

Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)

Student Outreach Events:

On April 5th and 6th, ASG Chair Patty Miller and Membership Chair Victoria Pingarron Alvarez presented a lunchtime talk for the graduate students in Historic Preservation at Columbia University and University of Pennsylvania. The talks were organized to increase awareness of AIC within the graduate programs, encourage student involvement with ECPN and the Mentorship program, and expand the ASG student membership base. Each event was well attended by first and second year students. We were privileged to have several program alumni members, including Avigail Charnov, J. Christopher Frey, Roy Ingrassia and Lauren Vollono Drapala join us and share their insight with the students. Following on the success of these events, similar talks will occur in the fall at University of Texas Austin and Savannah College of Art and Design.

Mentors Still Needed:

If you are a Professional Associate or Fellow, please consider signing up for the AIC Mentorship Program. Applications are accepted four times a year, and the June deadline is right around the corner! The questionnaire is simple and quick to complete via the Career Center page on the [AIC website](#).

ASG Wiki:

The ASG Board would like to officially welcome Lauren Vollono Drapala as our Wiki Coordinator. Lauren is a conservator at the Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust in Philadelphia and received her M.S. from the University of Pennsylvania in 2010. Lauren is very enthusiastic about working with the membership to compile knowledge on materials and techniques used to preserve and treat architecture, sites, monuments, industrial and technology artifacts. The Wiki will not only be a way to share and expand information among colleagues, but also encourage a greater understanding and appreciation of architectural conservation within AIC and the general public.

We would like to hear your ideas for content as well as your input towards defining our focus. The Architecture Main Catalog Page is currently under construction. This is the main entry page providing information about ASG and our catalog content. We plan to take this page live before the Annual meeting. At that time we will be looking for volunteers to serve as editors and begin developing the content. This will be an ongoing project that may take several months before we see significant results in the form of entries, but with some

concentrated effort we believe we can be ready for the next AIC Wiki Edit-a-thon!

Please contact Lauren via email:

[laurendrapala \[at\] fairmountparktrust__org](mailto:laurendrapala[at]fairmountparktrust__org)

—Patricia Miller, ASG Chair, [pmm34 \[at\] caa.columbia__edu](mailto:pmm34[at]caa.columbia__edu)

Book and Paper Group (BPG)

The BPG Wikis:

The BPG Publications Committee has gathered a group of volunteers to develop the Paper Conservation Catalogue Wiki. Thus far there is a core group of four volunteers who will work together. The goals are to review, format and update current content (the 46 chapters of the *Paper Conservation Catalogue*, which were posted “as is”) and to generate new content by reaching out to other members and helping them launch their content.

This is exciting, especially after the Wiki edit-a-thon month (January 2012) when the Book Conservation Catalogue Wiki team (Lynn Kidder, Christine McCarthy, Laura Bedford and Evan Knight) made great strides. Some highlights of what was accomplished in January by the team include a new ‘Spotlight’ page on Cloth. The month of work resulted in a substantial foundation for further development, including the start of a very useful bibliography.

A chapter on Documentation has started to fill out nicely and also contains a bibliography. Another interesting chapter has been started on Selection for Preservation and currently contains a thorough and organized framework, which now needs content. The chapter on Paper as a binding material also has a significant beginning. As a result of this productive month, other conservators have reached out to the Wiki coordinators about adding new material. This means that our information is more current and accessible than ever before.

Remember that the input and review of information by BPG members will assure that quality content is produced and posted.

Perhaps you have a favorite treatment technique or expertise with a particular material that would make perfect content for the Wiki. Your contribution doesn’t have to be long and you don’t have to learn Wiki formatting—a trained BPG Wiki volunteer can help. If you are interested in being part of the Wiki momentum, contact the Publications Committee Chair, Olivia Primanis at [primanis \[at\] mail.utexas__edu](mailto:primanis[at]mail.utexas__edu).

If there are questions or if I can be of service or assistance, please let me know. See you in Albuquerque!

—Penley Knipe, BPG Chair, [Penley_Knipe \[at\] harvard__edu](mailto:Penley_Knipe[at]harvard__edu)

Conservators in Private Practice (CIPP)

Outreach:

CIPP members constantly promote conservation when they interface with clients and prospective clients, with museums, libraries, educators, insurance professionals and appraisers. We speak on behalf of art objects that cannot advocate for their own existence; we represent the field of conservation and we educate the public tirelessly.

A brief request on the CIPP discussion list brought forth a number of responses with wonderful examples of outreach, some in the guise of sales promotion, others as education or community service. It's all good retail outreach, mostly directed at new audiences that have no previous contact with the field of preservation, conservation or restoration. While all outreach is positive, the kind of outreach CIPP members engage in when reaching new audiences is far more valuable than "preaching to the choir", promoting conservation to those who are already aware and familiar.

Below are responses from contributing members that have been heavily edited to fit the available space for this column. Their original submissions can be found on the [CIPP discussion list](#). I encourage readers to contact these conservators directly for more details on these projects.

Alexandra Allardt ([alex\[at\]artcareresources.com](mailto:alex[at]artcareresources.com)) is leading a project to engage visitors and the public as VIP's "volunteers in partnership" in the 21st century preservation needs of a 20th century historic site. This two-year project is training volunteer fine hand stitchers to reproduce a 19'6" velvet appliqué window valance. This involves public talks, social media and education. See www.newportrestoration.org/visit/rough_point/.

Alexandra continues: "An unexpected positive outcome to date has been how much the volunteers, individually and as a group, have freely shared their skills and insights to approaching the placement and stitching of such difficult materials, which in turn has allowed me to fine tune the project, making it run more smoothly and publicly acknowledging their contributions, making them feel even more engaged. It has been successful to the degree that a number of VIPs have committed to additional sessions and many willingly recruit colleagues in sewing communities of which I had no knowledge or inroads."

Helen Alten ([helen\[at\]collectioncare.org](mailto:helen[at]collectioncare.org)) writes: "I just returned from the West Virginia Association of Museums meeting (about 30 attendees) where I gave a 90 minute presentation on "Preservation in Public Programming." The talk focused on ways small museums could educate their audience—donors, visitors, school groups—on the 10 Agents of Deterioration. My reason for doing this was (1) it educates their public so they don't expect items to be on permanent display or ask why light levels are low, (2) it allows the museum to provide broader services, meeting educational criteria in math and science, (3) it creates an appreciation for preservation and museums in young people, who are the future leaders and decision-makers of our country..."

Yuri Yanchyshyn ([yuri\[at\]periodfurnitureconservation.com](mailto:yuri[at]periodfurnitureconservation.com)) describes his recent efforts as follows: "My collaborative outreach activities have centered on a relationship I have built with the Appraisers Association of America (AAA) and its members. I have valued the opportunity to work with these sophisticated professionals and to share my knowledge in ways that might be useful to their work while at the same time promoting the principles of conservation."

My involvement with the AAA and its members has been both formal and informal, encompassing numerous presentations at events, classes and conferences, organization of conservation-focused visits to institutions, contributions to their publications, as well as consultation with various individuals on education and conservation issues. Since 2009 I have also served, along with conservation scientist James Martin, as a member of the AAA's Advisory Council.

Involvement with the AAA has been a profoundly enriching experience, providing a wonderful avenue for discussion and exploration of issues—and giving greater public voice to the field of conservation, its ethical considerations, principles and tenets."

Yuri provided two flyers for outreach events in which he participates, one at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA), the other at the Institute of Fine Arts (IFA).

I want to thank all who wrote and ask forgiveness of those whose contributions couldn't be included due to the space available. CIPP members have a great deal of experience in putting a personal face on conservation. We can be an invaluable resource of the AIC to consult in formulating an effective outreach program going forward.

—George Schwartz, CIPP Chair, [george\[at\]conservart.com](mailto:george[at]conservart.com)

Electronic Media Group (EMG)

The Electronic Media Review:

EMG is very pleased to announce the first volume of our new periodical *The Electronic Media Review*, a biennial publication of the talks presented at the EMG session of the AIC Annual Meeting. This first volume contains the post-prints of the 2009 EMG session in Los Angeles, California, and the 2010 session in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. If you have not received the publication and belonged to EMG in 2008 and 2009, please contact us to receive your copy.

A very big note of appreciation to Managing Editor Jeffrey Warda and Publications Committee members Gwynne Ryan and Fletcher Durant for all their hard work towards establishing the EMG new periodical publication!

The EMG Publications Committee is looking for new members to join Jeffrey Warda for the next 2–3 years. If you interested in joining the committee, please contact Jeffrey Warda [JWarda\[at\]Guggenheim.org](mailto:JWarda[at]Guggenheim.org).

EMG 2012 Election:

The results of the EMG election will be announced at the EMG Business Meeting at the Annual Meeting in Albuquerque. Thanks again to the 2012 Nomination Committee members: Jeffrey Warda, Karen Pavelka and Andrew Robb.

Outgoing Board Members:

Many thanks are due to outgoing Program Chair Jeff Martin. Jeff has put together a wonderful EMG program this year and we are also extremely thankful for his fantastic work on *TechFocus II: Caring for Film and Slide Art*. Thank you Jeff, for all your great work for EMG!

This is my final column for AIC News, as I step down as Chair after having served two terms. Being part of the EMG board was one of the most pleasant and inspiring professional experiences I have had. I feel very fortunate having the opportunity to work with so many smart and talented people, and I highly encourage others to get more involved with EMG and consider serving on the board or EMG committees.

—Christine Frohnert, EMG Chair, [c.frohnert \[at\] me.com](mailto:c.frohnert[at]me.com)

Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

2012 AIC Annual Meeting:

The meeting will be underway as you read this. We look forward to seeing you in Albuquerque! Please make a point of coming to the PMG Business Meeting at the end of our Thursday morning session (finishing in time for lunch). There are some important issues on the agenda that need your input!

Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation:

The next Collaborative Workshop in Photograph Conservation will be held October 29–November 2, 2012 in Boston, Massachusetts on **Identification and Conservation of Digital Prints**, organized by Martin Jürgens. This workshop is funded in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. For more information see www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewpage&pageid=1603.

Be sure to check the AIC Education page at www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=499&parentID=473 for information and updates on this and other courses, too.

Next workshop: Aesthetics, Craft, and Care of the Fine Art Digital Print in Rochester, NY, July 30–August 3, 2012. “In a small group setting, this lecture and hands-on style workshop will teach participants the unique aesthetics of the fine art digital print and help them understand their distinguishing characteristics.” More information on this workshop can be found at www.imagepermanenceinstitute.org/imaging/fine-art-digital-print-workshop.

2013 PMG Winter Meeting Call for Papers:

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. See the PMG web page www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=485&parentID=476 to download the Call for Papers. This and further information will be posted, as it becomes available, on the PMG web page 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).

Publications:

Coatings on Photographs: Materials, Techniques, and Conservation, edited by Constance McCabe, is published and distributed by PMG-AIC and was made possible by the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, and the National Gallery of Art. The book is available through the AIC online store link: www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=store.&prod_cat_ID=7.

Photographic Print Sample Set: This set of photographic samples includes one each of a cyanotype, albumen print, salted paper print, glossy gelatin silver printed-out print, and matte gelatin silver developed-out print, and was been reprinted due to popular demand. There are many sets available still. Go to the AIC website at www.conservation-us.org, then to the Online Store icon, then look for the Photographic Materials group logo and click on “Shop Photographic” www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=store.&prod_cat_ID=7 where you will find the Photographic Print Sample Set listed.

The Digital Print Sample Set, compiled by the Mellon Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation, consists of 25 digital and traditional print samples all made from digital files. Some of the print types included are extinct, and others are rare or expensive within the mainstream use of the media. See www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=1193&nodeID=1 for information and ordering. Current revenues are received by FAIC and designated for PMG-designated projects with 10% toward office overhead. A few sets remain, and these sets will be listed for sale on the Photographic Materials Group website until they are all sold. There will be three sets available for sale at the AIC Annual Meeting.

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)

This is my last column as Paintings Specialty Group Chair. First, I would like to thank the officers and appointed volunteers with whom I have served over the past two years. Program Chair Patti Favero did a superb job of putting together the Philadelphia sessions, rolling with the changes as the meeting moved from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. For this year, Program Chair Katrina Bartlett and Assistant Program Chair Matt Cushman have worked very hard to put together a wonderful program and really have taken the events in a new direction.

Dawn Rogala has handled all the details of our budgets and minutes perfectly for two years running, and provided her thoughtful counsel on a variety of issues. Barbara Buckley has continued her dedicated work on the postprints, ably assisted by Meg Newburger. Christina Milton has kept our website up-to-date and has schemes for the future. And Chris Stavroudis has valiantly kept the conversation going on the PSG list. Thank you all for your work.

2012 AIC Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting in Albuquerque is just around the corner—May 8–11, 2012. The AIC Program Committee has taken an innovative approach this year, and our PSG Program Officers have followed their lead.

The business meeting will take place on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30am. Yes, that's quite early, but Gamblin Conservation Colors has very generously stepped forward to sponsor the session. There will be breakfast with the business. Please come join us for coffee and pastry, hear what we've been up to, and give your input on future PSG activities.

This year we will be trying a new format during our Thursday morning session—a PSG Lightning Round consisting of four short talks on the topic of outreach. Matt Cushman has recruited a strong group of speakers and it promises to be a lively session.

Thursday evening, please join us from 6–8:30 at the Albuquerque Aquarium for the PSG reception, which has been made possible through the extraordinary generosity of Kremer Pigmente. Our Sponsor-a-Student Ticket Campaign has been very successful. We are quite close to meeting our goal of covering all of the students registered. Please consider sponsoring a student's ticket to the PSG reception and put us over the top. If you are willing to give, please e-mail Katrina Bartlett or Matt Cushman ([kbartlett \[at\] menil__org](mailto:kbartlett@menil.org) or [matthewcushman \[at\] worchesterart__org](mailto:matthewcushman@worchesterart.org)) with your intention to sponsor a student and the amount you wish to pledge (for bookkeeping only) so that your name can be added to our list of sponsors. Or, if you wish to remain anonymous, please let us know.

Checks should be made payable to The American Institute for Conservation. Please include "501-950-01, PSG student/reception sponsorship" in the memo. Mail checks to: Attn: Ruth Seyler. Alternatively, you can give online by buying a reception ticket on the "Add ticketed events" page and putting "Sponsor-a-Student Campaign" in the Additional notes section of the order page.

On Friday at 11:30, after the morning talks, we will have a Tips Session. I am very pleased to report that Golden Artists Colors will be sponsoring our Tips Session this year. Those who attend the session will be eligible for a door prize drawing, which has been made possible by Golden. Would you like to share a tip with your colleagues? Please contact Matt Cushman at [MatthewCushman \[at\] worchesterart__org](mailto:MatthewCushman@worchesterart.org).

Election Results

Nick Dorman, Mary McGinn, and Joanna Dunn have done a superb job of recruiting new PSG Board Members. Nick and Joanna will rotate off the committee this year. Mary McGinn will become Chair of the Nominating Committee. As outgoing PSG Chair, I will join the committee and serve for two years. Many thanks to all who stepped forward for this round of elections.

The incoming PSG officers include:

Katrina Bartlett—PSG Chair.

Matt Cushman—Program Chair.

Kate Smith—Assistant Program Chair and will assist Matt with the 2013 Indianapolis meeting before planning the 2014 meeting.

Lauren Bradley—Secretary Treasurer.

Tiarna Doherty—Nominating Committee.

It has been a pleasure to serve!

—*Laura Rivers, PSG Chair, lrivers@getty.edu*

Research and Technical Studies (RATS)

AIC 2012 Annual Meeting:

By the time this article arrives in your mailbox, you may already be on your way to the Land of Enchantment, also known as New Mexico. We hope to see you all there, and encourage you to take this opportunity to talk to the RATS executive committee about any ideas you may have, projects you might want RATS to undertake, issues with what we've been doing or anything else that strikes your fancy. We're good listeners and would welcome more input from our membership. We'd also like to encourage our membership to take this opportunity to reach out to the Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN) committee. The ECPN has been kind enough to invite RATS members to participate in their professional and social gatherings at the Annual Meeting. These are our newest colleagues and we should support them in their endeavors.

RATS Postprints:

In March, 28% of the RATS membership cast their electronic ballots and voted to make RATS' postprints intellectual property and to therefore be provided to the AIC community and the world free of charge. Let intellectual freedom reign! Those of you who can't attend this annual meeting will have the opportunity to learn from the material presented and needn't be as disconsolate as you otherwise might be. Our postprints will be available as portable document format (PDF) versions of the PowerPoint presentation files, complete with note pages

explaining each slide, so reading these documents will be the next best thing to attending. We anticipate that these documents will be available to all by the end of the year. Our RATS Chair, Catherine Stephens, is also working to centralize and make available previous RATS postprints (such as those from the 2004 Annual Meeting that were distributed as CDs and the 2010 session on microfadeometry that the TSG kindly published). If you presented a paper at one of those sections, you should have already been contacted to provide permission to post your article on our website. If you have not yet replied, please do so and help us in this effort to share our intellectual wealth.

Instrumental Analysis Pages on the AIC Wiki:

With modest help from the rest of the RATS executive committee, Catherine Stephens created a template for the Instrumental Analysis pages that is now available under the Research and Analysis subsection of the AIC wiki. The template is located at the bottom of this page, www.conservation-wiki.com/index.php?title=Instrumental_Analysis and includes the common and formal names for the technique, an instrumental schematic, a brief description of what the technique measures, how the technique is used in conservation and a sample spectrum. This template was used to create the current page on FT-IR. We hope that the RATS community will consider using this template to create pages on techniques in which they are specialists.

—Cory Rogge, RATS Communications Officer,
[roggece\[at\]buffalostate.edu](mailto:roggece[at]buffalostate.edu)

Textile Specialty Group (TSG)

Election:

The Nominating Committee, Christine Giuntini, Esther Methe, and Maria Fusco, have put together a great slate of candidates for this year's election. The candidates are:

Vice-Chair:	Jennifer Hein
Program Chair:	Virginia Whelan
Treasurer:	Angela Duckwall Lalena Vellanoweth

Both the Committee and the TSG officers would like to express their appreciation to these colleagues for their willingness to run and support the TSG. In addition, the Committee would like to thank all who were contacted and hope they will consider running for an officer position in the future.

Results of the election will be announced at the TSG Business Meeting.

Business Meeting:

Please plan on attending the TSG Business Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 am. As it was last year, breakfast will be served. We are currently developing the agenda; please let me know if there is anything you wish to be addressed.

Advocacy and Outreach:

The feedback from my email concerning developing a TSG advocacy and outreach guide document was positive and we have moved forward. A survey has been developed in order to gain a clearer understanding of what the membership believes to be the TSG's advocacy and outreach goals and the objectives to reach them. The information gleaned from this survey will serve as the starting point for the document. In the coming weeks you will be receiving a link to the survey. We hope you will respond and help contribute to this document.

—Susan Mathisen, TSG Chair, [samathisen\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:samathisen[at]hotmail.com)

Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG)

It has been a productive few months for the Wooden Artifacts Group. We have conducted three surveys to gather membership input about the upcoming Furniture in Italy Study Trip, assisting speakers with registration fees, and expectations for education and skill levels of recent program graduates in wooden artifacts. Other topics under way include freshening the *Rules of Order*; proposing a new Advisory Group, Assistant Program Chair and Wiki Editor; and integrating Basecamp Project Management Software for online sharing and storage of WAG documents.

We are also in the process of assessing the changing demographics of WAG and examining ways to adapt and prepare for the next decade. Many of you may not be aware that there have only been three graduates with a specialty in furniture (i.e. wooden artifacts) in the past decade. With the loss of the Smithsonian CAL program and NYU, Buffalo and Queens not offering the specialty, Winterthur remains alone. Thankfully our membership is not decreasing, although we are not the primary Specialty Group for many of these members. The reasons for these changes are not entirely clear, but we will be looking closely at the education component during the panel discussion on "Training the Next Generation of Furniture Conservators" Friday, May 11 in Albuquerque.

AIC 2012 Annual Meeting:

By the time you read this column, the Annual Meeting will be upon us, and I'm look forward to seeing many of you in Albuquerque. Our Program Chair, Stephanie Auffret, has prepared an outstanding meeting with an excellent group of speakers along with the timely and important Panel Discussion just mentioned.

WAG Business Meeting:

Due to scheduling issues, the business meeting in Albuquerque will be limited to ½ hour. We have a good deal to cover in that limited time, as well as three issues requiring member votes, so I ask all members to review the changes to the WAG Rules of Order and the ballot ahead of time, and to contact me with any questions or concerns before the meeting.

Furniture in Italy Study Trip:

I am happy to report that the plans for the study trip are back in motion. Following our Boston meeting in February, David Bayne revised and updated the project summary; Steve Pine explored the possibility of a film component to the trip and has prepared marketing plans; Tad Fallon commissioned an updated donor list, prepared a letter to donors and a packet of contact information; Joe Godla has been fine-tuning the itinerary; and Kathy Gillis ably keeps track of us as Secretary/ Treasurer.

Historic Fasteners Database:

It has been said that nothing worthwhile comes easily. The company tasked with moving the database to the web has been sold and is adjusting to new owners along with a technical glitch of the website that is being ironed out. We should be back to a beta roll-out before the meeting.

Speaker Registration fees:

The results are now in on our recent survey, with 60 people responding. 59.5% believe that we should provide assistance for up to two speakers annually, 72.7% feel that any speaker who applies should be eligible for a grant, and a split response of 30.2% feeling that the Chair and Program Chair should decide and 30.2% feeling that the committee selecting the abstracts should decide. A ballot item based on these results will be presented for vote at the meeting. Many thanks to all members who took the time to respond.

—*Alexander M. Carlisle, WAG Chair*
[maclisle \[at\] gmail \[.\] com](mailto:maclisle[at]gmail[.]com)

PLEASE NOTE:

No columns submitted by **Objects Specialty Group (OSG)** for this issue of *AIC News*.