

Washington Preservation Initiative
Advisory Group Minutes
Oct.11, 2005, Conference Call

Present: Gary Menges, UW Libraries, Chair
Gudrun Aurand, WSU
Jill Bourne, Seattle Public Library
Lee Dirks, Microsoft
Eric Palo, Renton Technical College
Kathryn Hamilton Wang, WSL
Susan Barrett (WSL Project Manager)

Absent:
Linda Pierce, Gonzaga University

Library Preservation Needs Assessments

The contract with OCLC is very close to being signed [and in fact now has been received, as of 10-12]. Tom Claeson, last year's assessor, has left OCLC but will continue as assessor under a sub-contract, in order to provide continuity. Gayle Palmer will act as project manager. The three libraries have returned their letters of agreement, and should be contacted soon to arrange for assessment dates, which are anticipated to take place before the end of the year.

Environmental Monitoring Initiative

Contract preparations are nearly complete, and OFM approval of the Image Permanence Institute (IPI) as a sole source vendor for the data-loggers is being sought. Notice of the grant cycle and a copy of the shortened application form should soon appear on the WSL/OSOS website. The original intention to select five libraries to receive the monitoring has been expanded to a possibility of eight libraries. Installation by the end of the year is expected.

Disaster Planning—Workshops

Gary shared information about a two-part workshop, "Protecting Library Collections: Emergency Preparedness, Response, & Recovery," presented by the California Preservation Program Steering Committee with the LSTA support of the California State Library. Part 1 covers Planning & Response, with help in writing an emergency plan; Part 2, offered 8 to 12 weeks later, covers Recovery & Training, with a review of the library's emergency preparedness planning.

A template already exists in Massachusetts called the EPlan, offered by NEDCC, but is set up to require local interaction and is not feasible for NEDCC to offer in Washington.

Group opinion was sought and all felt that this sort of training would be popular and a high interest item. Providing several training locations would be desirable, but more than one east and one west-side location might be too time-consuming for the trainer. A solicitation to select trainers will be prepared.

Emergency Response and Salvage Wheels

One hundred were ordered and then another 200; response to announcements in WSL Updates has been good. About half have now been distributed. Any remainder can be shared with attendees at the disaster planning workshops. Academic, medical and special, public, and tribal libraries have all been requesting salvage wheels.

Alliance for Response/Heritage Preservation

Gary has an invitation to attend a planning meeting in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 9, postponed from an earlier date due to Hurricane Katrina activities. Enabling the formation of a statewide disaster planning network in Washington will be the focus of the meeting. Washington will be one of four states to host an in-state meeting in the spring regarding this.

WPI Survey

The statewide preservation survey done in WPI's first year is being used as an assessment by the PMI Institute attendees, considering whether participants' increase in knowledge of the field would affect their selection of preservation priorities.

Other Workshops

Additional workshops are likely to be offered between now and Sept. 2006. Possible subjects include mold, treatment of photographic negatives, and a workshop on grants and how to obtain funding for preservation projects.

A three-day workshop offered by Balboa on the care of museum and library/archive collections, with different subject areas on different days, and a \$100 a day fee, brought some discussion on the possibility of our offering "scholarships", but applicability may lean more toward museums, and the WSL CE grant program is available to reimburse half of fees.

Budget Status

Remaining "2005" funds will permit the offering of several workshops, and the target number for recipients of environmental monitoring grants has been raised from five to eight, if needed.

Future

Gudrun is leaving WSU and will be moving to the Westside to begin a private preservation business. She agreed to continue with the advisory group for the remaining duration of WPI.

Next meeting, by conference call, Tuesday, November 29, 2005, at 2 pm. [Please let Susan know if this date is impossible for you.]