Vice President's Column: MAC Meetings Update

Mark Shelstad, Vice President, Midwest Archives Conference

MAC successfully completed its sixth Fall Symposium this past October. Held in Sioux City, Iowa, the Symposium kicked off with a reception at the new Sioux City Public Museum, followed by a full day-and-a-half with presenters George Blood and Elizabeth Clemens on the management of legacy audio and video formats. Covering the technical aspects of magnetic media, digitization processes, and preservation issues, the attendees came away with a wealth of knowledge to better manage their analog tape collections.

Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 19–21, 2012

Get ready to celebrate MAC's 40th anniversary! A variety of events are being planned to commemorate MAC's history, based on the Conference theme of "MAC at 40: The Future is Now." Nancy Richard, Portia Vescio, and the rest of the LAC are working on finalizing tours and the reception; the Local Arrangements and Membership Committees are coordinating the second MAC Pals Program to match new and veteran members; and the Program Committee, cochaired by Elizabeth Myers and Rachel Vagts, has finalized the sessions, which include remote reference services; getting and keeping that first archives gig; connecting to users with social media; digital preservation; and content management systems—just to name a few. Watch the meeting blog for updates at http://2012mac.wordpress.com.

Cincinnati, Ohio, October 18–20, 2012

A variety of studies have provided evidence about the many benefits of using primary sources in K-16 curricula. MAC's seventh Fall Symposium, cochaired by Anne Ryckbost and Lisa Sjoberg, will gather archivists and educators to learn and discuss methods for connecting students with primary sources. Three national speakers will provide hands-on opportunities to work with primary sources, develop assignments and lesson plans, and discuss best practices. The Symposium will be held at the Radisson Cincinnati Riverfront, and area restaurant tours and an evening reception are being planned.

Indianapolis, Indiana, April 17–20, 2013

Program Committee Cochairs Anne Thomason and Meg Miner, and LAC Cochairs Christine Guyonneau and Noraleen Young have completed assembling their respective committees for this meeting. The Program Committee is exploring possible conference themes, and the LAC is making site visits for possible tours and the reception. The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Indianapolis.

One of the keys to MAC's success is the willingness of its members to step forward with innovative meeting ideas. If you have an idea for a symposium topic or meeting location, be sure to check out the meeting planning portion of the MAC Web site. The meeting planning manuals contain templates for meeting proposals and numerous tips on planning a successful effort. If you have ideas or questions about MAC's meetings or symposiums, feel free to contact me at mark.shelstad@utsa.edu.

MAC
Midwest Archives Conference

Upcoming MAC Meeting Sites and Dates

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Grand Rapids, Michigan
April 19–21, 2012

Fall Symposium, 2012
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