

### *Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)*

#### **Member News**

Jablonski Building Conservation is pleased to announce that Stephanie Hoagland has become a partner in Jablonski Building Conservation. Stephanie is also the chair of the AIC Architectural Specialty Group for 2012–2013. Two new employees have joined the firm this summer, Avigail Charnov and Angela Curmi. In addition, Xsusha Carlyann Flandro and Avigail Charnov have become Professional Associates of AIC.

Dan Lepore & Sons Company (Conshohocken, PA) recently received the 2012 Tucker Design Award of Excellence for the restoration of Philadelphia City Hall, and the 2012 Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia Grand Jury Award for the restoration of both the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul and Independence Hall Tower. Thanks to all who were involved!

John Fidler, RIBA, RICS, FIIC, FAPTi, announces the establishment of his own international consulting business, John Fidler Preservation Technology Inc., at Marina Towers North, 4640 Admiralty Way Suite 500, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292-6621. Tel: 310-496-5730, E-mail: [johnfidler\[at\]jf-pt.com](mailto:johnfidler[at]jf-pt.com). The company serves owners, architects, engineers and conservators with technical support to conserve and repair historic buildings, ancient monuments and archaeological sites.

#### **Annual Meeting**

AIC's 41st Annual Meeting will take place in Indianapolis, May 29–June 1, 2013.

The focus will be the “Contemporary in Conservation.” Issues particularly relevant to our specialty group: Contemporary approaches to conservation, treatment of contemporary art and architecture, current issues in conservation and preservation, such as digitization, and developments in preventive conservation.

In addition to or in conjunction with the meeting theme, papers addressing topics such as limitations of current treatments/treatment materials and problems inherent in contemporary building materials and fabrication are of interest. Have you been involved in research that is ready for presentation and feedback? Are you involved in a project that identifies the need for future research? Papers outside the general theme are also of interest and presentations from related professionals are welcome.

Abstracts are due by September 10. Further information regarding submission can be found at [www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=712&parentID=710](http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=712&parentID=710). Also please feel free to contact Donna Williams,

Program Chair, [wacinconserve\[at\]sbcglobal\\_\\_net](mailto:wacinconserve[at]sbcglobal__net) or Ruth Seyler, Membership and Meetings Director, [rseyler\[at\]conservation-us\\_\\_org](mailto:rseyler[at]conservation-us__org) if you have any questions.

The Architectural Specialty Group will also host the third in a series of Student Research Sessions at the meeting. Once again, we welcome conservation students and recent graduates to present their thesis/research work as part of a special session. As we could not host a special session in 2012 due to scheduling, recent graduates from the 2012 class are also welcome to present.

Additionally, we would like to encourage recent graduates and emerging professionals to submit abstracts to the regular ASG Session or Poster Session.

—Stephanie Hoagland, ASG Chair,  
[shoagland\[at\]jbconservation\\_\\_com](mailto:shoagland[at]jbconservation__com)

### *Book & Paper Specialty Group (BPG)*

#### **BPG Publications Committee**

We are pleased to announce that the Annuals are now online through Vol. 26 (2007)! In addition, Volumes 27–30 (2008–2011) are in process and should be up by Fall 2012. We are very happy to welcome the new Paper Conservation Catalog Wiki team members Rachel K. Freeman, Katherine Kelly, Cher Schneider, and Lauren Streusand Zummo. As a BPG member, remember that you can begin contributing to the Paper Conservation Catalog and Book Conservation Catalog Wikis at any time. For further information on how to contribute to the Wikis, contact Olivia Primanis at [primanis\[at\]mail.utexas\\_\\_edu](mailto:primanis[at]mail.utexas__edu).

#### **2013 Annual Meeting**

The Book and Paper Group will host a tips session as part of the BPG program at the 2013 AIC annual meeting in Indianapolis. BPG and other Specialty Group members are invited to participate and contribute tips relating to treatment, documentation, lab/studio set-up, research, or any other aspect of book and paper conservation.

It's been almost a decade since BPG hosted a tips session and we are happy to reintroduce the format into the 2013 BPG program. Did you know that past BPG tips sessions have introduced now common techniques like poulticing adhesive residues with paper pulp, supplies like eraser crumbs grated on industrial cheese grinders, and tools like the heated air pencil for removing pressure sensitive tapes?

Share tips with your friends and colleagues about your new favorite tools, advice, techniques, and lessons learned. An engaging and practical tips session will benefit and enlighten the whole conservation community and keep us all up-to-date with the latest innovations and discoveries. Tips will be short, sweet, and informal—a few Powerpoint slides, a handout, or a few quick words.

If you are curious, want to participate, or are even just *thinking* about participating, please contact BPG Program Chair Sarah Reidell at [sarah.reidell \[at\] gmail .com](mailto:sarah.reidell@gmail.com).

—Priscilla Anderson, BPG Chair,  
[panderson \[at\] hbs .edu](mailto:panderson[at]hbs.edu)

---

## Collection Care Network (CCN)

### Here We Are!

This is the first contribution to the working group columns by AIC's newest group, the Collection Care Network. Following the CCN's group consultative session at the *Outreach to Allies* session of the 2012 Albuquerque meeting, blogs summarizing the video presentations and ensuing discussions are now available on the AIC blog site <http://www.conservators-converse.org/>. Plans are forming to host two CCN workshops at the 2013 meeting in Indianapolis—one on Integrated Pest Management and the other on art handling basics, as well as hosting a general meeting session relating to overall collection care.

### Collection Managers Survey

We have had a great response to our survey of people working in collection care positions; we have heard from more than 700 respondents and more responses still are coming in. We look forward to reporting on those results soon.

### Outreach

The CCN had an article appear in the Summer/Fall 2012 issue of *Papyrus*, the Newsletter of the International Association of Museum Facility Managers (IAMFA; <http://www.iamfa.org/>). This article introduced the CCN group and discussed how the group and conservators in general could collaborate with IAMFA and facilities managers to mutual benefit. We are planning contributions over the next year to the Washington Conservation Guild (WCG), National Archive and Record Administration's (NARA) 2012 "A Preservation Odyssey: Paths to the Future," and the American Association of Museums (AAM), among others. We are continuing to work toward formulating a liaison network—more on that later.

### STASH

FAIC recently received funding from the Kress Foundation to fund an online resource under the CCN aegis. This resource, "Storage Techniques for Art, Science and History collections" (STASH), will be accessible through Conservation OnLine (CoOL) and is expected to launch in the summer of 2013. More information about this project can be found within the September newsletter on page 10, under FAIC news. CCN will keep members informed as this project develops throughout the year.

### We Want You!

Membership in the CCN group is growing rapidly and we are happy to keep welcoming new members. Join us by choosing CCN as one of your groups on your AIC "manage your profile" page (don't forget to type in your password before pressing "submit"). Better still, join us and then contact us to become active right away!

—Robert Waller, CCN e-editor,  
[rw \[at\] protectheritage .org](mailto:rw[at]protectheritage.org)

---

## Conservators in Private Practice (CIPP)

### Collaborative Discussions with ECPN

CIPP Board held their meeting August 1, 2012. We welcomed ideas from guest Emily Phillips, a founding member of the Emerging Conservators Professional Network (ECPN) group. It was felt that CIPP could offer a wide variety of mentorship-style workshops to help those new to the field. Ms. Phillips was very helpful in communicating what types of professional development courses were needed via recent discussions on the Emerging Freelance Conservators Group's Facebook page. Emerging Conservators are invited to join the CIPP listserv discussions and benefit from the generations of experience that our membership can offer. Sometimes we are tired and grumpy but we really do try to be helpful most of the time. Recent discussion topics on the listserv have been lively, addressing a wide variety of topics ranging from "englomise" to "lining fabrics." The CIPP website will be the place to watch for information detailing upcoming workshops and news.

—Maria V. Sheets, CIPP Vice-Chair,  
[mvsheets \[at\] verizon .net](mailto:mvsheets[at]verizon.net)

---

## Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN)

### Webinar Series

On July 26th, ECPN hosted its first webinar "Self-Advocacy and Fundraising for Independent Research," presented by Debra Hess Norris. Registration was free for all AIC members, and we were pleased to have over 90 registrants from 6 different countries. The webinar was recorded, so that those who were not able to attend still have the opportunity to hear Debbie's great presentation. For links to associated blog posts and to view the recorded webinar, go to [www.conservators-converse.org/ecpnforum](http://www.conservators-converse.org/ecpnforum). We are planning to organize future webinars on topics of interest to emerging conservators at all levels, and we are aiming to hold the next one in late fall of 2012. Please share ideas with Molly Gleeson at the email address below.

### Mentoring Program

We are currently seeking mentor applicants for AIC's mentoring program, which matches seasoned conservators with emerging conservators to tackle issues as large as career path

guidance to issues as discrete as advice on a specific treatment. The program is truly what one wants to make of it, with involvement ranging from a few months to a lifetime. To apply to be a mentor, you must be a Fellow or Professional Associate AIC member. We are looking for mentors in all specialties, and especially those specializing in paintings. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and are reviewed four times a year: March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and December 1st. Applications and additional information about the mentoring program can be found by logging onto AIC's website at [www.conservation-us.org/mentoring](http://www.conservation-us.org/mentoring). If you have questions about the Mentoring Program, please contact ECPN Vice Chair Eliza Spaulding: [elizaspaulding\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:elizaspaulding@gmail.com).

### Public Relations and Outreach Toolkit

ECPN is helping to manage and solicit contributions for AIC's new Public Relations (PR) and Outreach Toolkit, which is being developed on the AIC Wiki. This is a collaborative project, and we are looking for input and feedback. Please visit the PR and Outreach Toolkit wiki page to see what has been created so far: [http://www.conservation-wiki.com/index.php?title=Public\\_Relations\\_and\\_Outreach\\_Resources](http://www.conservation-wiki.com/index.php?title=Public_Relations_and_Outreach_Resources). If you have something to contribute or share, please contact Molly Gleeson at the email address below.

### Online Platform for Conservation Student Research

Since 2011, ECPN, in collaboration with AIC and leaders from the North American graduate training programs, has been working on a proposal for an online platform for conservation student research. In this planning, ECPN has identified that there is an expressed need for such a resource and that the model that would likely be most useful would ideally serve as an information hub. The envisioned platform would feature content ranging from abstracts to links to existing web platforms hosting full-text versions of student research—many of which already exist, or might in the future as training programs choose to move intellectual material online. Our efforts now turn to locating a suitable home for the resource.

### Join ECPN!

To join ECPN and subscribe to our email list for periodic e-blasts about ongoing programs and activities, log in to the AIC website at [www.conservation-us.org](http://www.conservation-us.org) and click on "Manage Your Profile." Under "Interests" select Emerging Conservation Professionals Network. For more timely and ongoing updates and news, we also encourage you to check our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/419707523031/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/419707523031/)) and posts on the AIC blog (<http://www.conservation-converse.org/category/ecpn/>).

—Molly Gleeson, ECPN Chair,  
[mollygleeson\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:mollygleeson@gmail.com)

## Electronic Media Group (EMG)

### EMG Board Update

In case you missed the announcement last month, Jeff Martin has graciously offered to continue as EMG Program Chair for 2012–13. Many thanks to Jeff for his ongoing contributions to the Electronic Media Group!

### EMG Business Meeting

At the business meeting in Albuquerque, EMG members voted to approve a new student membership rate for the specialty group. This rate will be \$10 and goes into effect in September. We hope this will facilitate and encourage more conservation students to join the Electronic Media Group.

The rest of the business meeting was dedicated to reviewing the success of TechFocus II and planning for TechFocus III. We also reviewed EMG's current publications, including *Electronic Media Review*, Volume 1 and the *Guide to Digital Photography* 2nd Edition. The *Review* has been published and circulated to EMG members, and the *Guide* is currently for sale on Amazon. Minutes of the business meeting will be posted to the EMG website soon.

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

Postprints for the EMG sessions at the 2012 Annual Meeting will be published soon. In the meantime, enjoy [this blog post](#) on an EMG session talk by Joshua Ranger, "Acts of Non-Conservation: Developing More Effective Means of Communication and Advocacy Through Metadata." The post, written by Rose Cull, has a nice summary for anyone who might have missed the session.

### Publications

The publications committee is currently working on the second volume of *Electronic Media Review* that will include talks from the 2011 and 2012 Annual Meeting sessions. The committee members for this publication include Briana Feston, Jane Klinger, Sarah Norris, and Jeffrey Warda as the managing editor.

—Helen Bailey, EMG Chair,  
[hakbailey\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:hakbailey[at]gmail.com)

## Objects Specialty Group (OSG)

### Thanks

I would like to congratulate Sanchita Balachandran, Carolyn Riccardelli and Julie Lawson for their outstanding service and leadership of OSG in the last two years. They have helped move forward on past Postprint collections and have positively influenced OSG budget appropriations, such as developing ongoing CoOL and FAIC donations, and a one-time donation to WAG to support their website on historic fasteners.

### 2013 AIC Annual Meeting

Lara Kaplan has done an excellent job with her call for papers and is reading submitted abstracts and awaiting more. While the Sept. 10 deadline has likely passed by the publication of this column, Lara will send out a later notice for the OSG Lunch and Tips session. Please keep this in mind when you have a new breakthrough this year in your treatments, research, outreach or other objects conservation duties. If it is useful to you, it will be useful to others, so please share!

Something new this year for presenters: Postprints will now be due at the AIC meeting. Christine del Re, Carolyn Riccardelli, and Lara Kaplan have revised and updated the Postprint guidelines, which will be available online shortly. They have been working hard on this project, and it should make submitting Postprints easier this year.

## OSG Publications Update

The OSG publication committee has been working hard to complete editing past conference papers, and AIC Board Director of Communications Nancie Ravenel has been instrumental in advising how best to make them accessible to OSG members. New OSG members have come forth to help complete remaining editing tasks, such as reference checks and format editing. Thank you Emily Hamilton, Angela Elliott, and Geneva Griswold, and a special thanks to Christine Del Re, without whom none of the Postprints would be near completion.

2010 Postprints are complete, and Postprints from 2008, 2009, and 2011 are in their final stages of editing. As soon as all papers are completed, they will be posted as PDFs on the OSG website. A notice will be sent to members via listserv when this happens.

## Budget Reserves

Many OSG members provided thoughtful ideas on how to spend OSG reserves, in response to a letter to the membership posted by OSG officials on June 25, 2012. The majority of responses agreed that it was worth spending money to make all Postprint issues available online, which will be the first priority for OSG reserves. There may be different ways of accomplishing this, and there will certainly be a healthy debate about access. Members will be surveyed regarding this as well as other choices for spending down reserves should any excess reserves remain. Members should expect the survey this fall.

I want to thank OSG members for providing me the opportunity to serve them. I am already learning a great deal, and I look forward to making more progress on the projects above, as well as any others that OSG members put forth this year.

—Mina Thompson, OSG Chair,  
[mina.thompson\[at\]state.nm.us](mailto:mina.thompson[at]state.nm.us)

## Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

### 2013 AIC Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held in Indianapolis, IN, May 29–June 1, 2013, and the theme is “The Contemporary in Conservation.” Planning for this meeting is well underway. PMG will be having a luncheon with a guest speaker, and the PMG business meeting will follow the luncheon.

### 2013 PMG Winter Meeting

The next biannual PMG Winter Meeting will be a joint ICOM-CC Photographic Materials Working Group (PMWG) and AIC-PMG Photographs Conservation Meeting, held in Wellington, New Zealand, 11–15 February, 2013. The main venue for the meeting will be the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, not the National Library of New Zealand as previously reported (although the National Library will be on the tour schedule). Further information will be posted, as it becomes available, on the PMG web page <http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=485&parentID=476> and will be sent out on the AIC-PMG listserv: [aic-photographic\[at\]cool.conservation-us.org](mailto:aic-photographic[at]cool.conservation-us.org).

The link for the meeting registration website should be available on the PMG web page by the time this column is published,

and the Call for Posters will have been posted and sent to the membership as well.

## Candidates for New Officers

The current PMG officers are coming up on their limit of two consecutive terms in their respective offices. If you have any questions about the positions, feel free to contact the current officers: Barbara Brown, Chair; Monique Fischer, Program Chair; Rachel Wetzel, Secretary–Treasurer; and see the PMG Rules of Order, on the PMG web page, for Duties of the Officers. A call for candidates, with contact information for the PMG Nominating Committee, will be sent out on the AIC-PMG listserv. An electronic ballot will be sent out later to the membership. The new officers will begin their term at the conclusion of the 2013 AIC Annual Meeting in Indianapolis. It's a great opportunity to meet and work with great colleagues, and to be involved in the professional organization!

If there are questions or if I can be of assistance, please contact me.

—Barbara Brown, PMG Chair,  
[bnbrown\[at\]mail.utexas.edu](mailto:bnbrown[at]mail.utexas.edu)

## Paintings Specialty Group (PSG)

### PSG Postprints & Publications Update

PSG has been quite productive over the past year! At the 2012 Business meeting in Albuquerque, the PSG membership voted to reprint the out-of-print *Stretchers and Strainers*, Vol. II of the PSG Painting Conservation Catalog, on CD. I am happy to report that this process is now well underway, and once finished will be available for purchase from the AIC Website's online store. Currently, Vol. III, *Impainting*, and several Postprints from past years are also available for purchase. Additionally, the 2010 PSG Postprints are complete and PSG submitted an application for the ISSN to Bonnie Naugle, AIC Communications Manager. The ISSNs for the Print and CD-ROM versions have been assigned and the online ISSN is still being processed. The 2011 PSG Postprints are also nearing finalization. All papers have been received and the initial layout is complete. Editing of the 2012 PSG Postprints is scheduled to begin shortly, and many of the 2012 papers have already been received. If you spoke at the recent AIC conference in a PSG session and have not submitted your paper to Publications Chair Barbara Buckley, please do so as soon as possible.

### PSG Catalog Project

We are currently looking to appoint an Interim-Head of the Editorial Board for the PSG Catalog Project so that it can move forward. Our two current goals for this position are to oversee the scanning and re-publication of *Varnishes and Surface Coatings*, Vol. II of the PSG Painting Conservation Catalog on CD, and to help define and supervise catalogue activities by Chapter Directors placed in charge of individual chapter volumes. If you are interested in helping PSG on this project, please e-mail me at [kbartlett\[at\]menil.org](mailto:kbartlett[at]menil.org) to discuss.

### 2013 Annual Meeting

At the time of writing this, plans for the PSG sessions for the Annual AIC Meeting are already well underway. Program Chair Matt Cushman and Assistant Program Chair Kate Smith



have teamed up with the RATS specialty group to offer several exciting joint sessions this year. If you have not already submitted an abstract, please remember that the September 10th deadline is almost here.

### PSG Award

2013 marks the 5th award year for the Paintings Specialty Group Award for outstanding contributions to the field of paintings conservation. If someone you know has really distinguished themselves through mentoring or teaching, has contributed to significant research or publications, or has been committed to the paintings specialty group, through service, public outreach, or advocacy, please consider saying “Thanks” for their outstanding contributions to the field by nominating them for this award. For more information and how to nominate please visit the AIC Website. The deadline for the PSG Award is January 18, 2013. While you have plenty of time to put the application together, it’s never too early to get started!

—*Katrina Bartlett, PSG Chair (2012–2014),  
Kbartlett[at]menil.org*

## Research and Technical Studies (RATS)

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

**Business luncheon:** Two important discussion points were raised during the RATS business meeting luncheon. Dr. Caitlin O’Grady, our Secretary/Treasurer, revealed that there has been a decrease in RATS income during the year, relative to the last fiscal year. This was due to a decrease in membership numbers and concomitant loss of dues. We (the RATS executive committee) are concerned that this loss of members may have been caused by the five-dollar increase in RATS membership fees that took place last year. If you have been a RATS member previously but allowed your membership to lapse because of the dues increase, please contact the RATS Chair, Jason Church ([Jason\\_Church\[at\]contractor.nps.gov](mailto:Jason_Church[at]contractor.nps.gov)).

The second point of business was that as of the end of last fiscal year, RATS had a budget surplus. As AIC requests that we only maintain a two-year operating budget we are seeking ways to spend the excess money. Some suggestions on how to do that include sponsoring or underwriting the RATS workshop costs for RATS SG members, sponsoring a poster session, or underwriting meeting costs for students or speakers. If you have any additional ideas, please do not hesitate to contact Jason.

**Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Zeev Rosenzweig’s address discussed the history, purpose and fate of the NSF initiative in Cultural Heritage Science (CHS), originally known as Sci-Arts. The program arose out of a NSF-Mellon joint workshop in 2009 that identified key needs for conservation science. To promote collaboration, requirements included involving both a museum and academic scientist. Proposals were judged based upon intellectual merit, potential impact beyond conservation, integration of research and education, the extent to which the proposal addressed a grand challenge, and the synergy of the collaborating groups. He then highlighted the results of ten funded projects, many of which had representatives in

the audience. Unfortunately this was the last year for solicited proposals, but Dr. Rosenzweig remains committed to NSF funding of conservation science. Unsolicited proposals can still be submitted to the NSF under pre-established categories and there will be a special review process for such proposals to ensure that they are evaluated accurately for their merit. Following the talk there was a vigorous question and answer period where audience members voiced their concerns and questions on a variety of topics including: how impact is assessed by the NSF, how to choose collaborators, how to deal with high impact journals not wanting to publish papers that they see as being relevant only to a small conservation science community, and funding potential for international collaboration. It was a very revealing talk and discussion and we thank Dr. Rosenzweig very much for his time.

**Awards:** RATS offers its sincere congratulations to our member, Dan Kushel, the Distinguished Teaching Professor in Art Conservation at Buffalo State College, for being the second recipient of the Robert L. Feller Award. Mr. Kushel’s work on x-radiography and imaging exemplifies the role of imaging and documentation in conservation and we are sorry that he will have retired from teaching by the time of this column, and we hope that he will remain an active participant in future meetings.

### 2013 AIC Annual Meeting

Dr. Silvia Centeno, the RATS Vice-Chair, is in the initial planning stages for the Indianapolis meeting. The theme of the meeting will be “The Contemporary in Conservation” and Dr. Centeno is thinking about addressing this theme by focusing on the analysis of organic materials, including plastics, pigments and varnishes, with new and novel analytical techniques. Please consider how your research may fit into these areas, look for the call for papers and submit and abstract for consideration.

**Workshop:** Jason Church is in the process of organizing a one-day workshop on X-ray diffraction to be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting in Indianapolis. Space will be extremely limited so if you are interested register for the workshop (and Annual Meeting) early.

**RATS Nominations:** The next round of elections in the spring will offer RATS members an opportunity to run for two positions: Secretary/Treasurer, and Communications Officer. If you are interested in running, or have a candidate to suggest, please contact one of the RATS nominating committee officers: Emily Kaplan ([kaplane\[at\]si.edu](mailto:kaplane[at]si.edu)); Dr. Catherine Stephens ([chs2\[at\]andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:chs2[at]andrew.cmu.edu)) or Ralph Wiegandt ([rwiegandt\[at\]geh.org](mailto:rwiegandt[at]geh.org)).

—*Cory Rogge, RATS Communications Officer,  
roggece[at]buffalostate.edu*

## Textile Specialty Group (TSG)

### Thanks

As incoming TSG chair I would like to begin by thanking **Susan Mathisen** for her two years of service to the TSG as program chair and chair, and **Meg Geiss-Mooney** for her four years of service to the TSG as treasurer. Please join me in welcoming program chair **Virginia Whelan** and treasurer **Angela Duckwall** to the TSG board. Since the secretary and treasurer positions are both two-year terms, **Mandie Holden** is now entering her second year as secretary.

### 2012 AIC Annual Meeting

Many thanks to all who contributed to making the textile specialty group sessions in Albuquerque such a success. The sessions were well attended and a gratifying 45 people attended the TSG dinner.

### 2013 AIC Annual Meeting

By the time you are reading this column, the Sept. 10 deadline for abstract submission to present a paper at the 2013 meeting in Indianapolis, to be held May 29 to June 1, will likely have passed. But if it has not, please submit an abstract. The conference theme is the “Contemporary in Conservation.” TSG members are encouraged to submit abstracts for presentations at the general session as well as the specialty group session. There is still time to present a poster; the deadline for poster abstracts is October 1, 2012. Submission of all abstracts is done through AIC’s website—choose the abstract option under the Annual Meeting section in the upper right corner of AIC’s home page.

I am sure that program chair **Virginia Whelan** will put together a very interesting program. I hope to see you all there!

### AIC News

TSG is responsible for the lead article in the March 2013 issue of *AIC News*. Copy must be received by *AIC News* editor Lisa Goldberg by January 15, 2013 and the word count for the article is 2000. (This roughly translates into a Word document of about four single-spaced pages.) Please contact me if you have ideas or suggestions for this article, or if you would be willing to pen an article.

### Professional Development

I’d also like to encourage those of you TSG members who are Professional Associates and eligible to become Fellows to consider applying for Fellow status. For those of you who are not yet Professional Associates but are eligible for this category, please consider applying for PA status. Remember, if you want to attend an AIC sponsored course, priority is given to those who are either PAs or Fellows.

### Volunteering

Both AIC and the Textile Specialty Group are volunteer organizations. Take part and volunteer this year. There are a number of opportunities, including TSG nominating committee, TSG award committee, and the AIC mentoring program. If you are interested in joining the TSG nominating committee, contact **Christine Giuntini** at [christine.giuntini \[at\] metmuseum\\_\\_org](mailto:christine.giuntini[at]metmuseum__org). **Sara Reiter** ([sreiter \[at\] philamuseum\\_\\_org](mailto:sreiter[at]philamuseum__org)) is

the contact person if you are interested in joining the TSG award committee. Finally, here is a link to the short application needed to join AIC’s mentoring program as a mentor or mentee: <http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=876>. More information is available in the Career Center section of AIC’s website.

I look forward to hearing from you throughout my term as chair and to seeing you all in Indianapolis next May.

—Robin Hanson, TSG Chair,  
[rhanson \[at\] clevelandart\\_\\_org](mailto:rhanson[at]clevelandart__org)

#### PLEASE NOTE:

No column was submitted by Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG) for this issue of *AIC News*.