Distinguished Service Award Presented to Janet C. Olson

MAC presented the Distinguished Service Award (DSA) to Janet C. Olson, Northwestern University Archives, at the annual members' meeting in Chicago. The DSA is designed to recognize MACers who have given extensive and/or superior volunteer work in elected, appointed, or unofficial but definable roles within MAC and/or have made outstanding contributions to the archival community in the Midwest. Often, these folks are the unsung heroes of our organization. The MAC Presidents' Award Committee is charged with receiving and reviewing nominations for the DSA.

A MAC member since 1997, Janet has served on and co-chaired numerous Chicago meeting Local Arrangements committees. In addition, her MAC service has included terms as representative to the National Council on History, as a member and chair of Nominating committees, and as member and chair of the Program Committee. Janet's contributions have, however, gone far beyond MAC, as she reenergized the Chicago Area Archivists group and has nurtured and encouraged many new archivists to become active in the profession.

Nominated by Morgen MacIntosh Hodgetts, Peter Gunther, and Laura Carroll, Janet's receipt of the DSA was a no-brainer for the Presidents' Award Committee. "Janet's spirit, drive, and commitment to our profession is impressive," noted the committee, "and her outstanding contributions to the archival community in the Midwest, especially her numerous and significant activities resulting in successful MAC meetings in the City of Chicago; her efforts to revitalize the Chicago Area Archivists organization; her service as a mentor to new members of the archival profession; and her overall commitment to and passion for high quality educational programming and service for all members of the archival profession" resulted in unanimous approval of her nomination.

Janet C. Olson

As the third DSA recipient in MAC's history, Janet joins past awardees Marion Matters in 2000 and Mona Wei in 2002. Upon learning of Janet's receiving the award, one of her Chicago archival colleagues summed up the sentiments of her fellow MACers, "Congratulations, Janet. You are a gem!"

MAC Archives Reminder

Outgoing MAC officers, appointees, and committee chairs are reminded to donate their papers to the MAC Archives, held at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. For further information, please contact Archives Committee Chair William Stolz.