

Washington Preservation Initiative
Advisory Group Minutes
August 2, 2006, Conference Call

Present: Gary Menges, UW Libraries, Chair
Gudrun Aurand
Lee Dirks, Microsoft (in part)
Eric Palo, Renton Technical College
Kathryn Hamilton Wang, WSL
Susan Barrett (WSL Project Manager)

Absent: Jill Bourne, Seattle Public Library
Linda Pierce, Gonzaga University

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, August 16, 2006, 2 pm

WPI Recent Workshops Update

Solinet Live Online workshops—Caring for Scrapbooks. Three sessions with 15 attendees each have been held (the software limitation) on June 29, July 10, and July 26. The last will be held on August 21. Solinet mailed a microphone to each registrant from Atlanta and afterward a certificate of attendance. Participants used the WSL training registration system, but Solinet provided technical supervision for the sessions. The contract would have permitted one more session, but four sessions apparently have satisfied demand for this special subject. [Total attendance—60.]

Demystifying Mold, with Dr. Thomas Parker of Pest Control Services, Kennett Square, PA—sessions were held on July 18 in Cheney and on July 20 in Seattle. The audience's attention was fully engaged, despite the esoteric nature of learning about air flow and HVAC systems. The evaluations were approving, with a general tone of "keep these workshops coming". [Total attendance 43; (13 and 30).]

Future Workshops

Basic Book Repair, a hands-on session with Kris Kern and Carolee Harrison of Portland State University, at the Camas Public Library on August 4, 2006, and at the West Richland Branch of the Mid-Columbia Library System on August 18. As a hands-on class, registration is limited to 12 per session.[Current registration: 12 in Camas, 14 in Richland] As a special (unannounced) bonus, each attendee will take back to their library a kit of book repair tools.

Preservation of Photographic Negatives, with Gary Albright of Rochester, NY, will be offered Sept. 6 in Seattle and Sept. 7 in Cheney. [Current registration: 36 in Seattle; 14 in Cheney.]

Gary has tabulated the registration sheets for most of our workshops, and even missing the first three (which are on an earlier system, which we are trying to recover), we have had an attendance of over 730 !

Status of Grants

There are twelve WPI general grants outstanding for this year. Two recipients have requested extra time—Seattle Public Library, and the Museum of Flight. This has been granted within the strict federal constraints which require final invoices by the end of September, or in one case the middle of October as an absolute date. Any invoices not received by then will become the responsibility of the recipient. (Seattle Public's delay is due to the sale of the company which makes Mylar, with a resulting back-up of orders.)

Central Washington University's grant activities are complete and they have submitted their final report. Centralia College has also completed its work and submitted its final report. Everett Public Library has invoiced almost all of its funding. Final reports and invoices for those without extensions are due August 18, 2006.

Tom Clareson's Proposal for a Telephone Survey

A conversation at the post-assessment conference brought together the idea of Tom Clareson, who had done the original WPI survey of preservation needs nearly three years ago, doing a post-project survey to discover changes in attitudes and skills in the preservation area. Scaling down from the idea of a numerical survey, with compilation required by a sub-contracting firm, Tom has sent a description of a telephone survey, which should be possible within the remaining time and funding constraints. With the Advisory Group's approval, a contract for this service will be begun immediately.

A Wrap-up Meeting on Cooperative Preservation in Washington after WPI

Susan reminded that the State Library's pattern for federal projects is usually for a three-year cycle, which WPI has nearly completed, and that after September she will have to be focusing on other WSL activities. Whether there would be available funding and arrangement time for a wrap-up conference is possible, although problematic. But a continuing structural context and support will not be able to come from WSL.

Gary had compiled the following group of links to sites in other states, with the different approaches they have taken to create a statewide cooperative preservation network.

- 1) NON-STATE LIBRARY MODELS (501C3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONAL AND PERSONAL MEMBERS) THAT HAVE A BROADER FOCUS THAN LIBRARIES - ARCHIVES, HISTORIC SITES, AND MUSEUMS:

North Carolina Preservation Alliance.
<http://www.ncpreservation.org/>

New Mexico Preservation apparently doesn't have a website and is currently inactive, but hope to schedule a workshop this fall.

2) PART OF ANOTHER CONSORTIUM

Illinois - Carli Preservation Task Force
<http://www.carli.illinois.edu/comms/prestf.html>

3) LSTA FUNDING - DIFFERENT MODEL FROM WPI

California Preservation Program - LSTA funding with another fiscal agent (Pennisula Library System) to reduce CSL staff time.

For Other state programs - See:

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/Preservation/coopreservation.html>

OTHER:

Alliance for Response - possible disaster response network

WESTPAS