

Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Heritage Roundtable
8/27/08

Agenda:

- Review and discussion of LACCHA Handbook
- Election of Chair and Co-Chair
- Appointment of Web Liaison and Newsletter Editor
- Appointment of liaisons to SAA's Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable and International Affairs Roundtable and the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM)
- Report from Carla Summers, SAA Council Liaison
- Brief Presentation about the 2009 SAA Program by Teresa Mora, member of the SAA 2009 Program committee
- Open discussion of possible panel presentations for SAA Annual Meeting—SUSTAINABLE ARCHIVES / AUSTIN 2009: Joint Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the Council of State Archivists (CoSA)
- Election Results
- Announcements and other news
- Presentations

Meeting:

LACCHA Handbook

- Leadership co-chair model
- Web liaison
- Newsletter editor
- Liaisons – to ensure communicating and collaboration with Archivists of Color, International Archival Affairs and LACCHA

The membership approved the handbook and it is now the official handbook for LACCHA.

The interim co-chairs, Marisol Ramos and Maria Estorino appointed the following liaisons for 2008-2009:

- Web liaison - Beatrice Skokan
- Newsletter editor - Noah Lestra
- Archivists and Archives of Color roundtable (ACC) Liaison – Jennie Guilbaud
- International Archival Affairs Roundtable liaison, Claudia Holguin
- SALALM (Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials) liaison – Marisol Ramos

Next year before going to SAA 2009 in Austin, Texas, LACCHA co-chair will call for nominations and/or volunteers for these positions and announce the appointments at the next Business Meeting.

Electing Co-chairs

- Election ballot candidates
 - Marisol Ramos (senior co-chair 1 year)
 - Susan Laura Lugo (co-chair 2 years)

At the end of the meeting, after the votes were counted, Marisol Ramos and Susan Laura Lugo were elected Sr. and co-chair respectively for the 2008-2009 by unanimous vote.

Announcements from SAA:

Carla Summer – Mark Green President of SAA stand in. Carla helps new roundtable to succeed. Communicate with liaison, vp, and ed for questions, concerns.

Teresa Mora (Bancroft Library) – SAA 2009, Austin

- With COSA – focus on governmental records
- Looking for proposals, DUE Oct 8
- Roundtable Endorsements by Oct 20
 - Theme – sustainable archives: how to make and manage change, how to balance interim measures and solutions with forward thinking solutions. How to sustain profession to stay engaged and bring people in.
- Roundtable can endorse 2 session proposals
 - Proposal sent to chair to be endorsed to program committee
- Pre-conference workshops – teaching oriented, half day or 2 day long, different topics. Sutter soliciting proposals for pre-conference workshops. Info and process on SAA website. Can get paid for workshops.

Carla – Archivist in Florida. Leon Miller will be next liaison. Leadership can do president for an issue. SAA Manual. SAA Leader list. \$5,000 minority scholarships for graduate education in archives for Fall 2009. No travel scholarships to bring international archivists into SAA conferences. But, registration can be waved. Can there be translation (partner with educational institution)? Cultural Management Properties for indigenous peoples.

Leon Miller - Strong diversity and membership committee for strong Lat Am and Caribbean program. 1-3 year window. IFLA will be in San Juan Puerto Rico 2011.

Discussions: Ideas for 2009 conference

- Sept. 19 deadline to submit draft proposal, contact chairs
- Sustainable archive for country of origin when content is U.S. Panel to discuss this issue.
- Cultural centers for immigrant communities building archives. How to help them?

- Conference in dual language – to get other archivists in Latin America to SAA. Fundraise for travel funds. Raffling souvenirs for fundraising.
- International Affair roundtables for foreign archivists to attend SAA? Collaboration projects, translators,
- Outreaching to Lat Am and Caribbean communities to share ideas on archiving.
- Collaboration with libraries on scholarships for minority students to sponsor Lat Am archivist, high school student to do video, to present at forum. Invite young generation of library field.
- State wide and international research
- MySpace, Facebook techniques to be on YouTube to get international exposure. Example: A Latino zone of academic resource (ALZAR) group from SALALM and its presence on Facebook.
- Archives in community based organizations. Diaspora
- Institute of Latino - Workshop on how to keep your own papers.
- Appraisal Archivists, historians, genealogical organization – focused on federal, managing presentations. Do with 100 thousands of cubic feet.

Liaison position – participates in Latin American themed organizations to share info, let committee leaders know with similar goals and agenda. Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL).

Latin American Archives in DC – internships. 30 facilities across country, presidential libraries, federal, regional archives. Summer 2007, NARA sponsored 10 students from Hispanic students of College and Universities (HACU) \$100,000. Hired 2 students, one full time and one skeep. Part-time, full time employment. Information and security oversight program (ISU) for internship. Sponsored 10 and 5 more students 2008. 652 new students concentrate with Black and Hispanic Universities to get them internships and access to national archives.

Naropa university? – poetry, curatorial archives about info in campus and community. Nuyorican poets café and literary movement, marginalized communities through spoken word/audio archives. Archival advocacy – Barrio Project.

LACCHA – future projects: to survey Lat Am archive websites. Literature that U.S. archives can link up to. To review them if they are up to standards as a resource link?

Newsletter – worksite, repository, build repositories, gradual expansion, share consensus of different places, to direct people better.

Roundtable at University of Illinois ILMS – reached out to Puerto Rican community, negotiate deed of gift to UI Chicago, so community org can work with educational institutions.

Natl Archives of Trinidad and Tobago – CARBICA (Caribbean Section of ICA) project – develop web portal for archives in Caribbean – working on directory.

Suggested a proposal to share info on slavery that Caribbean archives have: for example to link up records of slavery.

Suggestions from new member, Maria Estorino, of SAA Diversity Committee. – Mentorship program for SAA needs mentors. No training for mentors, but is defined through relationship. Elizabeth Adkins – diversity and mentorship, Harold Pinkett, lots of fall off, less than half are still with SAA because lack of mentorship. Need training for mentors; right now is informal. There is a need for a more formal program, a place or program for mentors to communicate. Follow ALA Model – half day training?

Program

Gabrielle Toth – Chicago State University, high African American student population but also it is next to a big Mexican community in Chicago. Latino Communities (Mexico) in Chicago not just German or Polish.

- 1850 Latino Presence
- 1893 Velasco to Chicago. Mexican pavilion for World's Fair
- Why not much written about Mexican? Mexican 20% of Chicago's 8.2 million. 2nd largest in country. 51 % in suburbs, 49% in city. Behind LA and San Antonio.
- Different than Southwest Mexican – communities mixed together with African American and non English speaking immigrants Eastern, Southern Europe in the same area
- Employees non-seasonal, higher wages, waves of immigration, Catholic churches, ethnic organizing.
- Possessive investment in whiteness. Paul Taylor – Mexican labor and U.S. Hull House, Stockyards, Southside Chicago, steel mills. People in Indiana also worked in mills.
- Pilsen and Little Village – 1950 Mexican move there because of high wages. U of Chicago destroyed their original neighborhoods.
- 1920 labor movement as union members and strike breakers.
- Mexican Catholic churches, as cultural thing.
- Political scene 1950 -1980s.
- Puerto Ricans – 2nd largest population in US during 1950s looking for work. Humboldt Park. Fighting gentrification. Supporters of independence movement. Ties to island strong.
- Archival holdings – Puerto Rican cultural center – 200 posters/painting, independence movement. Digital archives of holding. Sala Albizu – displace of rare historical newspapers, photos, books of PR independence movement.
- DePaul University – Lincoln Park, wealthy neighborhood filled with yuppies. But decades earlier were Puerto Rican – gentrification.
- 1974 – Latino activists to DePaul – access to public private resources, to let people know their resources, for equality in community
- 1998 – Organization disbanded, board of trustees because organization mismanagement. Documents there.

- Look at Labor, women, political scene. U Chicago holdings in 20th century immigrant history (Mexican and Cubans)
- Midwest Chicano and Puerto Rican art.
- Southeast historical musicians.
- Archdiocese of Chicago on churches.

Patrick Stawski – Duke U

- Born Argentina, raised in LA, cultural anthropology, MILS UCLA, archives in Chicano studies. Archive history of human rights. Curation, management, outreach, programming, collection dev.
- Cultural patrimony, human rights collections. Right to memory, history, identity cornerstone for civil society. Front of collection dev. Policy.
- Work with local, immigrant, diasporic, transnational communities.
- Responsible collecting to archives and communities
 - How will memory and identity be respected?
 - What you collect, who collect?
 - Collection Dev Policy
 - What are my holdings?
 - What communities are represented?
 - What connections in archives?
 - What new relations can be built?
 - Donor relations
 - Duke U – why should human rights archives be there?
 - As an outsider, how to be insider?
 - What is role of archive in community?
 - How does institution nurture community?
 - Cultivate relations with community to be part of them?
 - Human Rights Collection
 - Collection Dev Policy
 - Marshall Rabbi – Lat American Jewish seminary in Buenos Aires. Anti-Semitism of Dirty war – got involved with human rights. Commission of the Disappeared. Model for SA Truth Commission. Non argentine who served on commission.
 - Center of International Policy – shapes US foreign policy in Lat Am to support human rights development in Lat Am. Central America, Colombia, Venezuela.
 - Center for Latin American and Caribbean studies –
 - Focus on transnational way – headquarters in US but work with Latin American programs.
 - Donor relations – sponsored talk by P. Valdez, HR org, archive.
 - Día de los Muertos Student Project – Latino community build human rights theme, Latino experience in North Carolina, death penalty on mental ill, documentation of

anti-Semitism, digitization, Argentina and Duke, artist exchange.

- Oral history on Andean Region
- Patrimony important, into institutional and archival strategy. Work with complex communities.

Susan Lugo

- Territorial Coordinator for Archives Government of Virgin Islands
- Genealogy, local history, access to information and freedom of expression, how to access family history in Caribbean
- Pistarckle – Creole for type of confusion or event out of control. Various colonial powers in area,
- See: Wikipedia entry for Caribbean for a GIF slide with a list of countries and colonial history of the Caribbean. Who was owned by Spain, France, Sweden, and Denmark, how it changes. Nuances, problem is how to do family history in Caribbean.
- St. Croix under 7 flags. Tobago changed ownership 22 times. How to find history?
- VI Archives in Denmark, , NARA, and own archives, difficult to do research because not accessible and much is in Danish. Helps identity of people, island history.
- Caribbean about geography, politics, boundaries, and it's not... "confusion" because always changing, opportunities/barriers – because difficult to reach out don't know who to partner with for education, social, cultural exchanges, etc. But, confusion allows for new partners. Need to bring this together
- Caribbean Genealogy Library established in St. Thomas; is a branch of the Family History Library of Salt Lake City.
- No technology in place to access archives in colonial holdings. If archives in Netherlands it cannot be accessed because it is unlikely to be digitized or microfilmed. Caribbean countries - no resources for access. Low user statistics in colonial repositories gives little justification to get them digitized or web accessible.
- On the other hand, economic change is working to bring communication technology into the area. CARICOM's single market economy – foot in door, for economic boost, to boost info technologies and globally networked communication. This raises issues of privacy and information exchange, terrorism, cross borders, policies not in place before. Cayman Islands v. Trinidad and Tobago – compare ICT legislation initiatives. Different regulations for access. Difficult to link different access levels -- obstacle for universal international access.
- Caribbean archivists and librarians are not getting a seat at the ICT planning table. When plans being born, need to be part of conversation re: privacy protection and how it affects the archival record.

Q&A section

Patrick – book project – Duke Award, co-partnership

Susan – suspicion to making archives visible—the written record has not been the “story” of most of the people of the Caribbean; is record of colonizers.

Patrick – people testimony for HR incidents. Work with them to protect people’s identity.

Susan – repatriated records from colonizers? Haiti, Genealogical Society of Utah (FamilySearch). They started microfilming records in Haiti. Situation was so difficult so they had to get out.

Avril – oral history is tradition. Colonial identity in written records. Info in archives takes away identity. Have to mine the archives to find ordinary citizen of Caribbean. Written and oral history record. Define records in different ways. Be careful of differentiations of labels like “Caribbean.”

Caribbean is unified to surrounding region by water; central and South American countries linked by transit and commerce.

Thank you to all the attendees to this first LACCHA Business Meeting.

Meeting adjourned!