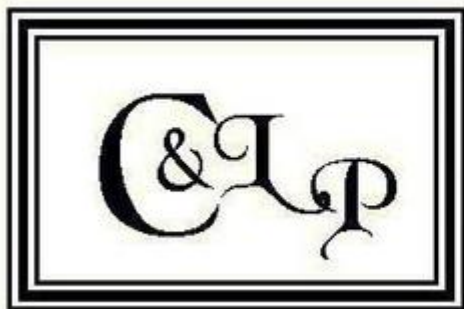


Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2009 edition of



Chapters and Loose Papers



'Chapters and Loose Papers is the official SAA newsletter for students of archival science. The title, Chapters and Loose Papers, calls upon images of books and documents, but it also suggests an interest in and a focus on both SAA student chapters and those students who are not affiliated with SAA chapters.

By Sarah Buchanan

As our student chapter completes the first full year of our Bruin Archives Project, we are pleased to report our achievement of several goals. The Project has developed under the able efforts of our student colleagues, who have both initiated and responded to inquiries from club leaders and historians on the UCLA campus. The BAP Coordinator has overseen the assignment of Information Studies graduate student processors with campus groups that have expressed an interest in depositing their historical records with our Project. Officers have publicized our Project both within and outside our department by presenting a poster and developing an informational website (<http://www.studentgroups.ucla.edu/bap/>) which will soon document our processed collections. Student archivists are currently describing and arranging the materials of student groups representing a range of interests including Greek life, health awareness, arts and humanities, and social advocacy. We are fortunate to have the support of the University Archives, whose staff continue to assist students in creating electronic finding aids and preparing records for the Online Archive of California and the UCLA Library Catalog. Look for us at the graduate student poster session at ARCHIVES 2009 this August.



Our chapter recently collaborated with the AMIA (Association of Moving Image Archivists) student chapter in hosting a panel on Archives and Special Collections, which featured five panelists. Twenty students heard archival professionals from museum, corporate and government settings speak about the challenges and opportunities for archival work within their institutions. Among the many topics we discussed were funding and budget concerns, education and training, special projects, reference services, and discovery in unprocessed collections. The panelists answered students' questions and many members of our chapter commented that the wide-ranging conversation brought new perspectives to light. Student and faculty members of our department attended several tours of archives in the L.A. area, arranged by our officers. At the Los Angeles City Archives, we partook in an insightful discussion on records management while viewing municipal records and maps, and walked through the vast holdings. Aisles stretched as far as the eye could see! The archivist demonstrated the new online Council File Management System, where one can not only retrieve municipal documents at various stages of activity, but also view information relevant to the activities depicted in these documents. (Continued on Page 2)

This is done through metadata elements showing associated dates, titles, motions, and Council vote tally. Additionally, we toured the archive at NBC Universal, which holds one-of-a-kind props, costumes (from numerous historical eras), and designs from both feature films and the Universal Studios theme park. We believe our tours help expose students to a range of institutions that maintain archival records, and complement our classroom learning. The chapter is looking forward to pursuing our archival interests and attending this year's Conference. Contact us at uclasaa@ucla.edu or visit us at <http://polaris.gseis.ucla.edu/saa/>.

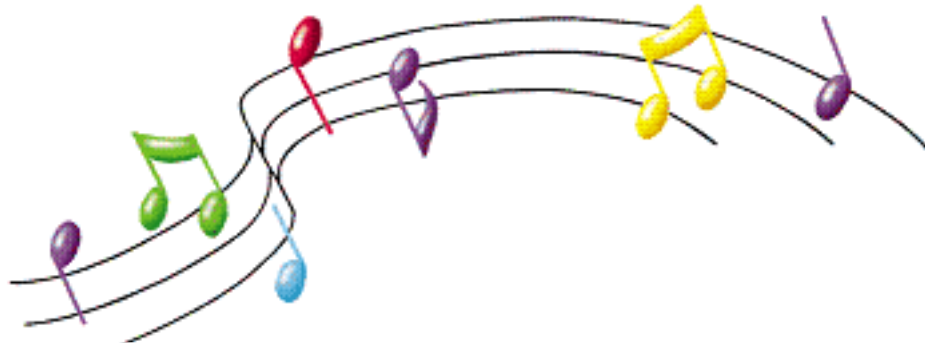
Attention Students--Would You Like a Mentor?

SAA provides many opportunities for students to learn, network, and prepare for fulfilling careers. The SAA Mentoring Program offers a great way to connect one-on-one with an established archivist. A Mentor can help you establish and achieve career goals, meet colleagues with shared interests, and answer your questions about professional development. Learn more and apply for the SAA Mentoring Program at <http://www.archivists.org/membership/mentoring.asp>.

In the fall of 2008, the Records Management Roundtable (RMRT) developed the RMRT Mentoring Project to assist the SAA Mentoring Program and to pair Mentors and Mentees interested in records management. The RMRT Mentoring Project has already matched 10 students with Mentors. If you would like to explore records management and how it can enhance your archival career, please contact Katie Scanlan at kascanlan@wisc.edu to participate in this branch of the SAA Mentoring Program.



In Greek mythology, Mentor was Odysseus's trusted counselor, under whose appearance Athena became guardian and teacher to Telemachus.



A Survey of Current Trends in the Digital Publication and Preservation of Music by Brian Eisenberg

The digital publication and preservation of recorded and printed music is a recent phenomenon, only really coming into full blossom in the last twenty years. Several new technologies have been introduced into the world and have been applied to the practices of music publication and preservation. Controversy has arisen out of these introductions and applications and the need for new standards and rules of publication and preservation has been established. Music professionals, scholars, and patrons are all involved and affected, and will all have an effect on the future of the digital publication and preservation of recorded and printed music.

Beginning with the invention of recording in the early part of the twentieth century, and leading up to modern times of iTunes, mp3s, and music notation software, the face of music publication and preservation has changed tremendously over the course of its short history. Since the public introduction of the Internet in 1994 and the explosion of computer technology since then, the publication and preservation of music in both audio and print forms has become increasingly digital. Several new ways of publishing, archiving, and preserving music have been introduced through the application of new technologies. Innovations in computer software and hardware have helped facilitate a digital music revolution, which affects music professionals, scholars, researchers, and fans alike. Music professionals are able to publish, distribute, sell, and promote their music on a scale never before imagined.

Scholars and researchers are able to access a much larger body of music resources with more ease than ever before. Music fans from all genres are enjoying instant access to their favorite music in both audio and print forms. The digital publication and preservation of both recorded and printed music has become a doozy! So much history has passed right before our eyes in the last twenty years, and the publication and preservation of music will never be the same. Ideas that were the dreams of the past have

become the realities of today. Music professionals, scholars, and consumers are able to create, distribute, access, and enjoy printed and recorded music in ways never thought possible before. As with any new phenomenon, the digital publication and preservation of music is surrounded in controversy. Many questions have been raised about the ethical and practical use of the new technologies, and they will need to be answered in order to keep the innovation moving forward. With these gifts of discovery and innovation comes an ethical responsibility that only time will tell if people will consider when taking advantage of these gifts, allowing them to uphold a sense of morality in this new digital world.



Preservation and Theft: Redefining the Roles of Archivists

by Susan James

Archivists and Preservation

Archivists are entrusted with preserving many of the world's most valued materials. This trust implies those materials are being placed in the hands of trained professionals who are expert in the methodologies and practices necessary to guarantee the survival of those items for as long as possible. It has become clear however, that many archivists have focused solely on preserving the materials from physical decay, and not on preserving those same materials from theft. For our cultural record to survive, it is imperative that archivists expand their professional role to encompass a proactive attitude towards the safeguarding of materials through increased overall security measures.

Although becoming a certified archivist requires specialized training, most are not trained in security measures, instead relying on a loose or non-existent system. In this way, archivists create a perfect "shopping" opportunity for thieves: Through their efforts to increase public awareness about a particular collection's breadth, they may also draw attention to a collection's value and increase the risk of theft, as the ACRL's Guidelines for the Security of Rare Book, Manuscript, and other Special Collections points out (2008). In addition to creating an alluring target for potential thieves, archives' lax security measures are enabling thefts from repositories to take place with alarming frequency. According to the abovementioned Guidelines, "Because of the rising incidence of library theft and mutilation of library materials, libraries are suffering serious losses of books and other library property" (2008). A Seattle Times news article also reported that "scores of historical documents apparently are missing from the National Archives and the Library of Congress" (Seattle Times, 1987).

One indication that inadequate or non-existent security measures are a widespread concern is the theft case involving James Lyman Brubaker. In 2007, Brubaker was arrested and charged with stealing 648 pages of historic maps, lithographs and documents from Western Washington University. In a search of his home, FBI agents found an additional 20,000 pages of maps and documents torn from books that came from over 100 university and local libraries across the country (Twomey, 2008). A second indication of the rising theft problem may be seen in the case of the Whitworth Art Gallery in Great Britain. In 2006, valuable items were stolen, only to be returned to a safe location three days later, along with a note saying the theft had been committed "to highlight the woeful security at your institution" (Schroeder, 2004). It should not be necessary for such tactics to take place in order to call attention to archived material's vulnerability, and to become a priority for action on the part of professional preservationists.

Security Measures

To address the increasing rate of material's theft from libraries and archives, the ACRL drafted the abovementioned Guidelines to develop "adequate security measures and a strategy for responding to thefts" (2008). The document recommended a wide range of measures, including the use of security officers, a comprehensive security policy, use of keys or electronic keycards within the facility, electronic surveillance, a carefully trained staff, limited and closely supervised use of materials by scholars, more exact record keeping of materials within the collection, and assistance with prosecution. Increasingly frustrated by innovative theft techniques, some archives have resorted to challenging constitutional law, which prohibits archive staff from conducting body searches of patrons. They claim this limitation "exposes a major vulnerability" in the government's security system because "anyone using the precious documents can hide them on the body and make off with them" (Barker 1987).

The ACRL document also outlines specific recommendations for safeguarding materials through physical marking, i.e., both visible and hidden marks should be placed directly on each piece in an "impossible to remove" manner. Using the repository's Library of Congress symbol is suggested, as is developing an individual marking system, i.e., underlining a word or filling in the first capital O on a specific page of every book, or writing a registration number or word in a location known only to a select few (Continued on page 4)

Additional techniques for marking or identifying materials include microembossers, microtaggants, and microphotography. To combat thieves, the British Library in London uses security guards and staff members so researchers are never left unattended with documents. A specific page of every book, or writing a registration number or word in a location known only to a select few. Additional techniques for marking or identifying materials include microembossers, microtaggants, and microphotography. To combat thieves, the British Library in London uses security guards and staff members so researchers are never left unattended with documents. The library also utilizes a scale that “weighs documents to the nearest gram” so that even a single missing page can be detected in a returned manuscript, (Mitgang, 1987)

It is interesting to note that not only must archivists be vigilant against items being removed, they must also guard against “provenance planting,” in which falsified records of authenticity are inserted into the records of a catalog collection, which then facilitates a criminal’s attempt to sell fraudulent items.

Archivist, Heal Thyself

Archivists themselves are frequently the cause of materials theft, either through their direct actions or through their attitudes. “While daring museum heists get the most attention, the greater risk is posed by the insider” (Schroeder). Staff members, security guards, head archivists, and Library Directors know the value of special collections materials, have unsupervised access, and may be motivated by profit or their personal, scholarly interests. Recently a National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) employee Shawn P. Aubitz was found to have stolen hundreds of documents and photos, (Twomey), and based upon a growing body of evidence, this example is far from being an uncommon occurrence.

Along with direct theft, archivists may abet others stealing valuable materials through their unwillingness to draw attention to the crime. According to a recent Smithsonian article addressing library and archive theft, “Traditionally, the custodians of heritage have been leery of making too much fuss over thefts. After all, the filching of a historical treasure from a restricted and guarded room is embarrassing, and an admission of breached security could hurt funding or discourage potential donors from bequeathing their prized collections (Twomey, 2008). Almost 20 years earlier, David Zeidberg, Director of Special Collections at UCLA, made the same statement:

“The attitude of some library officials is an obstacle to effective security. A lot of these thefts are swept under the rug...there is some fear that trustees or donors or the public might hesitate to help a library if they thought security was weak. When a theft is discovered, the usual attitude is ‘Well, we’ve recovered the documents so let’s keep it quiet’ “(1987; from Bengston, 2001).

Archival methods and techniques have made significant advances in the preservation of materials, however if those who run the repositories do not advance their ethics and attitudes with equal alacrity, our culture record will continue to disappear into the hands of profiteers, private collectors and the scholarly black-market.

The Future of Archive Security

In the scholarly world of archives and special collections, law enforcement personnel may be anachronistic, but necessary partners to apprehend thieves. After aiding in the recovery of hundreds of books stolen from academic and public libraries across the United States and Canada, University Librarian Rob Lopresti was asked by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to create a list of some 800 purloined titles. Lopresti was hesitant to do so as it would essentially create “a shopping list for potential thieves,” but eventually complied. Lopresti also talked about the future security of the books as if they were persons entering a witness protection program: “Each of the books we own is being considered for possible protection by movement to a different location” (Twomey). David Cobb, map curator at Harvard University, acknowledged, “Nobody ever told me in library school I’d be on a first-name basis with an FBI agent,” (Twomey), however the cases of theft thwarted by Lopresti and Cobb indicate that cooperation with law enforcement officials may be one of the necessary steps to combat future archive thefts. (Continued on page 5)

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