SEMINARS COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES
ALA Midwinter Meeting – Denver, CO
Saturday, 24 January 2009
Grand Hyatt Denver, Grand Ballroom
1:30-3:30 pm

Committee Members in Attendance:
Erika Dowell, Indiana University, edowell@indiana.edu (Chair); Sarah Fisher, Yale University, sarah.fisher@yale.edu; Martha Lawler, LSU-Shreveport, martha.lawler@lsus.edu; Sue Walker, Lewis Walpole Library, Yale, susan.walker@yale.edu; Jennifer Nelson, Robbins Collection, UC Berkeley, jnelson@law.berkeley.edu; David Faulds, Emory Univ., dfaulds@emory.edu; Shannon Supple, UC Berkeley, sksuple@law.berkeley.edu; Lynne Thomas, Northern Illinois Univ., lthomas@niu.edu; Jennifer MacDonald, Univ. of Delaware, jsmacdon@udel.edu; Donia Conn, NEDCC, dconn@nedcc.org.

Committee Members Absent:
Eileen Heeran, Cornell Univ, emh57@cornell.edu; Gerald Cloud, Columbia Univ., gc2339@columbia.edu; Kenneth Giese, UVA, giese@virginia.edu.

Guests:
Veronica Reyes-Escudero, Univ. of Arizona, reyesv@u.library.arizona.edu; Athena Jackson, Co-chair RBMS Diversity Committee, athena_n_jackson@yahoo.com; R. Arvid Nelsen, Univ. of Minnesota, nels0307@umn.edu; Alvan Bregman, UIUC, abregman@illinois.edu; Mary Lacy, Library of Congress, mlac@loc.gov; Jackie Dooley, RLG/OCLC Research, dooleyj@oclc.org; Kasia Leousis, Washington Univ., kleousis@wustl.edu; John Overholt, Harvard, overholt@fas.harvard.edu; Emily Epstein, Health Sci Lib, Univ. of CO, Denver, Emily.epstein@ucdenver.edu; Eva Guggemos, Yale – Beinecke, eva.guggemos@yale.edu; Ruth Hughes

1. Call to Order

2. Introductions

3. Selection of Recorder for Minutes – Conn Volunteered

4. Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA (minutes sent separately)

5. Old Business

   a. Software compatibility of laptops with speakers presentations has been an issue in the past. Coordination of laptops and speakers will happen before Preconference to ensure operability.

   b. RBMS will be starting to archive the slides of plenary speakers after Preconference on rbms.info when the speakers agreements allow. ACRL Speaker agreements are adding a line for video recording of plenary sessions. RBMS will also be getting loaned equipment from OCLC to podcast the plenary and short paper presentations. This Preconference will be a test case for
future podcasts of presentations. The speaker agreement will have to be modified for podcasts as well.

6. New Business

a. Report on Preconference 2009 (Committee Representative Nelsen)

The 2009 Preconference website is up at http://rbms.info/conferences/preconferences/2009/index.shtml. The program consists of 5 plenary sessions, 3 sets of 3 short paper sessions, 5 discussion sessions, 9 seminars, 4 workshops, and receptions and tours. Details of the conference can be found on the website.

Hotel registration for the Omni is now open with additional information on other hotels coming soon to the website. Registration opens mid/late February.

b. Finalize Information for 2009 Seminars – Info from Seminars Committee Wiki, Comments in italics from discussion

**EVERYONE NOTE: Please send contact information for speakers in sessions for which you are liaison to Erika as soon as possible. Also, if there are gaps in your session, please get the information as soon as possible for the website and brochure. Thank you.

**Full Title:** Mold Outbreak! Dealing with Disaster  
**General subject, expected audience:** Conservation  
**Sponsorship:** Curators and Conservators Discussion Group  
**Organizer:** Donia Conn, NEDCC, and Alvan Bregman, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
**Proposer:** Donia Conn and Alvan Bregman  
**Seminars Committee Liaison:** Donia Conn  
**Moderator:**  
**On-Site Coordinator:** Donia Conn  
**Presenters:** Alvan Bregman, Rare Books Collections Librarian, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Chris Gage, VP of Technical Services, BMS Catastrophe; Jennifer Hain Teper, Head, Conservation Unit, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
**Summary for Preconference publicity:** In February 2008, the Rare Book & Manuscript Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign closed for ten weeks because of a mold outbreak. This seminar traces the course of the outbreak from discovery to clean-up. Presentations will be given by the conservation librarian, curator and disaster-company manager. The seminar will shed light on the technical, organizational and emotional aspects of coping with a disaster.  
**Equipment needs:** Computer, projector, microphones, pointer

**Full Title:** TBA Send Erika ideas for a snappier title.  
**General subject, expected audience:** Cataloging, Technical Services, Public Services  
**Sponsorship:**  
**Organizer:**
Proposer: Sara Schmidt Fisher, Yale University  
Seminars Committee Liaison:  
Moderator: Sarah S. Fisher Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University  
On-Site Coordinator: Martha Lawler  

Presenters:  
Presenter: Kelley Wolfe Bachli University of California, Los Angeles  
Moderator and Presenter: Sarah S. Fisher Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University  
Presenter: Jack Robertson Jefferson Library, Thomas Jefferson Foundation  

Summary for Preconference publicity:  
With a looming backlog, budget cuts, and staffing shortages, it has become essential to be imaginative with staffing resources and delegate what was once considered the professional’s domain to paraprofessionals. This seminar’s three speakers will offer specific observations and general considerations on using student assistants, volunteers, and support staff for cataloging and processing activities that reveal a collection’s hidden treasures.  

Equipment needs: Computer and projector  

Other information:  
Must take place on Thursday June 18  
Note from 2008 ALA annual: John Overholt, Harvard University, and Kelly Bachli, UCLA, are also interested in contributing/organizing.  

Full Title: Taking the Shifting Gears Challenge  
General subject, expected audience: Digitization, Access  
Organizers: Merrilee Proffitt, OCLC RLG Programs, and Shannon Supple, University of California, Berkeley  
Proposers: Merrilee Proffitt and Shannon Supple  
Seminars Committee Liaison: Shannon Supple  
Moderator: Merrilee Proffitt, OCLC RLG Programs  
On-Site Coordinator: Shannon Supple  

Presenters: Karen B. Weiss, Information Resources Manager, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution  
Laura Clark Brown, Research Archivist, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Helena Zinkham, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress  

Summary for Preconference publicity: This seminar will look at the ideas put forward in the paper Shifting Gears, roughly two years after its publication. While the ideas put forward in the paper seemed radical at that time (September 2007) they are beginning to look more mainstream. This seminar will include presentations from institutions who have tried to insert “more product” into their digital workflow, while keeping in mind the need for doing so with “less process.” Presenters will focus on sharing practical information that can be used at other institutions hoping to ramp up digitization of collections.  

Equipment needs: Laptop, projector, screen, Internet access
**Full Title:** Can an Effective Transfer Policy Be Achieved? Guidelines on the Selection and Transfer of Materials from General Collections to Special Collections (Third Edition, July 2008)

**General subject, expected audience:** Cataloging, Collection Development, Preservation

**Sponsorship:** RBMS Task Force to Revise the Guidelines on the Selection and Transfer of Materials from General Collections to Special Collections (2005-2008)

**Organizer:** Charlotte B. Brown, UCLA

**Proposer:** Sarah Schmidt Fisher, Yale University

**Seminars Committee Liaison:** Jennifer MacDonald, University of Delaware and Jennifer Nelson, UC Berkeley

**Moderator:** Charlotte B. Brown, RBMS member (confirmed) - Chair, RBMS Task Force to Revise the Guidelines UCLA University Archives Box 951575 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575 310-825-7265 cbbrown@library.ucla.edu

**On-Site Coordinator:** Jennifer Nelson

**Presenters:** Members of the RBMS Task Force to Revise the Guidelines:
Emily Epstein, RBMS member (confirmed) Health Science Library University of Colorado Denver Mail Stop A003 12950 E. Montview Blvd. Aurora, CO 80045 303-724-2119 (voice) emily.epstein@ucdenver.edu
Phyllis Payne, RBMS member (confirmed) Mugar Memorial Library Boston University 771 Commonwealth Ave. Boston, MA 02215 617-358-3962 (voice) pcpayne@bu.edu
Daryl Morrison, RBMS member (confirmed) Special Collections General Library, UC Davis 100 North West Quad Davis, CA 95616-5292 530-752-2112 dmorrison@ucdavis.edu
Janet Gertz, RBMS member (confirmation pending library budget) Library-Preservation Division 535 W. 114th Street Columbia University New York, NY 10027 212-854-5757 (voice) gertz@columbia.edu
Andrea Rolich, RBMS member (confirmation pending library budget) Collection Development & Preservation B106d Memorial Library 728 State St. Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI 53706 608-262-0897 (voice) arolich@library.wisc.edu
Bruce Tabb, RBMS member (confirmation pending library budget) Special Collections & University Archives Univ. of Oregon Libraries 1299 University of Oregon Eugene, OR 97403-1299 541-346-1846 (voice) btabb@uoregon.edu

**Summary for Preconference publicity:** Members of the Selection/Transfer Guidelines task force and seminar attendees will discuss a PowerPoint presentation on the revised guidelines from the perspectives of cataloging, collection development, preservation, and public services. Attendees will conduct a sorting exercise using materials culled from circulating library collections. The Selection/Transfer guidelines can be viewed at:
http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/selecttransfer.cfm

**NOTE:** RBMS seminars on previous versions of the guidelines were offered in 1996 and 2001.

**Equipment needs:** screen, projector (for PowerPoint presentation)

*We will want to check on the seating for this seminar before finalizing day and location to ensure that the setup is flexible for the breakout session. **DO WE NEED TABLES FOR THIS?***

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**Full Title:** Managing the Use of Our “Exposed” Collections

**General subject, expected audience:** Public Services

**Sponsorship:** Public Services Discussion Group (?)

**Organizer:**
Proposer: Mattie Taormina, Stanford University; Alice Schreyer, University of Chicago; Susan Walker, Yale University

Seminars Committee Liaison: Susan Walker
Moderator: Alice Schreyer, University of Chicago
On-Site Coordinator: Jennifer MacDonald

Presenters:
Alice Schreyer, University of Chicago, Moderator
Victoria Steele, Ph.D. UCLA, panelist
Shannon E. Bowen, University of Wyoming, panelist
Jennifer Schnaffer, OCLC RLG Programs, panelist

Summary for Preconference publicity: Explores the effect of More Product, Less Process on collections. A confirmed summary is coming soon.

Equipment needs:
Other information: Ellen Cordes is interested in contributing something on the security implications of minimal processing.

Full Title: Islands in the Bitstream: Special Collections at the Confluence of Information, Authentication, and Technology

General subject, expected audience: Digitization, Collection Development, Technical Services

Sponsorship:
Organizer: Virginia Bartow, NYPL
Proposer: Virginia Bartow, NYPL

Seminars Committee Liaison: Gerald Cloud
Moderator: Virginia Bartow, NYPL
On-Site Coordinator: Lynne Thomas

Presenters: Virginia Bartow, NYPL Bethany Nowviskie, UVA Libraries Scholars Lab

Summary for Preconference publicity: If Web 1.0 was about information. And Web 2.0 was about communication. Then what will Web 3.0 be about? What should we plan for as we prepare special collections materials for digitization? How will Collaborations with scholars and researchers, technicians, and other institutions, allow us to build new resources that will be useful outside the confines of our buildings and into the future?

Equipment needs:

Full Title: Finding Common Ground: CLIR Postdoctoral Fellows on Scholarly Engagement

General subject, expected audience:

Sponsorship:
Organizer:
Kelly Miller, Ph.D., Head of Programs and Public Outreach Harrison Institute/University of Virginia Library

Proposer:
Patricia Hswe, Ph.D., M.S., LIS, Project Manager for NDIIPP Partner Projects: ECHO DEPository and Preserving Virtual Worlds University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Graduate School of Library and Information Science

Seminars Committee Liaison: Erika Dowell
Moderator:
On-Site Coordinator: Eileen Heeran
**Presenters:**
Kelly Miller, Ph.D., Head of Programs and Public Outreach Harrison Institute/University of Virginia Library
Gabrielle Dean, Ph.D., CLIR Postdoctoral Fellow Special Collections/Sheridan Libraries, The Johns Hopkins University
Patricia Hswe, Ph.D., M.S., LIS, Project Manager for NDIIPP Partner Projects: ECHO DEPository and Preserving Virtual Worlds University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Graduate School of Library and Information Science
Christa Williford, Ph.D., M.L.I.S., Project Coordinator, Cataloging Hidden Collections Council on Library and Information Resources

**Summary for Preconference publicity:**
What is the role of the scholar in the 21st-century library and archival environment? Working closely with scholars to identify, describe, and promote special collections is an increasingly important task of the librarian and archivist. But just how do today’s librarians, archivists, and scholars, united by a common interest in rare and unique materials, interact with one another to realize their distinct professional goals? Moreover, what characterizes effective collaborations in special collections and archives? What methods and tools can librarians and archivists use to assess, encourage, and sustain collaborative relationships with the scholarly community? These compelling questions are being posed by a new generation of scholar-librarians, who have entered the library profession within the past five years and are subject specialists holding doctorates in the humanities. Each presenter has been, or is currently, a Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Postdoctoral Fellow. Based on their varied experiences in special collections and archives, the Fellows will offer their fresh perspectives and insights on scholarly engagement – a topic they see as critical for the future success of special collections libraries and archives, particularly in the new digital age.

**Equipment needs:**

**Full Title:** Standards Citation Rules - Revisions
**General subject, expected audience:**
**Sponsorship:**
**Organizer:** David Faulds, Emory University; Deborah Leslie, Folger Shakespeare Library
**Proposer:**
**Seminars Committee Liaison:** David Faulds
**Moderator:**
**On-Site Coordinator:** David Faulds
**Presenters:**
**Summary for Preconference publicity:**
**Equipment needs:** Computer and projector
**Other information:**

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**Full Title:** Negotiating Change for the 21st Century: A Discussion About Working with Friends Groups OR The Library and Its Friends: Negotiating Change for the 21st Century
**General subject, expected audience:**
**Sponsorship:**
**Organizer:**
**Proposer:**
Dr. Marguerite Ragnow, Curator, James Ford Bell Library University of Minnesota

**Seminars Committee Liaison:** Erika Dowell

**Moderator:**
Dr. Marguerite Ragnow, Curator, James Ford Bell Library University of Minnesota

**On-Site Coordinator:** Lynne Thomas

**Presenters:**
Dr. Marguerite Ragnow, Curator, James Ford Bell Library University of Minnesota

**Summary for Preconference publicity:**
One of the most challenging, but often one of the key aspects of managing a special collection is working with its “Friends”. This seminar will begin with a brief review of some of the strategies the moderator has employed for working with two different friends groups at the University of Minnesota—some successful, some not so successful—followed by a directed discussion with the seminar participants. Issues to consider will be distributed at the beginning of the seminar (or posted to the preconference Web site in advance) to facilitate discussion. The goal is to send participants away with some new ideas for working with their own friends groups as they negotiate the changes necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

**Equipment needs:** None

**Ideas for one more person for the panel were presented. Ideas included:** Martin Antonetti, A person to speak to fundraising from the Friends perspective, Mr. Reese from Reese Books – lead of Yale Friends, Ed Vermue of Oberlin Friends group – very active, RBS Fundraising speakers.

The tentative schedule for the 2009 Preconference is as follows:

**Thursday, 18 June**

UVA

Seminars Session A: Newcomb (400 Theatre) Islands in the Bitstream
Seminars Session B: Harrison Inst. Aud. (200) Transfer Guidelines
Seminars Session C: South (120 Theatre) Graduate Students

**Friday, 19 June**

Omni Hotel

Seminars Session D: Salon A (200 Theatre) Mold
Seminars Session E: Salon B (200 Theatre) Shifting Gears
Seminars Session F: Salon N (200 Theatre) CLIR Fellows

**Saturday, 20 June**

Omni Hotel

Seminars Session G: Salon A (200 Theatre) Exposed Collections
Seminars Session H: Salon B (200 Theatre) Friends
Seminars Session I: Salon C (200 Theatre) Citation Formats

c. Discuss ideas for 2010 seminars
For the 2010 Preconference in Philadelphia, with the broad theme of “Collaboration”, there will be 12 slots to fill with seminars rather than the usual 9 due to the de-emphasis on plenaries and desire for more interaction. This extra block does not need to imply 12 unique seminars but will allow for the more popular ones to be repeated to allow for smaller groups per session and to allow for more participation. It is the hope that with the smaller groups, the seminars can be more interactive and use a team based approach for the presentations. We will need to inform the speakers that to repeat is an honor, not a burden!

Ideas for 2010:

Local History/Local Collections/Americana – J. MacDonald

Social Movements and Popular Culture – J. MacDonald

Indigenous cultures/Repatriation Act – A. Jackson

Diversity Toolkit – A. Jackson

Digital Preservation/Lifecycle curation – L. Thomas

Cataloguing and Security – D. Faulds

New Trends in Instruction/Collaborative projects in classes, exhibits – E. Guggemos

Funding Sources – Thinking outside the box – S. Fisher

Collaborative Exhibits/Guest Curators – Small and Large – S. Supple and S. Walker

Foreign Acquisitions – Cultural patrimony, cataloguing and access – V. Reyes-Escudero

Access to Digital Images – Various Methods – D. Faulds

20th C. Materials – Different approaches – L. Thomas

Handling Special Collections materials during digitization – D. Conn

Effect of Collections from Google Books project – R. Hughes

Small and Midsized institutions – How they differ from large (single person shop vs. many staff) – L. Thomas

Inspiration in the Library – Artist in Residence programs in libraries – R. Hughes

(American Philosophical Society, Wagner Free Institute of Science)
John Overholt also suggested looking at the brainstorming done by the 2010 preconference committee for more ideas if needed.

Be thinking of which of these would be good to repeat.

SurveyMonkey was discussed as a possible tool for taking a poll on what seminars people will choose to go to once they are registered for the preconference.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.