

## AIC News

September 2020  
Volume 45(5)



### Sustainability Committee (SC)

#### Who We Are

The AIC Sustainability Committee (SC) was founded in 2008 with the aim to promote sustainability as an equal factor in decision-making processes and to provide resources for AIC members and affiliated professionals. The SC is tasked with recommending sustainable approaches to the preservation of cultural heritage, including conservation, restoration, collections management, and preventive care, as well as defining research topics and suggesting working groups that explore various aspects of sustainability and conservation.

## A Path Forward: 2020 Sustainable Practices Survey

*By Rachel Childers, Christine Oricchio, and Christine Romano for the AIC Sustainability Committee*

In February and March, the AIC Sustainability Committee (SC) sent out a survey to all AIC members to gain a better understanding of how conservators are thinking about sustainability efforts in conservation and how the committee can best serve AIC's membership. A secondary goal was to identify research topics for us to develop new resources and learning opportunities.

The Sustainability Committee's goals for the coming year are to better disseminate information on sustainable practices in the field of conservation and to generate methods for implementing broader and more impactful change within our institutions.

### 2008 Survey Review

In 2008, the newly formed AIC Green Task Force (GTF), now the Sustainability Committee, distributed a survey to AIC members to learn more about sustainable practices and attitudes toward sustainability within our community. The 2008 survey revealed an audience frustrated with the lack of resources on sustainability. They doubted the need for more sustainable practices as well as

**A Path Forward: 2020 Sustainable Practices Survey** continues on page 4

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## PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION: COLLECTION STORAGE

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**Deadline for November editorial submissions: October 1, 2020. Submit to [carmina@culturalheritage.org](mailto:carmina@culturalheritage.org).**

We reserve the right to edit for brevity and clarity.

#### ADVERTISING

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## In This Issue

- 1,5** A Path Forward: 2020 Sustainable Practices Survey
- 4** From the Executive Director
- 10** Association News
- 15** Annual Meeting News
- 22** Foundation News
- 25** Allied Organizations
- 27** New Materials, Research, & Resources
- 30** New Publications
- 31** People
- 32** In Memoriam
- 35** Worth Noting
- 36** Conservation Graduate Programs
- 37** Specialty Group & Network Columns
- 44** The Back Page



# From the Executive Director

AIC relies on its volunteer leadership to support and inform the board of directors and staff, and we are grateful for all those who share their time and expertise. It is impressive that at any one time, approximately 250 volunteers are working to advance our mission. In addition to ten specialty groups and four networks, AIC benefits from the work of fourteen committees. They range from internally focused committees, such as the Bylaws and Financial Advisory Committees, to those that are outwardly focused, such as the Sustainability and Emergency Committees.

As the needs of the membership and organization evolve, the AIC Board of Directors has created new divisions, whether a committee to address ongoing commitments, such as the Equity and Inclusion Committee (EIC), or a working group to tackle timely, short-term objectives, such as the Confederate/Contested Monuments Working Group. Longer-term efforts by working groups include the Imaging and Materials Working Groups, subdivisions of the Research and Technology specialty group (RATS) and Collections Care Network (CCN), respectively.

In 2017, the structure of the Membership Committee was revised so that the core membership committee, as outlined in the bylaws, could continue to focus on Professional Associate and Fellow applications, while other members could be tasked with additional charges in service to the membership. Within this new structure, the Membership Designations Working Group (MDWG) began to address essential revisions necessary to strengthen AIC membership designations. The Equity and Inclusion Working Group (EIWG) was also created at this time and, when its charge was completed, the board approved its ongoing work as a committee.

Over the past year, the creation of two additional sub-divisions of the Membership Committee became clear as a structure that would benefit us all. Both have recently been approved by the board and solicitations have gone out to populate them. Please consider volunteering your services to one of these to help us to further engage and support our membership (see also pp. 11 and 12).

## MEMBER ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE (MES)

The purpose of the MES is to support and retain new AIC members, with a focus on enhancing the member experience. This group will work in collaboration with the membership staff, EIC, and Nominating Committee as well as the Membership Committee.

## COMMUNITY GUIDELINES AND CONDUCT WORKING GROUP (CGCWG)

The purpose of the CGCWG is to establish clear codes of conduct for member communication on digital platforms, activities in professional settings, and interpersonal communication. The CGCWG will assess moderation needs across all communities, define unwelcome behavior, and develop methods of enforcement. This group will work in collaboration with the AIC Communication and Membership Director, Bonnie Naugle, over the course of its year-long charge.

Thank you for considering these and other AIC volunteer leadership opportunities.

In conclusion, I want to say that my heart goes out to all who are suffering the impact of this pandemic. Our community is being sorely challenged. Yet, the resiliency of the field, its ability to adapt, is once again being revealed. We, AIC and FAIC, are here to bring our voices together, to help us be heard, to guide and be guided.

With profound appreciation of all our members,

—Eryl P. Wentworth, Executive Director, [ewentworth@culturalheritage.org](mailto:ewentworth@culturalheritage.org)



**Eryl Wentworth,**  
**Executive Director**



# A Path Forward: 2020 Sustainable Practices Survey

Continued from cover

In these unprecedented times, we, as individuals and conservation professionals, have been grappling with the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, racial injustice and police violence against individuals who are Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), debates over white supremacist narratives in our public spaces and collections, and a rapidly changing climate, all of which affect our lives and work. It is more important than ever that we, as a field, develop methods for adaptation and resilience that aim to address these realities.

the threat of climate change. The GTF found wide discrepancies in observations about recycling and the use of new sustainable technologies and practices, such as LED lighting and energy benchmarking. Furthermore, only 64% of respondents believed certain aspects of the profession to be wasteful or potentially damaging to the environment.

Nearly every professional in this field uses devices that require electricity, works in an environmentally controlled area, and produces waste that will eventually end up in a landfill. It is not a matter of *if* our profession is wasteful or environmentally damaging, but how much, and how can we change for the better?

## INTERPRETATION OF THE 2020 SURVEY

We began developing the 2020 questionnaire with the assumption that in the 12 years since the last survey, the conservation field had become more widely accepting of workplace sustainability efforts. We crafted questions to evaluate a level of awareness and to find out whether sustainable practices were being incorporated into members' conservation practices. Additionally, we aimed to understand how conservation professionals are adapting to the impact of climate change within their institutions and personal practices. From the results, we learned what tools and resources are most needed by conservators. We also gathered tips and ideas that we shared during the Sustainability Session of the AIC 2020 Virtual Meeting and on the Sustainable Practices AIC Wiki section. The overall trends, data, and suggestions that we collected will help determine future projects and the committee's overall direction.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

A total of 446 members from the United States (92%, see Fig. 1), Europe (3.6%), Canada (2.5%), and other regions of the world (1.9%) took part in the new study. The highest concentration of members from the US were from mid-Atlantic and Northeastern regions. The lowest concentration came from the Rocky Mountain and Southeastern regions.

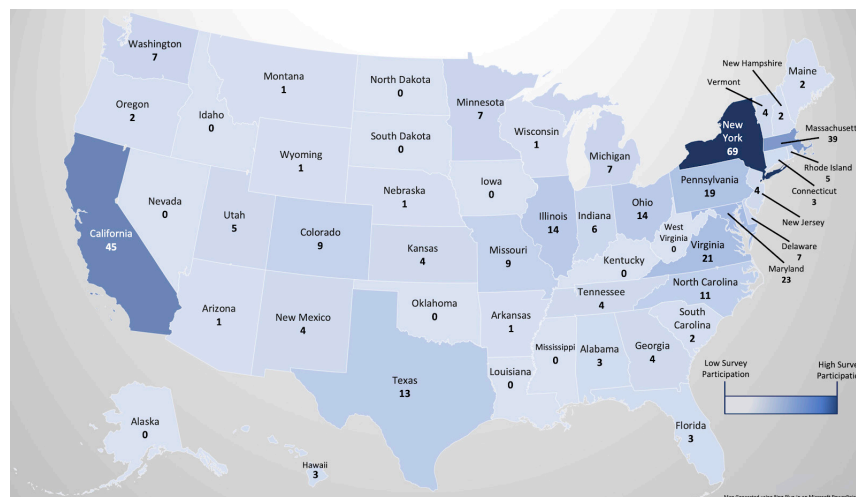
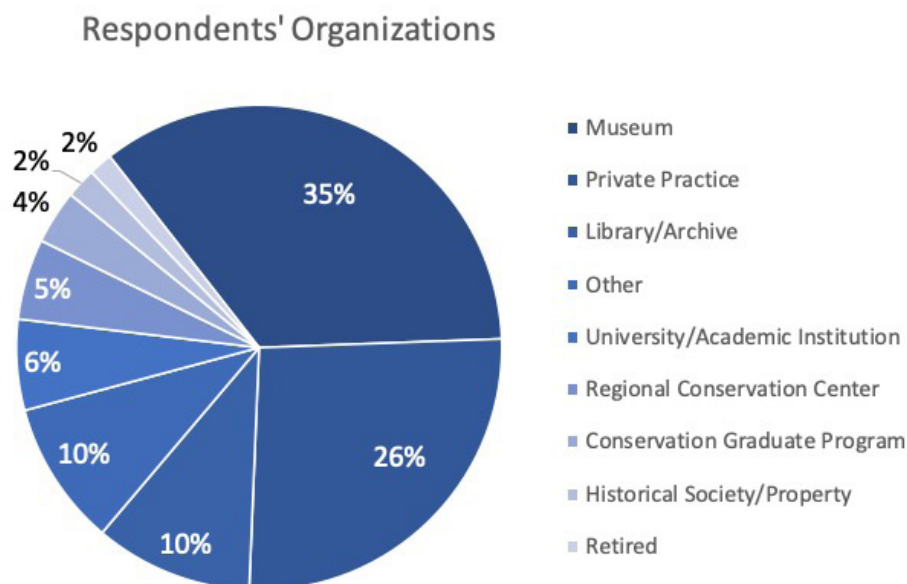


Figure 1. Geographical breakdown of respondents from the United States.

The majority of respondents were conservators (67%)—representing a diversity of workplaces (Fig 2.) The top four specializations selected by respondents were book and paper (34%), objects (25%), collection care (15%), and paintings (15%). Note that reported percentages in this article may vary slightly from the raw data, as both tallied responses and individual comments were taken into account.



**Figure 2. Breakdown of respondents' workplaces.**

## Moving Forward: Sustainable Practices

In the 2008 survey, the GTF asked about member and workplace commitments to adopting sustainable practices. Of those responses, 53% of members and 26% of member workplaces indicated that they were very committed. The SC repeated the question in the 2020 survey, this time inquiring about specific measures taken, such as conducting a self-assessment, instituting a compost program, installing solar panels, or efforts to reduce the consumption of energy, solvents, or water. Eighty percent reported that they recycle at their workplaces, while 9% did not practice *any* of the listed sustainable methods. Several individuals also added that they or their workplaces provide water bottle refill stations, started a Green Committee with a member from every department, participated in glove recycling, and reused supplies whenever possible.

In 2008, members indicated that their institutions' administration was the biggest barrier in reducing environmental impact at work—whether in the form of challenges with staff or leadership buy-in, operating in a shared or leased space, policy or legal constraints, contractual obligations, or momentum. In contrast, the 2020 results show that 70% of respondents did *not* consider administration a large barrier, demonstrating a paradigm shift in both thought and leadership that places sustainability toward the forefront of workplace values. Currently, one third of respondents still feel that costs related to implementing or maintaining sustainable practices are a large barrier. It was apparent in both surveys that resources in general (time, staff, and budget) continue to be major hurdles.

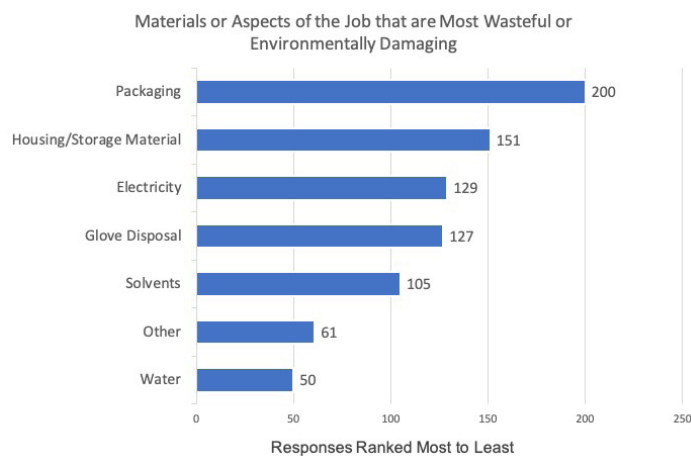
## Waste and Energy Use

The majority of respondents ranked packaging as the material they felt was most wasteful in their workplace (Fig. 3), with paper or board being the most frequently used and disposed of material (Fig. 4). Despite high product usage, these materials are easily recyclable. An example of an institution that has been able to reuse, reduce, and recycle packaging materials is the Brooklyn Museum, as reported by Melissa King in a Brooklyn Museum Tumblr post.

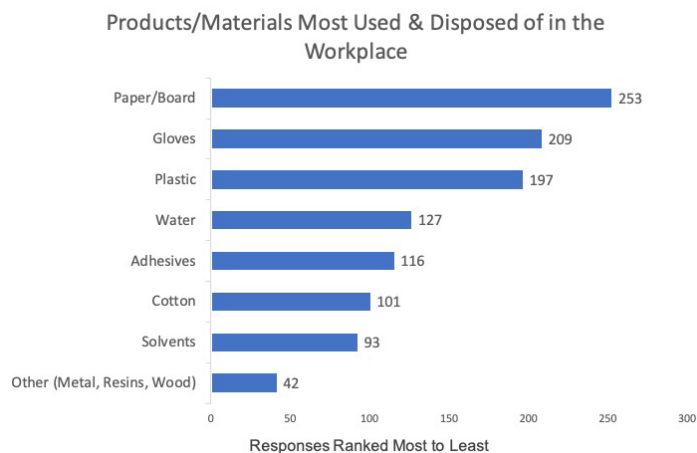


### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

King, Melissa. Brooklyn Museum. 2019.  
[brooklynmuseum.tumblr.com/post/177590531127/it-is-easy-to-take-for-granted-the-work-that-goes](https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/post/177590531127/it-is-easy-to-take-for-granted-the-work-that-goes)



**Figure 3. Packaging was reported by members to be the most environmentally damaging aspect of respondents' jobs, while housing/storage materials, glove disposal, and electrical usage all followed closely.**



**Figure 4. The top three materials most commonly used and disposed of were paper or board, gloves, and plastic. These three materials are also the most commonly recycled, where possible. Water, cotton, and solvents were the next most highly reported. The SC is investigating methods to recycle and reuse solvents and welcome suggestions from the AIC community on this subject.**

Some recycling facilities offer a reimbursement program for recycled paper that funnels more funds for sustainability back to the consumer. Gloves, ranked as the second-most disposed of material by survey respondents, are another commonly used product in our field (Fig. 4). While there are currently only a few nitrile glove recycling programs, local conservation professionals can get together to form a recycling cohort across several workplaces as an environmentally and financially sustainable way to get started.

Additional comments in this section mentioned the major environmental impact of courier trips, not only in terms of burning fossil fuels, but also in the use of materials to package and crate cultural heritage objects for loan. In their 2016 *JAIC* article, Nunberg, Eckelman, and Hatchfield found that "the highest environmental impact of all loan phases proved to be the carbon footprint of the courier who travels two round trips for every one object round trip." While loans have been severely disrupted due to COVID-19, some institutions have used this time to rethink their courier and loan programs, relying on the host institution to examine, re-pack, and ship artifacts back without an on-site courier from the home institution. It is crucial that we begin to create more sustainable approaches that will work both during these times of crisis and in the long run.

## Climate Change

In 2020, 96% of survey respondents agreed that climate change poses a serious threat to our cultural heritage. The past five years have been the hottest on record since 1880, when modern temperature recording began, as reported on [www.climate.gov](http://www.climate.gov). Climate change has spurred an increase in extreme weather events, including flooding, drought, elevated temperatures, wildfires, and hurricanes, resulting in food insecurity, displacement, and the loss of biodiversity. These effects not only threaten heritage sites, but they cause more weather-related emergencies and a greater demand for energy to control the environments inside our institutions. With the overwhelming majority of respondents recognizing the threat of climate change, we are poised as a profession to adapt and develop new solutions.



### Climate Change Position Statement

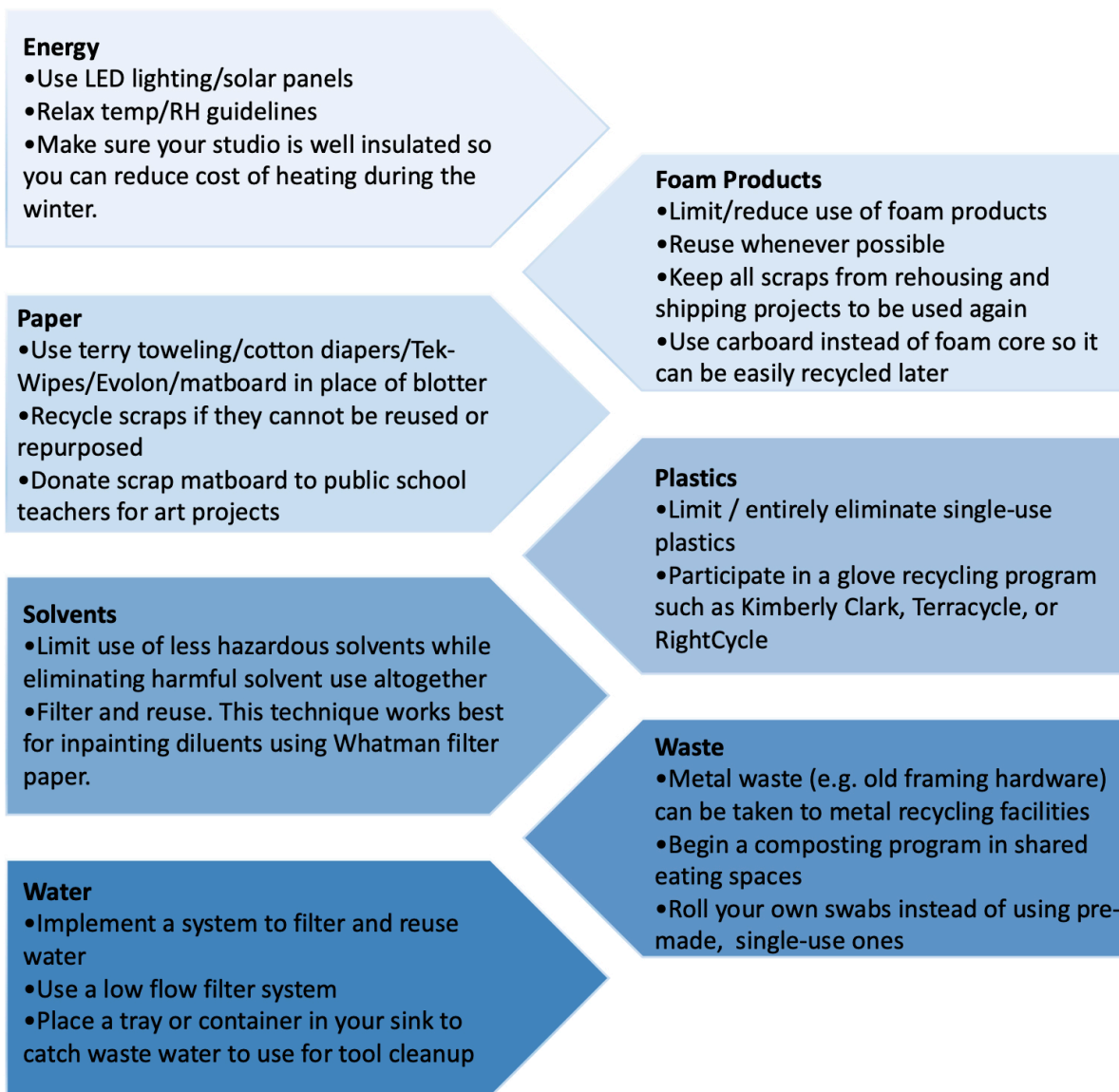
The AIC board released a position statement on climate change in 2019.

- [Read the statement](#)

## Hot Tips from Your Colleagues!

One quarter of respondents reported that they used innovative variations of conservation procedures. Out of the hundreds of responses we received, we found these to be the most useful and creative ways to become more sustainable in the workplace (Fig. 5):





**Figure 5. Suggested variations of conservation procedures from survey respondents that reduce waste in seven categories.**

The SC has generated several “Tips and Tricks” documents that are available for download from the AIC Wiki on Sustainable Practices. See Further Readings/ Resources at the end of this article for more information.

## Action & Response

In the years since the GTF’s initial sustainability survey, we have clearly shifted toward embracing more sustainable outlooks in our work, whether out of economic necessity or in recognition of our changing climate. The overall tone of the responses in the 2020 survey was forward-looking and demonstrated an interest in increased member engagement on this topic. We were encouraged to see a 28% increase in positive feedback in member response from 2008 to 2020. Additionally, 93% of those surveyed this year indicated that they were interested in learning more about sustainability in conservation.

More than half of all respondents reported that resources and information on sustainable conservation practices were sometimes difficult to find, indicating to us that we have not always disseminated information to the best of our ability, resulting in a knowledge gap that we intend to bridge.

The SC is redefining our internal committee structure to support the development

of projects that will increase accessibility to information and promote a community of sustainable practitioners within AIC. Moving forward, we aim to improve the ways we as conservators and cultural heritage professionals can become more environmentally aware. We intend to harness the expertise of those already working on the forefront of sustainability and climate change by reaching out to allies within and beyond our networks as we work toward this common goal.

In this new era of telework and distance learning, we are developing several ways to reach members virtually and provide continuous content. In the coming year, we aim to share:

- › Strategies for reducing exhibition waste and alternatives for loans and courier trips
- › Solutions for reusing, repurposing, and recycling materials used for packaging and object handling
- › Resources on responsible use and disposal of solvents
- › Advocacy tools to create leadership buy-in
- › Case studies and conversations with experts on the impact of climate change on cultural heritage
- › Recommendations for developing more sustainable approaches for meetings and conferences

We will focus on promoting the Sustainable Practices wiki page as a go-to resource where members will find updated information, new articles, and case studies. We are also planning new methods to share information about sustainability in an electronic format that will provide the latest information, tips, and a forum for discussion. The individuals that provided their contact information on the survey will be the first to receive these communications! If you would like to be added to our email list, contact the Sustainability Committee at [sustainability@culturalheritage.org](mailto:sustainability@culturalheritage.org).

—Rachel Childers, Christine Oricchio, Christie Romano, AIC Sustainability Committee

## Further Reading / Resources

AIC Blog Posts on Sustainability

<https://community.culturalheritage.org/search?s=tags%3A%22sustainability%22&executesearch=true>

AIC Wiki: Sustainable Practices

[http://www.conservation-wiki.com/wiki/Sustainable\\_Practices](http://www.conservation-wiki.com/wiki/Sustainable_Practices)

Google's Arts and Culture Interactive Map with Locations of Sites Threatened by Climate Change

<https://artsandculture.google.com/story/the-heritage-sites-threatened-by-climate-change-cyark/ggXBYBAGjQPtjg?hl=en>

New York Times article, "Crash Course on Climate Change"

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/04/19/climate/climate-crash-course-1.html>

Tips and Tricks for Emerging Conservation Professionals

[http://www.conservation-wiki.com/wiki/Tips\\_Sheet\\_for\\_Emerging\\_Conservation\\_Professionals](http://www.conservation-wiki.com/wiki/Tips_Sheet_for_Emerging_Conservation_Professionals)

UNESCO's 2015 Goals for Sustainable Developments

<https://en.unesco.org/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

UNESCO's page on Climate Change and World Heritage

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/climatechange/>



## Survey Data

In the spirit of transparency, the raw survey data will be made available on AIC's website:

[www.culturalheritage.org/surveys](http://www.culturalheritage.org/surveys)



## Contact Us!

If you have any questions or suggestions for the AIC Sustainability Committee, please contact us at [sustainability@culturalheritage.org](mailto:sustainability@culturalheritage.org).



## IAG Going Virtual

The 2020 meeting of our Internal Advisory Group (IAG) will take place in November via Zoom.

Please contact your specialty group, network, or any board and staff member with ideas you'd like this group to discuss.

## Confederate/Contested Monument Working Group

In July, the AIC Board of Directors decided that the 2017 AIC Position Statement on Confederate Monuments must be revised to more directly address the racism and hate that these monuments represent and to expand the statement to include other contested monuments. The Board also recognized that a well-informed and thoughtful statement required additional member input and recruited a working group to assist them in this effort. Information about the working group and a request for member comments were posted in the AIC member community in August. The working group is grateful to all members who have responded. Their first draft will be submitted to the Board in mid-September. The Board-approved statement will be available later this autumn.

## The Communications Committee Has Launched!

Publications and communications are the cornerstone of AIC; the opportunities to share professional information with each other and with the public are key reasons many become AIC members and retain their involvement in the organization. The scope of our publication outlets has grown to include not only our peer-reviewed journal and newsletter but a wide variety of electronic resources, website resources, and social media. Over many years the Publications Committee did excellent work, but the time had come for some changes that would enable it to support the fuller range of our communication activities. Earlier this year the Publications Committee was retired and the Communications Committee (ComComm) was launched.

An important feature of ComComm is the use of sub-committees to focus efforts that more closely map to volunteer members' areas of interest. Currently there are four sub-committees: Publications, Conference Proceedings, Website, and Outreach. Erin Stephenson is the inaugural Chair, and Henry Hebert is Vice-Chair.

- › The **Publications** sub-committee, chaired by Rebecca Rushfield, will review AIC print and online publications to identify gaps in coverage, topics, and interest and to help them keep up with general trends. The group will also review policies, procedures, and methods of dissemination, as requested. Publications include *JAIC*, *AIC News*, AIC Wiki, STASH, CoOL, and other resources.
- › The **Conference Proceedings** sub-committee, chaired by Justin Johnson, will provide support and strategy for groups publishing postprints, allowing information to be shared throughout the organization. They will also recommend a method for online access to posters and manage submissions of posters in an online repository. As an important new feature, the group will work towards facilitating publication of AIC Postprints containing general session presentations.
- › The **Website** sub-committee, chaired by Bruce Bumbarger, will focus on the website as a foundation for member resources and the public face of AIC. They will review the facets of the AIC website, blog, and online community for general content and accessibility and will recommend areas in need of updates.
- › The **Outreach** sub-committee, chaired by Colleen Grant, will have a strategic focus on social media and community outreach. They will liaise with the FAIC Outreach Coordinator (Katelin Lee), research and recommend outlets and methods for effective outreach, create content, and recommend alliances.

Collectively, the work of ComComm will be strategically led by a core committee made up of the Chair, Vice-Chair, each of the sub-committee chairs, representatives from the AIC office (currently Bonnie Naugle and Eryl Wentworth), AIC Editors for *JAIC*, *E-Resources*, and *AIC News* (currently Julio del Hoyo-Meléndez, Rachael Arenstein, and Lisa Goldberg, respectively), and Board Liaison (currently Brenda Bernier).

All chair positions have term-limits of two years to reduce the burden on volunteer leaders, keep fresh ideas coming in, and promote opportunities for leadership positions



among member volunteers. ComComm has been designed with the intention of keeping the component groups nimble so they can focus their energy on work close to their interests. Members have responded to our call for volunteers throughout the spring and summer, so the sub-committees are nearly full and are now populated with a good mix of specialties and points of view across the sub-committees. If you are interested in serving, please reach out to Bonnie Naugle or me for information on how to apply. Even if a sub-committee is full now, we expect openings on an ongoing basis.

Having just vacated the position of Interim Chair, I want to thank everyone who has volunteered as inaugural members of the ComComm, either as chairs or serving on a sub-committee. From the scope and scale of ComComm, it is clear we have a lot of work to do, and everyone who has volunteered thus far has skills and insights that will be invaluable! Together we are ready to roll up our sleeves and get to work!

—Brenda Bernier, Board Director, Communications, [brenda\\_bernier@harvard.edu](mailto:brenda_bernier@harvard.edu)

## MWG Steering Committee to Hold Online Meeting in November

The Materials Working Group (MWG) typically holds an annual in-person planning meeting to update its members on new advances, collaborations, and updates on subcommittee projects, but this year we will hold our meeting online due to travel restrictions and in response to the viral pandemic. We are planning the program for a November 12 and 13 meeting to follow a similar structure of previous meetings with updates on subcommittee work and potential breakout sessions for developing content geared toward institutions both with and without advanced analytical capabilities. Diverging from past meetings structure, this meeting will be held entirely online and will be abbreviated to morning sessions only.

To augment the November program, smaller-group pre-sessions will be held during September and October that will focus on specific task-based work and are being structured to provide collaboration between subcommittees and professional specialties. These working pre-sessions will include topics such as developing and editing materials-specific Fact Sheets (meant to augment [CAMEO](#) entries) and the AIC Conservation wiki pages devoted to the Materials Working Group and associated subjects. Other topics are still being developed and will be announced closer to the pre-session dates.

If you are interested in learning more about the MWG and potentially participating in the upcoming pre-sessions or November meeting, please contact Rebecca Kaczowski ([kaczowski@si.edu](mailto:kaczowski@si.edu)) including: "MWG 2020 Meeting" in the subject line.

—Rebecca Kaczowski, MWG Chair, [kaczowski@si.edu](mailto:kaczowski@si.edu), and members of the MWG Steering Committee

## Two New Membership Activities: Volunteers Needed

We welcome all members to apply for a role in our new groups. The following subcommittee and working group are designed to enhance the member experience by providing a welcoming environment in several ways.

### MEMBER ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE (MES)

The Member Engagement Subcommittee is our newest subcommittee, housed within the Membership Committee. Volunteers in this subcommittee will provide support to new AIC members, to ensure they are acknowledged and made aware of both benefits and various opportunities in the organization, with a focus on enhancing the member experience. The subcommittee helps to introduce new members to AIC and FAIC, encourages members to take on volunteer leadership roles, provides support to first-time volunteers, recognizes the work of volunteers, and promotes ongoing member engagement in AIC, including promotion of membership designations. This group will work closely with several committees and staff members to provide a welcoming atmosphere and encourage diversity in our volunteer leadership.

## COMMUNITY GUIDELINES AND CONDUCT WORKING GROUP (CGCWG)

The Community Guidelines and Conduct Working Group is a year-long volunteer opportunity to help establish clear codes of conduct for member communication on digital platforms, activities in professional settings, and interpersonal communication. The CGCWG will assess moderation needs across all communities, define unwelcome behavior, and develop methods of enforcement. This group will work in collaboration with the AIC communication and membership directors over the course of its year-long charge.

Please write to [membership@culturalheritage.org](mailto:membership@culturalheritage.org) to express interest or ask further questions about these opportunities.

## Find an Expert Tool in Testing

We have tentatively selected a search tool to replace the current Find a Conservator tool. The new tool is part of the Higher Logic platform. Forty members volunteered and are currently testing the tool to provide feedback that will inform our final decision. Their comments also will shape the requirements that we send to an external developer who will fine-tune the tool for our needs. Once we have a workable search tool, we will allow all peer-reviewed members to update their profiles, opt in or out of the search, and test the system fully before phasing out the existing Find a Conservator search on our website.

Please write to Bonnie Naugle and Ryan Winfield with any questions at [membership@culturalheritage.org](mailto:membership@culturalheritage.org).

## AIC Board Elections

The AIC Nominating Committee encourages members to submit nominations for qualified individuals as candidates for election to the following positions:

- › President
- › Vice President
- › Director, Committees & Networks

The Nominating Committee must receive completed nominations by February 15, 2021, three months prior to the May 15<sup>th</sup> Member Business Meeting in Jacksonville, FL. The AIC Bylaws require that candidates for the officer positions of president and vice president be Fellows and directors be Fellows or Professional Associates. The Nominations for all positions must be members in good standing of AIC and should have prior experience with the functioning of the organization through service on committees, networks, specialty groups, or in other capacities.

Committee members will be pleased to discuss any aspect of the nominating and election process with potential candidates and anyone interested in nominating candidates. Please contact Penley Knipe ([penley\\_knipe@harvard.edu](mailto:penley_knipe@harvard.edu)), Sarah Stauderman ([sarah.stauderman@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.stauderman@gmail.com)), or Jessica Chloros ([jchloros@isgm.org](mailto:jchloros@isgm.org)).

## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations of qualified members as candidates for the Nominating Committee election. The committee, composed of three members each serving a three-year term, has one vacant position each year. The 2021 candidate must be a Fellow member of AIC. With approval of the revisions to the AIC Bylaws on April 30, 2015, nominations are made to the chair of the Nominating Committee and must be received February 15, 2021, three months prior to the May 15 Member Business Meeting in Jacksonville. An electronic vote will be held in conjunction with the votes held for Board member positions.

—AIC Nominating Committee: Penley Knipe ([penley\\_knipe@harvard.edu](mailto:penley_knipe@harvard.edu)); Sarah Stauderman ([sarah.stauderman@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.stauderman@gmail.com)); Jessica Chloros ([jchloros@isgm.org](mailto:jchloros@isgm.org))

## Welcome New AIC Board Members

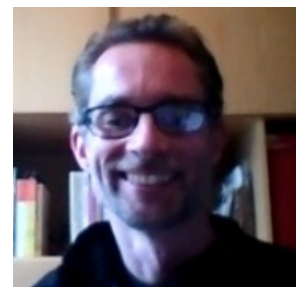
We welcome two new board members and thank our outgoing members for their service. Elmer Eusman is serving as treasurer for both AIC and FAIC, after Sarah Barack served two terms in the role. Jennifer McGlinchey Sexton is serving as AIC Board Secretary, after Sue Murphy served two terms.

**Elmer Eusman** received his diploma in book and paper conservation in 1989 from the Dutch National School for Conservation, a program now incorporated into Amsterdam University. After completing his studies, he continued his training in the private conservation studio Corrigan & Greca in Paris, the Amsterdam Rijksmuseum, and the British Museum in London. He was an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, before serving as a conservator at the Library of Congress, the Baltimore Museum of Art, and the Boymans Museum in Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

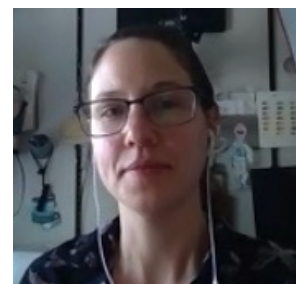
Elmer returned to the Library in 2000 where he served as a Preservation Specialist, Special Assistant to the Director for Preservation, and acting Chief of the Preservation Reformatting Division before he was appointed as the Chief of the Conservation Division in 2013. Elmer has presented and published on multiple research topics including iron gall ink corrosion, the 18th century Dutch print maker Ploos van Amstel, project management, long-term exhibition strategies at the Library of Congress, and tidelines in paper. He is an AIC Fellow and a certified project manager through the Project Management Institute.

**Jennifer McGlinchey Sexton** is a conservator in private practice in Colorado. She specializes in photographs, works on paper, and conservation imaging. She serves museums, institutions, and private individuals in the West and throughout the United States. A member of Mountain States Art Conservation, she works in collaboration with conservators of varied specialties whenever possible.

Trained as a fine-art photographer, Jennifer became interested in conservation through exploration of historic photographic processes. Her graduate training at Buffalo State College allowed her to explore additional aspects of photography as a medium and a tool for conservation. She gained experience as a conservator and photographer in positions at MFA, Houston, Williamstown Art Conservation Center, the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, the Menil Collection, and Paul Messier, LLC. Jennifer is finishing up a year appointment as a full-time lecturer for "Technical Examination and Documentation" at the Garman Art Conservation Department, Buffalo State College.



**Elmer Eusman**



**Jennifer McGlinchey Sexton**

## New Committee Leadership

Thanks to everyone who volunteered for service on one of our many committees. All committee chairs are listed below, and you can find the roster for each on our website on their committee page, or in the complete listing of all volunteer officers.

- › Appeals Committee: Karen Zukor
- › Audit Committee: Tom Claeson
- › Awards Committee: Nancie Ravenel
- › Communications Committee: Erin Stephenson
- › Education and Training Committee: Susanna Donovan
- › Emergency Committee: Holly Herro
- › Equity and Inclusion Committee: Anya Dani and Anisha Gupta
- › Ethics and Standards Committee: Rustin Levinson
- › Membership Committee: Whitney Baker
- › Nominating Committee: Penley Knipe
- › Sustainability Committee: Roxane Sperber



## 2021 Membership Renewals Now Available

September is when we begin asking you to renew your membership. Renewing early helps avoid a gap in your journal subscription and member community access and supports your association.

Renewing online or by phone is **preferable** during this time. The post office will be managing huge amounts of mail-in ballots, and our staff access to the office is limited. Typically, three staff members work together to process checks, and we are trying to limit close contact whenever possible.

You can renew in two ways once you receive your invoice email:

- › Online at [culturalheritage.org/renew](https://culturalheritage.org/renew)
- › Calling us at 202.991.0643

Your 2021 dues order will reflect your 2020 (and sometimes previous years') membership, including specialty groups. When renewing online, you can add specialty groups but not remove them yourself. To do this, change your member type, or make other changes, email [membership@culturalheritage.org](mailto:membership@culturalheritage.org) or call 202.991.0643.

We understand that many of our members have been impacted by the pandemic and related economic downturn. If you are experiencing difficulties, we want to work with you. Please contact me using the information below so we can discuss personalized arrangements.

—Ryan Winfield, AIC Membership Manager, 202.661.8065,  
[rwinfield@culturalheritage.org](mailto:rwinfield@culturalheritage.org)

## Nominate your Deserving Colleague for Award Recognition

We strive to recognize members and allied professionals for outstanding and distinguished contributions to the field of conservation.

Please take time to commend someone you know who deserves recognition for accomplishments, such as service to our association or the conservation field, advocacy, education/teaching excellence, or producing a terrific publication. Help us celebrate their achievements by nominating them! It only takes a few minutes to write a sponsorship letter. The awards committee encourages submissions from all members.

To learn more about our awards categories, including information on past winners and how to submit a nomination, visit: [www.culturalheritage.org/awards](https://www.culturalheritage.org/awards).

Submit your nominations by December 15, 2020.



### Awards Questions?

Contact the Awards Committee to submit nominations or to ask questions at [awards@culturalheritage.org](mailto:awards@culturalheritage.org).

# Annual Meeting News

## AIC's Annual Meeting: Risk – Reward – Resilience

Offering the 2020 AIC Annual Meeting as a virtual event gave us the opportunity to reflect on the form, logistics, and relevance of the meeting to our community. This article will explore the current annual meeting structure and how it serves the conservation community by answering these questions:

- › Why does AIC have one combined meeting rather than several smaller meetings a year?
- › Why does AIC hold the annual meeting every year rather than on alternate years or a three-year rotational schedule?
- › Why does AIC hold an in-person meeting rather than a virtual meeting?

Many of these questions touch on the same key points. To understand the answers, we must explore the risks and rewards offered for both attendees and the association. Using this model also exposes the risk and reward equation for the alternate models suggested by online community participants.

### CURRENT ANNUAL MEETING STRUCTURE: RISKS AND REWARDS

The **rewards** of the annual meeting are more visible than the risks. The main rewards include, but are not limited to:

- › Having opportunities to present your research
- › Taking part in a professional exchange of ideas
- › Networking with your peers
- › Fostering communication among members
- › Advancing the field through exposure of new ideas, research and information
- › Creating a source of income for the association that is not based on dues.

The main **risk for individuals** is: Will I get a return on my investment (ROI) by attending the meeting, often as expressed by the following questions:

- › Will the talks be interesting?
- › Will people come to hear my talk?
- › Will I get a chance to reconnect with friends and colleagues?
- › Will the time away from work and family be worth it?

Evaluations of the past ten annual meetings show that between 93-95% of attendees rate their experience as favorable. We continue to look for ways to improve the annual meeting experience for all.

The main **risks to AIC** as an organization include:

- › Will the program be relevant to attendees?
- › Will attendees feel like they received a return on their investment (ROI)?
- › Will the meeting have enough attendees to work as designed?
- › Will an unexpected disaster make it impossible to hold the meeting?
- › Can AIC maximize attendance and minimize expenses while providing a high-quality experience to attendees?

AIC's risk each year involves guaranteeing there are enough attendees to fill the contracted room block and to meet expenses, as per contractual obligations. AIC must also ensure that attendees feel the meeting is a good return on their invest-

We recognize that COVID-19 may pose a risk to the 2021 AIC Annual Meeting. However, since the COVID-19 risk for May 2021 is unknown right now, this article will not consider this particular possibility; we would not hold an in-person meeting if doing so was unsafe, so the term "risk" in this article is defined by economics and use of personal resources (your time and effort).

ment (ROI) through effective management of site selection and theme and program development, as well as by creating educational enrichment (workshops, seminars, and tours) and offering positive networking opportunities.

All of these factors, some determined years before the meeting, contribute to the risk/reward equation. From first site selection conversations to the closing session, AIC strives to favorably resolve all risk factors for both attendees and AIC. Positive annual meeting evaluations and continued growth in attendance show that its current structure delivers a positive ROI for attendees. AIC also constantly strives to add new elements to the annual meeting as we endeavor to improve every aspect of each meeting.

## WOULD HOLDING SEVERAL SMALLER SPECIALTY-BASED MEETINGS PER YEAR BE A BETTER OPTION?

The current structure of the AIC Annual Meeting allows for joint sessions, concurrent general sessions, and an all-attendee general session. Cross-specialty sessions would not occur in a specialty-only meeting structure.

Members often suggest holding several smaller specialty-only meetings (similar to the PMG Winter Meeting) per year (ranging from 75–250 attendees each), instead of an annual AIC Meeting (750–1,500 attendees). A common perception is that smaller meetings are less expensive, easier to manage, and less risky than larger meetings, but this is not the case. In general, smaller meetings cost more per person to run, take more time per person served to manage, and are riskier than larger meetings. Large meetings benefit from economies of scale, as discussed below.

Though smaller meetings may seem perfect for cutting-edge or highly specialized programing, a small specialty-based meeting with one track of talks must provide a program that meets the needs of those attendees, so cutting-edge or cross-over programing is diminished in favor of what will be of value to the majority of attendees. In contrast, the larger pool of attendees is what allows our annual meeting to offer these highly specialized talks by means of joint sessions or by offering smaller highly specialized workshops or seminars. With the negotiated available space that comes with a meeting of 1,000 or more attendees, larger meetings allow for more numerous smaller spaces, enabling talks with a smaller draw or room for multiple small-interest groups to meet. Some programs can also be run at a slight loss as they are supported by other meeting events.

When comparing different types of meeting structures, it is critical in the risk/reward equation to calculate the optimum number of attendees a meeting must accommodate to run effectively. Often the focus is on the projected maximum number of attendees, but a minimum number of attendees must be considered for an event to break even, for planning space and food/beverage, and for advertising planning.

Imagine an AIC Annual Meeting with 250 people; it would have extremely small audiences for the presenters and the 250 people would be spread out over many breakouts with curtailed networking opportunities. This concept, when an event's attendance decreases or increases to such an extent that it is no longer the event as advertised, is called "frustration-of-purpose" and was one of the arguments AIC used to move the Salt Lake City meeting to 2024.

A smaller meeting—with an academic talk format similar to the AIC annual meeting—has the potential for reaching "frustration of purpose" levels more quickly than at a larger meeting. If you were planning for 100 attendees and only had 75, the small audience and the lack of networking opportunities are much more noticeable than if you were planning for 1,000 and have 750.

On the expense side of the equation, meetings of approximately 1,000 people can get more favorable room rates and other concessions from a potential meeting site. For example, larger events with food cost less per person for the same menu than smaller ones; economies of scale underly our efforts to engage the same caterer for several specialty group receptions.



The PMG Winter Meeting, the best example of a smaller (100-150 person) meeting that AIC manages, is often able to hold its session in a museum, does not always contract a room block, and relies on a greater volunteer workload than the AIC Annual Meeting. These strategies have helped the meeting be successful. As we look ahead to a difficult next few years, relying heavily on waived room rental from museums and volunteer labor is risky. With this in mind, the current economic climate might not be the time to ask people to take on more volunteer workloads to support more specialty-specific meetings.

The larger format of the AIC Annual Meeting lets attendees choose the type of meeting they prefer (cross-disciplinary or specialized); the larger “tent” allows for more diverse offerings, while greater attendance lowers organizational risk and requires less resources per person.

## WHY DOES AIC HOLD THE ANNUAL MEETING EVERY YEAR RATHER THAN EVERY OTHER OR EVERY THREE YEARS?

Periodically members ask why AIC holds the annual meeting every year versus every other year or every three years. Often mentioned with this question is the statement that not everyone can attend and/or submit an abstract every year. The most likely outcome for attendees if AIC switched to a biannual or triannual meeting format would be fewer opportunities to have a talk accepted and fewer opportunities to attend the meeting.

- › A biannual meeting, unless it was expanded to twice the length (six days vs. three) would offer far fewer opportunities to present a talk. The result would be more abstracts competing for fewer slots in a two-year period, resulting in lost opportunities to share many important research findings, new treatments, and ground-breaking ideas.
- › Attendance at a biannual meeting would most likely be higher, but nowhere near double current annual meeting levels. Since many attendees report that their institutions will only fund their attendance if they are giving a talk, the reduced presentation spots would also negatively affect attendance.
- › If you have to miss a meeting due to lack of funding or professional/personal conflict, your next opportunity to attend would be in two or three years and not in the following year (as currently).

How wonderful if all conservators could attend the AIC Annual Meeting every year, but this is not practical or possible for everyone. Records show that while a dedicated group is able to attend almost every year, many attend every other year or less. One reason we move the meeting to a different city each year is to make it possible for more members to experience an annual meeting nearby. Rather than increasing presentation and attendance opportunities, a biannual or triannual meeting structure would reduce these opportunities. The benefit of a larger meeting held every two years does not outweigh the risks of fewer opportunities to present and attend an AIC Annual Meeting.

For the organization as a whole, a biannual pattern would actually increase the risk to AIC. Each annual meeting has the same minor and major risks, independent of size and schedule interval. A biannual meeting would raise the stakes because AIC would depend on one meeting's income for two years, resulting in much more financial difficulty were the meeting to be fiscally unsuccessful.

In addition, the projected increase in attendees for a biannual event would most likely put our attendance at 1,400 to 1,700. At these attendee levels, we would need to hold more meetings in convention centers instead of stand-alone hotels, adding to the complexity of the planning process.



### Major or Minor Risk?

An example of a minor risk is not meeting expected and established attendance. An example of a major risk would be COVID-19.

## WHY DOES AIC HOLD AN IN-PERSON MEETING RATHER THAN A VIRTUAL MEETING?

The number of members who have been able to participate in the virtual version of our 2020 Annual Meeting has been one bright light in these difficult times. Virtual meetings have benefits, but they do not replace the excitement of presenting your research to a room of your peers or the opportunities to network with your peers. Also, by gathering in a city, AIC has the opportunity to highlight conservation to the public and meet local members who may not have been able to join elsewhere.

However, in-person and virtual meetings do not have to be an either/or option; going forward, AIC will be adding a virtual meeting component to our upcoming annual meetings in order to provide a sample of the talks given at an in-person meeting. Hopefully, in years when you can't attend in-person, the virtual option will keep you connected to advances in the field, your colleagues, and the AIC community.

## FUTURE CHANGES

Over the last decade the AIC Annual Meeting has undergone some important changes, including:

- › An expansion of pre-session offerings
- › A marked increase in attendance
- › Our 2016 meeting in Montreal marked the first international meeting in almost 40 years.

Holding a cross-specialty meeting every year gives AIC the flexibility to:

- › Add new programs and features to the event
- › Collaborate with other organizations by holding a joint meeting
- › Offer talks and programs that are up to date and present the newest research and developments
- › Offer the best chance of having your talk accepted
- › Offer the most chances to attend
- › Reduce the risk to the association

AIC's Annual Meeting is ever-changing as we strive to meet your needs and those of the field.

- › This year we were able to offer some of our workshops in a second session, allowing us to double the number of those able to participate.
- › The 2021 Annual Meeting will be the first to offer a virtual component paired with an in-person event.
- › AIC is also pleased to announce that the 2021 meeting will be jointly held with the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC) in Jacksonville, Florida. A joint program committee will be crafting both general and specialty sessions that will showcase current treatments and research efforts from both organizations. By joining together, both organizations will lower the risks for their annual meetings and offer attendees an opportunity for collaborative explorations.

We look forward to the next decade of our ever-evolving annual meeting.

—Ruth Seyler, Meetings & Advocacy Director, [rseyler@culturalheritage.org](mailto:rseyler@culturalheritage.org)

## AIC/SPNHC 2021 Joint Annual Meeting – Abstract Submissions Open Until September 30

We invite you to submit your abstract for our 2021 Joint Annual Meeting with the Society for Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC). The theme for this year's Annual Meeting is TRANSFORM 2021. We plan to hold the meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, May 11-15, 2021.

### 2021 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We will accept abstracts in the following categories until September 30. You can find a complete list of options in each category on our website as well as our submission instructions.

- › [Opening and Concurrent General Sessions](#)
- › [Specialty Session and Joint Sessions, including SPNHC-based sessions](#)
- › [Pre-sessions, post-sessions, and lunch-time sessions](#)
- › [Workshops](#)

Please contact Ruth Seyler at [rseyler@culturalheritage.org](mailto:rseyler@culturalheritage.org) with any questions.

### COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS

We will carefully follow public health guidance to hold a safe and productive conference in 2021. When submitting a proposal, please be aware that while we will make every effort to hold an in-person meeting, including rescheduling the meeting for later in 2021, we may still need to hold a completely virtual meeting. Note that we are adding a virtual component to an in-person meeting so we may ask you to record your talk or to present a second time, either in a recording studio onsite at the meeting or by a specified date after the annual meeting.

## Visit us at the AIC's 48th ANNUAL MEETING

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## Thanks to our 2020 Virtual Meeting Exhibitors!

Learn more about these exhibitors by watching their meet and greet presentations in the session dates noted below.

### PLATINUM LEVEL

#### **Bruker Corporation**

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 17, 22, 30;  
July 13; August 27**

5465 E. Cheryl Parkway  
Madison, WI 53711 USA  
Contact: Kodi Morton  
Ph: 608-276-3017 Fx: 608-276-3006  
Email: kodi.morton@bruker.com  
Website: www.bruker.com

#### **Goppion**

205 Mount Auburn St.  
Watertown, MA 02472 USA  
Contact: Bruno Goppion, Ted Paschkis  
Ph: 617-297-2546 Fx: 617-848-2641  
Email: bgoppion@goppion-us.com,  
tpaschkis@goppion-us.com  
Website: www.goppion.com

### DIAMOND LEVEL

#### **Tru Vue, Inc.**

**Virtual Meet & Greet: August 20**  
9400 West 55th St.  
Countryside, IL 60525 USA  
Contact: Yadin Larochette  
Ph: 312-758-3737 Fx: 708-854-2660  
Email: ylarochette@tru-vue.com  
Website: tru-vue.com/  
museums-collections

### GOLD LEVEL

#### **Atlas Preservation Inc.**

122 Spring St., Ste. B1  
Southington, CT 06489 USA  
Contact: Jonathan W. Appell  
Ph: 806-558-2785  
Email: sales@atlaspreservation.com  
Website: atlaspreservation.com

#### **Foster + Freeman USA, Inc.**

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 29; July  
14; August 31**  
46030 Manekin Plaza, Ste. 170  
Sterling, VA 20166 USA  
Contact: David Tobin  
Ph: 888-445-5048 Fx: 888-445-5049  
Email: usoffice@fosterfreeman.com  
Website: www.fosterfreeman.com

#### **G.C. Laser Systems, Inc.**

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 8 and 23**  
900 S. Des Plaines Ave.  
Forest Park, IL 60130 USA  
Contact: Magdalena Dajnowski  
Ph: 844-532-10641 Fx: 773-353-8699  
Email: magdalena@gclasers.com  
Website: www.gclasers.com

#### **Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc.**

9401 Northeast Drive  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408 USA  
Contact: Bob Henderson  
Ph: 800-634-0491 Fx: 800-947-8814  
Email: info@hollingermetaledge.com  
Website: www.hollingermetaledge.com

#### **Kremer Pigments, Inc.**

247-C West 29th St., Frnt. 1  
New York, NY 10001 USA  
Contact: Roger Carmona  
Ph: 212-219-2394 Fx: 212-219-2395  
Email: roger@kremerpigments.com  
Website: www.kremerpigments.com

#### **NanoRay**

7F, No. 91, Xinhua 1st Rd.  
Neihu District, Taipei 114 Taiwan  
Contact: Ranganath Varma  
Tel: +886 2-2796-8909  
Fax: +886 2-2796-8910  
Email: varma@nanoray.com  
Website: www.artxray.net;  
www.nanoray.com

#### **TandD US, LLC.**

534 N. Guadalupe St., Unit 32886  
Santa Fe, NM 87501 USA  
Contact: Steve Knuth  
Ph: 518-669-9227  
Email: sbknuth@tandd.com  
Website: www.tandd.com

#### **University Products, Inc.**

PO Box 101, Holyoke, MA 01041 USA  
Contact: John A. Dunphy  
Ph: 413-532-3372 Fx: 800-532-9281  
Email: jadunphy@universityproducts.  
com  
Website: www.universityproducts.com

### SILVER LEVEL

#### **BMS CAT**

5718 Airport Freeway  
Haltom City, TX 76117 USA  
Contact: Matt Jaroma  
Ph: 313-320-1877  
Email: mjaroma@bmecat.com  
Website: www.bmecat.com

#### **Conservation by Design**

2 Wolseley Rd., Kempston  
Bedford, MK42 7AD UK  
Contact: Lesley Jones  
Ph: 011-44-(0)1234-846333  
Email: lesley.jones@cxinternational.com  
Website: www.cxinternational.com

#### **Crystalizations Systems, Inc.**

1401 Lincoln Ave.  
Holbrook, NY 11741 USA  
Contact: Patricia Ellenwood

Ph: 631-467-0090 Fx: 631-467-0061  
Email: info@csistorage.com  
Website: www.csistorage.com

#### **Gaylord Archival**

PO Box 4901, Syracuse, NY 13212 USA  
Contact: Ronda Buck  
Ph: 800-448-6160 Fx: 800-272-3412  
Email: sales@gaylord.com  
Website: www.gaylord.com

#### **Onset HOBO Data Loggers**

470 McArthur Blvd.  
Bourne, MA 05232 USA  
Contact: Sean Kelly  
Ph: 508-743-3155  
Email: sean\_kelly@onsetcomp.com  
Website: www.onsetcomp.com

#### **Opus Instruments (Atik Cameras)**

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 15; July 23**  
Unit 8 Lodge Farm Barns, New Rd.,  
Norwich, Norfolk NR9 3LZ UK  
Contact: Catherine Wilkinson  
Ph: 011-44-(0)1603-740397  
Email: hello@opusinstruments.com  
Website: www.opusinstruments.com

#### **Prairie Paper, University of Illinois, Library**

1408 West Gregory Dr., Rm 425  
Urbana, IL 61801 USA  
Contact: Jennifer Hain Teper  
Ph: 217-244-5689  
Email: jhain@illinois.edu  
Website: freshpress.studio/  
prairiepaper

#### **REL, Inc.**

57640 North Eleventh St.  
Calumet, MI 49913 USA  
Contact: Robert Sturos  
Ph: 906-337-3018 Fx: 906-337-2930  
Email: robert.sturos@relinc.net  
Website: www.relinc.com

#### **SmallCorp**

**Virtual Meet & Greet: July 9; August 3**  
19 Butternut St., Greenfield, MA 01301  
USA  
Contact: Michael Dunphy  
Ph: 413-772-0889 Fx: 413-773-7386  
Email: mdunphy@smallcorp.com  
Website: www.smallcorp.com

#### **Studio Arts College International**

454 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011 USA  
Contact: Racini Aranda  
Ph: 212-248-7225 Fx: 212-248-7222  
Email: raranda@saci-florence.edu  
Website: saci-florence.edu



## STANDARD LEVEL

### Applied Surface Technologies

15 Hawthorne Drive  
New Providence, NJ 07974 USA  
Contact: Robert Sherman  
Ph: 908-464-6675  
Email: roberts@co2clean.com  
Website: www.co2clean.com

### Barnett Technical Services

**Virtual Meet & Greet: July 9; August 19**  
5050 Laguna Blvd., Ste. 112-620  
Elk Grove, CA 95758 USA  
Contact: Steve Barnett  
Ph: 916-549-4423  
Email: info@barnett-technical.com  
Website: barnett-technical.com

### Carestream Non-Destructive Testing

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 15 and 17; July 2**  
150 Verona St.  
Rochester, NY 14608 USA  
Contact: Stephen Pflanz  
Ph: 585-627-6705; Cell: 585-230-0972  
Email: stephen.pflanz@carestream.com  
Website: www.carestream.com/nondestructivetesting.html

### CoLibri System

8616 La Tijera Blvd., Ste. 512  
Los Angeles, CA 90045 USA  
Contact: Tommaso Garavaglia  
Ph: 415-746-0867  
Email: garavaglia@colibrisystem.com  
Website: www.colibriusa.com

### Dorfman Museum Figures, Inc.

6224 Holabird Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21224 USA  
Contact: Chad Grob  
Ph: 410-284-3248 Fx: 410-284-3249  
Email: chad@museumfigures.com  
Website: www.museumfigures.com

### Getty Conservation Institute

1200 Getty Center Dr., Ste. 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90049 USA  
Contact: Anna Zagorski  
Ph: 310-440-7325  
Email: azagorski@getty.edu  
Website: www.getty.edu/conservation

### Getty Publications

1200 Getty Center Dr., Ste. 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90049 USA  
Contact: Kimberley Westad  
Ph: 310-440-7506 Fx: 310-440-7758  
Email: kwestad@getty.edu  
Website: www.getty.edu/publications

### Hiromi Paper, Inc.

9469 Jefferson Blvd., Ste. 117  
Culver City, CA 90232 USA  
Contact: Yuki & Hiromi Katayama  
Ph: 310-998-0098 Fx: 310-998-0028  
Email: yuki@hiromipaper.com  
Website: www.hiromipaper.com

### Hirox-USA, Inc.

100 Commerce Way, Ste. 4  
Hackensack, NJ 07601 USA  
Contact: Edvina Bassano  
Ph: 201-342-2600 Ext 205 Fx: 201-342-7322  
Email: info@hirox-usa.com  
Website: www.hirox-usa.com

### Huntington T. Block Insurance Agency, Inc.

1120 20th St. NW, Ste. 600,  
Washington, DC 20036 USA  
Contact: Ever Song  
Ph: 202-429-8506 Fx: 312-381-0698  
Email: ever\_song@aon.com  
Website: www.huntingtontblock.com

### Jack Richeson & Co.

557 Marcella St.  
Kimberly, WI 54136 USA  
Contact: Chrissy Stuczynski  
Ph: 920-738-0744 Fx: 920-738-9156  
Email: chrissys@richesonart.com  
Website: richesonart.com

### Middleton Spectral Vision

8505 University Green  
Middleton, WI 53562 USA  
Contact: Chris Draves  
Ph: 608-831-2141 Fx: 608 831 3076  
Email: chris.draves@middletonspectral.com  
Website: www.middletonspectral.com

### Museum Services Corporation

385 Bridgepoint Way  
South St. Paul, MN 55075 USA  
Contact: Linda Butler  
Ph: 651-450-8954 Fx: 651-554-9217  
Email: info@museumservicescorporation.com  
Website: www.museumservicescorporation.com

### National Center for Preservation Technology & Training (NCPTT)

645 University Parkway  
Natchitoches, LA 71457 USA  
Contact: Jason Church  
Ph: 318-356-7444 Fx: 318-356-9119  
Email: jason\_church@contractor.nps.gov  
Website: www.ncptt.nps.gov

### NEDCC | Northeast Document Conservation Center

100 Brickstone Square  
Andover, MA 01810 USA  
Contact: Bill Veillette  
Ph: 978-470-1010 Fx: 978-470-6021  
Email: info@nedcc.org  
Website: www.nedcc.org

### Print File, Inc.

1846 S. Orange Blossom Trl.  
Apopka, FL 32703 USA  
Contact: Gene Amoroso  
Ph: 407-886-3100 Fx: 407-886-0008  
Email: gene@printfile.com  
Website: www.printfile.com

### RH Conservation Engineering

"Meakins Rise" 16 Meakins Rd.  
Flinders, Victoria 3929, Australia  
Contact: Robin Hodgson  
Ph: 011-61-419-892919  
Email: rhe@rhconservationeng.com  
Website: www.rhconservationeng.com

### Spacesaver

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 16**  
1450 Janesville Ave.  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 USA  
Contacts: Ben Adamitus  
Ph: 920-563-0782  
Email: badamitus@spacesaver.com  
Website: www.spacesaver.com

### Talas

330 Morgan Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211 USA  
Contacts: Jacob Salik  
Ph: 212-219-0770  
Email: jake@talasonline.com  
Website: www.talasonline.com

### Zarbeco, LLC

**Virtual Meet & Greet: June 15; July 14**  
52 Main St., Ste. 1  
Succassunna, NJ 07876 USA  
Contact: Meryl Zweig  
Ph: 973-933-2043 Fx: 973-933-2336  
Email: mzwieg@zarbeco.com  
Website: www.zarbeco.com

# Foundation News

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## NEH-FAIC Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) Project Begins Implementation

Earlier this year, the team from the 2018-2019 NEH-funded Tier 1 project, “Planning a Life Cycle Analysis Library of Preventive Conservation Methods,” reconvened to begin the 2020-2022 NEH-funded implementation project “Building a Life Cycle Assessment Tool & Library of Preventive Conservation Methods.” Co-Principal Investigators, conservator Sarah Nunberg, sustainability consultant Sarah Sutton, and engineer Dr. Matt Eckelman, are continuing their work alongside FAIC project manager Eric Pourchot.

Thanks to tremendous contributions from professionals and a large group of graduate students from the conservation graduate programs, we are making great progress building out a product list for the tool and compiling fifteen Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) case studies to populate the LCA library. Engineering graduate student Sarah Sanchez of Northeastern University has joined the team, spending hours working with groups of student and professional peers to carefully design LCA case studies that will meet the specific needs of our profession while garnering useful results about environmental impact. This fall we'll share blog posts describing our process and progress through AIC's community forum.

—Sarah Sutton, Principal, Sustainable Museums Cultural Sector Lead,  
*We Are Still In*, [sarah@sustainablemuseums.net](mailto:sarah@sustainablemuseums.net)

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

### FAIC Featured in National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters Partnership Day

FAIC was featured among prominent disaster relief organizations in the National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD) virtual Partnership Day celebration. A video highlighting FAIC's National Heritage Responders program was included in a virtual display of 60-second video clips on NVOAD's website from July 17-August 17, 2020. The video is now viewable at <https://youtu.be/071Yvq4ogYc>.

NVOAD promotes cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration among organizations working in disaster response, and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities. While more than 5 million volunteers in 74 organizations are active in NVOAD's system, FAIC is the only partner focused on cultural heritage.

### Upcoming Alliance for Response Webinars

FAIC is planning two webinars in early fall to serve our Alliance for Response (AFR) networks. On September 23, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. ET, we will be joined by Jody Horstman, Chief Integration Officer for Aspire Indiana, Inc., for “Psychology of Disasters and Community Recovery.” Later this fall, we will host a 2:00 p.m. ET webinar on health and safety considerations post-disaster. These webinars are free and open to all. Visit [learning.culturalheritage.org/responders](https://learning.culturalheritage.org/responders) to register and to view previously recorded programs for cultural heritage responders.

## COLLECTION CARE

### Connecting to Collections Care Programs for Small and Mid-Sized Institutions

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, FAIC's Connecting to Collections Care (C2C Care) program presented a Facebook Live panel discussion titled “Reopening Museums: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.” Panel members, which included five representatives from smaller collecting institutions that had re-opened after temporary closures for the COVID-19 pandemic, shared stories of the challenges they've faced. The recorded discussion can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/qqxOkZ10JH4>.

C2C Care is also planning an online course called “Physical Media to Digital Storage: Migrating Audiovisual Files in Museum Collections,” to be held October 12 – November 13, 2020. Please share the course registration link, [learning.culturalheritage.org/p/c2ccare-migrating-audiovisual](https://learning.culturalheritage.org/p/c2ccare-migrating-audiovisual), with any collections care staff you think might benefit from this introductory course.

## Data Analysis and Visualization for Conservation Professionals Online Course

Many projects within conservation and preservation can benefit from data-driven tools and methods. Both small and large data sets are now commonly collected and readily accessible for querying. While many are familiar with conventional tools such as Microsoft Excel, a broader picture of strategy, reasoning, and specific tools will open up the possibilities for more successful projects. “Data Analysis and Visualization for Conservation Professionals” is a two-part course designed to introduce conservation professionals to the fundamentals of working with data sets.

In Part 1, participants will gain an understanding of statistical reasoning, ethics and bias in data collection, data formats, data extraction, database design, and data scrubbing. Participants will learn to properly plan for and collect data sets so they can perform statistically sound analysis. Part 2 will introduce tools for analysis of text, numeric, and image data sets, visualization of data, and dissemination. Participants will learn multiple methods for data analysis and visualization with both open-source and proprietary tools using various tools with a focus on open source software. After completion of both parts of the course, participants will be able to collect and organize data in strategic ways, use common open-source data collection and management tools, evaluate data-driven projects and publications in cultural heritage, recognize questions that can be answered with data driven methods, and recognize when to seek a collaborator and how to find one.

Keep an eye out for course dates and registration coming soon!

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### FAIC Grant and Scholarship Applications Due September 15

Guidelines and application information are located at [www.culturalheritage.org/funding](https://www.culturalheritage.org/funding). All materials must be received by the published deadlines for consideration. The following grant and scholarship applications are due September 15.

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

**FAIC Workshop Development Grants** offer up to \$1,000 to help defray costs for development and presentation of regional workshops for conservators.

**FAIC Small Meeting Support Grants** are intended to help defray the costs, up to \$2,500, to develop and hold small meetings of AIC members.

**FAIC Community Partnership 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.

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

Please note that the review process takes up to eight weeks following the application deadline. For more information, contact Sarah Saetren, Education Coordinator, at [funding@culturalheritage.org](mailto:funding@culturalheritage.org) or 202.661.8071.



### Publication Fellowship

Reminder: As was previously announced, FAIC will not be accepting applications for the Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowship this year. We hope to accept applications next fall for the 2022 Fellowship.

## FAIC/Tru Vue Conservation and Exhibition Grant Applications Due November 1

Tru Vue, Inc. has partnered with FAIC to offer grants to support projects in glazing applications for preservation and exhibition of museum and library collections. Applications for FAIC/Tru Vue Conservation and Exhibition Grants are due November 1.

Funds are to help defray direct project costs, including contract workers, display fabrication, supplies, and publicity. Each award includes a cash amount of up to \$3,000, and a donation of Optium Museum Acrylic or UltraVue Laminated Glass, which may include one of the listed sizes for use directly related to the conservation and display project.

Guidelines and application information can be found [here](#). For more information, contact Sarah Saetren, Education Coordinator, at [funding@culturalheritage.org](mailto:funding@culturalheritage.org) or 202.661.8071.

## FAIC Grant and Scholarship Applications Due December 15

Guidelines and application information are located at [www.culturalheritage.org/funding](http://www.culturalheritage.org/funding). All materials must be received by the published deadlines for consideration. The following grant and scholarship applications are due December 15.

**George Stout Grants** offer up to \$1,000 to attend professional meetings for students (or those who graduated in the past 2 years) who are members of AIC.

**FAIC / Tru Vue AIC Annual Meeting International Scholarships** offer up to \$1,500 to attend the AIC Annual Meeting for individuals traveling from outside the US or Canada.

Please note that the review process takes up to eight weeks following the application deadline. For more information, contact Sarah Saetren, Education Coordinator, at [funding@culturalheritage.org](mailto:funding@culturalheritage.org) or 202.661.8071.

### FAIC Professional Development Courses

FAIC professional development courses are a crucial source for continuing education for conservation professionals in the United States and abroad. Many of these are hands-on, lab-based experiences that are not offered anywhere else in the world. Full course descriptions and registration information are available at [learning.culturalheritage.org](http://learning.culturalheritage.org).

With the support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and contributions from individuals, FAIC established an endowment fund for professional development activities. Some workshops are also supported by additional sources, as noted below.

#### **Photographic Chemistry for Preservation Series**

Self-study online

*Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation fund for Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation*

#### **Emergency Planning**

September 14 – November 20, 2020, online

*Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities*

#### **Data Analysis and Visualization for Conservation Professionals: Part 1**

2020 dates TBD, online

*Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation fund for Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation*

#### **Data Analysis and Visualization for Conservation Professionals: Part 2**

2021 dates TBD, online

*Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation fund for Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation*

#### **Rigging Basics**

March 24–26, 2021, Penn Museum, Philadelphia, PA

*Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities*

# Allied Organizations

## AIHA-AIC Partnership: Museum & Cultural Heritage Industry Working Group

The Museum & Cultural Heritage Industry Working Group (WG), an active inter-professional membership community since 2017, was formally approved by the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Board of Directors on May 30, 2020, as an official volunteer group within the AIHA. The WG now has increased staff and budgetary resources, plus a public webpage for wider distribution of its products and activities.



Museum & Cultural  
Heritage Industry  
WORKING GROUP

The WG mission, partnering with the AIC and its Health & Safety Network, is to create a forum that brings together occupational health and safety professionals with conservation, cultural heritage and collection management professionals to effectively address the risk management needs of this industry. Together, the 40 members are working on these projects:

- › Producing evidenced-based best practice documents for health risk exposure management and occupational hazard mitigation. Example: *Re-opening: Guidance for Museums and Collecting Institutions*, one of many the AIHA Back to Work Safely Guidelines.
- › Facilitating interdisciplinary teaching collaborations between schools of public health and museum studies or conservation/science programs on the same campus (such as George Washington and Johns Hopkins Universities).
- › Assessing health and safety resource needs for cultural heritage emergency response training programs.
- › Networking and conference/seminars between AIHA local sections and AIC-affiliated local guilds and art associations.
- › Promoting the OSHA Office of Small Business Assistance/On-site Consultation Program free services for developing a health and safety compliance program to museum and cultural heritage site providers and conservation studio small businesses.

The institutions and occupations benefitting from AIHA Museum WG activities also include art galleries, archives, historical houses, national parks, local nature centers, botanical gardens, university teaching collections, and private industry or governmental agency historical holdings.

To learn more, or suggest a needed project, contact Chair Kathryn Makos, [kamagos@verizon.net](mailto:kamagos@verizon.net), Vice Chair Jeffrey Sotek, [jeff.sotek@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.sotek@woodplc.com), or Secretary Ralph Froehlich, [rfroehlich@helixenv.com](mailto:rfroehlich@helixenv.com).

## IIC Edinburgh Congress to be Held Online

The International Institute of Conservation's (IIC) Edinburgh Congress, "Practices and Challenges in Built Heritage Conservation," will take place online from November 2–6, 2020, with opportunities for real world meet ups and livestreamed tours of remarkable built heritage across Edinburgh's UNESCO World Heritage site and surrounding areas. IIC's program bridges the divide between built heritage and conservation around the world, from international sessions on the Mackintosh Building and Burrell Collection to examples of wall paintings at the Fengguo Temple in Yixian, China, to preservation strategies for painted tombs at El-Kurru, Sudan. For full details, visit: <https://www.iiconservation.org/congress/>.



## Society of American Archivists: Preservation Publication Award

Lisa Elkin, chief registrar and director of Conservation, American Museum of Natural History, and Christopher A. Norris, director of Public Programs, Yale Peabody Museum, are the 2020 recipients of the Preservation Publication Award given by the Society of American Archivists (SAA) for their book, *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage* (the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, The American Institute for Conservation, the Smithsonian Institution, and the George Washington University Museum Studies Program, 2019). The award recognizes the author(s) or editor(s) of an outstanding published work related to archives preservation.

As a collaborative work, this volume issues a comprehensive guide to collection storage by drawing on the efforts of four publishers and seven associate editors (Mary Coughlin, Catharine A. Hawks, John E. Simmons, Jude Southward, Sarah Stauderman, Shelley Sturman, and Robert Waller). *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage* — written by over 110 subject specialists (from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Australia, and Japan) — defines and establishes standards for preservation, storage, and housing of collections and is a true compendium of preservation theory and practice. The last book to cover such a comprehensive topic was published nearly 25 years ago, and both ethical and practical considerations have evolved over time. Utilizing a risk management approach, covering storage for a variety of collections and media types in libraries, archives, museums, and digital collections, this book is an indispensable reference book for archival practitioners, and will likely be used for years to come. Focused attention on special collection types and materials such as remains, digital collections, and many more are presented with thoughtfulness and a full understanding of current standards and practice.

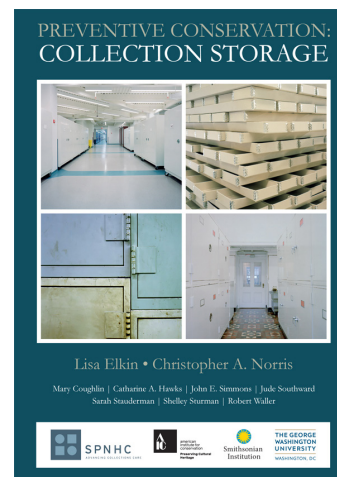
—Reprinted in part from: <https://www2.archivists.org/news/2020/preservation-publication-award-lisa-elkin-and-christopher-a-norris>

## Podcast Series by the National Preservation Institute

The National Preservation Institute's six-episode podcast series affords listeners the opportunity to hear from inspiring individuals who are shaping the field of preservation in the United States and learn about their preservation philosophies, inspiration, and accomplishments. Episodes will touch on advocacy, laws and regulations, preservation planning, intangible aspects of historic preservation stewardship, and more. Explore why preservation matters to these podcast guests, how it can make a difference in improving the future quality of life for people in communities around the country, and what links preservation to this year's history in the making—from the pandemic to protests on social inequality and racism. Some podcast episodes include:

- › Preserving Intangible History with Susan West Montgomery
- › Preserving Resources and Fostering Diversity with Robert Stanton
- › Preserving a Sense of Place with Laura Trieschmann

These podcast series celebrate NPI's 40th anniversary. To listen to these episodes, visit: <https://preservationprofiles.org/episodes>.



Purchase the book online at  
[store.culturalheritage.org](https://store.culturalheritage.org).

# New Materials, Research, & Resources (NMRR)

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## HVAC and Collections: Reopening during COVID-19

As cultural institutions are contemplating and enacting procedures for safe reopening amid the COVID-19 pandemic, collections professionals must play a role in contributing to safe building operational practices that both protect human life and preserve long-term collections. The American Society for Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) has provided guidance for reopening with a focus on coronavirus mitigation strategies for human safety; these resources direct the activities of many facilities groups but do not address how implementing these changes may impact collections preservation or energy optimization strategies. By working with facilities partners, we can incorporate collections needs into these approaches while still achieving the operational adjustments necessary to welcome staff and patrons back into our facilities.

All of these strategies are focused on removing coronavirus particles from the interior environment through either dilution or mechanical removal. Adopting mask protocols for individuals provides a first line of defense, not only from person-to-person transmission but also from greater viral load within facilities and should be every organization's first mitigation strategy. Likewise, all organizations (especially those who rely on attendance and programming for income) should consider how a building's reopening incurs additional energy costs at a moment when overall budgets are shrinking and patrons' willingness to physically visit is undetermined, all while occupancy levels are limited from locality to locality. Recommended reopening strategies have the potential to increase an institution's energy costs at a time when those costs are least able to be absorbed.

## Increased Ventilation

ASHRAE guidance acknowledges that, while the goal is to maintain standard operational set points wherever possible, increasing ventilation (outside air usage) as a means of diluting coronavirus may require an adjustment of interior environmental conditions to avoid increased energy consumption. In environmental zones where collections are exhibited, handled, or stored, additional considerations should include:

- › Increased outside air quantities can adversely impact preservation conditions, whether due to changes in set points or due to increased outside air volumes that systems do not have the capacity to control.
- › Consider using increased ventilation only in areas with regular human occupancy – i.e., “occupied” zones. If increased ventilation is adopted, consider whether operation during unoccupied hours can revert to normal outside air quantities to reduce energy consumption, such as evening hours when the building is not open.
- › For “unoccupied” zones such as collections storage, consider whether a policy mandating use of masks is sufficient to reduce viral load in that zone (at standard outside air usage) rather than relying on increased outside air and potential operational consequences for both preservation and energy.

## Increased Filtration

Recent ASHRAE research into residential filters indicates that MERV 13-14 media has a 91-98% efficiency rating in removing coronavirus-sized particles in a single-pass setting. This data should translate favorably to many cultural heritage settings, where dual banks of MERV 8 and MERV 13-14 filtration are common, and the majority of the air volume typically has multiple passes through filter media.

- › For systems running filtration media lower than MERV 8, work with a qualified engineer to ascertain the systems' capacity for increased filtration. Simply increasing filter efficiency on a system not designed for it can increase pressure in the system

and restrict overall airflow, leading to loss of environmental control and increased energy consumption at the fan, among other potential issues. Inappropriate system pressure may likewise lead to physical failure of a filter bank, resulting in filtration gaps that allow particles to pass unimpeded.

- › For existing MERV 13+ filtration systems, work with facilities staff to understand the filter change schedule. Many institutions that run a dual-bank filtration system may change the pre-filters regularly, with longer intervals in the replacement of the fine filter media. Fine filter replacement schedules may need to be increased in response to COVID-19, and institutions should keep abreast of recommendations from ASHRAE and other organizations.

## Alternative Technologies

The potential application of technologies such as ultraviolet (UV) germicidal irradiation (UVGI) and bi-polar ionization as a means of treating air streams has become a regular topic of conversation, both in and out of cultural heritage. At this time (to the author's awareness) neither technology has been studied specifically for safety/appropriateness in a collections' preservation setting. Both options have potential detractors for both preservation and/or effectiveness for our applications, and retrofits to incorporate the technology may be prohibitively expensive or physically impractical. Note that both options represent an added energy load and additional maintenance requirements for overall system operation.

- › UVGI can be used as either a surface-treatment solution or as an airstream application and can be mounted in both HVAC units and ductwork. While the impact of UV light on collections has been established, collections impact from UV when used upstream for disinfection in a mechanical system (while likely minimal) is less documented.
- › Bi-polar ionization does produce ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) as a by-product of the process. Initial review of testing data for one popular model shows downstream ozone generation of 1ppb, which is lower than recommended maximal average concentrations for mixed collections (5ppb) and also lower than common outdoor levels of ozone, which may range as high as 30–40 ppb or higher in even smaller cities. While this may indicate less risk than has been previously understood, there is nonetheless a lack of data for specific performance/impact in preservation environments.

## Legionella/Legionnaire's Disease

While a separate issue to COVID-19, weeks and months of building and/or laboratory closures may create risk for the reproduction of the *Legionella* bacteria in standing water. Though awareness of this potential issue is common among facilities groups and flushing/cleaning of both plumbing and HVAC water systems is an established reopening practice, collections professionals should work closely with facilities partners to raise awareness of water supplies in conservation labs, workrooms, or other collections locations that may be overlooked as part of normal procedures.

—Jeremy Linden, Linden Preservation Services, Inc., [jeremy@lindenpreservation.com](mailto:jeremy@lindenpreservation.com)

## Sources/Resources

ASHRAE. Building Readiness. Accessed 29 August 2020.

<https://www.ashrae.org/technical-resources/building-readiness#intent>

CDC. Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation. Accessed 29 August 2020.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html>.

Plasma-Air. 2013. Ozone Test 7000 and BAR. Accessed 29 August 2020.

<https://www.plasma-air.com/resources/53>.

Zhang, John, et. al., 2020. "Study of Viral Filtration Performance of Residential HVAC Filters," *AHRAE Journal*, Vol. 62 No. 8.

## Linked Conservation Data Project Update



The Linked Conservation Data consortium (LCD) has continued its work developing tools and resources for conservators, conservation scientists and others interested in sharing conservation documentation using linked data. Building on work completed during the first grant period (2019–2020), the project received a second grant from the UK's Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in February 2020. Consortium members have joined working groups on specific topics: modelling, terminology, pilot, education, and policy.

For modelling, we are utilizing the CIDOC–CRM ontology to describe conservation data. The modelling working group has been preparing material to submit to the CIDOC–CRM Special Interest Group for approval. This includes the addition and refinement of documentation concepts used by conservators. This group is supported by Stephen Stead who joined LCD in April 2020 and who has many years of experience of data modelling, in particular with the CIDOC–CRM.

The terminology working group has further been discussing best practices on building and using vocabularies in conservation as well as publishing aligned vocabularies, or vocabularies whose synonyms have been matched and can be used interchangeably. A draft version of the terminology guidelines is now out, and we would welcome feedback prior to the final version. Feedback can be provided either through the IIC's community platform or directly to consortium members. The draft can be found on the LCD website, at: <https://www.ligatus.org.uk/lcd/output/193>.

In May 2020, consortium members gathered together for an online meeting about promoting the use of conservation data in education programs of memory organizations (museums, galleries, libraries and archives) that are aimed at broader audiences. Recordings from this webinar are available on the project website: <https://www.ligatus.org.uk/lcd/meeting/phase-2/education>. We are also working with representatives from our three main professional groups—IIC, ICON, and AIC—on developing policy guidance for the use of linked data for conservation documentation. We hope to present our work in this area at the November 2020 IIC Congress in Edinburgh.

Four institutions are participating in a pilot to use linked data for a subset of their conservation treatment documentation: the Bodleian Library, Oxford; the Library of Congress; the National Archives (UK); and Stanford Libraries. These institutions have each selected between 30 and 50 treatment reports spanning over 50 years of documenting the repair of books with detached boards (The John Rylands library is also contributing to this effort). The goal is to model this data using the CIDOC–CRM along with aligned local vocabularies. Once this is accomplished, we will test how the resulting summarized data can answer research questions in book conservation. Leading this effort is Alberto Campagnolo, who also joined LCD in April 2020.

Looking ahead, we are applying for an additional round of funding from the AHRC, and, for the first time, from the NEH for US partners. In our next round we hope to continue to extend our work and involve greater numbers of partners and projects. If you would like to join us, please email us via Brigitte Hart at [b.m.hart@arts.ac.uk](mailto:b.m.hart@arts.ac.uk).

—Kristen St. John, [kstjohn@stanford.edu](mailto:kstjohn@stanford.edu), and Athanasios Velios, [a.velios@arts.ac.uk](mailto:a.velios@arts.ac.uk)

# New Publications

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Campbell, James W.P., and Michael Tutton. *Doors: History, Repair and Conservation*. Abingdon, Oxon; New York, NY: Routledge, 2020. ISBN: 9781138121157. This book covers the history, development, identification, and dating of doors; maintenance and engineering of doors and door openings; and materials of doors, their furniture openings, and surrounds.

Fransen, Bart, and Cyriel Stroo, eds. *The Ghent Altarpiece: Research and Conservation of the Exterior*. Brussels: Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage, 2020. ISBN: 9782930054384. This book publishes the results of the restoration campaign carried out on the exterior wings of the altarpiece from 2012–2016. It is volume 14 in the series *Contributions to the Study of the Flemish Primitives*.

Mandrus, Janis, and Victoria Schussler, eds. *Recent Advances in Glass and Ceramics Conservation 2019: Interim Meeting of the ICOM-CC Glass and Ceramics Working Group and ICON Ceramics and Glass Group Conference, September 5–7, 2019, London, United Kingdom*. London: ICOM, 2019. ISBN: 9789290124702. The conference papers published in this volume cover such topics as innovative approaches to treatments, new tools and applications, and the latest analytical and documentation practices.

Munson, Marit K., and Kelley Hays-Gilpin, eds. *Color in the Ancestral Pueblo Southwest*. Salt Lake City: The University of Utah Press, 2020. ISBN: 9781607817208. This book explores the use and meaning of color for ancestral Puebloans. The authors explore objects in museum collections as well as evidence drawn from more than a century of archaeological research. Chapters focus on rock paintings, pottery, painted rooms and kivas, and jewelry.

Sandron, Dany, Andrew Tallon, and Lindsay Cook. *Notre Dame Cathedral: Nine Centuries of History*. University Park, Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2020. ISBN: 9780271086224. This book, first published in French in 2013, tells the story of the construction and reconstruction of Notre Dame in visual terms. Authors Sandron and Tallon, both architectural historians, take as their point of departure a three-dimensional laser scan of the cathedral created in 2010.

Arthur Rüegg. *Pavillon Le Corbusier Zürich: Restaurierung eines Architektur-Juwels*. Zürich: Scheidegger & Spiess, 2019. ISBN: 9783858814937. Architects Silvio Schmed and Arthur Rüegg have carefully restored the Pavillon Le Corbusier to its original state, including the reconstruction of missing pieces of furniture and luminaires. This book documents their research and the restored building, featuring previously unpublished historic photographs and documents alongside newly commissioned images by Georg Aerni.

Svoboda, Marie, and Caroline Cartwright, eds. *Mummy Portraits of Roman Egypt: Emerging Research from the APPEAR Project*. Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum, 2020. ISBN: 9781606066546. This publication, available in electronic and print formats, represents the proceedings of the first international APPEAR conference, held at the Getty Villa in May 2018. The international collaboration known as APPEAR (Ancient Panel Paintings: Examination, Analysis, and Research) was launched in 2013 to promote the study of funerary portraits from Roman Egypt and to gather scientific and historical findings into a shared database. Read online: <https://www.getty.edu/publications/mummyportraits/>.

Wrapson, Lucy, Victoria Sutcliffe, Sally Woodcock, and Spike Bucklow, eds. *Migrants: Art, Artists, Materials and Ideas Crossing Borders*. Cambridge: Archetype Publications in association with Hamilton Kerr Institute, 2019. ISBN: 9781909492677. This book publishes the proceedings of a conference organized by the ICOM Art Technological Source Research Working Group in Cambridge on November 15–16, 2018. The cross-disciplinary papers reflect on the role of migration embodied in works of art and material culture as documented in visual and written sources.

—Sheila Cummins, Research Associate for Collections Development,  
Getty Conservation Institute, [scummins@getty.edu](mailto:scummins@getty.edu)



# People

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**Héctor J. Berdecía-Hernández** was recently appointed as the founding Director/Coordinator of the Escuela Taller de Conservación y Restauración del Patrimonio Histórico of the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP by its acronym in Spanish). This new school aims to provide educational opportunities to professionals in the construction industry to learn about the traditional historic building trades and best conservation/restoration practices for the built heritage. The new school will also have a research division that seeks to advance scientific research and knowledge on historic building materials, technologies, and conservation practices for architectural heritage in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean region. As the head of the school, he will be overseeing the development of specialized curriculums, workshops, new dependencies, headquarters, and all other kinds of administrative duties. He can be reached at [coordinador.escuelatallericppr@gmail.com](mailto:coordinador.escuelatallericppr@gmail.com).

**Bill Brown** retired on August 1 as Chief Conservator for the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, NC. He first came to the Museum in 1988 as an intern in paintings conservation, then stayed for 32 years. He plans to remain in Raleigh where he will enjoy retirement with his family. He will continue to consult on conservation matters and treat paintings part-time from a small studio. So far, he has built a climbing wall for his 16-year-old son and restored a Victorian gate at his farm in Virginia. You can reach him by email at [williamp\\_brown@bellsouth.net](mailto:williamp_brown@bellsouth.net).

**Michele Derrick** recently retired as the Schorr Family Associate Research Scientist at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where she has worked since 1995. She was instrumental in the development of *CAMEO*, an online database for information on materials used in conservation and works of art. Prior to the MFA, she worked as a scientist at the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles for 12 years. A chemist by training, Michele's expertise is in the area of infrared microspectroscopy and she is the author of *Infrared Spectroscopy in Conservation Science* (Los Angeles: Getty Conservation Institute, 1999). She was also the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation* from 2002 to 2014.

**Irene Finkelde** was recently appointed as a Project Conservator at the Australian Museum in Sydney, Australia. She is working on a project to assess, condition report, photograph, and rehouse dry type specimens in the natural science collections. She was formerly an assistant conservator at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in Sydney, Australia, and in 2018 she was a postgraduate fellow in conservation of museum collections at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History. Irene can now be reached at [irene.finkelde@australian.museum](mailto:irene.finkelde@australian.museum).

**Teresa Jiménez-Millas** recently began working at the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco for a fixed term position of 6 months as an Assistant Objects Conservator. She is also currently in her first year of study in a PhD Program in History of Art where her research focuses on the historical analysis of wooden polychrome sculptures from the Viceroyalty of New Spain, Mexico, through the National Distance Education University in Spain. Most recently, she was a project conservator at The Penn Museum in Philadelphia, PA; worked with Kathy Hall at the INSTAP SCEC Institute of Aegean Prehistory studies in Crete; and on the Griffin Warrior Excavation in Pylos, Greece. Her roots in San Francisco date back to 2014, when she worked as a private conservator for Tracy Power Objects Conservation and for Molly Lambert from Architectural Conservation, Inc.

**Kent Severson** has relocated to Sacramento, California, where he is reestablishing his private conservation practice after over eight years as Conservator at Shangri La Museum of Islamic Art, Culture and Design in Honolulu, Hawai'i. In California, he hopes to continue his work on international archaeological and cultural preservation projects in addition to working with local clientele. He can be reached at [kjpsever@gmail.com](mailto:kjpsever@gmail.com).

**Samantha Springer** recently started *Art Solutions Lab*, a cultural heritage and fine art conservation practice in the Portland, Oregon area, after the Portland Art Museum made many temporary staff cuts due to COVID-19. She is focused on providing general collections care to small regional organizations, regional courier services, living artist collaborations and consultations, conservation imaging techniques, and treatment services for sculpture and variable art. She can be reached at [samantha@artsolutionslab.com](mailto:samantha@artsolutionslab.com) and found on Facebook and Instagram @artsolutionslab.

**Mary Wilcop** was recently appointed Associate Objects Conservator at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, PA. Prior to this, Mary was Postgraduate Associate in Objects Conservation at the Yale University Art Gallery. She has worked in laboratories at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and the Art Institute of Chicago among others. Please don't hesitate to reach out to her: [wilcopm@cmoa.org](mailto:wilcopm@cmoa.org).

# In Memoriam

## Vicki Cassman (1957-2020)

Prior to her battle with metastatic breast cancer, Vicki Cassman was a prominent textile conservator and longtime member of AIC. At the University of Delaware (2006-2018), she was an Associate Professor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Art Conservation Department. She was honored for her devotion to conservation education with a UD Mentor Award and a College of Arts and Science Service Award in 2012.

Vicki was born and raised in Berkeley, California. She began her undergraduate studies at the University of California-Davis (UC Davis). She found conservation through textile conservators Carmela Simons and Nancy Sloper, former members of the UC Davis Laboratory for Research in Fine Arts and Museology. In 1977-78 she received a diploma in weaving from the Textil Institutet in Borås, Sweden. Returning to UC Davis, she was awarded a BA in Art History in 1981 and three years later, in 1984, an MS in Textile Science. Vicki began the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation (WUDPAC) program in 1983 and completed her MS in 1985, worked with Margaret Fikioris, had summer projects in Chile, and completed her third-year internship at the Textile Conservation Center at Hampton Court, England, under Dinah Eastop. In 1997 She was awarded a PhD in Archaeology from Arizona State University with a dissertation based on Chilean textiles.

I met Vicki in 1985 when she worked at the Arizona Historical Society under Bob Herskovitz on a computerized textile survey. After her Chilean husband began his studies at Arizona State University, they moved to Phoenix and she began a private practice (1987-1998). Vicki and I began working together on several projects involving textiles and human remains in the early '90s. In 1993-94 she taught at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and continued her research in Chile. In 1994 she wrote a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) grant for UNLV and began working on curation standards for human remains. In 1996-98 she was the part-time textile conservator at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco and finished her dissertation. From 1999 to 2006 she was an assistant professor at UNLV; she created and taught at least five different classes for the anthropology department.

From 1998 to 2011, we collaborated on the condition assessment of the remains known as Kennewick Man for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We received the U.S. Department of Justice Award for Exceptional Service in 2000. In 2007 we were invited to develop a conservation plan for condition, exhibition, travel, and storage for the remains known as Lucy with Ron Harvey in Ethiopia, and later that year, Vicki and I worked together on a new Chinchorro project in Chile. We professionally wrote and presented many times about these projects.

After joining the UD Conservation Department (2006-2018), Vicki became Director of Undergraduate Studies and oversaw the program for international studies and arranged internships. After the UD began its Iraqi Cultural Heritage Project partnership, Vicki became actively involved as a valuable advisor, representative, and instructor (2010- 2018).

Vicki was an outstanding teacher and mentor; her students adored her and have commented on how much they appreciated the capstone class she created. She described her teaching methodology as "activity based" and she was a strong advocate for preventive conservation. Her knowledge, skills, experience, and ability to teach in Spanish led to many invitations in Latin America. In 2014, AIC awarded her with the Sheldon and Carolyn Keck Award for her sustained record of excellence in the education and training of conservation professionals.

In 2003 Vicki received the FAIC Samuel H. Kress Publication Fellowship for our book, *Human Remains: Guide for Museums and Academic Institutions*. Throughout her career, Vicki authored more than thirty peer-reviewed articles, nine newsletter articles, eight research reports, and delivered



**Vicki Cassman (top) working at University of Delaware's Conservation Department and (above) with Nancy Odegaard. Courtesy UDel and Nancy Odegaard.**

more than twenty-five professional presentations. I was privileged to work with her on over twenty of these in addition to the internal or interim reports on various projects we did together. Vicki wrote successful grant proposals and received funding from the NEH, NPS, NAGPRA grants, Fulbright Commission, US Department of State, and foundations (Kress, Mellon, Getty) for her work.

Vicki became a Professional Associate of AIC in 1991 and was chair of the Textile Specialty Group in 1996-97. In 2019 she was awarded the AIC Textile Specialty Group Achievement Award for her research and mentorship. She participated in other professional organizations including the Western Association of Art Conservators, the Textiles Society of America, and the Society of American Archaeology.

Vicki was a special friend for many people and was known for her extreme generosity. She maintained lifelong relationships with classmates from Sweden, UC Davis, WUDPAC, and ASU; colleagues and friends in Chile; her former students; and co-workers from the many places she worked. She often shared her home with those in need, welcomed relatives, and always stepped up when someone asked. Many will remember her for her extraordinary acts of kindness with huge impact. Vicki helped her former husband complete his graduate studies in the US, raised a wonderful son, and dutifully cared for her aging mother. When her cancer returned in 2018, she continued her numerous academic obligations to students and moved to Santa Cruz, CA, where she was assisted by dearest friends during her last two years. When we met for the last time shortly before she passed, I reminded her of what the tremendous good in her life meant to all who surrounded her. Her career and life are an inspiration to me, and she is profoundly missed.

Vicki would be eternally grateful if you would vote and inspire others to do the same. She would be honored if you would donate to a climate change organization or health care charity like Partners in Health, gifts that would keep giving in very meaningful ways.

—Nancy Odegaard, [odegaard@arizona.edu](mailto:odegaard@arizona.edu)

## Myrna Saxe (1934-2019)

Myrna Faith Saxe-Morris died in her sleep on the evening of June 1, 2019. She was born in Chicago on September 19, 1934, then the family moved to San Francisco during WWII, where her father, a printer, worked for the government.

Myrna was tall; a high school classmate described her as “prettier than Snow White,” and her math teacher pronounced her a “genius at mathematics.” She was nonetheless rebellious, and left home and school at fourteen, doing the odd jobs a fourteen-year-old pretending to be eighteen could get. She ironed clothes in a Chinese laundry and cleaned toilets in cabins in Yellowstone National Park.

At sixteen she lied about being a high school graduate and enrolled in Los Angeles City College. By the time she was caught she was a sophomore and an honor student. It was also during this period that she saw Topanga Canyon for the first time and vowed to someday live there.

She ran out of money and vacillated between taking a solo motorcycle trip across America and joining the Air Force. She chose the Air Force for the GI bill and was honor graduate of her class in electronics school. Nonetheless, with the end of the Korean War, the Air Force decided not to use women in electronics, and she became a clerk-typist in the Wing Commanders office at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, where her skills as a blazing fast error-free typist were appreciated. She was so good that her work was usually done by 9:30 a.m., so she developed skills as a scrounger. She has been described during this period this way: “Imagine a *M\*A\*S\*H* episode in which the part of Radar O'Reilly is played by Liv Tyler.”

After the Air Force she worked briefly for the Democratic National Committee in Los Angeles, then in the advertising department of the *Los Angeles Times*. Then she gave a friend a ride to Ramo-Woolrich (later TRW) in Manhattan Beach, then an aerospace company, to apply for a job. She went in with him; he did not get the job. She did. Over the next two years she rose to Space Physics Engineer, and was, among many other accomplishments, the launch officer on Pioneer V, which is still sending data from beyond Pluto, even though she was still working on her degree in math at City College. Not wanting to go into administration, she resigned when offered a vice presidency at TRW and moved to Italy for the next nine years. While there, she worked as a tour guide, business consultant, runway model,



**Myrna Saxe (top) and above with grandson Haydon.**  
Courtesy the Morris family.



and occasional consultant to the European Space Agency. She apprenticed as a restorer of art and architecture.

Returning to the US, she started a restoration company in Sherman Oaks, where she worked on, among other things, Watts Tower, the LA Main Library, San Simeon, the Griffith Park Observatory Dome, the Hermitage in Nashville, and the pool at Caesar's Palace. After a decade of hundred-hour plus weeks she contracted Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and slept 22 hours a day for the next two years. Her business was destroyed, and she never completely recovered. During this period, she met her future husband, a retired former Green Beret major, author, and screenwriter named Jim Morris. She was not impressed by his accomplishments, but they bonded over a mutual interest in Kundalini yoga, Tantra, and the works of W. Somerset Maugham, among others. Her home in Sherman Oaks was destroyed in the Northridge Quake and after a trip to Thailand for the film adaptation of one of Morris' stories she settled at last in Topanga, where she lived for the next twenty years.

In July of 2016 she contracted transverse myelitis, an inflammation of the nerves which left her paralyzed from the solar plexus on down. In spite of her paralysis and a dementia that came and went, she remained courageous, sometimes brilliant, and frequently biting witty until the last week of her life. She died secure in the love of all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, Jim, and her sister, Susan.

She is not gone. She is complete.

—Reprinted in part from an article previously published on June 28, 2019, by Messenger Mountain News. Reprint permission granted.  
<https://messengermountainnews.com/myrna-faith-saxe-morris-1934-2019/>

## Franklin Shores (1942 – 2020)

James "Franklin" Shores recently passed away while living at Sunrise Assisted Living in Abington, PA. He is survived by his daughter Brianna Shores Hobson, her husband Nathan, his sister Janet Watkins, and a loving extended family.

I first met Franklin in 1989 when I began working as an assistant in his studio in center city Philadelphia. Franklin had previously worked at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA) for many years teaching perspective drawing and providing conservation framing for the many paper items in their collection as well as those at the Free Library of Philadelphia.

His private practice brought in many forms of paper objects including prints, drawings, w/c, baseball cards, posters, and even a life size Guernsey papier-mâché cow who resided in a butcher's window. Eventually, Frakturs, a Pennsylvania Dutch folk art form, became his specialty. Clients brought in personnel family treasures such as immigration papers, civil war discharge documents, and acid brown newspaper clippings from WWI & II and the Titanic tragedy.

One of the most amazing elements of his studio was his set-up of the space which he built and furnished himself. He was a true believer in salvaging good quality materials for reuse and making them work in new circumstances. When I arrived, he had the following remarkable adapted equipment:

- A walk-in bank vault equipped with a 12" thick swinging door that held a combination lock and large swinging wheel. He had found it by the curb outside a city bank and figured out some way to get it to the studio for re-use.
- He constructed a 4 x 8 ft. suction table with a pull-down hanging plexi-dome for humidification treatments and later built several smaller units for other conservators. This unit was fully functional for 30 years plus.
- He salvaged five metal flat file cabinets to accommodate mat board, foam core and a variety of Japanese papers from a Philadelphia printing business gone defunct, and a sink from an area restaurant that was large enough to treat an original Toulouse-Lautrec poster.

Franklin was a skilled professional conservator, a knowledgeable, patient teacher, loving husband of his predeceased wife Barbara, and caring father of daughter Brianna. Many collectors will miss his conservation skills and thousands of art and artifacts will remain intact for many years as a result of his endeavors.

—Barbara Young, [bmorrisyoung@gmail.com](mailto:bmorrisyoung@gmail.com)



Franklin Shores, courtesy  
<https://www.wetzeland-son.com/browserecord.php?recid=28737>.

# Worth Noting

## American Academy in Rome Prize

The American Academy in Rome has announced the winners of the 2020-21 Rome Prize and Italian Fellowships. These highly competitive fellowships support advanced independent work and research in the arts and humanities. This year, Rome Prizes were awarded to twenty-two American and two Italian artists and scholars, who will each receive a stipend, workspace, and room and board for a period of four to seven months at the Academy's eleven-acre campus in Rome.

Rome Prize winners are selected annually by independent juries of distinguished artists and scholars through a national competition. The eleven disciplines supported by the Academy are: Literature, Music Composition, Visual Arts, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Design, and Historic Preservation and Conservation, as well as Ancient Studies, Medieval Studies, Renaissance and Early Modern Studies, and Modern Italian Studies.

Jean Dommermuth, AIC member, was awarded the Rome Prize in Historic Preservation and Conservation to conduct research on sixteenth-century Florentine canvas painting; her hope is to re-contextualize works that were not originally conceived of as independent paintings but rather as parts of elaborate, multimedia productions. Direct visual examination will provide vital evidence about seaming, scalloping, and craquelure indicative of the original construction and later alterations. She will spend her time in Rome inspecting and investigating original artworks to gather evidence about the original function of these paintings and their display contexts.

Read more about the Rome Prize at [www.aarome.org/apply/rome-prize](http://www.aarome.org/apply/rome-prize).



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# Conservation Graduate Programs

## *Caring for Family Treasures*: University of Delaware ebblast series encourages readers to find comfort in their personal collections

At the start of the coronavirus pandemic, the Department of Art Conservation at the University of Delaware began the series “Attics and Basements and Closets, Oh My! *Caring for Family Treasures*,” as a way to encourage people to use their time at home to take care of their personal collections. The series ran throughout the summer and included 20 posts, each researched and written by a graduate student in the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. The students focused on ways to document, store, and clean objects including photographs, albums, books, textiles, ceramics, paintings, and furniture. They also discussed ways to monitor for pests and prepare for water-based emergencies.

As the summer progressed and the need for solace grew, the *Family Treasures* series became even more necessary. The Department of Art Conservation acknowledges that there is an urgent and pressing need to address social injustice, oppression, and racism in our society. As conservators, we are especially dedicated to the preservation of the personal and collective histories of Black, Indigenous, and people of color. The *Family Treasures* series allows that work to begin at home.

We believe that objects can hold unique power and influence, and that all (whether in a museum or personal collection) deserve to be preserved for future generations. They can act as a window to—and voice from—the past as we collaboratively work toward a better future. We hope and believe that the *Family Treasures* series has encouraged people to engage with their personal collections, and that doing so made them feel connected to their loved ones, both past and present. These posts are being translated into Spanish and Portuguese by APOYOnline and will be compiled into a digital resource available on the Department's website. We encourage our fellow conservators to share this series broadly, and we hope that it will continue to serve as a valuable resource for the preservation of family treasures.

—Annabelle Camp, NEH Fellow, WUDPAC Class of 2022 and *Caring for Family Treasures* Coordinator, [annabellefcamp@gmail.com](mailto:annabellefcamp@gmail.com)



## ANAGPIC

ANAGPIC, the Association of North American Graduate Programs in Conservation, works to strengthen and advance graduate-level education and training in art and heritage conservation.

ANAGPIC meets regularly to provide a venue for the presentation and exchange of graduate student work and research. Student papers from the annual ANAGPIC conference can be found at <http://resources.culturalheritage.org/anagpic-student-papers/>.

# Specialty Group & Network Columns

## Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)

### Virtual Meeting Recap

ASG's virtual sessions wrapped up the first week of August, although the recordings remain available via the [Virtual Meeting page](#). ASG would like to thank all our speakers once again for working through this process with us, and for remaining patient while we experienced the occasional technical issue. We hope all our members were able to enjoy our virtual content!

### APT Virtual Conference

If you enjoyed AIC's Virtual Meeting format, consider attending APT's virtual conference starting in October. For more details, visit: <https://www.eventscribe.com/2020/APTNT/>. Although details are still being finalized, APT's event will be virtual, similar in format to AIC's, and with on-demand viewing options.

—Lacey Bubnash, ASG Chair, [l.bubnash@argsf.com](mailto:l.bubnash@argsf.com)



### ASG Online

Find ASG information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/  
architecture-group](http://www.culturalheritage.org/architecture-group)

## Book and Paper Group (BPG)

Dear Members,

As the indefatigable Sarah Reidell transitions out of her role as BPG Chair, I would like to voice my gratitude for her vision, her energy, and her commitment to our specialty group over the past year. I'd also like to thank the many other volunteers who are rotating out of their roles for the exceptional work they have put into making BPG a strong and engaging specialty group, including:

- › Eliza Spaulding, for her incredible leadership as BPG Program Chair while pivoting from an in-person annual meeting to AIC's first virtual conference
- › Whitney Baker, Ken Grant, and Amelia Sorenson for their service on the Nominating Committee
- › Jennifer Hain Teper, Michelle Facini, Sue Murphy, and Sarah Norris for serving on the BPG Financial Committee
- › Katherine Kelly for coordinating the BPG Book Wiki
- › Jessamy Gloor and Stephanie Gowler for co-chairing LCCDG and ACDG respectively
- › Cher Schneider for chairing BPG's Education & Training Committee
- › Bruce Bumbarger for his work as BPG Website Coordinator
- › Sharon Fickeissen and Vanessa Haight-Smith for moderating BPG's online community

BPG's most valuable resource is its members, and the more we come together to serve and support one another, the stronger our community grows.

I'm humbled to begin my role as incoming BPG Chair in the wake of all the exceptional volunteers who have served our specialty group, and excited to work with the current team. 2020 has brought our profession unprecedented challenges, but we will find a way to navigate them together. I look forward to:

- › Acting on the many excellent recommendations of the 2019-2020 BPG Financial Committee, who were charged by 2018-2019 BPG Chair Jodie Utter with the goal of putting BPG on sound financial footing



### BPG Online

Find BPG information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/  
book-and-paper-group](http://www.culturalheritage.org/book-and-paper-group)

- › Finding and sharing new ways to incorporate the research and recommendations of the AIC Health & Safety Committee and the AIC Sustainability Committee into our everyday work practices
- › Partnering with the AIC Equity & Inclusion Committee to move beyond well-intentioned thoughts about how to make our profession more inclusive in active work to dismantle white supremacist systems in our organization and the institutions in which we work

Even as we continue to focus on all of this important and meaningful work, I am also aware that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wear on us as individuals and as professionals. Many of our members continue to face a loss of income and increased emotional, physical, and financial burdens at work and at home. I won't sugarcoat the future: I have no doubt that tough times are still ahead. However, I can promise to listen to your concerns, to stand with you, and to work alongside you as our specialty group pulls together in solidarity, with creativity and courage, to face the uncertainties ahead. Let's get to work!

—Melissa Tedone, BPG Chair, [melissatedone.bpg@gmail.com](mailto:melissatedone.bpg@gmail.com)

## Collection Care Network (CCN)

### Upcoming interviews

Congratulations to all of the AIC award recipients! CCN conducted interviews with three of them:

- › **M. Susan Barger**, PhD, Consultant for Small Museums and Archives (David Magoon-University Products Conservation Advocacy Award)
- › **Karen Pavelka**, Senior Lecturer for preventive conservation in the School of Information at The University of Texas at Austin (Rutherford John Gettens Award)
- › **Samuel Anderson**, Principal of Samuel Anderson Architects, (Allied Professionals Award)

Check out the AIC blog and [CCN YouTube playlist](#) to learn more about their work and the insights they have gained into collections care.

### 2020 AIC Annual Meeting Presentation

On June 16th, 336 attendees joined the AIC Virtual Annual meeting for a two-hour panel presentation discussing the new publication: *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage*. Panelists represented editors and authors discussing each of the eight sections of the book. The session was peppered with polls and questions, which highlighted content that readers can delve into in the book. The session wrapped up with co-editor Lisa Elkin discussing results of a survey of leaders in the preventive conservation field reflecting on past and present trends, and what they anticipate for the future. For those that missed the live session, be sure to check out the recording. For those interested in ordering the book, it is available in the AIC Bookstore at <https://store.culturalheritage.org>.

—Kelly M. Krish, CCN Editor, [kmkp@rit.edu](mailto:kmkp@rit.edu)



### CCN Online

Find CCN information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/  
collection-care-network](http://www.culturalheritage.org/collection-care-network)

# Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN)



## ECPN Online

Find ECPN information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/emerging](http://www.culturalheritage.org/emerging)

## 2020 AIC Annual Meeting

In June ECPN presented the workshop, "Making the Ask: Developing Hard Skills and Negotiation Tactics in the Field of Conservation," co-facilitated by Ariel O'Connor and Caitlin Richeson. Fifty participants joined in the conversation to discuss salary negotiation, share their personal experiences and talk about the challenges emerging conservators face in the economic landscape. ECPN held a second iteration on August 28th at 1:00 p.m. (EST) to continue the conversation. ECPN hopes that this workshop will help to supply long-term negotiation skills for both emerging conservators negotiating a salary for the first time and established conservators.

Thank you to all involved for making our virtual session a success with special thanks to Ruth Seyler, Kate Lee, Sarah Saetren, and all of our attendees for their energy and enthusiasm.

## Liaison Program

ECPN is excited to welcome five new Regional Liaison. With the addition of these new liaison ECPN expands our Regional Liaison program to new geographic regions and cities not previously represented.

Join us in welcoming our new liaisons:

- › Indianapolis, IN — Emma Cieslik, [indianapolis.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com](mailto:indianapolis.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com)
- › Upstate NY — Olivia Schoenfeld, [nyc.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com](mailto:nyc.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com)
- › Providence, RI — Brianna Turner, [providence.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com](mailto:providence.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com)
- › Nashville, TN — Emily Farek, [nashville.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com](mailto:nashville.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com)
- › Dallas, TX — Emma Ross, [dallas.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com](mailto:dallas.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com)

Please check ECPN's [subsidiary](http://www.culturalheritage.org/emerging) to contact liaisons directly or view current liaison vacancies if you're interested in volunteering.

## Specialty Group Interviews

Members of the Architectural Specialty Group (ASG) have been asked to discuss their career paths, which we hope will inspire emerging conservation professionals and provide valuable insight into this field. The ASG series will consist of six interviews; thus far three people have been interviewed: Dona Yu, Lucy Midelfort, and Caroline Dickensheets.

## COVID-19 Response Blog Series

ECPN graduate program liaisons and ECPN regional liaisons recently submitted COVID-19 questions to share with mid-career conservators who graduated during the "Great Recession" period. These questions and the mid-career professional's anonymous responses will be summarized in a blog post and released on AIC's online member community. These liaison members will also be compiling updates from all members of ANAGPIC to provide current information on how the North American graduate programs are responding to the pandemic, in terms of both changes to the curriculum and admissions requirements.

## Podcast Series

ECPN has continued to release episodes of our podcast series, "Conservators Combating Climate Change." Digital Platforms Officers Natalya Swanson and Emma Hartman speak with invited guests about how to enact changes in the field that address climate change. Listen to the three episodes at: <https://anchor.fm/conservatorscombatingcc>.

—Caitlin Richeson, Chair, [ecpn.chair@culturalheritage.org](mailto:ecpn.chair@culturalheritage.org)



## AIC 2020 Annual Meeting – Virtual!

The Electronic Media Group (EMG) applauds the monumental work of AIC staff and volunteers who converted the in-person conference to an online one using FAIC's Elevate eLearning Platform. They navigated the technical bumps in the road and developed a schedule to allow for attendance across specialty sessions while avoiding conference-related talk overlap.

We were able to host 14 EMG presentations, 4 presentations in EMG-CAN! joint sessions, and 2 workshops. If you missed the live presentations, we hope you'll take the opportunity to watch the recordings and reach out to the speakers with any questions.

## EMG Leadership

As the new Chair for EMG, I would also like to acknowledge and congratulate the fantastic work of Crystal Sanchez (outgoing Chair), Amy Brost (Program Chair), and Alexandra Nichols (Assistant Program Chair) for navigating the EMG and the conference sessions through AIC's transition to a Virtual Annual Meeting. They have been truly outstanding as they managed everything on short notice, worked closely with presenters and AIC staff to facilitate our meetings, and kept EMG members informed of the session schedule.

For 2020-21:

- › Alexandra Nichols will be stepping into the role of Program Chair
- › Congratulations to Brian Castriota on being elected as Assistant Program Chair
- › Congratulations to Jonathan Farbowitz on being elected for a second two-year term as Webmaster.
- › Briana Feston-Brunet will be stepping down as Managing Editor of the *Electronic Media Review*. Briana served for seven years as Managing Editor, and before that as an editor for EMG's postprint publication. She oversaw the *Electronic Media Review* Committee as well as the migration of the *Review* to an online and open platform. Thank you, Briana, for your leadership in this area!
- › Meaghan Perry, formerly Assistant Managing Editor, will be moving into the role of Managing Editor.
- › Sasha Arden will be joining as the Assistant Managing Editor.

I look forward to working with these officers as well as current EMG officer Joseph Heinen (Secretary/Treasurer), and EMG members during this period of reflection and rapid evolution.

## New Volunteer Roles – AIC Committee Liaisons

This year, the EMG officers would like to create more permanent connections to other AIC groups by encouraging EMG members to help promote cross group communication, sharing of ideas, and reporting to each group. We are looking for volunteers to serve on or connect with members of the following committees, or closely follow their updates in the newsletter and community, and help inform EMG about their activities:

- › Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee
- › Education & Training Committee
- › Communications Committee
- › Publications, Conference Proceedings, Website, & Outreach
- › JAIC Editorial Board – they are seeking an electronic and time-based media associate editor



- › Sustainability Committee
- › Collections Care Network

Please consider volunteering as a liaison, especially if you are an EMG member and already a member or intend to be a member of one of these committees. Liaison roles will not be elected positions, so contact [kmacdo2@arctic.edu](mailto:kmacdo2@arctic.edu) if you're interested.

—Kristin MacDonough, EMG Chair, [kmacdo2@arctic.edu](mailto:kmacdo2@arctic.edu)

## Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

### PMG Leadership

I would like to welcome new Photographic Materials Group (PMG) officers Ronel Namde (Secretary Treasurer) and Amanda Maloney (Assistant Program Chair) and express my gratitude to Heather Brown who completed her term as Secretary Treasurer and now joins the Nominating Committee. Saori Lewis finished her term in that committee and we are all grateful for her service to the group. Barbara Lemmen and Tatiana Cole will continue serving the Nominating Committee for one more year. As Chair of the Nominating Committee, Barbara Lemmen is also Chair Emerita (past Chair), a non-funded PMG officer, who advises current officers as needed.

I would also like to thank Sarah Casto for accepting the position of Social Media Coordinator while continuing to serve as our liaison with the Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN). Sarah Casto's new role is to promote and increase exposure of PMG through social media while acting as liaison between the group and the new generation of conservators. I am also pleased to announce the collaboration of Alejandra Mendoza as member of the Wiki Committee; she will not only contribute and coordinate contributions to the wiki but will also help translating its content into Spanish.

### 2020 AIC Annual Meeting

We got positive feedback from the first virtual AIC Annual Meeting in which PMG offered two sessions of remarkable presentations, plus the Business Meeting and a joint Tip Session with the Book and Paper Group (BPG). Our Program Chair, Katie Sanderson, and Assistant Program Chair, Amanda Maloney, did terrific work in adapting the annual meeting content for a virtual platform.

### PMG Winter Meeting and 2021 AIC Annual Meeting

The PMG Winter Meeting 2021 will take place during AIC's Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 13–17, 2021. We are looking forward to a robust program with four full sessions and two workshops specific to PMG members. Efforts will be made to avoid scheduling PMG and BPG sessions in concurrent time slots.

### PMG Workshops

Stay tuned for the FAIC Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation as more units will be released in the Photographic Chemistry Web series. The planned workshops (Advanced Inkjet Preservation and Big Picture, Large Scale Photographs) will be rescheduled. More details will be provided by Maggie Wessling, Chair of the FAIC Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation Committee. The committee welcomes ideas about future workshop or symposium topics tailored to PMG and the wider conservation community. Please reach out to a committee member or submit your proposals through the FAIC link: [culturalheritage.org/events/learning/propose-a-workshop](https://culturalheritage.org/events/learning/propose-a-workshop).



#### PMG Online

Find PMG information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/  
 photographic-materials  
 -group](http://www.culturalheritage.org/photographic-materials-group)

## Opportunities to collaborate/contribute to PMG

Please consider:

- › Join the Awards and Legacy Committee which emerged last year under the leadership of Luca Ackerman, with the aim of safeguarding the group's legacy and recognizing the service of our colleagues
- › Help students from all over the world by becoming a wiki contributor and add to the amazing work developed by Stephanie Watkins and Luisa Casella throughout the years
- › Share your work through social media and send your ideas to Sarah Casto, PMG Social Media Coordinator, or Katelin Lee, AIC Social Media Coordinator
- › Provide your ideas on how to partner with the Equity and Inclusion Committee or about specific areas of need within the PMG community
- › Join the New ISO subgroup on standards for museums, libraries, and cultural heritage institutions (ISO TC42 Working Group 5 Physical Properties and Image Permanence of Photographic materials), a new group for cultural heritage and preservation looking for new members from our community; contact Joe LaBarca, [jlabarca@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jlabarca@rochester.rr.com), if you are interested

—Fernanda Valverde, PMG Chair, [chair.pmg@gmail.com](mailto:chair.pmg@gmail.com)

## Research & Technical Studies Group (RATS)

### RATS Business Meeting and Leadership

Following Part 2 of the RATS Virtual Annual Meeting session, the RATS Business Meeting was held via Zoom on the afternoon of July 23, 2020. In accordance with specialty group bylaws, the terms of the officers' annual leadership roles ended at the close of the meeting. Dr. Corina Rogge, formerly Chair Emerita, has retired from her role after four years helping lead the RATS subgroup. The officers wish to thank her for her thoughtfulness and hard work as a volunteer leader.

The current slate of RATS officers is:

- › Chair Emeritus: Dr. Matthew Clarke
- › Chair: Gregory Bailey
- › Program Chair: Dr. Federica Pozzi
- › Assistant Program Chair: Jane Klinger
- › Secretary/Treasurer: Courtney VonStein Murray
- › Publications Chair: Dr. Molly McGath

Further information about our group leadership may be found online.

RATS will soon be calling for members of the 2021 nominating committee, to be composed of Chair Emeritus Matthew Clarke and two other RATS members. The 2021 nominating committee will seek candidates for Assistant Program Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and Publications Chair. Official notice and further details will be posted to the RATS Community by mid-August.

In addition to standard business, the meeting saw spirited discussion on the topic of the RATS name and acronym, as well as potential methods to increase membership and offer greater value to members. Look for new discussion threads on our group community as these discussions continue.



### RATS Online

Find RATS information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/  
research-technical-studies](http://www.culturalheritage.org/research-technical-studies)

## Publications

Thanks to the considerable efforts of Publications Chair Dr. Molly McGath, volume 6 of the *RATS Postprints* covering the years 2015–2018 have been published online. This volume includes annotated PowerPoints, extended abstracts, and all RATS abstracts presented during this period. A modification of the search function on the AIC website now makes the *RATS Postprints* easier to search and locate. Find the most recent *RATS Postprints* (vol. 7) 2019, online in the *RATS* community library.

—Gregory Bailey, *RATS* Chair, [gbailey@thewalters.org](mailto:gbailey@thewalters.org)

## Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG)

### Change of ECPN Liaison with WAG

After several years as liaison with the Wooden Artifacts Group, Karen Bishop hands over her role to WAG member Caitlin Sofield. Caitlin is a 2018 graduate of the Winterthur Conservation Program in Furniture Conservation. She holds the Mellon Fellowship in the Furniture Conservation Lab at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

I want to thank Karen for her commitment during the past years, and welcome Caitlin as our new liaison with ECPN.

—Christine Storti, *WAG* Chair, [christinestorti@gmail.com](mailto:christinestorti@gmail.com)



### WAG Online

Find WAG information at  
[www.culturalheritage.org/wooden-artifacts-group](http://www.culturalheritage.org/wooden-artifacts-group)

Note: CIPP, CAN, OSG, PSG, and TSG did not submit columns for this issue.



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# The Back Page

The Virtual Annual Meeting was a success, thanks to the hard work of moderators, presenters, and staff, plus your participation. Here are a few key numbers from the meeting:

## MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
17	18	19	20	21 • Keynote Address and Opening General	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 • Plastic Challenges in Cultural and Ecological Preservation	29	30
31						

117 Presentations

1,680 Registrants

## JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 • Research and Technical Studies & Collections Care Session 1	9 • Photographic Materials Session 1	10	11 • Electronic Media Session 1 - Digital Preservation	12	13
14	15 • Paintings Session 1 • Architecture & Objects Historic House Session - Part 1	16 • Preventive Care • Preventive Care Collections Storage	17 • Objects Session 1	18 • Wooden Artifacts Session 1	19	20
21	22 • Research and Technical Studies Session 1	23 • JAIC Session • Architecture Session 1	24 • Electronic Media Session 2 - Hardware	25 • Plastic Challenges in Cultural and Ecological Preservation - Session 2	26	27
28	29 • Book and Paper Session 1 • Book and Paper Group Business Meeting	30 • Book and Paper Session 2				

88 Posts in the Annual Meeting Community

Held May 21 - September 2

2-Hour Sessions  
Held 3-4 Times  
per Week

Last Day to Access  
Recordings -  
December 31, 2020

## JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 • Paintings Session 2	3	4
5	6	7 • Objects Session 2	8 • Electronic Media Session 3 - Digital Preservation/Storage	9 • Public Conservation Labs: Reactive or Proactive	10 • Photographic Materials Group Business Meeting	11
12	13 • Book and Paper Session 3 • Book and Paper & Photographic Materials Tips Session	14 • Book and Paper Session 4 • Electronic Media Session 4 - Web Software	15 • Photographic Materials Session 2	16 • Concurrent General Session External Forces in Contemporary Art Conservation Session 1	17	18
19	20 • Electronic Media/Contemporary Art Joint Session	21 • Poster Session • Untold Stories	22 • Photographic Materials Session 2	23 • Research & Technical Studies (RATS) Member Business Meeting	24	25
26	27 • Concurrent General Session External Forces in Contemporary Art Conservation Session 2	28 • Architecture Session 2	29 • Education and Stakeholder-Engaged Practice Session 1 • AIC Awards Presentation	30 • Textiles and Wooden Artifacts Session	31 • A Failure Shared Is Not a Failure: Learning From Our Mistakes	

## AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 • Textiles Session 1	4 • Book and Paper Session 5: Library Collections Conservation Discussion Group	5 • Collections Care: Current Standards for Storage Materials	6 • Architecture & Objects Historic House Session - Part 2	7 • Textile Specialty Group Business Meeting	8
9	10 • Wooden Artifacts Session 2 • Electronic Media Session 5: Caring for Time-based Media in Institutions	11 • Book and Paper: AP Discussion Group • Textiles Session 2	12 • Collections Care - Big Data	13 • Objects Session 3	14	15
16	17 • Reacting to Hazardous Collections	18 • Proactive Collections Care for Smaller Institutions	19 • Paintings Session 3	20 • Research & Technical Studies, Collection Care, & Contemporary Art Joint Session	21	22
23	24 • Sustainability	25 • Proactive Digital Methods	26	27 • Photographic Materials Session 3	28	29
30	31 • Collections Care: Emergency Response Session	1 (September) • General Session: Public Conservation Labs • Textile Specialty Group Business Meeting				