,4’-(1-Methylethylidene)bisphenol, 4,4’-Isopropylidenediphenol

Introduction

Bisphenol A (BPA) is a monomer with two phenol functional groups. It consists of white to light brown flakes, crystals or powder. It is soluble in acetic acid, aqueous alkaline solutions, acetone, and slightly soluble in carbon tetrachloride. BPA was first synthesized in 1891. In the 1930s BPA was determined to be an artificial estrogen and in 1953 it was first used to synthesize polycarbonate. [3]

BPA has been used as an intermediary or building block for several polymers including polycarbonates, epoxy resins, as well as phenoxy, polysulfone and certain polyester resins; flame retardants and rubber chemicals; and to formulate fungicides. Today BPA containing materials may be found in coatings on cans for foods and beverages, in dental sealants, dental retainers, syringes, eyeglass lenses, plastic beverage, food and laboratory containers as well as in epoxy resins and putties used in the field of conservation.

Until recently, BPA was not considered a toxic chemical. However, BPA’s role as an endocrine disruptor that functions as an estrogen mimic has been known for some time. These mimics trigger the receptors for estrogen in both male and female mammals. Chris Stavroudis’s articles on BPA and other xenoestrogens in the WAAC Newsletter provide excellent context and discussion of BPA’s effects. [4]

Here is one of his helpful summaries:
Table 1: Resin Identification Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resin Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Polyethylene terephthalate ethylene. Examples: soft drink, juice, water, detergent, peanut butter containers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDPE</td>
<td>High density polyethylene. Examples: opaque plastic milk and water jugs, bleach, detergent and shampoo bottles and some plastic bags.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDPE</td>
<td>Low density polyethylene. Examples: grocery store bags, most plastic wraps and some bottles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC or V</td>
<td>Polyvinyl chloride. Examples: cling wrap, some plastic squeeze bottles, detergent, and window cleaner bottles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Polypropylene. Examples: most Rubbermaid, deli soup, syrup and yogurt containers, straws, and other clouded plastic containers, including some baby bottles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS</td>
<td>Polystyrene. Examples: Styrofoam food trays, egg cartons, disposable cups and bowls, carryout containers, and opaque plastic cutlery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>Usually polycarbonate, also acrylonitrile butadiene styrene acrylic, polyactic acid, nylon and fiberglass. Polycarbonate used in most plastic baby bottles, 5-gallon water bottles, “sport” water bottles, metal food can liners, clear plastic “sippy” cups, and some clear plastic cutlery.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As is often the case with xenosterogens, the discovery of BPA’s interference with chromosome alignment was accidental. In 1998, researchers in three different labs at Case Western Reserve University found a sudden increase in chromosomal abnormalities in the mouse eggs they were studying. Initially, they suspected a genetic mutation was the cause. Instead, they found that a worker had cleaned the mouse cages and water bottles with a too-harsh detergent. The alkaline detergent caused sufficient quantities of BPA to leach out of the plastic to cause eight times the aneuploidy and 20 times the errors in chromosomal alignment in the mouse eggs.” [4]

Controversy over the safety of BPA has recently arisen again with the release of a risk review report by the National Toxicology Program on April 14th and the announcement on April 19th by Canada Health that BPA would be banned in that country. [5 & 6] BPA is of concern to the general population because of its presence in polycarbonate plastics, which are commonly used for beverage and food containers and dishware, including baby bottles and children’s sipping cups, in the resins used to line food containing cans, and in dental composites and coatings. It is of concern to conservators specifically due to its presence in epoxy resins and epoxy putties, where there are exposure risks from inhalation and skin absorption. Precautions to prevent skin contact and inhalation hazards should be considered when working with these materials.

Hazards

Bisphenol A has recently undergone extensive analysis for exposure risk assessment. Nevertheless, to date there are no NIOSH, OSHA, ACGIH or IDLH exposure limits established for this chemical. According to the recently published Canada Health screening assessment summary:

Dietary intake is the primary source of exposure. Exposure estimates for the general population of Canada range from 0.08 Îg/kg body weight (bw) per day to 4.30 Îg/kg-bw per day. Specific exposure estimates for the most highly exposed subpopulation (i.e., infants) range from an average of 0.50 Îg/kg-bw per day (maximum 4.30 Îg/kg-bw per day) for infants aged 0 to 1 month to an average of 0.27 Îg/kg-bw per day (maximum 1.75 Îg/kg-bw per day) for infants aged 12 to 18 months. A critical effect for characterization of risk to human health is reproductive and developmental toxicity. The neurodevelopmental and behavioral dataset in rodents, though highly uncertain, is suggestive of potential effects at doses of the same order of magnitude to one to two orders of magnitude higher than exposures. Given that toxicokinetic and metabolism data indicate potential sensitivity to the pregnant woman/fetus and infant, and that animal studies suggest a trend towards heightened susceptibility during stages of development in rodents, it is considered appropriate to apply a precautionary approach when characterizing risk. As such, it is proposed that bisphenol A be considered as a substance that may be entering the environment in a quantity or concentration or under conditions that constitute or may constitute a danger in Canada to human life or health. [5]

The following excerpts are taken from the concluding summary of the NTP Draft Brief on BPA [8]. The data following that are gathered from the NIOSH International Score Card and two MSDS’s from two different manufacturers of BPA.

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) concurs with the conclusion of the Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (CERHR) Expert Panel on Bisphenol A that there is some concern for neural and behavioral effects in fetuses, infants, and children at current human exposures. The NTP also has some concern for bisphenol A exposure in these populations based on effects in the prostate gland, mammary gland, and an earlier age for puberty in
100% Needle-Punched Felt Polyester Batting

- No Adhesives
- No Dyes
- Light & Heavy Weight

For Storage, Display Mounts, Padding for Hangers or Mannequins

Available in Roll Form at 36” and 72”WD

For More Information
Please Contact:
BOB REYNA
or Customer Service
T: (716) 674 - 7990 x 207
F: (716) 674 - 3631
E: bobr@buffalofelt.com
E: salesdesk@buffalofelt.com

BUFFALO FELT PRODUCTS CORP.
14 Ransier Dr, West Seneca, NY 14224

www.buffalofelt.com

Optium® Museum Acrylic™ is the best choice for handling your most delicate and irreplaceable works of art.

This lightweight, anti-reflective, clear-coated acrylic provides greater security than traditional glazing. Optium® Museum Acrylic™ also offers protection against harmful UV light rays without masking the beauty of art.

Its anti-static properties make it ideal for framing all mediums including pastels and charcoals and is a perfect display and shadow box choice.

For an Optium® Acrylic™ Products Sample Kit, call the helpline or email your request to info@tru-vue.com.

Tru Vue, the Tru Vue logo and Optium are registered trademarks and Optium Museum Acrylic is a trademark of Tru Vue, Inc, McCook, IL USA.
females.

The NTP has negligible concern that exposure of pregnant women to bisphenol A will result in fetal or neonatal mortality, birth defects, or reduced birth weight and growth in their offspring.

In laboratory animals, exposure to high levels of bisphenol A during pregnancy can cause fetal death and reduced birth weight and growth during infancy. These studies provide clear evidence for adverse effects on development, but occur at exposure levels far in excess of those experienced by humans. Two recent human studies have not associated bisphenol A exposure in pregnant women with decreased birth weight or several other measures of birth outcome. Results from several animal studies provide evidence that bisphenol A does not cause birth defects such as cleft palate, skeletal malformations, or grossly abnormal organs.

The NTP concurs with the conclusion of the CERHR Expert Panel on Bisphenol A that there is negligible concern that exposure to bisphenol A causes reproductive effects in non-occupationally exposed adults and minimal concern for workers exposed to higher levels in occupational settings. Data from studies in humans are not sufficient to determine if bisphenol A adversely affects reproduction when exposure occurs during adulthood. A number of studies, when considered together, suggest a possible effect on reproductive hormones, especially in men exposed to higher levels of bisphenol A in the workplace. Laboratory studies in adult animals show adverse effects on fertility, estrous cycling, and the testes at exposure levels far in excess of those experienced by humans. A number of other effects, such as decreased sperm counts, are reported for the reproductive system at lower doses in animals exposed only during adulthood, but these effects have not been shown to be reproducible.

Exposure routes: Inhalation, dermal absorption, ingestion. The primary concern for conservators will be inhalation and skin exposure from working with BPA containing adhesives in resin and putty forms. Ingestion is a broader concern with the consumption of foods and beverages stored in containers made of or coated with BPA plastics where there can be chemical migration.


Acute Symptoms: Short-term exposures can result in irritation to the eyes, the skin and the respiratory tract with associated redness and soreness of eyes and skin, sore throat, coughing and nausea. Repeated or prolonged contact may cause skin sensitization. [9]

Exposure Limits:
LD50 (oral rat): 4040 mg/kg [11]
LD50 (oral rat): 3250 mg/kg [12]

Reports of Carcinogenicity:
NTP: No IARC: No OSHA: No [10]

Personal Protection: Wear personal protective clothing, gloves and goggles.

For inhalation: prevent unnecessary inhalation of dust by using respirator, fume hoods or other appropriate forms of ventilation.

For eyes: prevent exposure by wearing protective eyewear such as goggles.

For ingestion: do not drink, eat, or smoke while working with BPA containing materials.

SPI Resin Identification Code [12 & 13]

Table 1 presents the Society of Plastics Industry (SPI) codes, which may be found on the bottom of most plastic containers. Examples of
typical containers made of the different types of plastics are also provided.

Bisphenol A is found in polycarbonates, which are included in group #7. Plastics in groups #3 and #6 also ought to be avoided out of general health and safety concerns.

Sources:

—Marien Pool, Objects Conservator, AIC Health & Safety Committee

People

Textile Preservation Associates Inc. has moved. The new address is: Textile Preservation Associates Inc., P. O. Box 206, Ranson, WV 25438, (304) 724-1861.

The Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation proudly announces the students admitted into the 2008 entering class: LeeAnn Barnes, Lauren Bradley, Alisha Chipman, Rose Daly, Amanda Maloney, Gwen Manthey, Emily MacDonald-Korth, Caroline Roberts, Kirsten Travers, Renee Wolcott

The program’s third year students and their internship sites are: Lisa Duncan, Heugh-Edmondson Conservation Services and Weissman Preservation Center, Harvard University (photographs); Louise Groll, The Walters Art Museum (paintings); Bret Headley, Philadelphia Museum of Art (furniture); Jessica Keister, National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Conservation Institute (photographs); Meghan McFarlane, Arizona State Museum (objects); Lauren McMullen, The Walters Art Museum (objects); Sharon Norquest, Alexandria Conservation Services, Ltd. and Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (objects); Cynthia Schwarz, Yale University Art Gallery (paintings); Kate Wight, Metropolitan Museum of Art and the British Museum (objects).

The Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University is pleased to announce its incoming students for the graduating class of 2012: Sara Bellis, Linsly Boyer, Justine Ellis, Jessica Lian, Kristin Patterson, Kristin Robinson, Julia Sybalsky, Kristen Watson

The program’s third year students and their internship sites are: Jennifer Badger, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (paper); Aimée Ducey, Museum für Moderne (objects); Tara Hornung, Diana Johnson, Philadelphia Museum of Art (objects); Katie Patton, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (paintings); Anna Serotta, Brooklyn Museum (objects).

University of Texas, Austin is pleased to announce its incoming students: Alexander Bero, David Berson, Kathryn Blackburn, Jennifer Evers, Evan Knight, Youn In Kyung, Jill Sison

The program’s third year students, and their internship sites are: Danielle Fraser, Library of Congress; Suzy Morgan, Northwestern University Library; Sarah Norris, Newberry Library; Emily Rainwater, Smithsonian Institution Libraries; Melissa Tedone, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library.

The Art Conservation Department, Buffalo State College is pleased to announce the incoming students for the fall of 2008: Fran Baas, Gregory Bailey, Mary Broadway, Beatriz Centeno, Gabriel Dunn, Emily Hamilton, Kari Kipper, Sarah Nevole, Elizabeth Saetta, Erin
Stephenson.

The program’s 3rd-year interns and their internship sites are: Ana Alba, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution (paintings); Cynthia Albertson, Museum of Modern Art (paintings); Katrina Bartlett, National Gallery of Art (paintings); Angela Campbell, Philadelphia Museum of Art (paper); Robert Krueger, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (objects); Elizabeth Nunan, American Museum of Natural History (objects); Ariel O’Connor, Metropolitan Museum of Art (objects); Stephanie Porto, Metropolitan Museum of Art (paper); Josiah Wagener, Colonial Williamsburg (objects); Dawn Walus, Weissman Preservation Center, Harvard University Libraries (books).

The Getty Conservation Institute is pleased to announce its 3rd year students and their internship sites: Christian de Brer, Getty Conservation Institute’s Field Projects section, Tunisia (mosaics); Molly Gleeson, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (objects); Allison Lewis, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (objects); Steven Pickman–Neukom, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (objects); Özge Gença Ustün, Southwest Museum of the American Indian (objects); Liz Werden, Getty Conservation Institute’s Field Projects section (rock art).

Allied Organizations

HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Museums Selected For Emergency Planning Pilot Program

As participants in Heritage Preservation’s pilot Risk Evaluation and Planning Program, museums in Mississippi, Ohio, and Texas will be conducting risk evaluations and developing emergency plans with the assistance of a team of experts during the coming months. Fifteen institutions have been selected to participate in the program. A complete list of participants is posted at www.heritagepreservation.org.

In 2005, the Heritage Health Index, a survey of conditions of collections at museums and libraries nationwide, revealed that 80 percent of collecting institutions do not have an emergency plan that includes collections, with staff trained to carry it out. Recent tornadoes and floods demonstrate the importance of an ongoing commitment to preparing for emergencies. By identifying incentives to help institutions with valuable collections but limited resources plan for emergencies, the Risk Evaluation and Planning Program aims to increase the number of cultural institutions that are prepared to deal with disaster.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

AAM Ethics Task Force on Cultural Property, Comments Requested

In Spring 2006, the AAM Board of Directors empaneled an AAM Ethics Task Force on Cultural Property, comprised of board members of AAM and ICOM-US and augmented by experts from diverse professional affiliations within the museum community. The task force was charged with considering U.S. museum standards for acquisitions and loans of ancient materials and responsible care of culturally sensitive objects.

The task force decided that these complex issues would be best addressed through two separate statements. In Summer 2007, they submitted the first draft of a statement on acquisitions and loans of ancient materials with the recommendation that the board empanel a subsequent task force to address culturally sensitive material.

The board requested that the co-chairs of the task force share the draft with the Association of Art Museum Directors, solicit their comments and submit a revised draft to the board. That revised draft was reviewed at the most recent meeting of the AAM Board of Directors, who then approved dissemination of the AAM Standards Regarding Archaeological Material and Ancient Art to the field for comment.

After the comment period has closed, the task force co-chairs will re-examine the standard, consider any comments received and prepare a final draft by August 2008. Comments must be submitted by July 11, 2008 to: Cultural Property Comments c/o International Programs and Ethics AAM 1575 Eye St. N.W., Suite 400 Washington, DC 20005

Worth Noting

National Standards Set in Forthcoming AAM Publication

For the first time, the U.S. museum profession’s current operating standards in areas from public accountability to facilities and risk management are available in a single publication. Recently published, AAM’s latest book, National Standards and Best Practices for U.S. Museums, is an essential reference work for the museum community, presenting the ideals that should be upheld by every museum striving to maintain excellence in its operations. Visit the AAM Bookstore to order online.

50th Anniversary of the Harvard-Cornell Archaeological Excavations at Sardis, Turkey: Commemorating the Work of Crawford H. Greenewalt, Jr.

A volume of scholarly articles has been assembled to commemorate the 70th birthday of Crawford H. Greenewalt, Jr., and the 50th anniversary of the Harvard-Cornell archaeological excavations at Sardis, Turkey. Edited by Nicholas Cahill (Professor of Art History at the University of Wisconsin, Madison), Love for Lydia will be published by the Archaeological Exploration of Sardis (as Archaeological Exploration of Sardis, Report 4) and is available through Harvard University Press. Crawford Greenewalt, known to all as “Greenie,” has been field director of the Sardis Expedition for over thirty years.

Among the papers in this volume is an essay on the history and achievements of the conservation program at the site during his tenure: “Understanding and
New Report on Acquisition of Archaeological Materials and Ancient Art

As part of the Association of Art Museums Directors’ (AAMD) commitment to establishing the highest professional standards for its members, it has published the “2008 Report of the AAMD Subcommittee on the Acquisition of Archaeological Materials and Ancient Art.” The report:

- Recognizes the 1970 UNESCO Convention as providing the most pertinent threshold date for the acquisition of archeological materials and ancient art.
- States that AAMD members normally should not acquire a work unless research substantiates that the work was outside its country of probable modern discovery before 1970 or was legally exported from its probable country of modern discovery after 1970.
- Provides a specific framework for members to evaluate the circumstances under which a work that does not have a complete ownership history dating to 1970 may be considered for acquisition.
- Announces a new section of the AAMD website where museums will publish images and information on acquisitions of ancient works, in order to make such information readily and publicly accessible.
- Affirms the value of licit markets for the controlled sale of ancient art and archeological materials as an effective means of preventing looting.


New Materials and Research

Bitten By the Bug

Introduction

Heritage Preservation’s Heritage Health Index 2005 survey found that the most urgent preservation need at U.S. collecting institutions is environmental control, which included temperature, relative humidity, light, pollutants, and pest control. In a breakdown that examined the needs of museum and historical societies that together account for 22% of the 4.8 billion collections items in the United States, approximately 75% of these institutions require an integrated pest management program with 20% of that being an urgent need.

The ongoing effort of the Integrated Pest Management Working Group, known as the IPM-WG, aims to collaboratively address the needs of collection holding institutions’ integrated pest management projects. The IPM-WG is a group of collection managers, conservators, entomologists and other professionals interested in issues surrounding the implementation of integrated pest management in museums and other collection-holding institutions. The group does not teach IPM principles, but rather focuses on providing resources to make it easier for the broader museum community to develop and implement their own IPM programs.

What is IPM?

IPM is basically a strategy that emphasizes prevention and minimizes the use of toxic chemicals to manage and eliminate pests. A functional IPM plan works to reduce the possibility of pests accessing collections, monitors levels of pest activity and, if necessary, deals with remedial treatment.

History

During the past six years, professionals from a wide range of museum fields have met annually at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) to discuss the development of databases with potential for mapping pest activity, identification of essential data fields for databases, and the need to survey the community regarding IPM activities. Initially, like-minded staff at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) and the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) collaborated to form the IPM-WG as a way to address similar concerns relating to implementation of IPM programs in museums. The first working group meeting in 2002, hosted by AMNH, was attended by 11 individuals representing five institutions, and only three were conservators. Since 2005 the group has met annually at AMNH each February and, to date, has included participation from over 25 institutions across the U.S., Canada, and Europe. Membership consists of collection managers, entomologists, administrators, conservators, conservation scientists, and at least one computer programmer.

At the annual two-day meetings some projects are tackled by the entire...
group but most of the work is conducted in smaller subgroups devoted to a particular aspect of IPM. Each subgroup has a chair and together they identify the scope of their work and set short, medium, and long-term goals.

Early Accomplishments
• An e-mail discussion list that, six years after its inception, has expanded from the initial 11 participants to over 600 subscribers. This list provides immediate access to colleagues with experience in IPM as well as experts in the field like David Pinniger or the staff of Insects Limited.
• An IPM Questionnaire was used to survey the preservation/museum community to learn more about pressing concerns. The 30 questions covered information about respondents, their institutions and current monitoring, pest identification, and data analysis needs. The Working Group has used the data from respondents to ensure the group’s work addresses the needs of the museum community.
• A website www.museumpests.net was created to facilitate the Working Group’s activities and make information available to the wider community.
• Release of a pest management database called Zpest, developed by Leon Zak. This free downloadable program organizes pest observation data and presents it in graph and/or report format. This program is basic but can be used by institutions of all sizes that are looking to do more than just record pest monitoring captures on a spreadsheet.

The Subgroups and Project Status
• Identification Aids: Questionnaire respondents listed online identification resources as their greatest need. The ID Aids Subgroup’s medium term goal is a series of identification fact sheets with images and text that can be downloaded or printed for easy reference. The sheets are in development for the pests listed as “top offenders” by questionnaire respondents. In a recent collaboration with the Buffalo State College Conservation program, students were asked to complete research for some of the pest sheets, with all work vetted by the group’s entomologist. The group’s long-term goal is a searchable text and image database for identification. The group is still seeking high quality images of pests on traps and photographed evidence of damage from specific pests from the museum community.
• Standards and Best Practices: In order to encourage institutions to develop sound IPM policies and procedures the S&BP subgroup has collected, vetted, and posted a variety of IPM related material thought to exemplify best practices on www.museumpests.net. Over 40 examples of policies, procedures, and other related documents were chosen for placement on the museumpests.net “Resources” webpage. On the website’s “Tools” page there are templates for institutions developing their own policy and procedure documents with lists of headers and information or questions for each section that should be addressed. The goal is for institutions to write their own policy and procedure documents using the templates as a guide and the other documents as examples. Another useful tool on the website is the ‘grid’ which is helpful in understanding what arguments might effectively make the case for IPM at different levels within an institution.
• Data Collection: Their main goal is to find ways to help museums organize and store pest-monitoring data and, if possible, speed data entry. In addition to the Zpest database program, there is an annotated list of IPM database fields available on the Tools page of museumpests.net for people interested in developing their own database. This list should serve as a guide to individuals who may be developing or refining their pest-monitoring databases. The group’s long-term initiative is to create a forum where people can share their database with others and evaluate the pros and cons of different programs.
• Visualization: The major goal of this subgroup is to work on identifying utilities, such as geographical information systems (GIS), which will allow for mapping and visualization of pest activity. Some institutions have already found this a valuable resource for identifying pest problems in their buildings. Ultimately the work of this subgroup will be combined with the Data Collection group.
• Web Resources: The goal of this subgroup is to ensure that museumpests.net is the best entry portal for museum related IPM information on the internet. The website’s Resources page has a comprehensive bibliography as well as links to various IPM related web resources that our members have found useful. The page also includes PowerPoint presentations for download and announcements of other useful IPM related classes.

Slips, Trips & Falls: Does your first aid kit have what you need?
—A reminder from the
Health & Safety Committee
Tips for Success

The IPM-WG hopes to serve as a model for other efforts in developing best practices for preventive care that span across conservation specialty groups and museum disciplines. Several of the elements that have been part of the successful workings of the IPM-WG are as follows:

- The IPM-WG draws from the experiences and expertise of a wide range of individuals and institutions and is a community-led and supported process. The group includes representatives of almost all the stakeholders involved in implementing an IPM program.
- Although AMNH has generously hosted the meetings, the group is not affiliated with any particular institution or professional society and which has led to a nimble and flexible structure. The early organization of the group and work on the annual meetings has been facilitated by the cohesive core local committee, composed of individuals from a wide range of museum positions.
- While the group is open to all, it was made clear that IPM would not simply be taught. Participants were expected to have some experience in this area and leave each meeting with assignments that could require up to 20 hours of volunteer work throughout the year.
- Goals have been practical — to develop tools and resources that can be downloaded and used by any institution. The process is transparent — documents are posted for comment and review on the IMP-WG wiki site for all members, with comments welcome from others once documents are posted on the public portion of the site.
- Assignments that can be accomplished by individuals (e.g. writing case studies, collecting documents, creating bibliographies) can be done throughout the year. Collaborative efforts (e.g. vetting the products) are best done at face to face meetings.
- To keep everyone motivated, progress is broadcast through e-mail updates when groups complete goals and assignments and when new material is posted to the website. The repeated updating of short and medium goals indicates that objectives are being met and keeps momentum going. Subgroup chairs are expected to follow up and make it clear to contributors that the group is counting on their submissions.

Future Developments

The 2008 meeting included an even wider range of institutions by adding libraries and archives as well as smaller historical societies, and forcing the group to think about broadening its goals and focus to help make the museumpests.net website serve the needs of a wider audience. Funding is now required to improve the navigation and visual appeal of the website. The group has identified sponsorship of the website (not of the working group) as the most viable option for raising money. The current plan is to include a sponsorship page on the website with links to supporting groups, institutions and select commercial vendors whose interest align with ours.

When the product is almost complete, requiring only periodic updating, the local committee would very much like to hand the site off to a hosting organization. Identifying an appropriate custodian for the site has proved challenging for the group. Organizations like the AIC were initially seen as precluding non-conservators who make up the majority of the group. Participants from art museums, libraries and archives did not like the idea of aligning with The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC). Organizations such as the American Association of Museums (AAM) lack a place where this would fit into their structure. In reality as long as an organization will keep the site available, it wouldn’t actually preclude use by anyone — but the perception that this is only for certain groups has been a problem for our members. This is one of the challenges inherent to an interdisciplinary project. The group looks forward to continuing this discussion at the February 2009 meeting.

Anyone who is interested in joining can send an e-mail to Rachael Arenstein at Rachael@arensteinconservation.com or by checking the museumpests.net website.

Note: this article represents a summary of a presentation at the 2008 Annual AIC meeting in Denver, during the Objects Specialty Group session.

—Rachael Perkins Arenstein, Neil Duncan, Richard Monk, Lisa Elkin, Chris Norris

New Publications

Glass and Ceramics Conservation

2007, the proceedings of the interim meeting of the ICOM-CC working group, edited by Lisa Pilosi, covers aspects of research, practice, and training in glass and ceramics conservation. 248 pages. Published by Archetype Publications Ltd.

Human Remains: Guide for Museums and Academic Institutions, edited by Vicki Cassman, Nancy Odegaard, and Joseph Powell. This collection of essays provides discussion and recommendations for the recovery, treatment, documentation, and study of human remains, largely from the perspective of conservation and the long-term commitment to care of skeletons. 310 pages. Published by AltaMira Press.

The Invention of Pastel Painting, by Thea Burns, describes the relatively sudden emergence in the late 17th century of sets of friable pastel sticks and a new artistic practice of painting in pastel. Close visual examination and scientific analysis of selected chalk drawings and paintings in pastel, particularly between 1500 and 1750, are included. 256 pages. Published by Archetype Publications Ltd.

Watercolors by Winslow Homer: The Color of Light, by Martha Tedeschi with Kristi Dahm, addresses the fragility of Homer’s watercolors, their susceptibility to fading, and how his pictures have changed over time, as well as in-depth examination of Homer’s palette and techniques through a series of essays. 228 pages. Published by The Art Institute of Chicago, distributed by Yale University Press.

The editors of the Journal of the American Institute for Conservation are always looking for book reviewers to assess these and other titles that have been published in recent years. Please contact Harriet Stratis, Book Editor, at hstratis@artic.edu, or Michele Derrick, Editor-in-Chief, at MDerrick@mfa.org for more information.
SPECIALTY GROUPS

ARCHITECTURE

Certification: A vote for AIC membership to approve the implementation of certification is planned for September of this year (see article on p. 4). It is essential that ASG members participate in the certification process. Check out the AIC website for a complete update on certification at http://aic.stanford.edu/certification. Contact me or ASG Chair Kevin Daly at KDaly@wblemelvin.com.

Membership Committee: We are looking for a volunteer to help with the ASG Membership Committee. This committee focuses on maintaining and increasing ASG membership through outreach opportunities, partnerships with other professional associations, and communication with colleges and universities that have programs in historic preservation and material conservation. And you would get to work with Victoria Pinarron Alvarez. Anyone interested in this position should contact me or ASG Chair Kevin Daly.

In addition to Membership and Certification, there are other ways to become involved in ASG. The other ASG committees include the Communications and Public Awareness Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Website Committee. A list of the ASG’s committees and their responsibilities is available on our webpage: http://aic.stanford.edu/sg/asg/committees.html.

—Linmnae Dix Dawson, ASG Secretary/Treasurer dixdawson@mindspring.com

BOOK AND PAPER

AIC 2009 Annual Meeting: Consider this your first call for abstracts for next year’s annual meeting to be held in Los Angeles, May 19-22, 2009. Abstracts should be sent by August 15, 2008 to Program Chair Yasmeen Khan at ykha@loc.gov. Submissions should include the speaker’s name, address, email address, a brief biographical note, the title of the presentation, and an abstract of no more than 300 words. Abstracts will be reviewed by our Program Chair and Assistant Program Chair and the members of the BPG Education and Programs Committee.

The title of next year’s AIC meeting is Conservation 2.0 and will focus on new directions, including topics such as technology, documentation, and environmental sustainability.

The Tips Session will be renewed for the 2009 BPG program. Even if you aren’t up to providing a formal talk, please consider a 5-10 minute presentation with a few slides to demonstrate a clever procedure, product, or bit of wisdom you can share.

2008 BPG Business Meeting: Once the BPG business meeting minutes and 2009 budget have been completed, they will be posted on the website and sent out electronically. If you could not attend the Denver meeting, some highlights of the meeting are noted below.

There have been some changes with the BPG Discussion Groups. Sarah Reidell is leaving as Co-Chair of LCCDG, so Laura McCann will be joined by a new Co-Chair, Werner Haun. Also, ACDG co-chairs Susan Peckham and Linda Blaser are going to pass the baton to two new coordinators. Laura O’Brien-Miller has agreed to be one Co-Chair and the other replacement will be confirmed soon. Thank you to the past chairs for all of their well earned successes!

In 2009, BPG will elect a new Assistant Program Chair and a Secretary/Treasurer. The members of the nominating committee for this election are: Emily Jacobson, Vicki Lee, and Nora Lockshin.

AIC announced receipt of a grant from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) to create a wiki for all conservation catalogues. BPG will appoint a representative to work in tandem with BPG Paper Conservation Catalogue and Book Conservation Catalogue projects.

Emily Jacobson has assembled a BPG Handbook for the executive council and committee chairs. It is an evolving document, but will be a tremendous aid to the transfer of information to new officers. Contents include such topics as a calendar of activities and deadlines, BPG officer duties, and BPG guidelines.

Karen Pavelka reported from the AIC board that they continue to encourage BPG and other specialty groups to spend down reserves. BPG is currently holding on to more reserves than suggested, but this is primarily due to our group still anticipating the publication of the past three issues of the Annual, and much of the reserve funds have been earmarked to meet those costs.

Secretary/Treasurer Jennifer Hain Teper reported that the bottom line of last year’s budget was in the black. We over-spent in two key areas, but spent less than expected in many others. Therefore, our bottom line for 2007 left us with an income of $854.74.

Publications Committee: Karen Zukor, Chair of the Publications Committee, reported that the 2005 and 2006 issues of the Annual will be complete soon. In addition, the Paper Conservation catalog is now online. The Publications committee is planning to hold a mid-year meeting in November 2008, so please send any issues of concern to Karen ahead of time for discussion.

—Sue Murphy, BPG Chair (512) 477-6741, suemurphy2@mac.com
Thank you to all.

We continue to serve as treasurer; and Maria Pietruszewski will be serving as vice-chair for 2008-2009, and then chair in 2009-2010; D. Katie Powell will continue to serve as secretary. Those board members who participated in on-line voting. While all of those who responded completed the voting, less than a quarter of CIPP’s membership participated. I’m hopeful that as comfort with on-line voting increases, so will participation.

Please welcome both returning and new board members. Joanna Pietruszewski will be serving as vice-chair for 2008-2009, and then chair in 2009-2010; D. Katie Powell will continue to serve as treasurer; and Maria Sheets is the new secretary. Directors are Susie Lunas, George Schwartz, and Gwen Spicer. The nominating committee members are Linda Roundhill, Paul Garbarini, and Scott Haskins. The board is here to serve the needs of the CIPP membership so please feel free to contact any board member regarding issues relevant to CIPP members.

In Appreciation: To those board members whose terms ended this year I extend my appreciation for your contributions. Thanks to Jeff Peachy, who now becomes Chair Emeritus, for his excellent leadership skills and tireless championing of CIPP members’ interests. Finally, I’d like to again express gratitude to Jill Whitten for designing the excellent workshop at this year’s annual meeting, and to those who assisted in the preparations for this event. Attendees cited not only the quality of information provided by the speakers but also the especially stimulating dialogue that ensued. CIPP will strive to continue presenting similar dialogue opportunities in the future for its members.

2008 CIPP Business Meeting: AIC president Martin Burke spoke briefly at the business meeting, discussing the updating of the AIC website and the new wiki. He also encouraged members to upgrade their membership status, particularly those Associate members who may be thinking about applying for Professional Associate status.

CIPP Website and Listserve: We have been encouraging members to join the CIPP list and have definitely seen an increase. We still want members to join and receive the many benefits of the list. In addition to finding out the latest information on CIPP business, it is also an open forum for all topics of interest to conservation professionals. Messages can be posted at cippnews-l@lists.stanford.edu. Requirements for posting to the list serve may be found on the website.

The CIPP website is constantly being updated and contains a wealth of information. Did you know, for example, that you can provide a link to your own business website from your listing in the online members directory?

Both the listserve and website for CIPP are managed by Jan Hessling, who deserves recognition for the service she continues to provide in maintaining these member benefit resources. She is available to answer any questions you may have about either of them.

I look forward to meeting and working with as many of you as possible in the coming year. I am buoyed by the energy, enthusiasm, and great ideas put forth by our members. Please feel free to email me with your suggestions, concerns, or questions.

—Victoria Montana Ryan, CIPP Chair (719) 577-9393, acs@artcareervices.com

Outgoing EMG Officers: As the new EMG Chair, along with Holly Robertson (incoming Webmaster) and Fletcher Durant (incoming Assistant Program Chair), I would like to acknowledge the hard work of outgoing officers Jeffrey Warda, Gawain Weaver, and Hannah Frost. A very big note of thanks to Jeffrey Warda, who enthusiastically served as EMG Chair and also lead the Digital Photographic Documentation Task Force. In a breathtaking amount of time, he edited the new and extremely valuable publication: The AIC Guide to Digital Photography and Conservation Documentation. Gawain Weaver organized a great program and group session with BPG this year at the Annual Meeting in Denver. Since 2002, Hannah Frost served as an EMG officer, first as Program Chair and than as EMG Webmaster. Hannah supported numerous EMG activities and made lasting contributions to EMG. Thanks to all for your work and commitment to EMG!

2008 EMG Business Meeting: The EMG meetings started with a well attended luncheon and Business Meeting followed by the shared Book and Paper Group and Electronic Media Group Meeting session, focusing on metadata and hierarchical recording structures. The handling, organization, and management of digital information was closely examined in relation to early Egyptian manuscripts and books, the preparation for digitization of 20th century coal mining maps, as well as preservation and access to digitized documents.

The Digital Photographic Documentation Task Force Practicum gave in-depth insight about advanced image capturing and image file management. The practicum basically reflected the content of the new guide for every conservator. It is available for sale.
through the AIC website at http://aic.stanford.edu/library/print/index.html

Membership: Please consider becoming part of EMG and joining with a $20 annual membership fee. With the membership, you will receive the EMG Optical Pen. If you would like to be included in the EMG listserv, please check the EMG Website http://aic.stanford.edu/sg/emg/about/listserv.html for details.

AIC 2009 Annual Meeting: Please consider submitting a paper for the EMG session at the Annual Meeting 2009, which will take place in Los Angeles, CA, from May 19–22. The theme of the AIC’s 2009 Annual Meeting is Conservation 2.0—New Directions and will highlight the ways emerging technologies will affect the conservation field.

The topic corresponds to the most important tasks of EMG professionals—to use new technologies to preserve previous electric and electronic components and to migrate formats. We will also happily accept other abstracts related to electronic media conservation issues and the education of conservators of electronic media. Please submit an abstract of 150 words or less (with a title and author) to Gwynne Ryan at GRyan@nfaa.org before September 26, 2008. Presentations should be 25 minutes in length with 5 minutes for questions.

—Christine Frohnert, EMG Chair
(718) 885-0611, c.frohnert@verizon.net

Paintings

I would like to begin by thanking the outgoing officers. Wendy Partridge and Christina Milton O’Connell have done excellent work over the last two years as PSG Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. Noelle Ocon, outgoing Program Chair, assembled a terrific program for the 2008 annual meeting. I would also like to welcome the new officers. I look forward to working with our new Program Chair, Sue Ann Chui and our new Secretary/Treasurer Erica James. Lastly, I would like to thank Helen Mar Parkin for doing a wonderful job as Publication Chair and for continuing to serve in this demanding position for another year.

AIC 2008 Annual Meeting: Unfortunately, I was unable to attend
the annual meeting in Denver, but I hear that it was excellent. Noelle organized a fabulous selection of talks and I have been told that she made the tips session enjoyable, informative, and very entertaining. Thank you, Noelle and all of the presenters, for making the PSG session so successful. This was the second year that we raised money to sponsor tips session lunches for the speakers and students. I would like to thank everyone who contributed, especially Gamblin and Testfabrics.

Helen Mar Parkin has done a terrific job getting the PSG Postprints out in a timely fashion, while managing to include every paper. Denver presenters should have submitted their papers already, but if you have not please submit them as soon as possible so that Helen Mar can include them.

At the 2008 business meeting the membership voted unanimously in favor of switching to electronic elections for future PSG officers. This will allow the entire membership to vote, as opposed to only the members who are able to attend the annual meeting.

PSG Catalog: By now everyone with the exception of international members should have received Volume 2: Stretchers and Strainers. If you live in the United States and you have not yet received your copy or if you would like to purchase a copy of Volume 1: Varnishes and Surface Coatings, please contact the AIC office. Volume 2: Stretchers and Strainers will be mailed to our international members in the near future. I would like to extend a big thank you to the catalog editorial board for all of their hard work on this project. I would especially like to thank Barbara Buckley, who compiled this chapter, and Mark Bockrath, who drew the illustrations. We are grateful to the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and to Dr. and Mrs. John Herring for providing the financial support to make this publication possible.

Carol Christensen, Project Director for the catalog editorial board, gave an update at the annual meeting in Denver. She reported that the board would like to have several of the upcoming chapters in production at the same time, which will require more volunteers. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Carol at c-christensen@nga.gov.

AIC 2009 Annual Meeting: It is not too early to start thinking of papers for the PSG session of the 2009 Annual meeting. The meeting will be held May 19–22, 2009 in Los Angeles, CA. The theme is Conservation 2.0—New Directions, but the PSG talks do not necessarily have to correspond to the general theme. Please look out for the official call for papers in the next issue of AIC News and on the PSG DistList.

—Joanna Dunn, PSG Chair
(202) 842-6432, j-dunn@nga.gov

AIC 2008 Annual Meeting: I would like to give a special thanks to all those who presented papers and to congratulate Lyzanne Gann on putting together a very well organized and informative program. We received great feedback regarding the meeting. However, there was some concern regarding the required presentation length of 40 minutes. We will re-evaluate this requirement for the Winter Meeting in Tucson and will keep you posted on the changes.

AIC/PMG Funding Awards: PMG has set aside a fund allocation for research, publication, and special projects. As part of the updated AIC accounting system, this will allow us to reserve funds each year to ensure their availability for these important projects. If you are interested in applying for an AIC/PMG Funding Award, please refer to the guidelines and application form on the PMG website: www.aic.stanford.edu/sg/pmg/resources.html

PMG has awarded Dana Hemmenway funds to give a presentation at the ICOM–CC Photographic Materials Specialty Group in New Delhi, India. Her talk, entitled “Treating the Second Anglo-Afghan War Album: Negotiations between Book and Photograph Conservation,” will be published in the conference pre-prints.

The project covers the treatment of The Library of Congress' Afghan War album which contains ninety-seven albumen prints from the Second Anglo-Afghan War (1879-80). Photograph conservator, Dana Hemmenway, and book conservator, Yasmeen Khan, collaborated on the project in order to address the album and its photographs, in particular five badly damaged panoramas.

PMG Catalogue: Thank you to all that participated in the survey regarding the Conservation Catalogue. Your input will be the basis for all future decisions regarding the use of PMG funds for these types of publications and will directly impact the format in which we release them.

AIC has received a grant to place the conservation catalogues online as Wikis. Stephanie Watkins was appointed to represent PMG in this effort, since she has led the Committee on the Photographic Materials Conservation Catalogue for a number of years. I would like to thank Stephanie for taking on this important role.

Artist Questionnaire: Nora Kennedy and Erin Murphy have been spearheading an effort to develop an artists’ questionnaire to allow institutions to record vital data regarding the materials used to create contemporary photographic works. The goal is to create a user-friendly form that will be a standard tool with which to record pertinent information. This form has gone through extensive peer review and will be available through the PMG website free of charge. An announcement will be made when the questionnaire is
Digital Reference Plate: Many of you may have heard the announcement at the EMG and/or PMG sessions about the Digital Reference Plate that was developed by Dan Kushel, Juanjuan Chen, and Luisa Casella. The color and grey scale elements were cut from the Macbeth Munsel Color patches resulting in a color scale that is specially designed for digital documentation. Each plate has the following elements: grey scale, color patches, a lighting angle indicator, a photogrammetric indicator size scale, and an area for data label.

The pre-cut components will be offered as unassembled kits, and will be available in four different sizes. Layout, assembly directions, and a template for the data label will be available through the PMG website.

The Digital Reference Plate is not yet available. However, an announcement will be made on the conservation Dist-list, the PMG list serve, and in the AIC newsletter with more specific information on how to order them when the time comes.

—Adrienne Lundgren, PMG Chair
(202) 707-6736, alun@loc.gov

RATS did not submit a column this month.

As incoming Chair I want to thank Mary Ballard and Sarah Stevens for all their hard work over the past couple of years. It has been a joy serving with them and I look forward to serving another year with Seta Wehbe as our secretary. I also want to welcome our new treasurer Meg Geiss-Mooney and last, but certainly not least, Patricia Ewer, our incoming Program Chair.

AIC 2008 Annual Meeting: Thanks to all of you who made our Denver meeting such a success. Especially all of our outstanding speakers who made my job as program chair very easy.

AIC 2009 Annual Meeting: Next year’s meeting will take place May 19–22, 2009 in Los Angeles, CA. The theme is Conservation 2.0—New Directions. This theme will highlight the ways in which emerging technologies will affect the conservation field. Please send your submissions to Patricia at pewer@citlink.net.

Upcoming Changes: The board will be revising our Rules of Order, last updated in 2004 to reflect the changes that have come with online voting. All input is welcome; please send comments to me at anne_murray@msn.com. Another important topic that will be voted on in the fall is the Proposed AIC Certification Program. I strongly encourage all of you to check out the information that the Certification Committee has gathered and made readily accessible at the certification website http://aic.stanford.edu/certification/.

TSG website: I also would encourage you to use the TSG website: http://aic.stanford.edu/sg/tsg/index.html. Our webmaster, Melanie Sanford, has done incredible work maintaining this important resource for all of us. Check the site regularly for new information as well as for archives of our past meetings and reports. I am pleased to have the opportunity to serve as your chair in the coming year, thank you.

—Anne Murray, TSG Chair
(301) 514-7581, anne_murray@msn.com

WOODEN ARTIFACTS

AIC 2008 Annual Meeting: WAG owes a debt of gratitude to our 2008 Program Chair, Tom Heller, for organizing and presenting a varied and engaging program with the theme Creative Collaborations. Tom is also commended for including young and first-time presenters, and for drawing speakers from as far as Singapore and Australia. His research prowess was also highlighted by the selection of an outstanding beer joint for the 2008 WAG Dinner. This is the real test and legacy of a WAG Program Chair’s cultural sensitivity, organizing talent, and bon vivant. Excellent work!

I also wish to thank Kathy Gillis, WAG Secretary Treasurer for providing support. Thanks also to you, our WAG membership for reviewing the 2007 WAG Business Minutes posted on the WAG website, which allowed for a more efficient business meeting. A trend we hope to continue in the years ahead.

2008 WAG Business Meeting: Thanks to work by Jennifer Baker, members had a chance to look at the new 2005 and 2006 WAG Postprints. Though WAG Postprints always provide the finest content, the publication has evolved by virtue of its sheer beauty. I expect WAG membership to climb as a result of this publication!

Special congratulations go to John Childs, who was elected Program Chair for the 2009 meeting in Los Angeles. John currently serves as conservator with Historic New England, but notes having lived in Los Angeles for more than 12 years. John knows the best places to eat, stay, and hang out, as well as where to see the best furniture and best workshops. Special thanks go to Ron Blank for generously allowing his name to be placed forward as Program...
Chair despite formidable circumstances. Thank you both and congratulations John!

Other highlights include the Treasurer’s report, indicating that the WAG financial status is healthy. WAG has reserves of more than $30,000, and owes much gratitude to Randy Wilkinson, Chair Emeritus for his successful efforts in identifying unrealized reserves and ensuring WAG’s current financial strength. WAG has adequate resources to continue pursuing creative opportunities for the benefit of our membership, and many ideas have surfaced over the last year.

The Furniture in Italy Study Tour, originally projected for October 2009 is being postponed until at least October 2010 due to unforeseen circumstances. I will keep you informed as the initiative develops and there are still opportunities to become involved in the process.

The WAG contribution to the “Stout Fund” was increased from $500 to $1,000. With the approach of a vote on Certification in September, WAG may want to revisit our commitments to the AIC Professional Development Fund as well.

During its inaugural year, the Special Projects Fund Committee approved a total of $5,203.99 for projects. The WAG/SPFC approved $1,054.00 toward the development of the new AIC website, based on the proportion of WAG membership within the AIC. At the November 2007 IAG Meeting in Washington, DC all specialty group chairs expressed great enthusiasm that a new AIC website will facilitate enhanced cross-pollination of ideas and creative cooperation among the specialty groups, while allowing the AIC office more efficiency serving us all.

The SPFC awarded a $4,000 start-up grant to Arlen Heginbotham for the development of a web-based database of historic screws and nails. Arlen also received a $2,000 grant from the Early American Industries Association and commitments from the Objects and Architecture Specialty Groups. Finally, the SPFC awarded David Bayne’s request for a $149.99 test membership in the “Foundation Center” database, to investigate a broad variety of grant funding opportunities and furthering development activities for special initiatives.

—Peter Muldoon, WAG Chair
(202) 633-5167, muldoonp@si.edu

Bruker offers dedicated analytical solutions for the art conservators. The ARTAX mobile non-contact micro-XRF system offers in-situ analysis, fast and precise element mapping. TRACER III-V handheld vacuum XRF multi-elemental analyzer is ideal for in-situ studies in the field, as well as conservation laboratories. Bruker’s innovative infrared (FTIR) and Raman microscopes offer optimal sample visualization and data collection.
CALL FOR PAPERS


GENERAL


September 22-26, 2008. "Diversity in Heritage Conservation: Tradition, Innovation and Participation." ICOM-CC 15th Triennial Meeting. New Delhi, India—Contact: + 39 06 58 55 34 10; secretariat@icom-cc.org


October 6-11, 2008. IBBS-14, 14th International Symposium on Biodeterioration and Biodegradation. Messina, Italy—Contact: www.IBBS-14.org

November 17-19, 2008 Eastern Analytical Symposium,—Contact: John Scott, nyconsnfdn@aol.com


ARCHITECTURE


BOOK AND PAPER


PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS


OBJECTS


### COURSES, CONFERENCES, AND SEMINARS

#### RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

*July 7-11, 2008. INTER/MICRO 2008. Chicago, IL—Contact: Lauren Logan, (312) 842-7100, intermicro@mcri.org*

#### TEXTILES


*September 24-27, 2008. "Textiles as Cultural Expressions." The Eleventh Biennial Symposium of the Textile Society of America. Honolulu, HI—Contact: Tom Klobe, TSA Symposium Program Coordinator, University of Hawaii, Department of Art & Art History, 2535 McCarthy Mall, Honolulu, HI 96822; Janice Lessman-Moss, jlessman@kent.edu*

### COURSE OFFERINGS

#### The American Academy of Bookbinding Courses
Contact: (970) 728-3886; staff@ahhaa.org; www.ahhaa.org

#### American Association of Museums (AAM)

#### American Association for State and Local History
Varied locations—Contact: (615) 320-3203; www.aaslh.org/workshop.htm

#### Balaam Art Courses
Barcelona, Spain—Contact: Balaam, Mireia Xarri, C. Escoles Pies 76, Pral 1, Barcelona 08017, Spain; +34 93 4171347; info@balaam-art.com; www.balaam-art.com

#### Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies
De-acidification of Paper (July 21-24); Microscopy for the Conservator of Historic and Artistic Works (August 25-29); Mannequin Workshop (September 15-18); Biofilms for Conservators: Solving Microbiological Problems in Heritage Collections (October 6-10). Mt. Carroll, IL. Note: Scholarships available for select courses through AIC—Contact: Campbell Center; (815) 244-1173; Fax: (815) 244-1619; registrations@campbellcenter.org; www.campbellcenter.org

#### Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI)
Emergency and Disaster Preparedness for Cultural Institutions (February 8–9, 2008). Canada—Contact: cci-icc_edu@pch.gc.ca; 1 (866) 998-3721; www.cci-icc.gc.ca

#### Centre for Photographic Conservation Courses
UK—Contact: Angela Moor, +44 020–8690 3678; Fax: +44 020–8314 1940; cphotoconservation@cpc-moor.com; www.cpc.moor.dial.pipex.com;

#### Centro del Bel Libro
Ascona, Switzerland—Contact: info@cbl-ascona.ch; www.cbl-ascona.ch

#### College of Microscopy
Westmont, IL—Contact: (630) 887-7100; courses@collegeofmicroscopy.com; www.collegeofmicroscopy.com

#### Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA)
Philadelphia, PA—Contact: (215) 545-0613; www.ccaha.org

#### Conservation Center, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
Contact: Anuja Butala, (212) 992-5888; ab153@nyu.edu; or Shelley Sass, sks3@nyu.edu

#### Cornell University
Preventive Care Workshops (September 12-14, October 17-19, November 21-23), Ithaca, NY—Contact: Michelle Cowles, mw69@cornell.edu, 607-255-5068, http://www.library.cornell.edu/preservation/announcements/index.html

#### Getty Conservation Institute
Fundamentals of the Conservation of Photographs (July 2008, Slovak Republic), presented by the Getty Conservation Institute, the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava and the Slovak National Library in Martin, Slovak Republic—Contact: photoconscourse@getty.edu, http://www.getty.edu/conservation/education/cons_photo/

#### Heritage Conservation Network
Prairie Preservation at the Hutmach Homestead (May 25–31, 2008, North Dakota)—Contact: (303) 444-0128; info@heritageconservation.net

#### Illinois Digitization Institute at the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign, Online Courses
Contact: Amy Maroso, maroso@uiuc.edu; http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/idi

#### International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)
International Course on Conservation of Japanese Paper (September 8-27, 2008, Tokyo, Japan); Management Planning for Cultural Heritage (November 24–December 6, 2008); International Course on Stone Conservation (April 16–July 3, 2009, Venice, Italy)—Contact: ICCROM, +39 06 585531; iccrom@iccrom.org

#### International Academic Projects
New Methods of Cleaning Surfaces of Books and Paper (July 14–18, London); Leather Conservation Workshop (July 15–17, Northampton); Identification of
2008 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

The following courses are presented with funds from the FAIC Endowment for Professional Development, which is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and by contributions from members and friends of AIC. Full descriptions and registration forms are available on the AIC website (www.aic-faic.org) or from the AIC Office: (202) 452-9545, ext. 5.


*August 4-5 & 7-8, “Conservation of Tracing Paper.” Williamstown, MA

September 22-26, “Chemistry for Conservators.” Westmont, IL

October 3-5, “Iron Gall Ink Conservation.” Andover, MA

*October 6-10, “Adhesives for Conservation.” Omaha, NE

October 6-10, “Biofilms.” Mt. Caroll, IL

October 6-10, “Microscopy for Art Conservators.” Chicago, IL

See the AIC website for complete course listings and FAIC co-sponsored courses.

FAIC Online Courses

July 10-Aug 6, “Mitigating Risk: Contracts and Insurance for Conservation”

Sept 11-Oct 8, “Professional Responsibility in Conservation”

Oct 16-Nov 12, “Records and Information Management for Conservation”

SUMMER LEARNING SPECIALS!

AIC has partnered with KRM Virtual Roundtables to offer selected audio and web-based seminars this summer. Each of these seminars are 90 minutes in length. You will connect to the seminar using your normal phone line for audio. The "Marketing Tips" session also includes a web component, viewable on your desktop computer. You may share these sessions with as many colleagues as you wish by using a speaker phone. Recordings are also offered, if you do not wish to participate in the live event. AIC will receive a portion of the fees for these events, which will be used to support its professional development programs.

July 10, 2-3:30 p.m. EDT. “Marketing Tips, Tricks, and Tools That Work Today,” Audio and web conference. $195

July 24, 12-1:30 p.m. EDT. “Persuasive Communication: How to win anyone over to your point of view,” Audioconference. $189

August 5, 12-1:30 p.m. EDT. “7 Tips to Build a Strong Work Team,” Audioconference. $189

* This event funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Special scholarship funds available for U.S. residents.

Wood (July 21-25, London); Integrated Pest Management for Libraries and Archives (July 22, London); New Methods of Cleaning Painted Surfaces of 3D Objects (August 4-8, Australia); Preservation of Medieval Books (August 4-29, Italy); Introduction to Laser Cleaning in Conservation (Sept 29-30, Liverpool)—Contact: James Black, International Academic Projects, 6 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5HJ, UK; +44 207 380 0800; info@academicprojects.co.uk

The Laboratory Safety Institute Seminars and Workshops Nationwide—Contact: LSI, (800) 647-1977; labsafe@aol.com; www.labsafety.org

Lascaris Conservation of Works of Art Halkida, Evia Island, Greece—Contact: Mihail Larentzakis-Lascaris, Iatridou and Avanton 27, P.O. Box 19172, 34100 Chalkida, Greece; Tel/Fax: +30/22210/21981; m_lascaris@yahoo.gr; www.laskarisml.gr

McCrone Research Institute Microscopy for Art Conservators (October 6-10, AIC member discount available – this program is supported in
COURSES, CONFERENCES, AND SEMINARS

part by the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works); Polarized Light and Forensic Microscopy (August 11-15; October 13-17; December 1-5); Advanced Polarized Light Microscopy/Microscopy of White Powders (October 20-24); Sample Preparation and Manipulation for Microanalysis (October 27-31); Microscope Cleaning, Adjustment and Maintenance (October 6-7); Indoor Air Quality: Fungal Spore Identification (August 18-22, December 15-19); SEM/X-Ray Spectroscopy (September 29-October 3); Practical Infrared Microspectroscopy – FTIR (August 25-29 and December 8-12); Raman Microscopy (August 11-13); Microchemical Methods (September 22-26); Fluorescence Microscopy (November 5-7); Chicago, IL—Contact: Lauren Logan, (312) 842-7100; registrar@mcri.org; www.mcri.org

Midwest Art Conservation Center
Contact: Melinda Markell, 2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408; (612) 870-3128; info@preserveart.org

National Museums Liverpool
Contact: Martin Cooper, Conservation Technologies, National Conservation Centre, Liverpool, National Museums Liverpool, Whitechapel, Liverpool, L1 6HZ, UK; +44 151 478 4904; martin.cooper@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

National Preservation Institute
Digital and Traditional Photography of Cultural Resources (October 21-22, Carson City, NV); Identification and Evaluation of mid-20th C Buildings (November 18-19, Columbia SC); Green Strategies for Historic Buildings (September 9, Phoeniz, AZ); Cemetary Preservation (September 15-16, Jacksonville, FL). Note: Scholarships available for select seminars through the NEA—Contact: Jere Gibber,

Executive Director; National Preservation Institute, P.O. Box 1702, Alexandria, VA 22313; (703) 765-0100; info@npi.org

Northern States Conservation Center
Online Courses/Online Museum Classes
Museum Artifacts: How they were made and how they deteriorate (August 4-September 14); Found in the Collection: Orphans, Old Loans and Abandoned Property (August 4-September 14); Museum Cleaning Basics (September 2-26); Fundamentals of Museum Volunteer Programs (September 2-26); Disaster Plan Research and Writing (September 2-October 10); Storage Facilities and Furniture (September 2-October 10); Collections Management Policies for Museums and Related Institutions (September 2-November 14); Care of Archaeological Artifacts From the Field to the Lab (October 6-31); Integrated Pest Management (October 6-November 14); Exhibit Fundamentals: Ideas to Installation (October 6-November 14); Collection Inventories (October 27-November 22); Care of Textiles (November 3-28); Materials for Storage and Display (November 3-28); Collection Management Databases (November 3-28); Preservation Environments (November 3-28)—Contact: Helen Alten, helen@collectioncare.org

Pacific Northwest Preservation Management Institute
Seattle, WA—Contact: Lori Foley, lfoley@nedcc.org; www.nedcc.org

Professione Libro Association
Milan, Italy—Contact: +39 02 3760058, info@professionelibro.it

Rutgers University School of Communication, Information and Library Studies’ Biennial Preservation Management Institute
Contact: Karen Novick, Rutgers

University, 4 Huntington St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1071; (732) 932-7169; Fax: (732) 932-9314; http://scils.rutgers.edu

Textile Conservation Centre (TCC)
Winchester School of Arts, UK—Contact: Kathleen McCulloch, +44 23 8059 7141; Fax: +44 23 8059 6901; k.mcculloch@soton.ac.uk; www.textileconservationcentre.soton.ac.uk

West Dean College
Continuing Professional Development Short Courses, Building Conservation Masterclasses, Professional Conservators in Practice Short Courses, Chichester, UK—Contact: Liz Campbell, Administrator, West Dean College, West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0QZ, UK; Tel: +44 1243 818219; liz.campbell@westdean.org.uk

West Dean College
Continuing Professional Development Short Courses, Building Conservation Masterclasses, Professional Conservators in Practice Short Courses, Chichester, UK—Contact: Liz Campbell, Administrator, West Dean College, West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0QZ, UK; Tel: +44 1243 818219; liz.campbell@westdean.org.uk
WESTERN CENTER FOR THE CONSERVATION OF FINE ARTS, LTD. DENVER, COLORADO

Paintings Conservator

Qualifications include a master’s degree in conservation from a recognized training program or equivalent experience. A minimum of 3 years of post graduate experience is preferred but all applications will be considered. For consideration, please submit a cover letter summarizing your interests, your resume and two letters of recommendation to carmen@wccfa.com or WCCFA, 1225 Santa Fe Drive, Denver, CO 80204.

WCCFA is a private conservation facility specializing in the treatment of paintings. We have been in business since 1980 and our clientele includes museums and other institutions as well as a variety of private sector clients throughout the western United States.

WEST LAKE CONSERVATORS

Paper Conservator

West Lake Conservators, a Central NY, 33 year-old practice known for specializing in paintings, seeks an experienced paper conservator. Our spacious paper lab established in 1998 is well equipped to serve our clientele of small to mid-sized museums and private collectors. Requirements as our sole paper conservator are; competent computer skills, the ability to work independently and estimate treatment times on a wide range of paper-based art and artifacts, conduct surveys, undertake preservation framing, interface with clients and educate the public. Send resume and letter of intent to Susan@westlakeconservators.com. www.westlakeconservators.com

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Painting or Paper Conservation

WILLIAMSTOWN ART CONSERVATION CENTER

Objects Conservator Department Head

CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART

Painting Conservation Fellowship

WEST LAKE CONSERVATORS

Paper Conservator

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

Objects Conservator

EMERGING LEADERS NETWORK

Are you a pre-program student looking to gain experience prior to entering a graduate program?

Are you a current student who wants to build relationship with conservators who are your peers?

Are you a conservator with a few years of experience in the field looking to take their career to the next level?

A new group within AIC has been started for you. Come be a part of this exciting new initiative within AIC!

Please let us know if you want to stay informed of all the activities of the network. Just let us know by e-mailing Ryan Winfield at rwinfield@aic-faic.org.
Environmental Monitoring Equipment

- Arten Thermohygrometer
- Isuzu Hygrothermograph
- Psychrometer
- Elsec UV Monitor
- Visible Light Meter

Microclimate Preservation Systems

- RHAPID Pak, Pre-conditioned Silica Gel
- Scavengel Pollution Control Sheet

Founded in 1988 by Steven Weintraub, APS specializes in the environmental preservation of museums, art collections, archives, and historic buildings. In addition to the products listed above, we also provide environmental consultation and preservation research services.

For more information, please visit our web site: www.apsnyc.com.

We are currently updating our web site to allow our customers to place their orders online. Look for upgrades in the coming months.