

Preservation Administrators Interest Group  
ALA Annual Meeting 2014  
Paris Las Vegas, Champagne 1  
8:30-11:30am

Ellen Cunningham-Kruppa, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Art Conservation, University of Delaware presented updates on library and archives conservation education programs. Cunningham-Kruppa elaborated upon curriculum changes to the New York University and Buffalo State conservation programs, including new classes at Buffalo taught by Gary Frost, and integration of courses that had been taught through Simmons GSLIS into the University of Delaware conservation curriculum.

Adrija Henley, chief of Preservation Reformatting Division at the Library of Congress, gave updates from the Library of Congress Preservation Directorate. Ongoing projects at the Library of Congress include scanning audio materials with IRENE, digitizing the Alan Lomax collection, studies on natural aging in the Preservation Science division, and more. More information is available on the Library of Congress's preservation site at <http://www.loc.gov/preservation/>

Holly Prochaska, Head, Preservation Services and Lab, presented on the collaborative model for preservation employed by the University of Cincinnati Libraries (UCL) and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County (PLCH). The two libraries pooled their resources to create the Preservation Lab that serves both institutions. Prochaska elaborated on the process of establishing the collaborative operation, the system that the lab uses to track and allocate treatment time, future plans for the lab, and some lessons learned from the process. More information on the Preservation Lab is at <http://thepreservationlab.org/>

Jeremy Linden, Senior Preservation Environment Specialist at the Image Permanence Institute, presented on IPI's latest research on mechanical system shutdowns in library storage areas. The research took place over four years, supported by an IMLS National Leadership Grant. Five partner libraries worked with IPI to schedule controlled, regular shutdowns of HVAC systems to evaluate the effects of the shutdowns on the conditions in library storage spaces. The research found that some climates fluctuated very little as a result of the shutdown (the New York Public Library's underground storage), while others experienced a much wider temperature and humidity range as a result of the shutdown (the Birmingham Public Library in Alabama). There were significant energy and cost savings associated with the shutdowns as well. More information about the project, including registration for a series of upcoming, free workshops is at <http://www.ipisustainability.org/>

Kim Tarr, Head of the Media Preservation Unit at New York University Libraries, highlighted a new publication from the Video at Risk project: *Digitizing Video for*

*Long-Term Preservation: An RFP Guide and Template*, which is available at <http://library.nyu.edu/preservation/VARRFP.pdf>

The program concluded with two 30-minute, Oxford style debates on two preservation topics. The first topic debated was “The next generation of preservation librarians does not need training in caring for analog objects.” Howard Besser, Director of Moving Image Archiving and Preservation at New York University, and Dawn Aveline, Preservation Officer at UCLA Library, debated for the affirmative side, while Emily Shaw, Digital Preservation Librarian at University of Iowa Libraries and Jacob Nadal, Executive Director of ReCAP, debated on the negative side. The debaters were assigned to positions by the moderator, so the sides that they took in the debate were not necessarily reflective of their personal or institutional views. The second topic was “As libraries emphasize digital collections, the traditional role of the preservation administrator becomes obsolete.” Jeanne Drewes, Chief of Binding and Collections Conservation/Deacidification Program at Library of Congress and Katie Risseuw, Preservation Librarian, Northwestern University Library debated for the affirmative side, while Julie Mosbo, William and Susan Ouren Preservation Librarian at Texas A&M University and Tom Clareson, Senior Consultant for Digital & Preservation Services at LYRASIS debated for the negative. Both debates were lively and provided different perspectives on problems often discussed amongst preservation administrators, and a new method and arena for discussing the challenges currently facing the field of preservation.