2007 Annual Meeting ~ Access, Outreach, and Description: Improving Archival Avenues to Collections

Mark your calendar now for November 8-9, 2007! The 39th Annual Meeting of the Society of Georgia Archivists will take place at the Columbus Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, Georgia.

Greetings from the 2007 Program Committee! We are excited about this year's sessions and hope that many of you will be attending the 2007 SGA Annual Meeting at Columbus State University.

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

9:00-5:00 Pre-Conference Workshop: Building Sustainable Digital Collections Cunningham Conference Center, Columbus State University Columbus, Georgia

Thursday, November 8, 2007

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:15 Opening Remarks and Welcome

9:15-10:00 Keynote Speaker: Loretta Parham, Library Director, Atlanta University Center Library

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:45 Concurrent Sessions

A. Integrated Archival Systems: A Comparison of Archivist's Toolkit and Archon

Speakers: Scott Schwartz, University of Illinois Brad Westbrook, University of California, San Diego

Moderator: Christine D. de Catanzaro, Georgia Institute of Technology

The Archivists' Toolkit and Archon are two information management resources currently being developed for archivists. From inventory location management to publishing finding aids on the Web, these systems for manuscripts and archives integrate administrative tasks and make content available to users. Brad Westbrook and Scott Schwartz, project leaders for Archivists' Toolkit and Archon, respectively, will demonstrate these systems and answer questions about the suitability of each for institutional needs.

B. Grant-Writing Primer

Speakers: Arden Williams, Georgia Council for the Humanities

Kaye Minchew, Troup County Archives

Moderator: Toby Graham, Digital Library of Georgia

As resources are not always forthcoming for archival projects, it is up to us to seek alternatives. In this session learn about available grants for archival preservation, arrangement, and description; typical elements included in the grant application; and the evaluation process.

1:00-2:30 Concurrent Sessions

A. Preservation Outreach: The People's Stuff

Speakers: Tina Mason, Georgia Archives Ruta Abolins, University of Georgia

Moderator: Kara McClurken, SOLINET

Do your patrons come through your doors laden with family treasures in great disrepair or call to find out what they can do to preserve their treasures? Learn the answers to some typical preservation questions and how to offer practical solutions and guidance without straining your time and budget.

B. Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS)

Speakers: Susan Potts McDonald, Emory University; Daniel Santamaria, Princeton University

Moderator: Renna Tuten, University of Georgia

DACS, adopted by the Society of American Archivists in 2004, prescribes rules for the description of archival materials. This session features an overview of the new standard and discusses how the Princeton University Archives has implemented DACS into their program.

2:30-3:30 Valdosta State University Library and Archives Program: Deborah Davis

Come hear information about the new library program at Valdosta State and how YOU can help educate a future generation of archivists. A discussion session will follow a brief presentation by Deborah Davis, Archivist at Valdosta State University. Please attend to learn about how to become involved in this important new venture.

3:30-5:30 Tours of Columbus (guided and on your own)

See Visitor Center volunteers in the hotel lobby for details and things to see and do.

5:30-7:30 SGA Reception and Auction

Columbus State University Theatre on the Park (on Woodruff Park, contiguous with the Corn Center for the Visual Arts). Join us for food, relaxation and networking. Feeling lucky? Help raise money for SGA scholarships, including the new Education Scholarship and put in your bids at the SGA Auction. Who knows what treasures you may come home with!

Friday, November 9

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-10:30 Concurrent Sessions

A. Digging in the Archives

Speakers: Reagan Grimsley, Columbus State University

Pam Baker, Columbus State University

Moderator: Randy Gooden, Clayton State University

Active learning is increasingly used as a classroom method at the undergraduate level. Seeking a method to actively engage students in American history survey courses, archivist Reagan Grimsley and Columbus State University professor Pam Baker collaborated on a course assignment in 2006 to introduce students to local primary source documents housed in the Columbus State University Archives. In this session learn about their experiences and the Digging in the Archives resource that resulted from the project.

B. Best Practices for Digitizing Material

Speakers: Kate Murray, University of Maryland, College Park

Erika Farr, Emory University

Moderator: Christine Wiseman, Georgia Archives

Although there is no perfect method for digitizing images and audio-visual material, a number of "best practices" are evolving in the archival community to guide projects. This session will discuss recommendations and resources for the digitization of audio-visual and print material.

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-12:15 Concurrent sessions

A. Who, What, When, Where, Why? All About Wikis

Speakers: Max Anderson, SOLINET Sarah Ricker, Digital Library of Georgia

Moderator: Abby Griner, University of Georgia

The latest online tool for sharing information quickly, wikis present a tool for archival organizations to manage projects, communicate internally and externally, and consolidate information resources in one easily accessible location. In this session learn what exactly a wiki is, the technology involved, and how this tool can be implemented into practice.

B. In Conversation with Manuscript and Rare Book Dealers

Speakers: Cliff Graubart, Old New York Book Shop

David McCord, Out of Print Books

Have you ever wondered how to tell the difference between a palm card, a broadside, and a flier? Two manuscript and rare books dealers from Georgia discuss their profession and decode the mystery of dealer terminology with items from their own collections. Come get your questions about anything you've ever wanted to know about dealers answered!