

LACCHA

SAA Roundtable Meetings II
Wednesday, August 12, 2009
3:15 P.M. - 5:15 P.M.

Annual Meeting

1) The second annual meeting of the SAA LACCHA Roundtable was convened in Austin, Texas, at the joint SAA/CoSA Conference on August 12, 2009, at 3:15 P.M. Approximately 25 persons attended the annual meeting session. Welcoming remarks were given by Senior Co-Chair Marisol Ramos, during which she stressed that the roundtable wants to increase the level of online communication activity in order to keep conversations going within LACCHA outside of annual meetings.

2) General announcements

a) Nancy Fortna, member of the 2010 SAA/NAGARA/CoSA Program Committee, spoke on the process for submitting presentation proposals for the joint 2010 Conference in Washington, D.C. - see <http://www.archivists.org/conference/>

- Need to submit a FULL proposal
- Could propose workshops as well
- Seeking applicants to program committee for SAA 2011 as well
- Junior Co-Chair Susan Lugo asked how many in attendance worked with government records – five (5) said they did.

b) Evelyn Frangakis, efrangakis@NYPL.org, New York Public Library, spoke on IMLS-funded preservation fellowship program operating between Yale and NYPL. Details should be on their websites soon (see the following Web sites: <http://jobs-nypl.icims.com/jobs/5618/job> ; http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/061709b_list.shtm (scroll to NY); <http://www.library.yale.edu/lhr/jobs/intern/IMLS2010fellowship.html>). Applications are being accepted for 2010 and September 14 is the deadline. E-mail for details. Current program ONLY open to U.S. citizens. Frangakis is also interested in getting reactions about a need for an international program. E-mail her if you are a not a U.S. citizen but would be interested in participating in such a preservation program at some point in the future.

c) Brian Peterson, Content Manager for Ancestry.com, talked about Ancestry's partnership with the Virgin Islands Social History Associates to provide access to the almost 2 million records of the St. Croix African Roots Project. He is interested in future collaborations with various Latin American/Caribbean groups around genealogical materials. Contributors of content get free access to Ancestry.com's databases for their repository.

d) Ramos, on behalf of T-Kay Sangwand, Human Rights Archivist at University of Texas, Austin, announced a proposal to form a Human Rights Roundtable and discussed the need to gather signatures to support this initiative.

e) Leon “Lee” Miller, ending his term as SAA Council Liaison to LACCHA, spoke on how thrilled Council was with LACCHA's progress. He also noted how requirements for roundtables had loosened, and they are now very autonomous in how they may self-govern. It was noted, however, that if LACCHA chooses to utilize electronic voting that it MUST be guided by organizational protocols established by SAA.

f) Deborra Richardson, Chair of the Archives Center at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History, was introduced as LACCHA’s incoming SAA Council Liaison, and spoke on SAA Council's diversity initiatives. She also asked LACCHA members to review SAA's Strategic Priorities (see http://www.archivists.org/governance/strategic_priorities.asp) and comment.

3) Guest Speaker Presentation Ramos introduced LACCHA’s featured Guest Speaker for the annual meeting: Kent Norsworthy, Content Director for the Latin American Network Information Center (LANIC) <http://lanic.utexas.edu>. Norsworthy’s presentation included many live shots of the LANIC Web site, with special emphasis on the Latin American Government Documents Archive Project, <http://lanic.utexas.edu/project/archives/lagda/>. Norsworthy also addressed the Archive-It turnkey program, part of the Internet Archive that drives this project. His presentation was both informative and engaging and well-received by all. Extending government documents archival principles to “archiving” the often fragile presence of Latin American government websites is just one important aspect of LANIC’s impressive work.

4) Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting of August 27, 2008 The Minutes of the annual meeting held August 27, 2008, were circulated for review and comment prior to the meeting via the LACCHA listserv. There being no changes or corrections, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the proposed minutes were unanimously approved as drafted.

5) Reports

a) Marisol Ramos (Outgoing Senior Co-Chair) made observations on the impact LACCHA has had during its first year as a roundtable, and expressed confidence that its impact will continue to grow.

b) Incoming Senior Co-Chair Susan Laura Lugo recognized and thanked Ramos for her service and initiative in establishing LACCHA. Lugo brought delicious “Mexican wedding” cookies to celebrate Ramos’ considerable achievements.

c) Newsletter Editor Noah Lenstra and Webmaster Beatrice Skokan each spoke on their work during the past year on the LACCHA newsletter “Memoria” and Web site, respectively. Lenstra asked that members consider submitting news notes and aggressively ask their colleagues to do the same. Members were also urged to share the LACCHA newsletter with their colleagues,

both domestically and abroad.

d) ALA International Relations Roundtable Liaison, Claudia Holguin, submitted a written report on her LACCHA/IRRT liaison work over the past year, the many IRRT resources available and activities in progress, and the value of collaborating with IRRT.

e) Ramos, as Liaison to the Seminar on the Acquisitions of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM), reported on her participation in SALALM and how archivists may make themselves heard within this group.

6) Old Business

a) Membership – From 37 persons attending the first LACCHA meeting in 2008, the membership has grown to 84 members as of the annual meeting in 2009. Members were thanked for getting the word out about LACCHA, and encouraged to continue to do so.

b) Listserv – Both Ramos and Lugo suggested more active participation on the listserv and solicited feedback on what members want out of the listserv.

c) Sessions – Both LACCHA-sponsored sessions proposed for SAA 2009 were approved and Ramos and Lugo acknowledged what a remarkable achievement that was for a first year roundtable. Members were encouraged to continue their show of support for LACCHA by attending both sessions. Brief descriptions for each session appear on the agenda, as well as in the SAA Program booklets.

d) No other old business came before the meeting.

7) Membership Action Required

a) Patrick A. Stawski, Human Rights Archivist in the Rare Book, Manuscript, Special Collections Library of Duke University, was the sole candidate for co-chair for 2009-2011. Although he was unable to attend the annual meeting in Austin, he posted a statement on his candidacy and platform on the LACCHA listserv prior to the meeting. Stawski was elected by acclamation by all voting members present at the annual meeting. He will serve as Junior Co-Chair from 2009-2010, and as Senior Co-Chair during the 2010-2011 term. Lugo will serve as Senior Co-Chair for 2009-2010.

b) Proposed amendments to the LACCHA Handbook were circulated via the listserv and Web site for comment prior to the meeting. Discussion was invited concerning the proposed amendments. Lugo noted that earlier in the week SAA Council had adopted certain provisions which may or may not have impacted on the proposed document. A motion, duly seconded, was made to accept and approve the proposed amendments, subject however to final review by LACCHA leadership to confirm alignment with the latest Council guidelines for roundtables. The motion passed without objection.

8) Volunteer appointments

The following LACCHA volunteer appointments were confirmed:

- a) **Newsletter Editor of “Memoria”:** Noah Lenstra, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- b) **Newsletter Assistant Editor:** Luisa Yanez, General News Reporter, Miami Herald (see some of her work on the Freedom Flights Database at <http://www.miamiherald.com/revolution/>)
- c) **Webmaster (<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/laccha/>):** Marisol Ramos, Reference/Liaison Librarian for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Puerto Rican/Latino Studies & Spanish Curator for the Latin American and Caribbean Collection, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut Libraries
- d) **Liaisons** –Lugo and Ramos encouraged all LACCHA members having membership in other associations or projects supporting LACCHA’s mission to volunteer as a communication liaison. The following liaison appointments were announced.
 - i. **SAA Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable (AAC):** Michelle Gachette, Reference Assistant, Harvard University Archives, Pusey Library,
 - ii. **SAA International Archival Affairs Roundtable (IAA):** Bradley Bauer, Associate Archivist for Collection Development, and Curator, Western European Collection, Hoover Institution Library and Archives, Stanford University¹
 - iii. **International Council on Archives (ICA):** – Rebecca Hankins, Certified Archivist, Assistant Professor of Library Science, Africana Resources Librarian/Curator, Cushing Memorial Library & Archives, Texas A&M University
 - iv. **Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM):** – Silvia Mejía, Archivist, Institute Special Collections and Archives, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 - v. **ALA International Relations Roundtable (ALA-IRRT):** – Claudia Holguin, Archival Consultant and Researcher
 - vi. **Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL):** – Volunteers are encouraged to submit their name to the Co-Chairs for consideration.
 - vii. **Caribbean Region of the International Council on Archives (CARBICA):** Avril Belfon, Senior Archives and Records Officer, National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago

¹ At the time of the meeting, Claudia Holguin had agreed to serve in this position as well as ALA-IRRT Liaison unless and until another volunteer could be identified. Brad Bauer subsequently confirmed he would agree to serve as IAA Liaison; we thank Claudia for her volunteer spirit!

- viii. **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Regional Section on Latin America and the Caribbean (IFLA-LAC):** Susan Laura Lugo, C.A., Territorial Coordinator for Archives, Government of the Virgin Islands

9) New business

a) LANIC Portal Collaboration - Ramos reported that LACCHA desires to work more closely with LANIC in the future by engaging LACCHA members to submit Latin American and Caribbean collections/information resources for inclusion in the LANIC online database. Ramos and Lugo will be meeting with Norsworthy after the annual meeting to discuss collaboration opportunities in greater detail. Information will be shared via the listserv.

b) Archives in Distress – Ramos gave a brief report on this topic, particularly noting the recent challenges being faced by the government archives of Puerto Rico and Honduras. She emphasized that in the current economic downturn it is often ethnic archives that are the first to have their funds disappear. Ramos asked LACCHA members to consider how LACCHA can use its resources to advocate for such archives and to bring this issue to light. Ramos asked that this discussion on this topic actively continue on the listserv.

c) SAA Diversity Workshops – Ramos reported that an idea to offer some type of affordable training to introduce archival practice to non-archivist individuals that may not be able to afford an archival education is in the initial stages of exploration with SAA. Her suggestion to SAA Director of Education Solveig DeSutter included being able to offer material not only in English but Spanish and other languages. The goal is to support community groups in the preservation and creation of access to their records by providing archival science professional development opportunities to those who might serve those communities best. Ramos will continue to explore this topic and report on any progress. LACCHA members interested in assisting Ramos should contact Ramos at Marisol.Ramos@yahoo.com.

10) Next meeting will be on LACCHA's blog, during the week of October 25-31, 2009 (Archives Month!). See the listserv for more details.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.