## Call for Papers

The Midwest Archives Conference is seeking proposals for papers and sessions for its spring and fall 2002 meetings. The MAC Program Committees invite paper and panel proposals on any aspect of the archival profession. MAC also welcomes proposals from the related fields of public history, records management, and museum management. The Program Committees will consider proposals for sessions involving individual presenters as well as panels of presenters.

The spring 2002 meeting will be held in Minneapolis, May 2–4, at the Radisson Metrodome. Paper and panel proposals should be submitted no later than October 10, 2001. Submissions and questions should be mailed to one of the following addresses:

Craig Wright
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. West
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102-1906
612-296-9961
craig.wright@mnhs.org

Brian Williams
Bentley Historical Library
1150 Beal Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2113
734-764-3482
bwms@umich.edu

MAC's first meeting in South Dakota will be held October 9–12, 2002. The Program Committee is seeking session proposals and ideas for papers. While a portion of the program will attempt to take advantage of the meeting site, in terms of topics and speakers, the program will also follow MAC's tradition of including sessions on a variety of archival subjects. Submissions and questions should be mailed to one of the following addresses by December 1, 2001:

Erik C. Nordberg
University Archivist
MTU Archives
Michigan Technological University
1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: 906-487-3209
Fax: 906-487-2357
copper@mtu.edu

Stephen G. McShane
Librarian, Archivist/Curator
Calumet Regional Archives
Indiana University Northwest Library
3400 Broadway
Gary, IN 46408
Phone: 219-980-6628
Fax: 219-981-4289
smcshane@iun.edu

## Nominations Sought for MAC President's Award

### Deadline: November 30, 2001

Have any individuals or organizations in your community done extraordinary work or support for your archives? If so, consider nominating them for a MAC President's Award. The award was established to recognize significant contributions to the archival profession by individuals, institutions, and organizations not directly involved in archival work but knowledgeable about its purpose and value. Past recipients include Congressman Sidney Yates for his efforts to insure that official government publications be printed on permanent paper and for his staunch defense of the continued existence of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment of the Arts; the Reverend Lowell G. Almen for his work with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in the preservation of and access to the documentation of the church's history; and the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO for its support of the Iowa State Historical Society project that documents Iowa union workers and their labor organizations during the 20th century.

Each MAC state has a representative for the President's Award Committee. Nominations are initiated by contacting the state chair directly or through solicitations of nominations by the state chair or members of the committee. The 2001 state committee chairs are:

Illinois: Charles Cali
Indiana: Wes Wilson
Iowa: Dale Mayer
Kansas: Anthony Crawford
Michigan: David Johnson
Minnesota: Craig Wright
Missouri: Kathleen Conway
Nebraska: Andrea Faling
North Dakota: Sandra Slater
Ohio: John Miller
South Dakota: Vacant*
Wisconsin: Rick Pifer

* Please contact Mark Greene, Head of Research Center Programs, Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, P.O. Box 1970, Dearborn, MI 48121-1970. Phone: 313-982-6075; E-mail: MarkGr@hfmgv.org.

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## MAC 2001 Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship Recipient

*By Kristy Sorensen*

I am halfway through the program in Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin, working towards a master's degree with an emphasis in archival studies. It is hard to believe that two years ago I had little practical knowledge of what was actually involved in the archival profession. With the support of scholarships like the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration, I have been able to greatly expand my knowledge of the archival profession.

I began my exploration of archival administration after I graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1999. I had earned a double major in English and Women's Studies and was working as a communications associate at the Nebraska State 4-H Office. I had always been interested in pursuing a graduate degree, and the field of Library and Information Science in general appealed to me because of its focus on service and knowledge. It was my interest in history and my belief in the importance of context that led me to look at Library Science programs with strong archival components.

My experience at the University of Texas at Austin has been an enjoyable mixture of classroom theory and practical experience. In completing an introductory course in archives and manuscripts during my first semester, I had the opportunity to undertake a volunteer group project at the Austin History Center, a local history archives affiliated with the Austin Public Library. As my group grappled with the boxes of papers from a recently retired city council member, I was able to put into practice the theories of provenance, original order, and archival arrangement that I had been studying in the months before. That convergence of theory and practice is one of the most attractive parts of the archival profession. It is both academic and practical.

This summer I am working as a volunteer in the archives and manuscripts department of the Center for American History on the UT campus. I have had the opportunity to process a small collection of papers and, with the support of the staff at the center, I have learned a lot about making arrangement decisions, basic preservation concerns, and the importance of archival theory in creating good archival practice. I plan to continue my work at the Center for American History after I finish with this initial collection by working with the registrar to complete initial inventories of the incoming collections.

Although I have not had any paid archival experience, I am hoping to get a part-time job in an archives this fall. With the financial support of the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship, I will be better prepared to leave my current job and take an entry-level position in a local archives. I am looking forward to gaining more hands-on experience to complement my theory-based course work. After graduation, I plan to return to the Midwest and work with a nonprofit or university-affiliated research archives. My expectations for my future in archival enterprise are not based so much on subject or place as they are on the spirit of research and the overall mission of the organization. I hope to find myself in an environment that challenges me and that, once again, combines the importance of archival theory with the necessity of archival practice.

I would like to thank the Midwest Archives Conference and the Louisa Bowen Scholarship Committee for selecting me as the 2001 recipient of the Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration. I am honored to receive this recognition, and my continued explorations in the world of archival administration will be greatly enhanced with the support of this award.

## Nominations Sought for MAC

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Only one nomination per year may be put forward by each state committee, but as many as three awards can be presented each year. The deadline to submit nominations to a state chair is November 30, 2001. For further information about the award, consult the MAC Web site: <www.midwestarchives.org>.



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