



AIC News
July 2021
Volume 46(4)

**49th
Annual
Meeting**

Transform 2021: Joint AIC/SPNHC Meeting

The 2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual meeting earned its place in AIC's record books. More than 1,920 attendees were able to view over 150 hours of general and specialty programming. We had attendees from 33 countries taking part, making the joint meeting truly international in scope. Recordings of the sessions are available until October 31. Our virtual meeting contained general and specialty sessions, pre-sessions, workshops, tours, social events, and opportunities to interact with exhibitors.

The General and Concurrent Sessions, in the organizers' words

The theme for our 49th annual conference—held jointly with the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC)—was “Transform 2021.” When reviewing the submitted abstracts, our selection committee looked for bold new ideas and practices with the potential to change how we think and work and, in the opening session, we were pleased to feature eight talks that did just that. The topics included ideological exploration and associated calls to action, re-examining what it means to be a conservator and to conserve cultural heritage, the need for a new code of ethics, and Queer theory and theories of natural extinction as lenses through which to examine conservation practice. A series of practical case studies also looked at responses to race and racism in conservation and natural history collections care, and at how natural history collections can contribute to solving other real-world problems, such as the current global pandemic. Substantive panel discussions, led by program committee members Cat Coueignoux and Marc Vermeulen, were held after each group of talks, resulting in a deeper dive into each subject.

Meanwhile, the other general session committee members each embraced a topic of contemporary relevance and chaired four additional sessions that examined how conservators and natural history caretakers are working today and how we might grow our skill sets in the future.

—Suzanne Davis, davissl@umich.edu

Transform 2021 continues on page 6

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Deadline for September editorial submissions: August 1, 2021. Submit to carmina@culturalheritage.org.

We reserve the right to edit for brevity and clarity.

ADVERTISING

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AIC News
July 2021
Volume 46(4)

From the Board President

Dear Colleagues,

I look forward to working with all of you as I step into the role of AIC board president. I am extremely grateful to outgoing president Margaret (Peggy) Holben Ellis for her leadership and direction over the past four years, and I am honored and excited to have this opportunity to serve our organization in this leadership role. AIC has been my primary disciplinary home for at least two decades, and I will work hard to justify the trust placed in me to serve all members.

By way of introduction, I am an associate curator and head the conservation department at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, an academic museum focused on the cultures of the ancient Mediterranean and located on the campus of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In this job, I also direct conservation and site preservation efforts for four field-based archaeological projects in Egypt, Sudan, and Turkey. I care deeply about preservation of cultural heritage and even more deeply about the stories it enables us to discover and tell, and the relationships and connections these stories can foster.

Service to AIC has long been important to me because of the ways the organization has helped me learn and grow; I formerly served on the Education and Training Committee, as chair of the Objects Specialty Group, and as AIC vice president. AIC has been the source of many of my most meaningful professional relationships and, as I begin this new service role, I am grateful to the many AIC colleagues who continue to provide support, friendship, and guidance.

I feel fortunate to come to the AIC presidency at a time when the organization is exceptionally strong and vital. This is based, in large part, on the leadership and vision of our executive director, Eryl Wentworth, and her team; AIC's past presidents and board members; and our many other member leaders. If there is one word to describe AIC's past decade, it would be expansion; in membership, member services, partnerships, outreach, education, and fundraising. Yet I am especially enthusiastic about AIC's collective work over the coming months because our association is currently at a moment of transition.

We will soon be congratulating Eryl on her well-deserved retirement to begin in January 2022. At the same time, various exciting projects are underway or just beginning. These include an important new proposal put forward by the Membership Designation Working Group, a much-needed review of our core ethics documents, the valuable work of the NEH-funded Held in Trust initiative, and planning for our upcoming 50th anniversary celebration at the 2022 annual meeting in Los Angeles, California. We have just concluded our second successful virtual annual meeting (1,920+ attendees!) and are welcoming two new board members: conservation scientist Corina (Cory) Rogge, as vice president and annual meeting program chair; and conservator Samantha Springer, as director of committees, networks, and task forces. We also are all still trying to cope with the strange and uncertain world brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, and I want to acknowledge the enormous stress this has created for our community, across many employment settings and at all career stages.

In short, this is an important time to pause and reflect before creating a vision for AIC's future. We will therefore be extending AIC's strategic plan (with a few small updates) by one year, to take time to understand the effects of the pandemic on our members and on the cultural heritage sector in general, to capitalize on the work of the Held in Trust project, and to create space for the ideas and energy of a new Executive Director. When we begin a new strategic planning initiative in 2022, I am committed to involving all AIC members in the process.

In addition to the activities described above, I am also looking forward to supporting and participating in many other projects of vital importance to our organization, including the work of AIC's Equity and Inclusion Committee and the brand-new Member Engagement Sub-Committee (still forming – apply here!). One of my most important priorities as president is to foster a membership organization that is welcoming and supportive, and one that embraces a positive organizational culture characterized by transparency and trust, creativity and collaboration, and kindness and respect.

I hope you are having an enjoyable and restorative summer after what has been an especially difficult year, and I look forward to our collective work to advance the mission of this remarkable organization.



Suzanne Davis,
AIC Board President

Sincerely,

Suzanne Davis, AIC President, davissl@umich.edu



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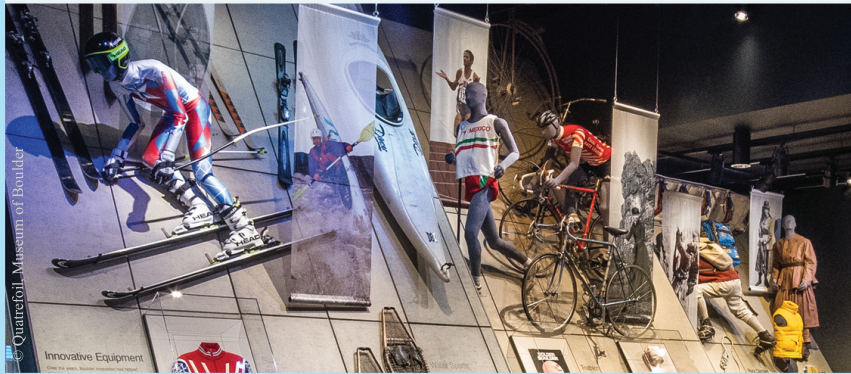


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What is conservation? Who is a conservator? Contact

Who can see your viewing activity?

Who is a conservator? What is conservation? Evolving our identities and practice to thrive in an inclusive world

by Joelle Wickens and Natalya Swanson

Who is a conservator? What is conservation? The answers to these questions are not written in an eternal text, carved in stone, and unequivocal. The answers represent choices we have and will continue to make.

The momentous events of the past year, and the ongoing social reckoning that continues, call us to stop dancing around issues we have been discussing for years, like: why is our field so homogenous? It is because we have made it that way. We have created a community that narrowly defines what we do and how we do it. We have written our code of ethics and guidelines for practice to prioritize property over people. By giving ourselves the privilege of being able to touch and change art we have made ourselves special. To retain this status we have set up an exclusive path of entry into our field.

The good news is, while we have the power to keep things as they are, we also have the agency to adapt to fit the needs of contemporary society. Today, we ask you to join us in embracing change and welcoming the idea that our field requires a diversity of approaches, solutions, and peoples. Over the next ten minutes we will share ideas that prioritize inclusivity, [sustainable](#) thinking, and the belief that conservation is, at its core, the dynamic and intentional process of [who is a conservator](#). What is conservation, the answers to these questions are not written in an eternal text carved in stone and unequivocal, the answers represent choices we have and will continue to make the momentous events of the past year, and

There are many definitions and descriptions of who a conservator is

00:15:04 / 03:18:31

Speed (00:30:53 - 03:49:24)

AIC definitions

- A **conservator**: Saves our cultural heritage *physically*. They are unique in...the particular expert hands-on technical and decision-making skills they bring to preserving and caring for and our tangible history; Trains in a graduate conservation program or sometimes a lengthy apprenticeship with more experienced senior colleagues. While they take many paths to becoming a conservator, they all have extensive training in art history, science, studio art, and related fields.
- Conservation** encompasses all those actions taken toward the long-term preservation of cultural heritage.

ENGAGE IN THIS DISCUSSION

UNESCO definition

- Benefit 1: broaden our community**
- Benefit 2: expand what we do**
- Benefit 3: redefine best practices**

Chat Messages

Suzanne Davis (she/her) 33:05
Hi Everyone! So happy to see you here today!

Susanna Donovan 33:57
halloo from Charlottesville, on the land and waters of the Monacan Nation

Tiffani Emig (she/her) 34:09
Welcome everyone! You can use this chat tool to say hello and share information. Note that you can select whether your message is shared with just one individual, with all panelists, or with all panelists and attendees.

Linda Riddle 34:22
Good afternoon all!

Emilie Cloos 34:53
Hello all, very pleased to be here, from London UK (i.e. I'm allowed to be here with a glass of wine)

Susan Maltby 35:20
Greetings from Toronto, Canada

Ann Shaftel 35:25
Greetings to colleagues at this amazing meeting! So good to reconnect this way!

Paul Mayer (He/Him) 36:57

A screenshot of the recorded Opening General Session and Zoom chat messages during the AIC/SPNHC 2021 Virtual Meeting. This talk was presented May 11, 2021, and the recording is available through the end of October 2021.

Transform 2021

Continued from cover

The **Collaborating with Stakeholder Communities** two-part session showcased a variety of examples of how conservators have approached collaborative efforts in research and treatment as well as the overall handling of cultural heritage materials. We identified and asked people with a significant understanding of and/or personal connections to the themes of the talks to lead the short discussion periods at the end of each half session. We are so very grateful to Nylah Byrd, Cheyenne Caraway, Ellen Carrlee, and Laleña Vellanoweth for their time and insight in serving as the session's' discussants.

We had some initial intentions with this session, including exploration of the scale and scope of collaboration initiatives, issues around terminology and access and true reciprocity, and fundamental perspective shifts that need to be considered. Not all these goals were met, and we wish we had more time for the Q&A and discussion. The session would have been even more compelling if we had heard from more of the collaborators in addition to conservators, either during the talks or by involving them during the Q&A, to balance the perspectives given about the projects!

We recognize that work on these topics must continue, and we're attempting to develop some actionable items and facilitate useful conversations as we construct programming for ECPN in the coming term.

—Jessica Betz Abel, jesbetzabel@gmail.com, and Michaela Paulson, mep518@gmail.com

The **Creating Connections & Community During COVID** session turned out to be very inspiring; while the initial impulse in our call for papers was to create a space of shared frustrations and obstacles as both support mechanism and commiseration, what emerged from the speakers was a portrait of resilience, of new bonds forged, new technologies tested, new collaborations created, and learning and working proceeding despite all odds. While acknowledging what had been lost, all had found some gains in the response to the crisis.

—Sarah Reidell, sarah.reidell@gmail.com, and Kate Smith, kate_smith@harvard.edu

The session **On Display** explored the complex practical and ethical complications of placing materials on exhibit. Speakers shared how they:

- › De-installed, treated, replicated, and replaced 19th-century wallpaper in a historic house museum
- › Mounted a python skin
- › Conserved a firehouse door-turned 9/11 memorial mural
- › Navigated obstacles of employing a wooden Tlingit clan house exhibit space fabricated by Native carvers to house historic collections
- › Explored efforts to improve material research methods while enhancing access to and sharing of the existing materials data/resources

All these projects were highly collaborative, and each required inter- and intra-disciplinary cooperation by multiple individuals. In the wake of a period of intense isolation, seeing how conservators worked across conservation specialties as well as with photographers, scientists, mount makers, registrars, community members, and artists (among others) was very exciting. As Ellen Carrlee said during her presentation, “the conservator is just one of many people who want to promote both preservation and access to material culture.”

—Madeleine Neiman, madeleine.k.neiman@gmail.com

The goal of the **Transformative Research and Treatment in the Care of Natural History Collections** session was to learn how caretakers of natural history collections, who are charged with protecting, managing, and preserving millions of specimens, tackle large-scale and tricky issues. During presentations on changing out hundreds of specimen folders to correct a racist color-coding system, creating a protocol for moving an entire collection of hazardous materials, and performing a risk analysis to study the strengths and weaknesses of a storage room full of elephant skulls, the speakers all shed light on topics that in the past might have been covered up or gone unrepresented for fear of painting an institution negatively. We all know, however, if one institution is facing a particular issue, there likely are many more dealing with the same situation. We appreciated the speakers' candor and the opportunity to learn from what they have spent countless hours scrutinizing and addressing.

We also learned about new solutions to conservation problems that can be applied across many collection categories. From crowdsourcing to determine efficient, practical techniques for cleaning feathers on all types of objects, and tips and tricks for rehydrating different species of fluid specimens, to trouble-shooting the re-treatment of large, fragile objects (mammoth tusks!) that have scant preparation and treatment records, we thank the speakers for adding their experiences to the collective natural history preservation knowledge. We hope that both AIC and SPNHC members found the sessions informative and interesting.

—Fran Ritchie, franritchie@gmail.com

Held in Trust Keynote at the Annual Meeting

AIC hosted a session during the virtual annual meeting on **Held in Trust**, a cooperative agreement between the National Endowment for the Humanities and FAIC focused on the current state and future of the conservation field. NEH Acting Chairman Adam Wolfson and Chief of Staff Kelsey Coates opened the session with remarks providing insight into the humanities priorities of the Biden-Harris administration related to conservation and preservation, and the Held in Trust initiative.

Acting Chairman Wolfson related the history of NEH's support of conservation and preservation efforts, highlighting the work of its Preservation and Access Division. He also acknowledged the greater context of Held in Trust as part of NEH's special initiative, **A More Perfect Union**, which “seeks—among other goals—to preserve the objects, places, and stories that document our nation's struggle towards a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society.”



Stay in the Know

Specialty Group business meetings were held throughout the sessions, and the AIC member business meeting was held at the end of the opening sessions on May 14. Please go back and listen to the meetings if you missed them!

Chief of Staff Coates noted how many of the topics that Held in Trust will explore align with the key pillars of the Biden-Harris administration, stating, "Held in Trust is a standout project under the A More Perfect Union umbrella because it examines the intersection of cultural heritage preservation with issues of urgent importance to our democracy, including sustainability, social and racial justice, equity and diversity, climate change, and environmental resource preservation."

Held in Trust Project Coordinator Pamela Hatchfield also provided an update regarding progress made since the project began in mid-2020. She discussed the mission and project goals, topic areas, and intended outcomes, emphasizing that Held in Trust seeks to create a roadmap for a conservation and preservation field that is "not just surviving but thriving." Hatchfield also acknowledged project team members at FAIC and NEH as well as the individuals and organizations that participate on the project's Advisory Council and Steering Committee.

A recording of the remarks can be found the AIC's YouTube channel along with Acting Chairman Wolfson's written remarks and Chief of Staff Coates' written remarks. For more information about Held in Trust, please explore the project site and join the online community to get updates!

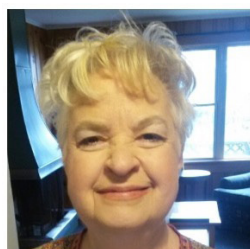
—Katelin Lee, FAIC Outreach Coordinator, klee@culturalheritage.org



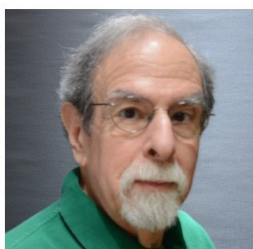
Blog your experience!

Was there a talk you attended or presented that you'd like to share beyond the 2021 attendees? Reflect on your experience or share your thoughts using your AIC blog at www.culturalheritage.org/blog.

Honorees at the 2021 Awards Ceremony



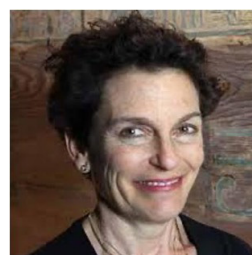
Barbara Appelbaum



Paul Himmelstein



Jontyle Robinson



Pamela Hatchfield



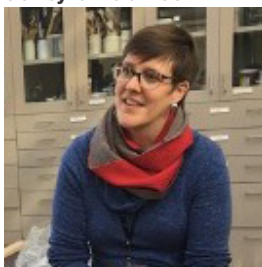
Sanchita Balachandran



Rustin Levenson



Michele Marincola



Kate Smith



Lisa Elkin



Christopher Norris

Congratulations to AIC's 2021 award recipients, who were celebrated in a Zoom presentation on May 10. You can view information about each of the awardees in the abstract program book.

- › David Magoon-University Products Conservation Advocacy Award: Barbara Appelbaum and Paul Himmelstein
- › Allied Professionals Award: Jontyle Robinson, PhD
- › Robert L. Feller Lifetime Achievement Award: Pamela Hatchfield
- › Rutherford John Gettens Award: Sanchita Balachandran
- › Honorary Membership: Rustin (Rusty) Levenson
- › Sheldon & Caroline Keck Award: Michele Marincola and Kate Smith
- › Publication Award: Lisa Elkin and Chris Norris, co-editors of *Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage* (2018)
- › President's Award: Nancy Pollak and Deborah Trupin



Nancy Pollak



Deborah Trupin

Find more information about our awards at www.culturalheritage.org/awards.

Socratic Dialogue Summary

This year's Socratic dialogue "Systematic Racism, Objects and Monuments in Cultural Heritage Conservation," held on May 6 as a pre-session, covered an issue which many AIC members realize is part of the major problem of racism in the United States and elsewhere. Dialogue participants were shown a number of controversial objects and were asked the question, "You were/are asked to treat an object like those shown. How did/would you respond and why?"

Using the Socratic method of questioning, the participants could, in a safe environment, investigate each other's thoughts and feelings behind their answers to the question. Based on the one sentence "essences" which each participant wrote down at the end of the session, it appears that most conservators would like to be able to discuss such issues more openly in the workplace and sensed that they should not be hiding behind the "conservator mode" (as described by several participants) when confronted with such objects. A follow-up dialogue is planned for this summer for those who could not participate and for others who are interested.

—W. (Bill) Wei, b.wei@cultureelerfgoed.nl

Specialty & SPNHC Sessions

We opened the meeting in our usual fashion with a week of pre-sessions and workshops based primarily on various aspects of collection care – data workflows, strategic management, pest reduction, preserving archival materials, and labeling. Week 2 welcomed the opening general session, keynote Held in Trust presentation, and the awards ceremony (see box on page 8), and featured the concurrent sessions described above. Each of the subsequent six weeks — there were eight in all — featured a new set of specialty topics, with workshops on "Silver Image Chemistry and Deterioration" and "Conservation Through Transformation: Keeping Performance Art Alive in The Museum" taking place later in the schedule.

Two other special sessions were held that are accessible to all: "A Failure Shared is Not a Failure: Learning from Our Mistakes" on May 21, and the "JAIC Scholarly Writing Seminar" on June 4.

We closed the meeting on June 25. Thanks to all volunteers and staff who made this meeting happen!

THE 15 SPECIALTY TOPICS COVERED IN MAY AND JUNE WERE:

- Week 3, May 17-21: Architecture, Book & Paper, and ECPN
- Week 4, May 24-29: Research & Technical Studies, Health & Safety, SPNHC, Imaging, and Wooden Artifacts
- Week 5, June 1-4: Collection Care and SPNHC
- Week 6, June 7-11: Contemporary Art, Electronic Media, and SPNHC
- Week 7, June 14-18: Sustainability, Photographic Materials, Book & Paper, Textiles, and SPNHC
- Week 8, June 21-25: Paintings, Objects and SPNHC

AIC and SPNHC Together in 2021 & Future Conversations

The leadership of AIC and SPNHC would like to thank everyone who served on their program committees. These committee members devoted many volunteer hours to selecting talks and organizing and hosting joint sessions.

We encourage you to listen to recordings of the sessions and consider viewing a session outside of your specialty, especially if you have not had time to focus on aspects outside your area of expertise. For example, the SPNHC program committee organized five virtual tours to a combined 15 organizations and collections around the world; recordings of these will be available until October 31. In addition, if you would like to learn more about each organization, the introduction videos will also remain accessible on the conference website.

Many professionals involved in the conservation and collections care of natural history collections are members of both AIC and SPNHC. Please continue the conversations that began with our joint meeting and consider being a member of both organizations.

As our organizations look ahead to our 2022 annual meetings, plan to participate:

- AIC – May 13-17 in Los Angeles
- SPNHC – June 4-10 in Edinburgh

We hope that we can host a joint meeting in-person within the next five years. Until then, let's continue our conversations.

—Ruth Seyler, AIC Meetings and Advocacy Director, rseylor@culturalheritage.org



Learn How to
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Membership
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AIC Virtual Expo Hall and Exhibitor Showcases

Thank you to more than forty AIC/SPNHC 2021 Joint Virtual Meeting exhibitors for their support and contributions to the 2021 meeting. Though the live sessions at the virtual meeting have ended, there is still time to visit the virtual booths and connect with exhibitors. The exhibit booths and recordings will be online until October 31, 2021; to access them, go to <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/aic2021-exhibit-hall>.

Exhibitors have videos and handouts available to view and download at their booths. The recordings to the Exhibitor Showcases are now available; we divided the exhibitors by topic so you can learn about several vendors for each type of service or product category. View the schedules for the live showcase events on our website to help guide you in selecting which parts of the recordings to watch. There are some really fun presentations that are worth catching! It's not too late to make the most of the 2021 Exhibit Hall.

Joint Meeting on Social Media

Curious about social media takeaways, talk recaps, live tweeting, and more? Since this was a joint meeting, there are two hashtags capturing every aspect of the meeting. Be sure to check out the meeting hashtags on your social media platform of choice: #AICmtg21 and #SPNHC2021.

People talked about the highs of presenting, seeing colleagues virtually, and presentations that inspired them. As always, we loved seeing what excited and led to discussion among attendees online! —Katelin Lee



Vanessa Delnavaz
@VanessaDelnavaz

Loving the resounding focus on inclusivity and collaboration during #AICmtg21 #SPNHC2021

4:57 PM · May 13, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



Tara Hornung
@artifactconserv

So relevant for those of us out West after a really hard year of wildfires: "Evaluating one-step cleaning methods for heritage building materials impacted by wildland fire chemicals" in the ASG session #AICmtg21 #SPNHC2021

12:16 PM · May 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Fletcher Durant
@fletcherdurant

Excited to have heard @StanfordPreserv's team talk on their anti-racist work in conservation linked data. Lots of room to develop these practices and languages, but I hope to see more (examples of forms & documentation)!

#AICmtg21 #SPNHC2021 #BPG2021

12:46 PM · May 18, 2021 · TweetDeck



conservatrix rex
@conservatrix

prrt sc is the digital equivalent of me madly snapping pix of slides at AIC. #AICmtg21 #SPNHC2021

4:53 PM · May 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App

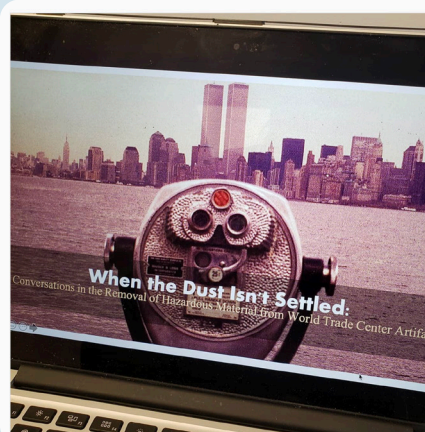


Bethany Palumbo ACR
@bethany_bug

Truly amazing talk from Michaela Paulson @amnh regarding feather cleaning. They MADE a 'dust-sebum emulsion', applied it to feathers and now are assessing different cleaning methods, UNDER THE MICROSCOPE. True conservation SCIENCE #AICMTG2021 #SPNHC2021



1:50 PM · May 13, 2021 · Twitter for Android



kerithkoss

kerithkoss Thanks to everyone who attended our talk today at the AIC Annual Mtg! You can still get the recording later this week if you're interested in hearing how hazardous materials and emotional trauma can affect cultural heritage workers and the preservation decisions they make.

#hazardouscollections
#preservationisabias
#WTCdust
#AICmtg21
#collectionscare
#911memorialmuseum

5w

artshelixed Oh wow. Sorry I missed it

18 likes
JUNE 2

Log in to like or comment.



marudigi

marudigi Some details of today's work! I readhered the hemimandibles of the snake I've been working on (pic 1), while actively getting bit by this ungrateful specimen. I chose not to wear gloves because the teeth get caught on the gloves and there's higher risk of them breaking. Pics 2 and 3 are readhering the phalanx and tail vertebrae, respectively, of the @yalepeabodymuseum turtle. A great treat-a-ton during today's talks of @conservators and SPNHC!

¡Algunos detalles del trabajo de hoy! Uní las hemimandíbulas de la boa en la que he estado trabajando, mientras la muy desagradecida me mordía. Decidí no usar guantes porque se enganchan en los dientes tan finitos y filosos y había

52 likes
MAY 11

Log in to like or comment.

Thank You!

Thank you to all those who made the 2021 AIC/SPNHC meeting possible:

- › Our meeting partner, SPNHC, for agreeing to a joint meeting to foster greater communication between the organizations.
- › All speakers and poster presenters who took the time to share their research. You have strengthened the conservation and collection care field.
- › All members of the 15 program committees. Your work in selecting abstracts and building out the program is a main reason for the success of the meeting.
- › Our exhibitors for educating us with their presentations and virtual booths.
- › FAIC, for providing 200 scholarships for student registrations.
- › Our over 1,900 attendees. Your participation and thoughtful questions enhanced all sessions.

Please assist us one more time by completing the [2021 AIC/SPNHC Annual Meeting evaluation](#) by July 30th. Your feedback is critical for both AIC and SPNHC in planning our future meetings.

Special Thanks

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Attendees Assisting Attendees Campaign.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide complimentary registrations to over 95 people who would otherwise not been able to attend.

Recordings Available until October 31, 2021

While the live virtual meeting sessions have concluded, the [recordings of the sessions](#), the posters, and the [Virtual Expo Hall](#) will be accessible until October 31. There is plenty of time to view sessions that you were unable to attend live, peruse posters, and discover new topics you may have missed. The end of October will be here before we know it; create your individual “viewing plan” now, so that you can take advantage of all the great 2021 virtual meeting content.

To assist you in planning your self-guided meeting experience, here is more information on the content offered at the virtual meeting. The abstract and program book is available for download so you can plan which sessions to watch. The sessions were grouped by week, and you can view the recordings via the Access Sessions Tab – click on “Watch,” similar to attending a live session.

- › **General Sessions** – The opening session and four themed concurrent sessions were presented during Week 2 of the virtual conference. The themes and topics covered during these sessions are described at the beginning of this article.
- › **Specialty Sessions** – Fifteen specialties, including SPNHC specialties, were presented in sessions during virtual meeting Weeks 3-8 (see the schedule on page 9). A big thank you to all the specialty group and network officers who planned their sessions.
- › **Pre-session programs** – On May 3-7 (Week 1), six pre-session programs were presented. Like the pre-session offerings at an in-person AIC Annual Meeting, these programs explored their topics over a 2- or 3-hour period. Unlike an in-person meeting, they were all included in the cost of the virtual meeting. [View the list of pre-sessions here](#) to watch the recordings, if you were unable to catch these sessions live. All but the Socratic Dialogue were recorded. For more information about the Socratic Dialogue, please see page 9.
- › **Exhibitor Opportunities** – A trip to the Expo Hall, whether in-person or virtual, is always a great way to keep up with the latest developments in the field. The Exhibitor Showcases are online now. See demonstrations and presentations from more than 40 organizations.



Download the abstract book

The abstract and program book is located here:

- › [2021 Meeting Website](#)
- › [Past Meetings](#)
- › [Online community for meeting attendees](#)

F/AIC Executive Director Eryl P. Wentworth stepping down December 31st

I am writing to let you know that Eryl Wentworth, Executive Director of AIC and FAIC (F/AIC), has shared with the F/AIC Boards her decision to retire effective December 31, 2021.

Eryl has served as our organization's dynamic leader for 17 years. While it truly takes each one of us—members, volunteer leaders, and professional staff—to make AIC the vibrant professional association it is today, Eryl has been outstanding in leading us through nearly two decades of growth and change. We are grateful that she will remain in this role as we begin to seek her successor.

When she joined F/AIC as the Executive Director in 2004, Eryl brought her extensive leadership experience in museum and historic preservation settings. Since that time, she has led nearly every aspect of F/AIC's critical work on a day-to-day basis, alongside the remarkable staff she has recruited.

Eryl's major accomplishments include:

- › Significantly expanding F/AIC's organizational capacity and professional staff.
- › Instituting policies, a fiscal structure, and oversight to support funding and partnership agreements.
- › Substantially increasing our partnerships with allied organizations.
- › Restructuring FAIC's board to focus on fundraising and philanthropy, so that this group can work collaboratively with AIC to support cultural heritage preservation.
- › Initiating FAIC's first major capital campaign and overseeing major grant projects, including The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Hermitage Museum Project, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Comprehensive Organizational Health Initiative, and the NEH-funded Held in Trust Project.
- › Leading a reorganization to incorporate Heritage Preservation's programs, resources, and staff members following its closure in 2015.
- › Supporting the publication and distribution of AIC's journal, books, articles, and outreach materials.
- › Growing F/AIC's web and social media presence.
- › And last (but not least), managing the transition to a virtual environment during the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring that staff were supported, members sustained, and programming and outreach continued.

As we near the end of Eryl's tenure with F/AIC, it is an especially important time to celebrate all we have accomplished under her direction, evaluate what has worked well, and anticipate the progress we would like to see in the future. Eryl believes this is the right time not only for her to transition to a new chapter, but also that it is an exciting time for F/AIC to seek new ideas and new energy for our collective work. Thanks to her leadership, we are well positioned to move forward.

Over the next few months, I will update you regularly as we seek a new executive director for F/AIC. You may also track our progress on [this webpage](#), where we will add information about the search committee (recently established under the direction of the F/AIC board presidents) and search process, as well as the position description and job posting when they are developed. When appropriate, I hope you will distribute the posting widely to your networks to assist with this important search. Our goal is to have a new ED in place by the beginning of January 2022, and I am committed to keeping you updated on our progress.

In the meantime, I hope you will join me in thanking Eryl for her leadership, energy, and imagination during her time with us. Her work has advanced our organization and given us a solid foundation on which to build for the future. Thank you, Eryl, for all you have done and all you continue to do to make AIC the excellent, supportive, and forward-looking professional organization we all want it to be.

—Suzanne L. Davis, AIC President, davissl@umich.edu

Welcome New AIC Board Members

We welcome two new board members and one member with a new position and thank our outgoing members for their service. Corina (Cory) Rogge is serving as AIC vice president and FAIC board member, now that Suzanne Davis was elected to AIC president, having served two terms as vice president. Samantha Springer is serving as AIC director of Committees, Networks, and Task Forces after Tom Braun served two terms.



Corina (Cory) E. Rogge is the Andrew W. Mellon Research Scientist at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and the Menil Collection. She earned a B.A. in chemistry from Bryn Mawr College, a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Yale University and held postdoctoral positions at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and the University of Texas Health Sciences Center (Houston). Before joining the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston in 2013 she held positions as the Weiss Instructor of Chemistry at Rice University (2007–2010), and as the Andrew W. Mellon Assistant Professor in Conservation Science in the Department

of Art Conservation at State University of New York Buffalo State College (2010–2013). She became a AIC Professional Associate in 2009 and in 2019 was elected a Fellow. She has been an active member of the Research and Technical Studies specialty group (RATS), serving first as Communications Officer (2011–2014) and then from 2016–2020 first as Assistant Program Chair, then progressing to Program Chair, Chair, and ultimately Chair Emerita. Concomitantly with her service to RATS, she served as a member of the AIC General Session Committee for four years (2017–2020). In addition to her leadership roles within AIC, she has been an active participant in the annual meetings; she has given presentations in the Concurrent General, Architecture, Photographic Materials, and Paintings sessions. Since 2015 she has also served the scholarly community as an Associate Editor for the *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*.



Samantha Springer established Art Solutions Lab, an art conservation practice, to provide preventive care and interventive treatment services to regional arts and culture organizations, artists, and private collectors in the Portland, Oregon region and nationally. Her practice grows from her education at the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation and a foundation of work at institutions with broad fine art collections including the Portland Art Museum, the Cleveland Museum of Art, as well as organizations with anthropological collections that focus on specific regions or peoples such as the

Field Museum of Chicago, Alaska State Museums, and National Museum of the American Indian. In 2020, she earned Fellow membership of AIC. While Samantha remains a generalist in the specialty of objects, she has a particular interest in preventive conservation, sustainability, and working with living artists and makers as a means towards preserving less tangible aspects of cultural heritage objects, such as an artist's intent.

Throughout her career, Samantha has supported professional organizations by serving on the WACC board, the AIC Sustainability Committee, and the Materials Working Group. Locally, she helped grow the Portland Alliance for Readiness, a network of Portland-based organizations focused on emergency preparedness. Currently, Samantha serves on the Arts Council of Lake Oswego in support of heightening awareness of the importance of arts in the community. With this experience, Samantha is eager to engage with and support the important work of the committees and networks within AIC.

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: Stephan Bonadies
- › Audit Committee: Tom Claeson
- › Awards Committee: Rachel Rivenc
- › Communications Committee: Erin Stephenson

Thank You!

Thanks to Margaret (Peggy) Holben Ellis and Tom Braun for their many years of service to the AIC Board and to members.



Member Business Meeting

Find the audio recording and slides from the Member Business Meeting at <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/2021-aic-member-business-meeting>. The meeting covered our financial status, annual meeting plans for 2022, and member designation information.



Learn About Volunteer Leadership

Visit the AIC Leadership page to find out more about AIC's structure and meet the members in volunteer roles. www.culturalheritage.org/leadership

- › Education and Training Committee: Dawn Rogala
- › Emergency Committee: Samantha Snell and Sonya Barron, co-chairs
- › Equity and Inclusion Committee: Anya Dani and Anisha Gupta, co-chairs
- › Ethics and Standards Committee: Camile Myers Breeze
- › Membership Committee: Rebecca Kaczowski
- › Nominating Committee: Sarah Stauderman
- › Sustainability Committee: Roxane Sperber

Health & Safety Launches Forum

The Health & Safety Network launched a new forum on July 12 to facilitate discussions about health and safety topics with colleagues in conservation, allied fields, and across cultural heritage. Christina Bisulca, Health & Safety Network officer and Andrew W. Mellon Scientist at Detroit Institute of Arts, and Amber Carlberg, new H&SN/AIHA liaison and Safety and Occupational Health Manager, Smithsonian Office of Safety, Health, and Environmental Management, are serving as volunteer moderators.

What's the purpose of this forum?

- › To create a space dedicated to discussing health and safety topics, specifically for conservators and other persons associated with cultural institutions who have an interest in health and safety in museums, libraries, archives, and similar venues.
- › To promote a safe space to discuss and ask questions about these issues without being judged or dismissed by those who do not think health and safety are legitimate concerns.
- › To increase awareness of health and safety issues and resources.
- › To act as a resource for interested conservators and allied professionals, and garner contributions to articles, collaborative projects, and annual meeting programming that the network officers manage.
- › To keep the community informed about OSHA updates/new procedures that might be relevant to U.S.-based conservators and cultural institution professionals.
- › To create a solid network of individuals with a strong interest in health and safety, with the end goal of making cultural heritage workplaces as safe as possible.

The forum is open to all; please share this new with colleagues and encourage them to join! <https://www.culturalheritage.org/health-safety-forum>

Find an Expert Search Tool to Launch in Fall

The Find an Expert search tool is available on the Online Community website for members to use and explore. We plan to "soft launch" this tool in early fall by adding a link from our main website's search tool; then we will disable the older tool after a period of a few months. As the new tool is an opt-in system, we have just under 400 peer-reviewed members who have activated their profiles. We are hosting two "office hours" sessions on Zoom on July 28th at 1pm and 7pm ET to help members create and edit their profiles. Look for the invitation in your email next week.

Committee Updates

COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOPS IN PHOTOGRAPH CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CWPC)

The CWPC Advisory Committee welcomes Élia Roldao, [Photographs Conservator, NOVA School of Science and Technology – FCT NOVA, Portugal] to the Committee. The Committee celebrates the success of the virtual program "Data Analysis & Visualization for Conservation Professionals." A new iteration of the data course is scheduled for summer/fall 2021. Upcoming workshop topics include large-format photographs, gels, photomechanical processes, and negatives. Feel free to email the new Committee chair, Krista Lough, at krista@kl-artconservation.com if you have suggestions.



Update your Profile

Have you returned to work or changed your employment status? Ensure your contact information is correct before we mail the next journal and renewal letters this fall. www.culturalheritage.org/myprofile.



Get Help with Your Expert Page

Join us for an "office hours" sessions on Zoom on July 28th at 1pm and 7pm ET. Invitations will be sent via email.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE (ETC)

ETC welcomes three new members to the committee: Jennifer Bullock, Eve Mayberger, and Garrett Sumner. Dawn Rogala is now serving as the ETC Chair, along with Emily Frank as Vice Chair and Colleen O'Shea as Secretary. This spring, ETC members reviewed applications received for FAIC/Tru Vue Conservation and Exhibition grants and assisted with the selection of workshops included in FAIC's recent grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities.

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE (EC)

The Emergency Committee elected Sonya Barron as co-chair, to join Samantha Snell. The EC thanks Holly Herro for her leadership as co-chair over the last three years.

EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE (EIC)

The Equity and Inclusion Committee continues its efforts towards increasing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in our organization and field.

The EIC is pleased to announce the formation of two affinity groups.

- › More details about the BIPOC Caucus, the mission statement, vision statement, code of conduct, and how to join, can be found on the Equity and Inclusion Committee resources page of the AIC website: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/membership/committees/equity-and-inclusion/equity-inclusion-resources/affinity-groups/bipoc-caucus>.
- › Details about the Rainbow Caucus for LGBTQIA+ identifying members can be found at: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/membership/committees/equity-and-inclusion/equity-inclusion-resources/affinity-groups/rainbow-caucus>

On Monday, May 10, 2021, prior to the start of the 49th annual meeting of the AIC, the EIC organized a panel, sponsored by the Getty Conservation Institute and attended by 349 people, on the topic "Confronting our Biases to Transform Conservation." The panel featured Stephanie A. Johnson-Cunningham, Co-Founder and Director of Museum Hue; Dr. Porchia Moore, Department Head and Assistant Professor of Museum Studies, University of Florida; and Seema Rao, Deputy Director and Chief Experience Officer, Akron Art Museum. The theme of the panel was followed up on later in the day in EIC Co-Chair Anisha Gupta's talk in the Opening General Session titled, "Are you biased? I am." Both the panel and talk were recorded. The panel recording is available to all AIC members, regardless of meeting registration. The talk will be available for meeting attendees until October 2021.

We are delighted that AIC has recognized Sanchita Balachandran's work advocating for equity and racial justice within art conservation by presenting her with the 2021 John Gettens Award for Service to the AIC. Her efforts to spotlight the problematic issues around diversity in the field, including the paper, "Race, Diversity and Politics in Conservation: Our 21st Century Crisis" that she presented at the 44th Annual Meeting in May 2016, led to the formation of the Equity and Inclusion Working Group and more recently, the Equity and Inclusion Committee.

We thank Jennifer Hain Teper, Professor and Head, Preservation Services, University of Illinois for her years of service in the cause of equity and inclusion in both the AIC and the field of conservation as she finishes her second term on the Committee, and we welcome two new members to the EIC: Kristin Holder, Paintings Conservation Intern at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Samantha Emmanuel, Paintings Conservator in Private Practice.

—Rebecca Anne Rushfield, Conservation Consultant, Flushing, New York, wittert@juno.com

ETHICS & STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ESC)

The Ethics & Standards Committee thanks outgoing chair Rusty Levenson and member Ingrid Newman for their service. Welcome to new chair Camille Myers Breeze. A call for new committee members has just been sent for the two openings.

Annual Meeting News

2022 AIC Annual Meeting: Reflecting on the Past, Imagining the Future

Our 50th annual meeting will be held at the Westin Bonaventure in Los Angeles, California, from May 13 to 17, 2022. The theme for this meeting is "Reflecting on the Past, Imagining the Future."

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC); the field of cultural heritage preservation has grown immeasurably since 1972, with the introduction of new treatment methodologies, analytical techniques, and conservation materials. During this time span, the nature of the objects and sites we deal with has changed and our philosophies surrounding their care have necessarily evolved. We also must acknowledge that we are facing increasingly global issues such as climate change, social justice, and mass displacement and migration of peoples, all requiring new approaches and collaborations with other fields and stakeholder communities.

As we celebrate and reflect on AIC's first fifty years, we invite introspective and innovative contributions to:

- › Examine with modern eyes the history of field, its practice and practitioners
- › Address concerns we are facing now
- › Explore and imagine our next half century

Where do we want AIC to be in the year 2072? What lessons can we learn from the past that will help guide our field into the future? What should our priorities and goals be? What steps should we take, and which frameworks should we build to achieve those goals and shape our field for the next fifty years?

Call for Sessions and Papers

Concurrent General Session Proposals – Due July 19, 2021

If you are interested in proposing a themed set of talks for a Concurrent General Session, please submit a 200-word short abstract for the session via email to Cory Rogge, annual meeting program chair (crogge@mfah.org), and Ruth Seyler, AIC's Meetings & Advocacy Director (rseyler@culturalheritage.org). Make sure to identify the title, topic, and goals of the session.

Please note that if your session is chosen, you will be expected to serve as the session's chair and to serve on the 2022 program committee.

2022 AIC Annual Meeting Oral presentations and Poster Abstracts – Due September 17, 2021

The full Call for Papers will be announced in late July and will include:

- › The selected Concurrent General Session options
- › Detailed Specialty Session descriptions
- › The Call for Workshops, Pre-sessions, and special sessions proposals

The submission portal for abstracts for papers will open on or before August 1, 2021. For more details, check the annual meeting page on the AIC website.

2022 AIC Annual Meeting Virtual Component

AIC is fully committed to holding an in-person annual meeting in Los Angeles in 2022. We will carefully follow public health guidelines to hold a safe and productive in-person conference in 2022.

We have learned a lot from our two virtual annual meetings and realize that some would-be attendees are unable to travel to in-person meetings. To help increase accessibility, we will be adding a virtual meeting component to our in-person meeting. We are



Meeting Updates

Visit our website over the coming months for more information about the 2022 annual meeting: www.culturalheritage.org/meetings

currently planning to live-stream and record (for later viewing) the opening session as well as some of the concurrent general sessions and specialty group talks. Those unable to attend the meeting in person may register at a reduced rate for the virtual component only. More information on the virtual component will be included in the abstract submission process, and we will indicate whether you must present in person when the submission portal opens.



Look forward to visiting Los Angeles! Photos clockwise from left: The Westin Bonaventure in Los Angeles, where the meeting will take place; Walt Disney Concert Hall (WDCH) home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic; The Getty Center.

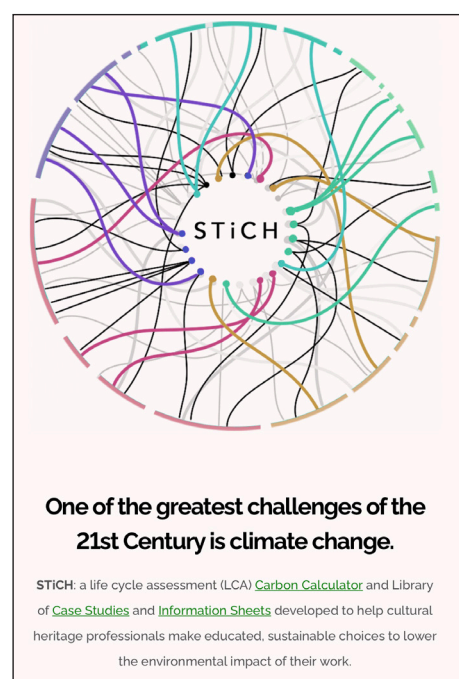
Foundation News

FAIC Awarded New IMLS Cooperative Agreement for CAP Program

In May, FAIC was awarded a new three-year cooperative agreement by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to administer the Collections Assessment for Preservation program. Funding of \$1,000,000 per year will allow us to support 100 assessments, each conducted by a collections assessor and a building assessor.

Applications for the 2021 cohort opened July 1st with an application deadline of September 15th. Please encourage any small or mid-sized museums you think might benefit from an assessment to apply at www.culturalheritage.org/cap. For information about serving as a CAP assessor, please visit www.culturalheritage.org/resources/collections-care/cap/assessors.

Since our first cohort in 2017, FAIC has provided general collections assessments for 310 museums in 49 states in addition to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.



FAIC Supports Web Tool to Calculate Carbon

One of the greatest challenges of the 21st century is climate change. A new free online resource, Sustainability Tools in Cultural Heritage, or "STiCH," provides a life cycle assessment (LCA) Carbon Calculator, Library of Case Studies, and Information Sheets to help cultural heritage professionals make educated, sustainable choices to lower the environmental impact of their work.

The Carbon Calculator on the site allows users to select a variety of materials and processes used in museums, libraries, archives, and historic sites to compute the greenhouse gas emissions produced by a combination of inputs or to compare the relative impact of various alternatives.

This website is a work in progress, with 35% of the 1200 items in the Carbon Calculator database complete. We also continue to work on Case Studies and Information Sheets, so please continue to check the website and see our progress.

You may wish to bookmark the page for future reference: <https://stich.culturalheritage.org/>. To make a suggestion or provide feedback, please email stich@culturalheritage.org.

The resource is an outcome of the Life Cycle Assessment project undertaken by the



STiCH

Visit <https://stich.culturalheritage.org/> to use the calculator tool and learn more.

Foundation for Advancement in Conservation, Northeastern University, and Pratt Institute, with grant funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Many thanks to these partners and to Sarah Nunberg, Sarah Sutton, Matthew Eckelman, and Sarah Sanchez for their work on this project.

Connecting to Collections Care Welcomes New Advisory Group Members

The Connecting to Collections Care Advisory Group welcomed three new members to its Outreach Advisory Group this spring:

- › Reneé Anderson (Collections Manager, Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture)
- › Crista Pack (Objects Conservator, Missouri Historical Society)
- › Silvia Manrique Tamayo (Collections Manager/Conservator, The Wolfsonian-Florida International University)

The full list of advisory group members is on the program website at www.connectingtocollections.org/about-connecting-to-collections-care/.

MayDay 2021 Sees Record-breaking Participation

A record number of over 80 institutions participated in FAIC's MayDay campaign this year. Many participants used lessons learned from Connecting to Collections Care's Emergency Kits webinar (<https://www.connectingtocollections.org/collections-emergency-kits>) to evaluate existing emergency kits or create inaugural kits for their institutions. Other participants updated their disaster plans, conducted emergency-related training for staff, and scheduled annual fire inspections. Participants who shared their completed activity with us were eligible for a drawing for collections care prizes. Congratulations to our winners; National Library of Medicine for winning a Starter Kit donated by Conserv and Minnesota Historical Society for winning FAIC's Emergency Response & Salvage Wheel and *Field Guide to Emergency Response*.

MayDay provides an opportunity for cultural organizations to enhance their emergency and disaster preparedness. Resources, suggested activities, and ideas to engage staff and implement protective measures were shared on the FAIC and Connecting to Collections Care social media pages throughout the months of April and May to encourage participation.

FAIC Now Accepting Workshop Proposals for 2022

Whether you have expertise to share or want to bring experts together to explore a favorite topic, consider proposing a workshop for 2022. We are accepting workshop proposals for FAIC professional development workshops and online courses. Proposal forms should be completed online. The proposal should include a brief description, learning objectives, and instructors/organizers. Proposals are due August 31st; late submissions will be considered until the schedule is full. Preference will be given to topics that have clear learning outcomes for conservation professionals and involve practical, discussions, demonstrations, and other interactions appropriate to achieve those outcomes.

In-person workshops are typically three to five days and include a prominent hands-on component. Online courses should include at least two lessons and can take place over a longer period. They should include live sessions, resources, and interactive activities and assignments.

In-person workshops take place in museums and cultural institutions around the US. Each workshop requires a topic, instructor(s), and host (facilities and a staff member that will act as the local coordinator). You can submit a proposal to identify one, some, or all of these components, and we will help to put the rest of the pieces together. Support from the FAIC professional development fund is available to subsidize costs. Professional development workshop proposals can be submitted at www.culturalheritage.org/propose-a-workshop.

Please be aware that many in-person workshops originally scheduled for 2020–2021 have postponed until 2022 due to the pandemic. We will accommodate as many additional workshops as our schedule will allow.

We are also accepting proposals for workshops at the 2022 AIC Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, California. Stay tuned for more information!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FAIC Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowships

We are excited to announce that after a one-year hiatus, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and FAIC will once again offer a Conservation Publication Fellowship for 2022. With an award of up to \$30,000, the fellowships allow authors to take time off from their employment or private practice to complete a book-length manuscript. Previous subjects have included broad issues such as environmental conditions, along with more specific topics such as magnetic mounting systems. Published works by Fellowship recipients, which can be viewed at www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding/publication/kress-publication-fellowship-books-in-print, have filled significant gaps in the conservation literature and have become standard texts which have greatly enriched the profession.

The deadline for the 2022 FAIC Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowship is November 1, 2021, for projects beginning in 2022. Guidelines and a link to the online application are at www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding/publication. Applicants must be AIC Fellows or Professional Associates.

FAIC Grant & Scholarship Applications Due September 15

FAIC INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

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/NEH Individual Professional Development Scholarships of up to \$1,500 are available to AIC members who are U.S. citizens or residents to support registration and/or attendance at upcoming FAIC workshops that are supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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

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

Guidelines and application information are located at www.culturalheritage.org/funding. All materials must be submitted online by the published deadlines for consideration.

Please note that the review process takes up to eight weeks following the application deadline. For more information, contact Sarah Saetren, Education Manager, at funding@culturalheritage.org or 202.661.8071.



Find Grants

FAIC lists many funding opportunities online at www.culturalheritage.org/grants. Find descriptions, requirements, and deadlines for all our grants, fellowships, and scholarships.

External Funding Resources

Our resource page for Grant and Fellowship Opportunities has been updated for 2021, thanks to Mary Del Vecchio, Museum Studies Student, with help and support from Mary Coughlin, Associate Professor in Museum Studies, head of Museum Collections Management & Care Online Program - The George Washington University, Washington, DC. Please visit www.culturalheritage.org/outside-funding.

Recent FAIC Scholarship Awards

FAIC/TRU VUE CONSERVATION AND EXHIBITION GRANTS

Awardee	Project
George Eastman Museum	Rehousing Gabriel Cromer daguerreotypes for exhibition.
Los Angeles County Museum of Art	Upgrading glass glazing of two Sadie Barnette dye coupler photographs.
Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP)	Fabricating cases to preserve and display museum's unique guitar collection.

FAIC Professional Development Courses

FAIC professional development programs are a crucial source for continuing education for conservation professionals. *We established an endowment fund to support these programs with the support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and contributions from individuals. Additional sources support some workshops, as noted below.* Full course descriptions and registration information are available at <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/conservation>.

Photographic Chemistry for Preservation

Ongoing, self-study course

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

Making the Ask: Developing Negotiation Tactics in the Field of Conservation

Ongoing, self-study course

Data Visualization for Conservation Professionals

July 27 - August 24, 2021, online

Supported by a collaborative agreement with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

Data Basics and Open Refine for Conservation Professionals

September 16 - October 14, 2021, online

Supported by a collaborative agreement with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

TechFocus IV: Caring for 3D-printed Art

October 25, 27, & 29, 2021, online

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Upcoming Connecting to Collection Care Events

FAIC's Connecting to Collections Care (funded by IMLS) provides resources, professional development opportunities, and support for caring for collections to all types of small to mid-sized cultural institutions. See their upcoming events:

- July 20, 2021, 1:00 pm – C2C Care Course: Health and Safety in Collections Care
- July 29, 2021, 1:00 pm – Choosing Materials for Museum Storage
- Find recorded webinars and courses online at <https://www.connectingto-collections.org>

Upcoming Issues

The two upcoming JAIC issues (60:2-3) consist of a double special issue focused on the conservation of contemporary art. I want to thank Martha Singer and Delia Müller-Wüsten for organizing this special issue. Members can read the articles online as they are accepted and published.

Scholarly Writing Session

JAIC's Scholarly Writing Session took place on Friday June 4, 2021, as part of the 2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting. The number of participants during the public live streaming event averaged 165, which is much higher number than when sessions happen in-person. The aim of the session was to help potential authors in the development of skills needed to write and submit journal manuscripts with the ultimate goal of improving the dissemination of research, treatments, and enhanced knowledge sharing. We had a very enjoyable Q&A period after the presentations and were able to reply live to all queries sent in the chat. I am very grateful to the panel, which consisted of George Cooper (Taylor & Francis), Corina Rogge (JAIC), and Catherine Stephens (JAIC). Please feel free to send topics that you would like us to discuss at future JAIC sessions.

Editorial Board Changes

Julie Lauffenburger stepped down as JAIC Associate Editor in April 2021, after 12 years of service. During her tenure, Julie contributed enormously to maintaining high quality of JAIC papers with accuracy, determination, and leadership. Julie also provided advice on many issues related to the journal and her insightful comments will be missed. Her commitment to JAIC has unquestionably advanced the journal's mission. I express my deepest gratitude to Julie on behalf of the Editorial Board and Editorial Staff.

Julie notes, "I would like to thank everyone on the Editorial Board of the JAIC. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with such a dedicated group of individuals and to see so much important work shepherded through the publication process."

As the number of article submissions keeps increasing, and to further expand our topic coverage, we published a call for Associate Editors in March 2021. The review of applications is now completed and the JAIC Editorial Board is happy to welcome Claudia Chemello, Gwenanne Edwards, and Dr. Emily Alden Williams as our new associate editors.

Claudia Chemello is president and co-founder of Terra Mare Conservation, LLC (Women-owned private conservation practice) in Charleston, South Carolina, USA. Prior to working in private practice, she was senior conservator at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology at the University of Michigan and conservator for the Agora Excavations, American School of Classical Studies at Athens. She holds a graduate degree in conservation from the University of Western Sydney, is an AIC Fellow, and is a member of the ICOM-CC directory board.

Gwenanne Edwards is a senior paper conservator at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, USA. She received her MA and Certificate of Advanced Study in Art Conservation from SUNY Buffalo State College. Her interests include multimodal conservation imaging and editorial management. She previously served as the managing editor for the *Book and Paper Group Annual* and is currently a guest editor for the *Journal of Paper Conservation*.

Dr. Emily Williams directs the MA program in the Conservation of Archaeological and Museum Objects at Durham University, UK. Prior to moving to the UK, she was the Senior Conservator of Archaeological Materials at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. She has worked at archaeological sites and museums in Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Egypt, Malaysia, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey. She has edited several publications, including *The Public Face of Conservation* (Archetype), and authored *Stories in Stone: Memorialization, the Creation of History and the Role of Preservation* (Vernon Press).

—Julio del Hoyo-Meléndez, Editor in Chief, JAIC, jdelhoyo@mnk.pl



Watch the Writing Session

The recording of the session is now available for viewing here: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/2021-scholarly-writing-session>. You don't need to be registered for the annual meeting or be a member of AIC to access the recording.



Claudia Chemello



Gwenanne Edwards



Emily Williams

With the launch of the new Health and Safety Network Forum on July 12, the group thought it might be a good time to get back to basics. We hope to publish some articles focusing on the fundamentals of chemicals that conservators use in their labs regularly. This should be useful for both seasoned conservators and those new to the field. If you have a chemical that you would like to know more about, let the Health and Safety Network know via email or post your suggestions on our Forum.

Nitric Acid in Conservation

Nitric acid (CAS 7697-37-2) is both a powerful oxidizer that may intensify fires and a strong acid/corrosive agent. As an oxidizer it can react violently with organic chemicals such as organic solvents and organic acids like acetic acid (vinegar) or formic acid. When in contact with air it can oxidize to nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), which is potentially fatal if inhaled. Solutions of nitric acid are characterized by their concentrations as “weak” (≤68 wt%, ~15M) or “strong” (69–99 wt%). Strong solutions are further classified as “fuming” at concentrations above 86 wt% (~21M). Highly concentrated solutions will develop a yellow color with decomposition due to the formation of NO₂. It should be emphasized that a “weak” solution of nitric acid does not denote a weak acid or weak oxidizer.

Because nitric acid is so highly reactive, it is incompatible with many materials. Nitric acid usually oxidizes materials to their highest oxidation states as acids, which is also accompanied by the formation of NO₂ when the solution is concentrated. The compounds formed after nitric acid reacts with organic materials tend to be more flammable or explosive than prior to exposure.

Reactions with concentrated nitric acid can generate enough heat to ignite combustible materials. Fire conditions may cause the formation of hazardous nitrous fumes. Because of this high reactivity, accidents in industrial environments and universities have been reported, usually caused by the mixing of nitric acid with organic solvents leading to explosion. Physical injuries and death have resulted due to flying glassware and inhalation of nitrous fumes.

CONSERVATION USE

Common uses of nitric acid in conservation include its use in several microchemical tests. Nitric acid reacts with most metals, excepting precious metals, which is why it is used in gold purity tests. In object conservation, the acid has been used to remove insoluble salts from archaeological pottery. In marine archaeological metal conservation, nitric acid is used to clean sacrificial anodes and for chloride concentration analysis. Nitric acid can also be encountered in collections when it off-gasses from objects made from cellulose nitrate as this material ages.

SAFETY

NIOSH hierarchy of controls recommends that the most effective safety protocol is to eliminate use of nitric acid where it can be substituted by less dangerous acids. If nitric acid can't be substituted, purchase only quantities that are needed. Ensure that the proposed work with nitric acid can be done safely following the protocols at your institution prior to purchase or use; if applicable protocols do not exist, work with allied professionals to develop ones that work within your space and application. In addition to the standard safety protocols when handling any hazardous material (splash goggles, lab coat, closed toed/foot shoes, etc.), the following is recommended for use of nitric acid:

Gloves: Heavy-duty gloves such as butyl rubber gloves are recommended, especially when handling concentrated nitric acid or more than 1L of the acid. Nitrile gloves are generally not recommended for nitric acid, especially for concentrated solutions. As with any hazardous material, check with the glove manufacturer to ensure that the specific gloves in use are compatible with the chemicals being used.

Working with nitric acid: Dependent on the concentration (higher concentrations are more dangerous), recommendations are to use a face shield and splash goggles and use only in well-ventilated areas, i.e., fume hoods. NOTE: when working in a hood with nitric acid, make sure all incompatible materials are removed. Most fume hoods are not rated for nitric acid work, and extensive use of this chemical can corrode components of the hood ventilation system. Respiratory protection recommended is dependent on exposure.

Storage: Keep away from incompatible materials: Alkali metals, reducing agents, cyanides, aldehydes, powdered metals, ammonia, and acetic anhydride, organic acids, and all organic materials including organic solvents. Because of the high number of incompatible materials, ideally nitric acid should be stored in its own cabinet, in its original container away from direct sunlight. Keep the container within secondary containment (Nalgene/polypropylene tray or tub). If possible, store in a cabinet made of plastic laminate rather than wood or metal. Do not store above eye level.

Disposal: Nitric acid is incompatible with many materials and nitric acid waste should be segregated, including from other acids.

—Christina Bisulca, *Detroit Institute of Arts*, and Molly McGath, *Associate Research Scientist, The Mariners' Museum and Park, Newport News, VA*

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Protecting People Versus Artifacts: Resolving the COVID Conflict

Major changes to surface cleaning and HVAC operation are being made in an attempt to control the spread of COVID-19. When it comes to museums, however, these modifications can be damaging to collections. This article questions the need for COVID control measures which impact air quality and thus create conditions contributing to artifact deterioration. Alternative strategies are presented which minimize occupant health risk while protecting collections.

COVID studies show that most infections are transmitted directly by a nearby individual, which neither HVAC systems nor sanitizing can prevent. While costly upgrades to air-conditioning and cleaning are being advocated to address the pandemic, available information suggests that relatively minor HVAC adjustments and cleaning enhancements may be sufficient to minimize COVID-19 spread, especially when personal infection control measures (masking, social distancing, handwashing, case identification/isolation) are in place and are now being reported as the most effective measures for reducing the spread of this disease.

Understanding how COVID-19 is actually spreading in buildings is critical to establishing a prioritized and evidence-based COVID response program. Review of the related science indicates:

- Nearby exposure (within several feet of an infected individual) is the primary transmission route.

- › Airborne transmission (caused by exposure beyond several feet) has been associated with COVID spread in situations where ventilation is very poor, but this appears to be relatively infrequent, overall.
- › Based on review of the scientific literature, no studies were found showing that recirculating HVAC systems with return air discharge virus into other areas or that HVAC re-circulation has been associated with COVID transmission. Sites have recently been documented where surface samples collecting inside HVAC systems of filters and exhaust duct tested positive for total virus but were negative for infectious virus. (Ben-Shmuel et al. 2020, Light 2021a)
- › Similarly, fomite transmission (contact with contaminated surfaces) appears to play only a minor role in the overall spread of COVID-19. Although the virus responsible for COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) is widely dispersed on surfaces from an infected occupant, field tests for infectious virus have generally been negative. The REALM study of surface contamination of collections has found that most SARS-CoV-2 inactivates quickly and is no longer detected on many types of materials within several days to a week. (OCLC and IMLS 2020, Light 2021b) Epidemiology has not documented fomite transmission of COVID-19, and assumptions that COVID spreads by surface are based on similarity to other respiratory infections, such as flu.

SURFACE CONTAMINATION

Enhanced sanitizing programs are now being implemented to address potential fomite transmission. However, these treatments can impact susceptible artifacts. For example, use of strong, volatile (i.e., chlorine-based) disinfectants increases air corrosivity, exposure to UV light causes deterioration, and fogging deposits chemicals on surfaces.

Conservators are considering data from the REALM study to determine if materials from a potentially contaminated area can simply be quarantined for a period of time and then handled without treatment. (OCLC and IMLS 2021) Based on findings to date, the health risk from handling these objects after a period of quarantine might be considered acceptable, with the precautionary recommendation to continue to wear gloves or wash hands frequently, and wear face coverings per local and institutional requirements. With respect to treatment of other surfaces (i.e., structural, furniture, furnishings), limited use of sanitizers with relatively low volatility and corrosivity (i.e., some products used around hospital patients) may be consistent with materials conservation. Exposure to UV light used to control SARS-CoV-2 on surfaces or in the air is always inconsistent with protection of artifacts.

Even though the risk of COVID-19 infection through fomite transmission appears to be low, regular sanitizing of surfaces subject to frequent touching and periodic sanitizing of other surfaces is a good precaution. However, this must be done carefully and selectively to protect collections. Again, frequent handwashing and identification/isolation of infected occupants may be the most effective measures for minimizing fomite transmission.

AIR CONTAMINATION

Recommendations for controlling airborne SARS-CoV-2 encourage maximizing ventilation and filtration and suggest various air treatments. Careful consideration of the outcomes of these measures with all stakeholders is important for both people and collections, along with exploration of other possible options for providing a safe environment.

INCREASING VENTILATION

Epidemiology suggests that addressing areas with very poor ventilation can lower SARS-CoV-2 virus transmission. Increasing fresh air to a poorly ventilated space can dilute the airborne virus concentration, thus reducing potential exposure. However, substantial increases in ventilation are costly and can also have adverse environmental effects. Increasing outside air requires more energy use and raises utility costs. It will also make the building uncomfortable as the system's capacity to condition outside air is exceeded. Under some weather conditions, introducing excessive outside air can raise



REALM

Visit the REALM project to explore more on this topic:
<https://www.oclc.org/realm/home.html>

or lower indoor humidity which can contribute to dimensional changes in materials or increase exposure to outside air pollutants. Disruption of air flow patterns by HVAC modifications for COVID can also contribute to increased particulate deposition on artifacts in some areas. Opening windows to allow in outside air can also provide some dilution of the virus but has even more potential for the adverse effects noted above.

While increasing ventilation can decrease viral concentration, reducing occupancy can also be effective at reducing airborne virus concentrations and may have less cost and impact on existing HVAC deficiencies, in some situations. Controlling and adjusting occupancy levels can provide a more targeted approach by focusing ventilation increases in areas where occupancy levels are difficult to reduce or involve more public use, ensuring at least minimal ventilation requirements in minimally occupied areas and eliminating ventilation improvements in areas that can remain unoccupied during the pandemic. Another option to ventilation increases may be a rethink of the workspaces, moving essential work activities currently being performed in poorly ventilated areas to areas with better ventilation — or performing the work outdoors instead of increasing ventilation in a deficient space.

INCREASING FILTRATION

If infectious virus does not inactivate or plates out on ductwork, filtration can reduce airborne concentrations. Because higher MERV-rated filters remove more of the smaller particles, recommendations often include upgrading filters to MERV 13 or higher, where airflow restriction will not adversely affect building conditions. However, higher efficiency filters have not been shown to reduce COVID-19 transmission and tend to cost more. Study of this important issue has been limited to measurement of virus deposited on duct surfaces before and after filters. While a MERV-10 pre-filter reduced the amount of deposited SARS-CoV-2 by approximately 70%, downstream the MERV-15 final filter did not further reduce virus. (Horve et al. 2020, Light 2021c)

Rather than upgrading to higher efficiency filters, a lower-cost way to improve removal of SARS-CoV-2 is to identify and seal the bypass area around currently used filters. HVAC filters often do not fit tightly in their frames, allowing air to pass through without particle removal. Eliminating bypass also improves general indoor air quality.

AIR TREATMENTS

Before choosing any type of air treatment to help reduce SARS-CoV-2 virus transmission, carefully research its effectiveness, application, and impacts. Many treatments may need to be used only in unoccupied areas and may be toxic or destructive to contacted materials. ASHRAE provides guidance on multiple types of filtration and disinfectants. (ASHRAE 2021) If you are choosing a particular treatment specifically for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, ensure that it has actually been tested and proven to help reduce transmission for this particular virus.

With respect to potential treatment impacts on materials, discharge of ozone (i.e., ozone generators, electrostatic precipitators, some air purifiers) directly damage surfaces, reactions with background VOCs by ozone and negative ions (i.e., bi-polar ionization) can increase air corrosivity, and humidification can cause a variety of other unwanted changes. Moreover, treatments that modify air flow patterns can increase surface soiling in some areas.

Many air treatment methods like humidification also have limits. As humidity increases from the low to the moderate range (i.e., >40%), virus survival and susceptibility to respiratory infection decrease. However, other factors can override these effects, and COVID-19 epidemiology does not show benefit by adding humidification when the RH is below 40%, the minimum level recommended by ASHRAE for COVID.

Well-placed HEPA units may be particularly beneficial to treat air in targeted areas subject to greater virus exposure, such as bathrooms and elevators. Careful design, placement, operation, and maintenance of portable HEPA units is necessary for their effective use. Portable HEPA-filter units remove virus in their immediate vicinity but can also increase occupant exposure where they direct air between occupants, draw their

return air through the breathing zone, or blow on surfaces re-suspending virus. Noise generated by these units can also be problematic.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Make the following personal infection control measures top priority to reduce COVID-19 transmission:

- Ensure performance of daily health screenings and encourage those who are sick to remain at home
- Test all occupants periodically, if possible, followed by detailed contact tracing and mandatory quarantine
- Social distance to the extent feasible, including difficult-to-manage activities
- Always wear face coverings whenever possible
- Wash hands frequently

2. When considering changes to surface cleaning and HVAC operation for COVID-19, address higher risk areas first:

- Poor ventilation (i.e., no outside air introduced)
- Air flow patterns concentrating virus (i.e., fans blowing virus between occupants)
- Dense occupancy (i.e., elevators)
- Additional sources of virus (i.e., bathrooms)
- Sensitive occupants (i.e., elderly)

3. Where HVAC modifications are proposed, consider the following alternatives to prevent damage to collections:

- Make occupancy adjustments to compensate for HVAC deficiencies
- Move work activities to areas with better ventilation when possible
- Instead of major increases in the overall ventilation rates:
 - Repair HVAC equipment and adjust controls where needed to restore intended ventilation
 - Start-up HVAC before occupancy
 - Disable demand-controlled ventilation
 - Adjust variable air volume to increase ventilation
 - Expand economizer schedule
 - Seal bypass around HVAC filters

4. Consider the following alternatives to prevent damage to collections where surface sanitizing is proposed:

- Instead of sanitizing collection objects, quarantine for an acceptable period of time based on REALM data.
- Sanitize surfaces other than collection objects carefully, with sufficient quality control to avoid contacting artifacts. Carefully choose products that will not emit gaseous components that may affect collection items, and preferably those with low-volatility and low toxicity.
- If you must handle contaminated collections or contact contaminated surfaces, wear gloves or wash hands frequently and utilize local exhaust ventilation, lab hoods or respiratory protection as needed.

—Ed Light, CIH President, Building Dynamics, LLC, Ashton, MD

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Air Treatment or Disinfection

Many questions have arisen about the efficacy and advisability of air treatments that aim to clean air, either within the HVAC ductwork, when expelled from a space, exhausted from a space, or while it moves within a room. While these technologies have been studied, their effectiveness is very much dependent upon air movement, the technology employed, where it is deployed, and whether research has proven that it can reduce transmission. As described on the ASHRAE website, types of disinfection include (but are not limited to):

- Electronic Air Filters
- Gas-Phase Air Cleaners
- Ultraviolet Energy or UV-C energy, including:
 - LEDs
 - In-duct air disinfection
 - Upper-air disinfection
 - In-duct surface decontamination
 - Portable Room decontamination
- Photocatalytic Oxidation (PCO) and Dry Hydrogen Peroxide (DHP); activated by a UV light source
- Bipolar Ionization/Corona Discharge/Needlepoint Ionization and other ion or reactive oxygen air cleaners
- Ozone
- In-room or portable air cleaners
- Chemical Disinfectants
- Vaporized Hydrogen Peroxide (VHP)
- Pulsed Xenon (pulsed UV)
- 405 nm Visible light, sometimes referred to as "near UV" although not in the UV spectrum
- Far UV

This list was compiled from the ASHRAE website at: www.ashrae.org/technical-resources/filtration-disinfection. The website includes more information about each technology, including a simple description of how it functions and potential hazards.

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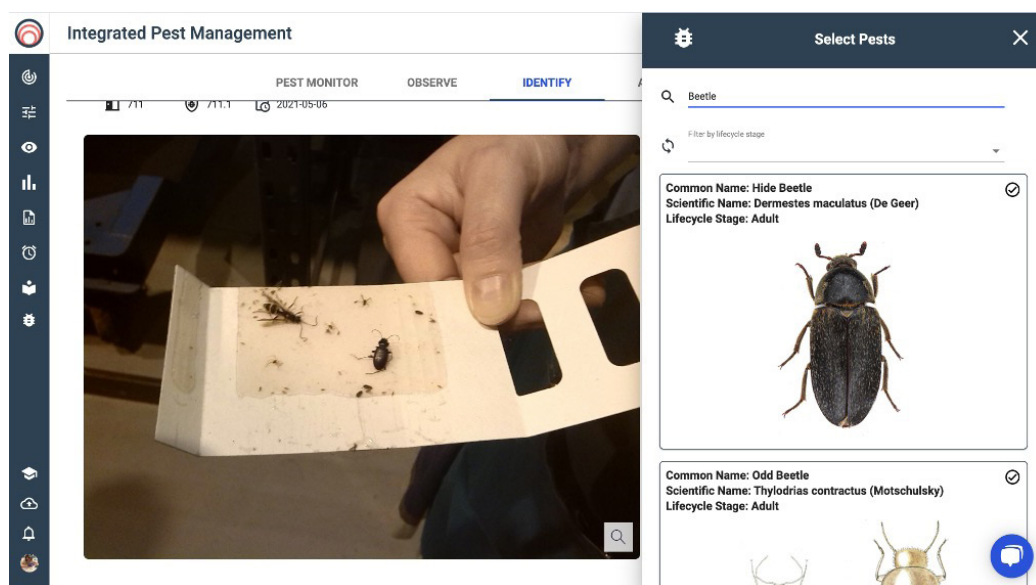
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New Materials, Research, and Resources

Conserv: Free Tools for Integrated Pest Management

In many small and mid-sized museums, monitoring for the presence of pests can be challenging due to the time required to identify pests and record all the data in a meaningful way. Conserv, a technology company with a focus on creating preventive conservation tools, recently honed-in on the difficulties associated with collecting, recording, and using this data. Released in April, the free online tool allows users to record their pest data and includes tools that help users with identification and analysis of their data.

Conserv collaborated with MuseumPests to translate their existing image gallery and pest identification sheets into [Airtable](#), a more formal database, so the data could be integrated into other software platforms. Converting these data and images into the new database was completed during the most recent online MuseumPests Working Group meeting.



A view of the IPM module within Conserv that shows the integration of the MuseumPests database.

The team at Conserv was also inspired by the 2019 development of the Pest Occurrence Index (POI) by Jane Henderson and Dr. Christian Baars, which was presented in Stockholm at the 4th International Conference of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Cultural Heritage. The POI is a mathematical equation normalizing pest data in an actionable way to minimize bias in interpreting the results. This mathematical formula integrates recorded pest occurrences with the number of pest traps/monitors and room size. For example, increasing the number of pest traps in a space often results in more pests collected but does not necessarily indicate the presence of more intruders; likewise, more pests found in a small room may present a bigger risk than finding an equal number in a much larger space. POI analytics have been integrated into the Conserv IPM monitoring tool as a way to visualize the data.

The tool also allows users to capture additional IPM data not associated with specific traps/monitors, such as pests found roaming free in a particular room, on windowsills or scurrying by. The software is designed for collaborative use and allows users to add comments to images of pest traps/monitors if they are uncertain about an identification. The free version of the tool also has no limits on the number of users permitted for specific accounts; the software is designed to facilitate teamwork.

As more people employ the free tool, Conserv will ask users if they would like to anonymize and share their datasets to build a larger database. Like the “What’s Eating Your Collection?” a UK initiative, this new tool will help build a better understanding of trends in insect populations seen in collecting institutions around the world. However, this tool allows you to build upon your data cache by including analytics and other features that can serve a full IPM workflow by providing multi-user functionality and data analytics. Conserv hopes to develop additional features that will allow users to key their data into institutional preventive care.

Since the tool’s release, Conserv has been facilitating software use; onboarding involves a 25-minute Zoom call with Melissa King (preventive conservator) or Ana Martins (conservation scientist). Conserv is excited to share this resource and hopes it can aid in contributing preventive conservation tools to preservation professionals worldwide. If you are interested in using the free software, you can learn more about it here: <https://conserv.io/get-started/>.

—Melissa King, melissa@conserv.io

People

Shu-Wen Lin joined the Art Gallery of Ontario in February 2021 as the assistant conservator, time-based media. From 2018 to 2020, she served as a conservation fellow for time-based media at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Meris Westberg recently began as a conservator-inspector with the firm Integrated Conservation Resources – Integrated Conservation Contracting, Inc. Working with a small team of conservators and a large team of masons, she will assist with the masonry conservation and restoration of the granite, limestone, and brick Brooklyn Bridge Towers and Arch Blocks. Meris has been accepted as a student scholar to the Association for Preservation Technology’s 2021 annual conference for her thesis research on flood preparedness for historic structures at cultural heritage sites. She has a strong interest in preventive conservation and disaster preparedness, and completed the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative’s Heritage Emergency and Response Training in 2018. Meris is also a member of the Architecture Specialty Group and a new co-chair of ECPN’s Digital Platforms committee. She can be reached at mwestberg@icr-icc.com.



Making Changes?

Send us news of your life changes and accomplishments to share with fellow members!

Email membership@culturalheritage.org

In Memoriam

Robert H. Brill (1929–2021)

Dr. Robert H. Brill, Research Scientist Emeritus at The Corning Museum of Glass, died peacefully on April 7, 2021, at his home in Corning, New York. A highly respected scientist in glass science and conservation, he researched the history of glass technology worldwide and published extensively in the fields of archaeometry and chemistry.

Born on May 7, 1929, in Irvington, New Jersey, Dr. Brill (Bob) received his BS in chemistry from Upsala College and his PhD in physical chemistry from Rutgers University in 1954. He then taught chemistry at Upsala until accepting a position at The Corning Museum of Glass (CMoG) in 1960, where he spent his entire career of more than 50 years.

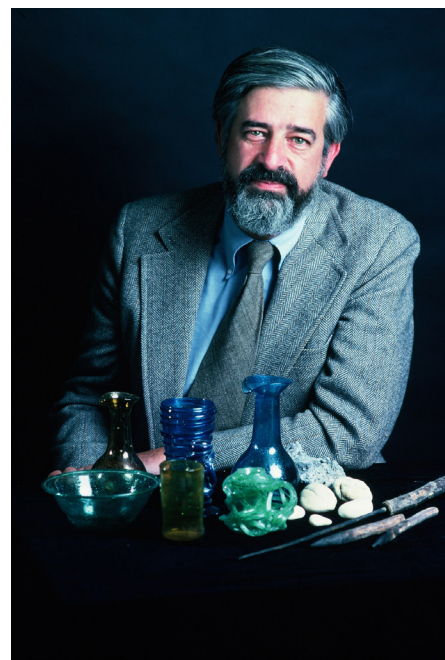
Bob joined CMoG to establish the Scientific Research Department, creating immediate respect for it with publication of a cover article in *Scientific American* just months after his arrival. The article described a novel approach for applying lead-isotope analyses to samples of glass and other materials to determine when and where particular objects were made. These methods formed the foundation for much of Bob's work, which expanded to include how glass was made, what it was used for, and where it was traded from its beginning 3,500 years ago to modern times.

From 1972–1975, Bob served as CMoG Director, leading recovery efforts for the museum and its affiliated Rakow Library after a disastrous 1972 flood. In its aftermath, he published *The Corning Flood: Museum Underwater*. Also, during his tenure as Director, Bob hired the museum's first conservator, Ray Errett, a Corning Glass Works employee, and he developed Ray's conservation education through worldwide collaboration. After these achievements, Bob felt free to return to his preferred role as Administrator of Scientific Research, and he continued his research well beyond his 2011 retirement.

Through decades of international collaborations, Bob served as mentor to innumerable conservation interns, conservators, conservation scientists, glass scientists, and students. He generously shared his time and expertise with them, facilitated their educational and research goals, and helped them achieve important roles in the fields of glass conservation and glass science.

During his career, Bob conducted scientific research on the manufacture, trade, history, and conservation of early glasses and published extensively. With his global network of colleagues, he conducted chemical analyses of almost 4,000 ancient and historical glasses using a variety of techniques. He was the first to apply lead-isotope analysis to archaeological artifacts and oxygen-isotope analysis to ancient glasses. Too numerous to mention individually, Bob's contributions to the fields of conservation and scientific research critically expanded an understanding of glass manufacture and glass deterioration.

Bob participated in numerous archaeological excavations and led expeditions to document traditional glassmaking in Afghanistan and India. The study of glass found along the Silk Road and Asian glass featured heavily in his later career. His research was augmented by trips to fifty-two countries in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Central Asia, and the Far East, where he collected samples, conducted research on local glassmaking traditions, and expanded scholarly and scientific knowledge about glass manufacture. His global work is epitomized by his work in China, where he was a Distinguished Scholar sponsored by the Committee on Scholarly Communication with the People's Republic of China and the China Association of Science and Technology. He lectured and examined objects throughout China in 1982, 1984, 1990, and 1995. The collaborations in China led to publication of the well-respected *Scientific Research in Early Chinese Glass*.



Still image from *The Glassmakers of Herat*, courtesy of The Corning Museum of Glass.

Bob's numerous publications include approximately 190 articles in scholarly journals and symposia proceedings, mostly on subjects related to ancient glass, lead-isotope research, early glass technology, and glass conservation. His largest work is the three-volume *Chemical Analyses of Early Glasses*, published by CMOG in 1999 and 2012. He also directed a field expedition and wrote the storyline and narration script for *The Glassmakers of Herat*, an award-winning 30-minute film documenting the glassmaking process in a one-room factory in Afghanistan (1977). This film was shown on public television and at the CMOG for many years and can still be seen on YouTube. His published articles on "crizzling," a deterioration phenomenon primarily caused by an imbalance in glass chemical composition, were seminal in the fields of glass study and glass conservation.

Bob was honored with many distinguished awards, including the American Chemical Society's Eugene C. Sullivan Award in 1987 and the Archaeological Institute of America Pomerance Award for Scientific Contributions to Archaeology in 1990. In 1982, he founded Technical Committee 17 for the International Commission on Glass (ICG) and served on its leadership for 40 years. He also received the William E.S. Turner Award in 2004 from the ICG for his lifetime contributions. Bob received Honorary Membership in 2008 from the American Institute for Conservation (AIC) and Honorary Fellowship in 2016 from the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC). He was a founding member of AIC. Other awards include: Quantum Society Award for work in Physics, Upsala College, 1951; Honorary Chairman of the American Technical Committee of the Corpus Vitrearum, 1986; Founding Member of the Blair Society, 1992; Fellow of the American Ceramic Society, 1996; and Samuel R. Scholes Lecturer at Alfred University, 1999.

After he retired as research Scientist Emeritus, Bob continued to provide generous and extensive support to the conservation field through his contacts, communications, and good will. His non-professional interests included wildlife photography, ornithology, early exploration, and the construction of miniature mouse-themed dioramas.

Bob is survived by his wife, Margaret R. Brill, Professor Emerita of Art History and Humanities, Corning Community College; his daughter, Elizabeth Rose Brill, a glass artist and marine research assistant; and three cats.

Those wishing to express their wishes to Bob's family can find information at: <https://tinyurl.com/brillmemorial>.

—Elizabeth R. Brill, elizabeth.brill@mac.com, and Stephen P. Koob, Chief Conservator Emeritus, ster.koob@gmail.com

Worth Noting

The BASCA Manual: A Practical Handbook for The Care of Old Tombs and Cemeteries in South Asia



Restoration Team at a Scottish Cemetery in Kolkata. Courtesy BASCA.

The British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia (BASCA) commissioned this practical handbook for the management of European cemeteries in South Asia. It was written by conservation architect Dr. Neeta Das and it is the first publication dealing specifically with the problems of maintaining and preserving these sites.

BASCA brings together people with a concern for the European cemeteries, isolated graves, and monuments in the wide area of South and East Asia where the East India Company operated. These cemeteries are part of the built heritage of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and other South Asian countries; the graves and tombs need regular and effective care to preserve this unique window into part of South Asia's history. Cemetery locations in South Asia range from sharply sloping hillsides to desert plains, tropical areas with heavy post-monsoon growth, and city centers.

The illustrated manual is available in Hindi, Urdu, Bangla, and English, and can be downloaded free of charge from the BASCA website: www.bacsa.org.uk.

For more information contact Peter Boon, secretary@bacsa.org.uk, or Dr. Rosie Llewellyn-Jones, rosieljai@clara.co.uk.



We acknowledge that this organization represents colonialism in South Asia but remind readers that the conservation manual represents a multi-cultural effort. The manual may be useful for preservation efforts in varied environments; however, considering its context is critical in evaluating a lens for its use. Readers may want to revisit AIC's position statement "On Contested Commemorative and Confederate Monuments," and our core value statement about equity and inclusion in looking at the website for this organization and when considering use of this product.

Conservation Graduate Programs

UCLA/Getty Conservation Program Changes its Name

The UCLA/Getty Conservation Program is now officially called: "The UCLA/Getty Interdepartmental Program in the Conservation of Cultural Heritage." Our master's degree has been renamed to "Conservation of Cultural Heritage MA;" the PhD degree remains the same, "Conservation of Material Culture MS, PhD."

The program stays institutionally housed at UCLA within the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology in the Social Science Division, and we continue to enjoy close relationships with the Getty Conservation Institute and the Getty Museum. Our primary training labs remain at the Getty Villa in Malibu.

Faculty, students, and staff began an open conversation in the fall of 2019 about changing the Program's name. There was universal agreement that the word "ethnographic" in the original name had become problematic. Following discussions, faculty, staff, students, and alumni all voted for the name change.

Graduate Programs Announce New Student Cohorts

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, THE CONSERVATION CENTER AT THE INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS

The Conservation Center at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University is pleased to announce our Class of 2024:

Caroline Carlsmith	Amalia Donastorg
Celia Cooper	Devon Lee
Maria Olivia Davalos Stanton	Clare Misko

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STATE, BUFFALO COLLEGE, PATRICIA H. & RICHARD E. GARMAN ART CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

The SUNY Buffalo State College Art Conservation Department is excited to welcome our Class of 2024:

Elisse Brautigam	Eclair Morton
Susan Enterline	Josephine Ren
Daniela González-Pruitt	Ruth Rolfsmeyer
Daisy Greenwell	Elly Stewart
Jenni Krchak	Nhat Quyen Nguyen

UCLA/GETTY INTERDEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM IN THE CONSERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

Master's Degree Students

Taylor Brehm	Kathryn Peneyra
Cheyenne Caraway	Makayla Rawlins
Rachel Moore	

PhD student dissertation topics:

STUDENT	DISSERTATION
Chris de Brer	Investigations into West Mexican ceramics in Southern Californian and Mexican Museums
Jaime Fidel Ruiz-Robles	Long-Lasting Nanosystems Inhibiting Biodeterioration of Maya Monuments
Moupi Mukhopadhyay	A Materials-based Approach to the Study of the Kerala Murals
Elizabeth Salmon	Traditions in Practice: Utilizing Traditional Ecological Knowledge for Sustainable Pest Management in the Preventive Care of Cultural Collections



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/>.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, STUART WEITZMAN SCHOOL OF DESIGN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Weitzman School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania welcomes our new students in the following programs:

<i>Master of Science in Historic Preservation</i>	
Danele Kristin Bugayong Alampay	Calvin Tran Nguyen
Yi Ju Chen	Qianhui Ni
Colin Mckenzie Cohan	Samantha Anne Purnell
Xinyu Dong	Alyson Renee Rock
Elizabeth Mary Donison	Mojtaba Saffarian
Abigail Dyer	Khayla Saunders
Scott Thomas Gerlica	Haoyi Shang
Yixiao Hu	Jun-Ai Wang
Anyuan Ji	Chengjun Wu
Mae Cutter Johnson	Cyrus Yerxa
Jingyi Li	Yanjie Zhang
Nicola Gabrielle Macdonald	Shixin Zhao
Dan John Mangano	Sophie Calla Zions
Faye Margaret Messner	Carrick Wollam Reider
Cameron Elea Moon	Monique Jane Robinson
Jane Isabel Nasta	Diyi Zhang

<i>Master of Science in Design with a concentration in Historic Preservation</i>	
Scott H. Shinton	Drew Alan Mcmillian
Linjing Wang	

WINTERTHUR/UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE PROGRAM IN ART CONSERVATION

The Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation is pleased to announce our Class of 2024:

Adriana Benavides	Johanna Pinney
Brianna Bosley	Miriam-Helene Rudd
Daniella Briceno Villamil	Caroline Shaver
Mackenzie Fairchild	Ashley Stanford
Tammy Hong	Katarina Stiller

We are also very pleased to announce our three newest doctoral students in the UD Preservation Studies Program (PSP) and their dissertation topics.

<i>STUDENT</i>	<i>DISSERTATION</i>
Lamar Gayles	The preservation and interpretation of African and African American jewelry from West Africa (19th century) to the Southern plantation, through Reconstruction, the Great Migration, Black Power movements, and 21st-century museum exhibitions.
Anisha Gupta	Alternative perspectives on collections care: An investigation into the assumptions, priorities, and consequences of its formal practice in cultural heritage. (This research will reexamine cultural heritage collections care practice in order to decenter Western methodologies)
LaStarsha McGarity	An exploration of the collection histories, conservation approach, and preservation needs of the art collections held by Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Specialty Group and Networks

Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)

ASG Leadership

The Architecture Specialty Group welcomes incoming ASG Program Chair Amy Elizabeth Uebel, who will be leading ASG programming efforts for the 2022 AIC Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, California. Many thanks to incoming ASG Chair Nick DeFreeze Emery for serving as program chair during this challenging year and pulling together a great virtual program. As always, if you are interested in being a bigger part of ASG, please consider running for a leadership position in the future. Current leadership is always happy to answer your questions if you'd like to know more!

2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting

ASG leadership would like to thank this year's speakers in our specialty group sessions for their participation in the 2021 virtual conference. Most specialty groups received fewer abstract proposals than usual, which is not surprising following the challenges for many of our colleagues in 2020. Virtual ASG sessions aired live in May and the recordings will remain accessible until the end of October.

- To view ASG Session 1, go to:
<https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/architecture-session-one>
- For ASG Session 2: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/architecture-session-two-and-poster-session>

2021 ASG Business Meeting

ASG's business meeting was held virtually on May 21. Primary discussions centered on engagement with ECPN, the Professional Associate application and review process, and the Membership Designation Working Group proposal currently under review. Due to no annual meeting costs for the past 2 years but relatively stable membership income, the group's finances remain strong. A recording of the business meeting is available here: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/architectural-specialty-group-asg-business-meeting>. You don't need to be registered for the annual meeting to view ASG's business meeting; it is free and available to all ASG members.

—Lacey Bubnash, Chair 2020–2021 Incoming Chair Emerita, L.bubnash@argsf.com

Book and Paper Group (BPG)

2021 AIC/SPNHC Virtual Annual Meeting

I hope you have enjoyed the AIC annual meeting virtual programming as much as I have this year. The Zoom webinar platform provided a notable improvement in ease of use and reliability, and it has been a great advantage to be able to watch recorded sessions asynchronously. BPG Program Chair Andrea Knowlton and Assistant Program Chair Katie Mullen did an outstanding job assembling a dynamic and engaging program, and they provided clear and helpful support to our volunteers and speakers. The annual meeting provides us with an important opportunity to come together, learn as a community, and celebrate the work of our colleagues. It also marks a time of transition for our specialty group's volunteer leadership. I have so much gratitude for the kind and generous colleagues with whom I have served this past year. Several volunteer service terms are drawing to a close this summer, and new volunteers are stepping in to carry on the good work.



ASG Online

Find ASG information at
www.culturalheritage.org/architecture-group



BPG Online

Find BPG information at
www.culturalheritage.org/book-and-paper-group

BPG Executive Council

BPG Program Chair Andrea Knowlton has shared her impressive organizational skills, positive attitude, and sense of humor throughout her service on the BPG Executive Council, and the success of the BPG sessions at the annual meeting is a testament to her hard work. I'm looking forward to another year working with the talented and down-to-earth Katie Mullen as she moves out of her role as Assistant Program Chair into the BPG Program Chair position for the coming year. Joining us in the role of Assistant Program Chair this year is Morgan Browning—welcome!

We also owe a debt of gratitude to Saira Haqqi for her compassionate and dedicated service as BPG Secretary-Treasurer. As Saira's term comes to an end, Marieke Kaye will be stepping into the Secretary-Treasurer role.

Discussion Groups

Thank you to Amy Lubick and Lauren Telepak for leading the fascinating and engaging first session of the combined Library and Archives Conservation Discussion Group (LACDG). As Amy ends her term, we welcome Chela Metzger as the new LACDG Co-Chair. We also welcome Grace Walters, who will be joining Linda Owen as Co-Chair for the Art on Paper Discussion Group (APDG)

BPG Publications Committee

Brenna Campbell will continue for another year as Chair of the BPG Publications Committee (PubComm), joined by newly appointed Co-Chair Lydia Aikenhead. Our thanks to former Managing Editor Justin Johnson, who has rolled off the committee. Kimberly Kwan has moved from Assistant Editor into the Managing Editor role for the *Book and Paper Annual*, and we welcome Assistant Editor Roger Williams.

Thank you to all our BPG volunteers, past and present, for your generous service to our professional community.

—Melissa Tedone, BPG Chair, melissatedone.bpg@gmail.com

Collection Care Network (CCN)

CCN Leadership: Thank You and Welcome!

With mixed emotion CCN announces changes to its leadership: While we are saying goodbye to some knowledgeable and hardworking colleagues and friends, we are excited to welcome new members into leadership positions.

CCN thanks the following individuals for their many years of dedicated service to CCN; you will be missed!

- › Mary Coughlin, Chair
- › Becky Kaczowski, Vice Chair
- › Rachael Perkins Arenstein, Program Chair
- › Samantha Snell, Communications and Outreach

CCN would also like to welcome the following new officers onto its board. We look forward to working together!

- › Priscilla Anderson, moving to Chair
- › Lisa Goldberg, Program Chair
- › Gillian Marcus, Communications and Outreach
- › Wendi Field Murray, Editor

From all of us, we are excited to continue carrying out CCN's mission for AIC members and the larger community!



CCN Online

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

Virtual Courier Work

CCN is creating a resource on the AIC Wiki to compile virtual courier resources. We are looking for submissions of:

- › Examples of institutional courier policies
- › Lists of tools (cameras, lights, rolling camera stands, etc.) and communication platforms (zoom, slack, WhatsApp, etc.) utilized for virtual courier appointments
- › Suggestions for ways to track and categorize the new increase in time spent preparing loan documentation, reinforced mounts, instruction install videos, etc.
- › Suggestions about timelines/processes to prepare for virtual courier trips

If you have a submission or would like to discuss the wiki content further, please contact Laura Gaylord Resch at collections@culturalheritage.org.

2012 AIC/SPNHC Virtual Annual Meeting

CCN's sessions at the AIC Annual Meeting have concluded, but be sure to check out the recordings, which will remain available until the end of October.

- › Caring for Hazardous Materials (co-sponsored with the Health & Safety Network), Wednesday, June 2 — <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/collection-care-network-hazardous-materials-health-safety>
- › Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Wednesday, June 2 — <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/collection-care-network-integrated-pest-management>
- › Collection Care Adaptations, Thursday, June 3 — <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/collection-care-network-collection-care-adaptations>
- › Collection Storage, Friday, June 4 — <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/collection-care-network-storage>

—Kelly M. Krish, CCN Editor, collections@culturalheritage.org

Electronic Media Group (EMG)

2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting

EMG sessions took place June 8th and 9th. While we had fewer abstract submissions this year than in past years, the presentations did not disappoint! All the talks were stimulating, and the presenters provided thought-provoking case studies and ideas that inspired great questions from the audience.

Topics in EMG sessions included acquiring performance-based artworks, developing a conservation and collection management program in a private collection, the findings of a survey of the Australasian cultural heritage sector, documenting audio-based installations, the installation of a complex and three-dimensional artwork with light and video elements, and documenting and displaying kinetic artwork. This year, EMG partnered with CAN! to present three joint sessions under the topic of "Transforming Ownership into a Network of Care," which took place June 9th and 10th.

For this year's conference, EMG will be including the papers from the EMG/CAN! joint sessions in its postprints publication, the *Electronic Media Review*. EMG papers from past conferences are available at: <https://resources.culturalheritage.org/emg-review/>.

Thank you to the AIC staff and volunteers who worked to design and implement a successful 2021 virtual meeting! A special thanks to the EMG and EMG/CAN! speakers for their willingness to share their work with our community during these challenging times. Congratulations to Alexandra Nichols, EMG Program Chair 2021, and Brian Castriota, EMG Assistant Program Chair 2021, for organizing the successful sessions and the fantastic Q&A after each presentation. Thank you also to the Programming Committee who reviewed the 2021 abstracts: Flaminia Fortunato, Shu-Wen Lin, and Diego Mellado.

I hope EMG members and non-members will take time to view these fantastic sessions before October 31st.



EMG Online

Find EMG information at
[www.culturalheritage.org/
electronic-media-group](http://www.culturalheritage.org/electronic-media-group)

- › To view the recording for EMG Session 1, go to: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/electronic-media-session-one>
- › For EMG Session 2: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/electronic-media-session-two>
- › EMG/CAN! Sessions: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/aic2021-week6>
(You must be registered for the annual meeting to access them).

EMG Elections and Leadership

Brian Castriota will be moving into the role of EMG Program Chair 2021-22, and congratulations to Diego Mellado on being elected as Assistant Program Chair. Congratulations to Lorena Ramírez-López on being elected Secretary/Treasurer for 2021-23. I am excited to work with these talented folks this coming year!

Thank you to all the candidates who volunteered to run and to the EMG members who submitted their votes for Assistant Program Chair and Secretary/Treasurer earlier this year.

Thank you also to Joey Heinen for four years of service as the EMG Secretary/Treasurer and to Alexandra Nichols for her time as Assistant Program Chair and then Program Chair. They handled the unexpected with grace and moxie; I'm honored to have worked with both of you.

TechFocus IV

TechFocus IV (TF4) has been announced! The event will be held virtually and take place October 25, 27, and 29, 2021, from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST. The topic is “Caring for 3D Printed Art.” The program is intended for both creators and stewards looking to better understand these artworks, with a goal of developing community guidelines for these printed objects and their respective digital files.

Registration is \$99 for AIC members, \$125 for non-members, and \$75 for students. It includes participation in the live sessions, access to the session recordings, and a complimentary 3D-printed sample set if you register by September 1st (international participants must pay a \$10 shipping fee to receive the sample set). Register and view the program for the workshop here: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/p/techfocus-iv>.

Volunteers Martina Haidvogel, Emily Hamilton, and Alexandra Nichols put in many hours to rework what was originally going to be an in-person event and turn it into an invigorating virtual program. The entire EMG community thanks them for their perseverance in making TF4 a reality amidst the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you also to the other volunteers who contributed to the development of this program.

TechFocus workshops, organized by members of EMG, provide detailed technical education about the preservation of media art across a broad range of technologies. Each workshop is dedicated to a specific technology, includes lectures from international experts on the topic, and encourages a high level of engagement with workshop participants. Videos from past workshops are being moved to a new streaming platform and will be available again soon.

Ways to Get Involved July 2021- Programming Committee

There are spaces available on the EMG Programming Committee for the 2022 AIC Annual Conference. The Programming Committee works with the Program Chair and Assistant Program Chair to review abstracts and develop the final program for the EMG sessions. It's a great way to learn more about what our colleagues are working on and to better understand how the annual meetings come together. Hint: If you are interested in running for the Assistant Program Chair in 2022, volunteering for the Programming Committee is a low-stakes way to learn more about EMG's role in the annual meeting before submitting your candidacy!

More opportunities to volunteer will be shared in the next newsletter issue. Please email electronicmediagroupAIC@gmail.com with any questions.

—Kristin MacDonough, EMG Chair (2020-22), kmacdo2@artic.edu

Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN)



ECPN Online

Find ECPN information at
www.culturalheritage.org/emerging

2021 AIC Annual Meeting

During this year's virtual meeting, ECPN strove to utilize online platforms to deliver educational content and establish peer-to-peer connections. We could not have achieved these events without the support of the Getty Foundation. ECPN hosted:

- › A moderated panel "Conservation in a Changing World" with panelists Sanchita Balachandran, Joy Bloser, Kris Cnossen, Anisha Gupta, and Glenn Wharton, moderated by Jessica Betz Abel
- › A Poster Session featuring posters by Caitlin Richeson, Michaela Paulson, and Ashley Stanford
- › A virtual Information Session and Town Hall

ECPN Leadership

I am pleased to announce the following appointments for the 2020-21 term:

- › Chair: Jessica Betz Abel (ecpn.chair@culturalheritage.org)
- › Vice Chair: Michaela Paulson (ecpn.vicechair@culturalheritage.org)
- › Communications: Héctor J. Berdecía-Hernández & Stephanie Guidera (ecpn.communications@culturalheritage.org)
- › Digital Platforms: Marie Desrochers & Meris Westberg (ecpn.digitalplatforms@culturalheritage.org)
- › Outreach: Ashley Stanford & Kaela Nurmi (ecpn.outreach@culturalheritage.org)
- › Professional Education and Training: Kaeley Ferguson & Laura Bergemann (ecpn.pet@culturalheritage.org)

Congratulations and welcome to our new officers Stephanie, Meris, Kaela, Kaeley, and Laura! I am also very excited to report that Michaela Paulson will transition from Outreach Co-Officer to the Vice Chair role. Every year ECPN strives for a balance of representation from different specialty groups, geographic locations, training programs, and career stages. The strength of the officer applications we received for the 2020-21 term was impressive, resulting in a difficult selection process. Thank you to everyone who offered to serve.

Thank you to our 2020-21 ECPN officers for their creativity and enthusiasm throughout this unprecedented term, and special thanks to our outgoing officers Caitlin Richeson, Leila Sabouni, Keara Teeter, Bellie Camp, and Natalya Swanson. It has been a pleasure to serve ECPN with this team; their passion and dedication to the field has led to the growth of ECPN and exciting new initiatives. I would especially like to thank Caitlin, our outgoing ECPN Chair, for her leadership and dedication to ECPN as Outreach Officer, Vice Chair, and Chair.

Thanks are also due to Molly Gleeson, our supportive AIC board liaison, and Kate Lee, our committed AIC staff liaison, for helping us accomplish so much in a virtual world this past term.

In addition to our outgoing officers, I would like to thank everyone who served as an ECPN liaison for the 2020-21 term. Through your hard work we have grown our liaison program to include 24 regional liaisons, 9 graduate liaisons, 11 specialty group liaisons, and 9 committee and network liaisons.

Please check the [ECPN subpage](#) to contact liaisons directly or view current liaison vacancies if you're interested in volunteering.

Webinars on Social Justice and Conservation

Last term ECPN also joined with the Equity and Inclusion Committee (E&I) in planning and facilitating a three-panel series that focused on social justice and conservation. "Contested Monuments, Decolonizing Collections and Prioritizing Community Partner-

ships" and "Conservation is Not Neutral: Emotion and Bias in Our Work" explore our work as heritage professionals and the role bias plays in creating inequity in our field. Please check them all out on our [YouTube page](#).

Podcast

Season two of *Conservators Combating Climate Change* is here; the series focuses on conservation professionals' role in addressing climate change. ECPN's Digital Platforms Officers Natalya Swanson and Marie Desrochers speak with invited guests about how to enact changes in the field. Listen to the all the episodes at: <https://anchor.fm/conservatorscombatingcc>.

I am honored to serve as your ECPN Chair for the 2021-22 term. Keep an eye out for new ECPN initiatives and resources on our various online platforms.

—Jessica Betz Abel, Chair, ecpn.chair@culturalheritage.org

Health & Safety Network

The Safety and Cultural Heritage Summit is currently accepting abstracts for this year's summit. The Summit is a collaboration between Washington Conservation Guild, the Potomac Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the Smithsonian Institution's Office of Safety, Health and Environmental Management, and the Smithsonian National Collections Program plus the Lunder Conservation Center.

Submissions can be sent to summit-abstracts@washingtonconservationguild.org, and will be accepted through August 1st. Once again, the summit will be virtual and is scheduled for two half-day sessions on Tuesday, October 19th, and Wednesday, October 20th, 2021. More information on the format for abstracts and presentations is available at www.iiconservation.org/content/2021-safety-and-cultural-heritage-virtual-summit-preserving-our-heritage-and-protecting-our. Information about how to register for the conference will be available closer to the date of the summit.

Keep an eye on *AIC News*, the Global Conservation Forum, and the AIC Member Community Forum for more information.

—Katherine Ridgway, Editor, katherine.ridgway@dhr.virginia.gov



H&SN Online

Find H&SN information at www.culturalheritage.org/health

Objects Specialty Group (OSG)

OSG Leadership

As of the OSG Annual Business Meeting on June 25th, my term as OSG Chair ended and Megan Emery began her year-long term as the new OSG Chair.

The current OSG Leadership is as follows:

- › Chair: Megan Emery
- › Program Chair: LeeAnn Barnes Gordon
- › Assistant Program Chair: Madeleine Neiman
- › Treasurer/Secretary: Jessica Chasen

OSG Committee Leadership and Service Positions:

- › Nominating Committee Co-Chairs: Rebecca Gridley and Marci Jefcoat Burton
- › Archaeological Discussion Group Chairs: Gina Watkinson and Skyler Jenkins
- › Wiki Editor: Robin O'Hern
- › E-Editor: J.P. Brown
- › PostPrints Coordinators: Kari Dodson and Mary Wilcop
- › AIC Board Liaison: Sarah Melching
- › AIC Staff Liaison: Erika Goergen



OSG Online

Find OSG information at www.culturalheritage.org/objects-group

The areas of focus for the Chair position this year were annual meeting planning (OSG-related duties, serving as OSG-SPNHC liaison, and moderating the SPNHC general sessions), revival of the OSG Wiki page activity, and continued streamlining of OSG Committees and “institutional knowledge” of our working group. Thank you for allowing me to serve our organization and I look forward to lending a hand on future projects.

—Fran Ritchie, OSG Chair (2020-2021), franritchie@gmail.com

Paintings Specialty Group (PSG)

2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting and who helped make it a success! After two years of virtual meetings, we have learned a lot about new methods of sharing our work and research with colleagues near and far. Having said that, we are all very much looking forward to seeing each other in person in 2022.

PSG Leadership

I'd like to thank everyone who voted in the Paintings Specialty Group elections and to welcome our newly elected officers! I recognize that we have all handled challenges this past year and want to extend special thanks to the entire volunteer leadership of the PSG during this time.

- › Irma Passeri has been elected Assistant Program Chair.
- › Kathryn Harada moves into the role of Program Chair.
- › We owe a debt of gratitude to outgoing Program Chair MC Betz, who in her two-year tenure rose to the challenge of organizing both virtual meetings.
- › Elizabeth Robson has been elected Wiki Chief Editor, a position that has benefited from the visionary leadership of Kari Rayner for the past three years.
- › Kelly O'Neill will be our new Postprints Editor, a role that Wendy Partridge has handled seamlessly and with good humor for four years.
- › Charlotte Ameringer will fill the new position of Publications Committee Chair.
- › We are also excited to welcome Emily Philips to the nominating committee and thank Julie Ribits for two years of service.
- › Bianca Garcia will move into the position of Nominating Committee Chair.
- › Jose Lazarte Luna will continue his service as Secretary/ Treasurer.

—Cindy Schwarz, Chair, psgchair1@gmail.com

Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

PMG Leadership

I would like to welcome the new Photographic Materials Group (PMG) Chair, Monique Fischer, and the Assistant Program Chair, Jiuan Jiuan Chen. Jiuan Jiuan Chen will serve as Assistant Program Chair for the first year and become Program Chair the second year. We could not be happier with the Nomination Committee's search for candidates, and their willingness to collaborate to nominate such great colleagues as Monique Fischer and Jiuan Jiuan Chen. I am very grateful for Amanda Maloney, who served as Assistant Program Chair for one year and is Program Chair 2021-2022, and to Ronel Namde, who will continue as Secretary/Treasurer for one more year.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Katherine Sanderson, who completed her term as Program Chair; to Barbara Lemmen, who served as Chair Emerita and Chair of the Nominating Committee for the past two years; and to Tatiana Cole, who finished her term as member of the Nominating Committee. Katherine Sanderson will join Heather



PSG Online

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



PMG Online

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

Brown in the Nominating Committee, and I will have the honor to serve as both Chair of that committee and Chair Emeritus (a non-funded PMG Officer) until 2023.

2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting

The program for 2021 AIC Annual Meeting was put together with a selection of eleven talks, presented in four PMG sessions, and six talks presented in two joint sessions with the Book and Paper Group (BPG), plus the Business Meeting and a Tips session. Watch or revisit the sessions at <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/aic2021-week7>.

PMG Biennial Winter Meeting

The 2021 PMG Biennial Winter Meeting was cancelled in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In light of the cancellation, a two-part workshop on chemistry and deterioration of silver-based photographs, taught by Douglas Nishimura and Scott Williams, was offered during 2021 AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting.

FAIC Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation Committee

I would like to welcome the new Chair, Krista Lough, and thank Maggie Wessling for her service to this committee for the past two years. The FAIC Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation Committee welcomes ideas about future workshop or symposium topics tailored for PMG and the wider conservation community. Please reach out to a committee member or submit your proposals online at <https://www.culturalheritage.org/events/learning/propose-a-workshop>.

PMG Communications Committee

I am very happy to announce that Barbara Brown will serve as chair of the PMG Communications Committee (previously called Publications Committee); she will:

- › Oversee committee work
- › Collaborate with the PMG Wiki Committee
- › Serve as the compiler for *Topics in Photographic Preservation*
- › Serve as the PMG webmaster
- › Serve as the PMG social media coordinator

Topics in Photographic Preservation Volume 19 will be compiled by Marie-Lou Beauchamp. The volume will feature the presentations from 2020 and 2021 AIC Annual Meeting PMG sessions as well as from the 2021 PMG-BPG joint sessions, which will also be included in the *Book and Paper Annual* publication.

Luisa Casella is serving as PMG Wiki Chair. She has been very active restructuring the pages and recruiting volunteers. She and the PMG Wiki Committee have been working with BPG Wiki editors to create joint pages (such as on scrapbooks) and to cross reference where the content is useful for both groups. Thank you, Luisa!

PMG Professional Development Stipend

The PMG membership decided not to change the Professional Development Stipend into an AIC Scholarship. The procedure to apply and deliver this stipend is currently under revision by the PMG officers.

Opportunities to Collaborate and Contribute

Please consider:

- › Helping students from all over the world by becoming a PMG Wiki contributor. Contact Luisa Casella (luisa.casella@gmail.com) to become a contributor (wiki.pmg@gmail.com).

- › Sharing your work through social media and sending your ideas to Sarah Casto (sarahcasto@gmail.com) PMG Social Media Coordinator, or Katelin Lee, AIC's social media manager (klee@culturalheritage.org).
- › Joining the ISO TC42 Working Group 5 Physical Properties and Image Permanence of Photographic materials; contact Joe LaBarca, jlabarca@rochester.rr.com, if you are interested.

—Fernanda Valverde, PMG Chair, chair.pmg@gmail.com

Research and Technical Studies Group (RATS)



RATS Online

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

RATS Leadership

Following the RATS business meeting on May 28, 2021, the following officers have assumed their new roles:

- › Katherine Schilling, Assistant Program Chair 2021-2022, Program Chair 2022-2023, Chair 2023-2024, Chair Emerita 2024-2025
- › Melissa Amundsen, Secretary/Treasurer, 2021-2023
- › Molly K. McGath, Publications Chair, 2021-2023
- › Jane Klinger, Program Chair 2021-2022
- › Federica Pozzi, Chair 2021-2022
- › Gregory Bailey, Chair Emeritus, 2021-2022

The following officers have stepped down from their leadership roles in RATS:

- › Courtney VonStein Murray, former Secretary/Treasurer
- › Matthew Clarke, Chair Emeritus

The officers wish to thank Courtney and Matt for their many years of diligent service to our specialty group, and we look forward to their continued participation as individual members.

Nominating Committee

The RATS Specialty Group seeks volunteers for a nominating committee to assist chairs Emeriti Gregory Bailey and Lynn Brostoff in identifying candidates to stand for election as Assistant Program Chair in 2022-23. The candidate elected to this position will go on to serve as Program Chair, 2023-24; Chair, 2024-25; and Chair Emeritus, 2025-26. If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee, or have candidates to nominate, please feel free to reach out directly to Greg at gbailey@thewalters.org.

The work of the nominating committee is extremely important to the future of the specialty group. Ideally, all offices are contested, offering choices among qualified candidates.

Traditionally, RATS has informally alternated conservators and conservation scientists in the role of Assistant Program Chair; further consideration of geographic location of officers is often given as well.

This year and into the future, the nominating committee will consider the recommendations and objectives of the Equity and Inclusion Committee Strategic Plan when recruiting candidates. The Strategic Plan and other resources can be found on the AIC website: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/membership/committees/equity-and-inclusion/equity-inclusion-resources>.

Participating in the nominating committee is a great way to learn more about the volunteer leadership of RATS and AIC, and usually does not involve a significant time commitment.

Further information on RATS, including current officers, may be found at: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/membership/groups-and-networks/research-technical-studies>.

ECPN Liaison

After six years of service, Elyse Canosa is stepping down as RATS/ECPN liaison. The RATS leadership wishes to thank her for her coordinating a closer partnership between these two groups. A search to identify a new volunteer liaison is underway.

RATS Student Membership

Finally, a reminder that membership in RATS for the calendar year 2021 is free to AIC student and post-graduate members when joining or renewing, using the discount code RATSSTUDENT-2021. To date, 29 eligible students and post-graduates have taken advantage of this savings. A straw-poll vote at the RATS business meeting indicated that there is a strong interest in extending free membership to emerging professionals for the next few years. Stay tuned for an electronic vote on this issue!

—Greg Bailey, Chair Emeritus, gbailey@thewalters.org

Textile Specialty Group (TSG)

2021 AIC/SPNHC Virtual Annual Meeting

Another AIC TSG meeting has been successfully completed. I want to thank Beth Szuhay for her work creating the program for this year. While the past two virtual meetings have been a great success, I personally hope that next year we will all meet in person in Los Angeles, California.

I also want to extend a large thank you to all of our committee members. These committees are TSG's backbone; without the volunteer service of our community, we would not be able to function. The following members of the TSG nominating committee will be leaving us this year: Sarah Scaturro, Nominating Committee; Rebecca Beyeth Stern, Achievement Award Committee; Jennifer Cruis, Wiki Editor; and Alison Castenada, Postprints Committee. Thank you for your service.

It is also time for us to welcome in our newly elected TSG board members:

- › Beth Szuay, Chair
- › Kira Eng-Wilmot, Vice Chair
- › Marina Hays, Secretary
- › Amanda Holden, Nominating Committee

—Ann Frisina, Chair, heartland.textile.ps@gmail.com

Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG)

Update on Use of WAG Reserve

WAG's annual business meeting on Friday, May 28, offered a great opportunity to discuss ideas for investing our nearly \$30,000 reserve to the benefit of its members. FAIC Education Coordinator Sarah Saetren and AIC Board Liaison for Professional Education Molly Gleeson were at hand to answer questions and give their input. A recording of the business meeting is available here: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/wooden-artifacts-business-meeting>.

While there is no plan to invest the money at once, several proposals were favored by participants.

1. Raise WAG's annual donation to the George Stout Scholarship from \$100 to \$500 - \$1,000 to support a student or emerging professional to attend workshops and conferences.

With Sarah Saetren's input, we were able to clarify that the Stout Fund is available not only to graduate students, but also to pre-program students on



TSG Online

Find TSG information at
www.culturalheritage.org/textiles-group



WAG Online

Find WAG information at
www.culturalheritage.org/wooden-artifacts-group

their way to graduate school. Please find information to the Stout Scholarship on the FAIC website here: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding/professional-development/george-stout-scholarship>.

2. Hold workshops for WAG members: The workshops could be stand-alone sessions, for example on joinery, or could happen during the annual AIC conference. Several participants stressed the importance of woodworking experience for furniture conservators, especially for young professionals and those in private practice.
3. Outreach to the woodworking community: WAG members would visit woodworking training programs throughout the country and introduce woodworking students to the field of conservation.
4. Plan a symposium specifically for WAG, similar to the Gilding Conservation Symposium in 1988, or the Painted Wood Symposium in 1998. Furniture Finishes was one of the suggestions as a topic.
5. Create videos with instructions on woodworking and conservation techniques. The videos would be available on YouTube, or on the WAG Wiki webpage, which awaits further development.
6. Organize a study trip to Italy or Germany: The first study trip took place in France in 1991, and a second trip to another country was to follow. Participants of the WAG business meeting expressed interest in the trip but pointed out that it would need commitment in planning.

If you have any thoughts or opinions on these projects, or would like to help make them happen, please contact Trevor Boyd, WAG's Chair, at tboyd@mfa.org, or Christine Storti, WAG's Chair Emerita, at cstorti@mfa.org.

A recording of the business meeting is available here: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/wooden-artifacts-business-meeting>. You don't need to be registered for the annual meeting to view WAG's business meeting; it is free and available to all WAG members.

Volunteers Needed for Work on WAG Officers' Handbook

During the past year, members and officers submitted material for an online archive for the Wooden Artifacts Officers group. The archive went online in November and is designed to help future officers in their role.

In a second step, WAG is looking for several volunteers to help edit the Wooden Artifacts Officers Handbook, which is currently in a draft form. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact WAG's Chair Emerita Christine Storti, at cstorti@mfa.org.

Monthly Phone Chat with WAG's Chair

Hoping to provide a different, more personal way to connect, WAG's Chair Emerita Christine Storti set up a monthly phone chat for members to connect with officers. The telephone chat was scheduled on the first Tuesday of each month, at noon EST. This pilot project went through May 2021. Let us know if this program is still of interest!

—Christine Storti, WAG Chair Emerita, cstorti@mfa.org

Note: CAN! and CIPP did not contribute columns for this issue.

The Back Page

AIC/SPNHC Joint Virtual Annual Meeting Statistics

2021 Annual Meeting by the Numbers

1921 attendees from **38** countries

538 people watched the Opening General Session live

170 students supported by the Stout Grant via FAIC

119 sessions with 1 to 4 talks each

90 attendees supported by the Attendees Assisting Attendees campaign

68 community posts

48 Virtual Exhibit Hall Booths were visited **2,040** times

35 opening and concurrent presentations

8 workshops

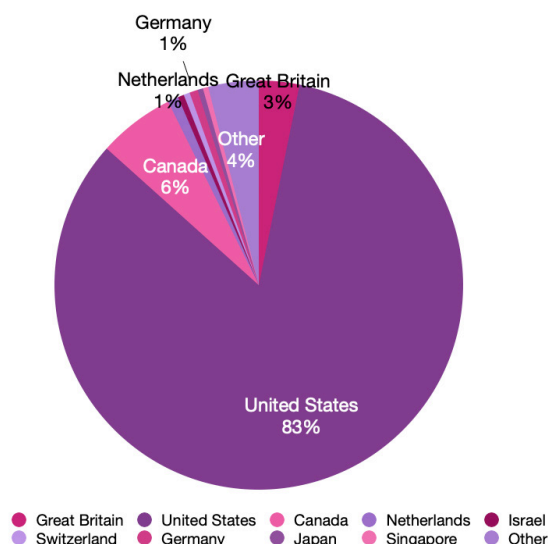
7 pre-sessions

2 sessions open to the public

LEARNING PLATFORM SITE VISITS DURING MAY AND JUNE

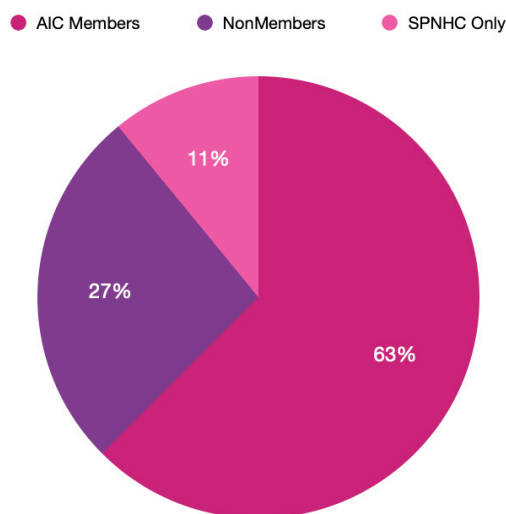
Total Unique Site Visitors:	60803
Total Unique User Page Views:	116243
CDN Bandwidth Usage:	34.24 GB

ATTENDEES BY COUNTRY



We had more than 1600 U.S.-based attendees and nearly 300 internationally-based attendees from 38 countries. People tuned in from around the world: Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Italy, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Spain, France, Poland, Sweden, Portugal, Ukraine, Japan, Republic of Singapore, Hong Kong (HKSAR), Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Madagascar, Israel, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and more.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE



AIC members made up 63% of attendees, 11% of attendees are SPNHC members only (indicated by code usage at registration), and nonmembers were 27% of the audience as of July 2021. Dual membership isn't tracked here.