Spotlight on: 
T-Kay Sangwand, Human Rights Archivist, the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection, UT Austin

T-Kay Sangwand is a Certified Archivist with experience seeking, developing, and maintaining post-custodial digital preservation partnerships with human rights nongovernmental organizations in U.S., Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Currently, she works as the Human Rights Archivist at the Human Rights Documentation Initiative and Librarian for Brazilian Studies at the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection at UT Austin. Sangwand earned a Bachelor’s degree from Scripps College in Gender & Women’s Studies and Latin American Studies and Master’s degrees from UCLA in Latin American Studies and Information Studies with specializations in Archives, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Q: Can you briefly tell us what the Human Rights Documentation Initiative is?
A: The HRDI develops post-custodial archival partnerships with small grassroots organizations that create and/or collect documentation of human rights violations. Within these partnerships, the HRDI works with organizations to build their archival capacity through consultation and trainings, in addition to serving as an additional repository and access point for the documentation.

Q: How did it come about?
A: The idea for the HRDI grew out of the discussions held at the 2007 conference, “Human Rights Archives and Documentation: Meeting the Needs of Research, Teaching, Advocacy and Social Justice,” which was held at Columbia University and co-sponsored by UT Libraries. The discussions articulated a need for efforts dedicated to the long-term preservation of human rights documentation, particularly in born digital forms. In 2008, UT Libraries received a grant from the Bridgeway Foundation to build the HRDI.

Q: What collections does it include? Is it entirely electronic?
A: To date, the HRDI has partnered with organizations from all over the world, including the Free Burma Rangers (Southeast Asia), Guatemala Historical National Police Archive, Kigali Genocide Memorial (Rwanda), National Security Archive (Washington DC), Museum of the Word and Image (El Salvador), Texas After Violence Project, and WITNESS (New York).

The collections from these partnerships include video testimonies from Rwanda Genocide survivors; recordings of Radio Venceremos, the guerilla radio station during El Salvador’s civil war; raw footage of undercover reporting for a documentary on sex trafficking; and oral histories with people who have been affected by the death penalty in Texas.

4 http://av.lib.utexas.edu/index.php?title=Category:Texas_After_Violence_Project

continued on page 12
THE SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS

The Society of Southwest Archivists is a professional organization established to stimulate and make available research in archival administration and records management; promote sound principles and standards for preserving and administering records; foster opportunities for the education and training of archivists, records managers, and custodians of private papers; strengthen relations with others in allied disciplines; and cooperate with organizations and institutions having mutual interests in the preservation and use of our recorded knowledge.

We invite you to join or extend your membership. Membership registration is available via the SSA website at [http://southwestarchivists.org/membership](http://southwestarchivists.org/membership).

Southwestern Archivist is the quarterly newsletter of the SSA. The editors give priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space permits. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome, as are longer Spotlight columns and our new “entertainment” pieces. Please query Lauren Goodley (lgoodley@txstate.edu) or Kate L. Blalack (kate@woodyguthriecenter.org) or your area liaison if you have any questions about a proposed article.

Submission process: Please send all final submissions to one of the state liaisons listed below. The preferred submission format is a Word document attached via e-mail. The document should include a title; the author’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; and captions and citations for images. Please send images as separate e-mail attachments.

Submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and available space. Because of space limitations the editors reserve the right to omit submissions or hold them over for a future issue.

**Editors**
- Lauren Goodley lgoodley@txstate.edu
- Kate L. Blalack kate@woodyguthriecenter.org

**Arizona liaison**
Joyce Martin joyce.martin@asu.edu

**Arkansas liaison**
Stephanie Bayless sbayless@cals.org

**Louisiana liaison**
Jennifer Mitchell jmitch84@lsu.edu

**New Mexico liaison**
Felicia Lujan felicia.lujan@state.nm.us

**Leadership Log submissions**
Krishna Shenoy krishnas@jfk.org

**Oklahoma liaison**
Misty D. Smith misty.d.smith@okstate.edu

**North Texas liaison**
Melissa Gonzales mggonzales@uta.edu

**South and West Texas liaison**
Phyllis Kinnison pkinnison@mosthistory.org

**Out-of-Region liaison**
Shelly Croteau shelly.croteau@sos.mo.gov

The SSA Web page, [http://southwestarchivists.org](http://southwestarchivists.org), is maintained by Pati Threatt at McNeese State University. Names of the executive board members, officers, and committee chairs are available online. The SSA Leadership Blog, also on the website, is a source for official news from the executive board and committee members. Further information, updates, an items of note can be found on the SSA Facebook page, [https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists](https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists), or on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/SWarchivists](https://twitter.com/SWarchivists), @SWarchivists, and #swarchivists.
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FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to the May 2014 edition of your newsletter. Our colleagues have been very generous in sharing their work, as you will see. Don’t forget to check out the leadership log as well, and the Archival Trends feature, where you can continue the discussion on the website forums tab at http://www.southwestarchivists.org/lets-talk.

May is always busy and exciting for SSAers attending the Annual Meeting. Information on the program and tours are on pages 10 and 11. Please note the Rideshare/Roomshare signup sheet if that is of interest to you. And, Twitter manager extrordinaire Melissa Gonzales will be tweeting updates as well as information about the sessions. The #ssarchivists and #ssa14 hashtags should be quite active on May 28-31, so please do attend and participate in the conference virtually!

May also marks the end of the leadership year; please join us in thanking our board members and leaders for their hard work this year.

WHAT’S ON THE WEB?

SSA Webpage: southwestarchivists.org
Announcements: Homepage
Member directory: Members tab
Professional development opportunities:
  Events-->Education
Annual Meeting information
  Events-->Annual Meeting-->Register
Job announcements and CFPs: Forums tab
SSA functioning and governance: About tab
Discussion Group: Forums-->Let’s Talk
Newsletter issues: News tab
Scholarships: Committees tab

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivistsUnofficial communication avenue. You may view the page without signing in to Facebook. Includes reminders and updates, area repository news, job announcements.

Twitter: https://twitter.com/SWarchivists Unofficial communication avenue. Every Facebook post gets retweeted, along with non-regional news and events.

ADVERTISING

We appreciate and encourage advertisers. Please see our rate sheet online at http://www.southwestarchivists.org/newsletter or contact Lauren Goodley at lgoodley@txstate.edu.

As of August 2013, the circulation totaled 336 electronic and 194 hardcopy totaling 530 individual and institutional members in Arkansas, Arizona, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and out-of region.

Full page, half page, quarter page, and business card sizes are available, and discounts apply for purchase of 1 year (4 consecutive issues).

SUBMISSIONS

Please submit timely news items to your area liaisons by the 10th of January, April, July, and October. Early submissions are encouraged.

Suggested word count is 300 to 700 words, plus images if desired.

We are also soliciting Spotlight features (found on the front page), Archival Trends features (found on the inside back page), and Entertainment features (page 18 of this issue).

Please contact your liaison with any questions. We look forward to hearing from you!
In these last months of my SSA presidency, I have reviewed the year and all that has been achieved, thanks to the work of the Executive Board and the various SSA committee chairs and members. Here’s a sample of this year’s accomplishments, by committees:

**Finance** – with new Treasurer Kristy Sorensen leading the effort, the finance committee drafted a Spending and Investment Policy that will guide the board in making decisions on the organization’s finances.

**Scholarships** – led by Benna Vaughan, the committee widely advertised the availability of SSA scholarships, and as a result, received a record amount of applicants for the four scholarships that SSA administers. The need for scholarships is apparent; please consider making a contribution to the SSA Endowment Fund to help us grow our endowment.

**Nominating** – under the leadership of Lynn Whitfield, the committee oversaw a smooth election process. The large group of people who put their names on the ballot shows the enthusiasm SSA members have for pursuing leadership opportunities.

**Professional Development** – Felicia Williamson and her committee piloted an oral history webinar in the fall, and they have prepared a great roster of pre-conference workshops in New Orleans.

**Publications** – Lauren Goodley and Kate Blalack not only edit the Southwestern Archivist, but they and the liaisons also get the word out to SSA members through the SSA website, Facebook and Twitter.

**Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee** – Katie Salzmann, Trish Nugent, and their committees have worked hard to put together a fantastic Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Please read what is in store for us elsewhere in the newsletter.

SSA’s Diversity and Outreach efforts will be the topic discussed during the SSA: Past, Present and Future session at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, May 30. Please join us and bring your ideas for promoting diversity in the archival profession and in our collections.

I look forward to joining you in New Orleans to take advantage of the workshops, learn from the educational sessions, and network with other SSA members.

Susan Novick
SSA has participated from the very beginning in the group that is now known as the Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC), affiliated with the Society of American Archivists. Regionals at the city, state, and multi-state levels collaborate in this group, each with one formal representative chosen by the regional itself. In SSA’s case, the representative is the current president or the immediate past president. Membership in SAA is not required for participation.

This group came out of SAA past-president Gregor Trinkaus-Randall’s strong interest in developing connections between regional archival groups. Carol Bartels worked on the early planning meetings in 2012-2013, and Amanda Focke served as the next SSA representative, co-chairing the RAAC Steering Committee with Rachel Chatalbash of Yale University.

The Regional Archival Associations Consortium provides an official venue for information exchange amongst the leadership of regional archival organizations, and between the Regionals and the Society of American Archivists. The group serves as a formal entity for fostering collaboration among the Regionals, and between the Regionals and SAA. It offers formal channels to coordinate efforts intra-state, interstate, and with SAA which facilitate streamlining actions, reducing costs, and increasing services to archivists around the nation. Such efforts include but are not limited to advocacy, public awareness, education, disaster planning and recovery, and grant development.

Some activities planned by RAAC include sharing educational resources such as locally developed workshops and trainings, preparing an advocacy toolkit, maintaining a centralized calendar of events featuring the regional groups’ activities, hosting a directory of regionals, and offering information about grants available to regionals. A recent online survey of RAAC representatives was conducted and those results will be published in summary format, as well as a three year plan written by RAAC members and approved by the Society of the American Archivists Council.

There is a lot of exciting potential for this group, with so much relevant expertise to share and the possibility of new connections at every level across the nation. See http://www2.archivists.org/groups/regional-archival-associations-consortium-raac for more information and news updates.
Archival Certification:

Validate your achievements, knowledge and skills

The 2014 Certified Archivist examination will be held August 13 in Albany (NY), Madison (WI), Phoenix (AZ), Tuscaloosa (AL) and Washington (DC) -- and wherever 5 or more candidates wish to take it.

In 2013, more than 200 candidates took the examination at 17 sites throughout the country.

The 2014 application and more information is available at www.certifiedarchivists.org or contact the Academy of Certified Archivists (aca@caphill.com or 518-694-8471).

The application deadline is May 15, so don’t wait!
2014 Scholarships Announced
Benna Vaughn, CA, Scholarship Committee Chair

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee, I would like to announce the winners of the Society of Southwest Archivists 2014 Scholarships:

Barbara Takiguchi
Moriarty Historical Society & Museum, Moriarty, NM
SSA Annual Meeting Scholarship

Laura J. Treat
University of Texas iSchool
John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship

Angela Swift
University of Texas iSchool
David B. Gracy II Scholarship

Holly Hasenfratz
Dickinson Research Center, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City
A. Otis Herbert, Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship

There were many strong applicants, and the committee worked hard to choose just one for each award. SSA Scholarships are supported by SLOTTO and auction items at the annual meeting, and by contributions.

Congratulations!

Benna Vaughan, Chair
Scholarship Committee

Treasurer’s Report
Kristy Sorensen, CA, SSA Treasurer

As of the last quarterly report to the board on January 31, 2014, the Society had $148,797.19 in operating and investment accounts and was on track for revenue and expenses according to the fiscal year 2013/2014 budget.

I’m continuing to rely on the excellent work of Rich Adam, Tim Blevins, Sarah Canby Jackson, and Susan Novick, each serving on the SSA Finance Committee as we research the different investment accounts and work on a draft of the Spending and Investment Policy for the SSA board to review in May. A full report on the policy and the work of the committee will be distributed after the May meeting.
The Professional Development Committee is proud of the slate of workshops available to its membership, including our first sponsored webinar on April 22, 2014. At the annual conference in New Orleans, we will be co-sponsoring a SAA-DAS course, Inreach and Outreach for Digital Archives, which comes highly recommended from SSA members who are currently taking the DAS curriculum.

We are also offering two grant writing workshops, in addition to a workshop about project planning. We look forward to seeing you and hearing about what new workshops you would like to see offered in 2015.

Inreach and Outreach for Digital Archives (SAA DAS course)
Description: Are you ready to build a digital archives program? This course will provide the core components necessary to gather support, engage stakeholders, and enact the change necessary to be able to handle digital archives in your institution. Participants will learn techniques for engaging collection donors and technology staff in order to effectively collect and manage born-digital materials.
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014
Time: 9:00-5:00
Full day workshop offered in partial fulfillment of the DAS program. Take a trip to the SSA annual and check another DAS course off your list!

Project Management for Archivists
Description: Whether you are processing a collection, implementing a new digital system, moving to a new facility, setting up a public program, or creating an award-winning exhibit, you are serving as a de facto project manager. Archivists spend a large amount of our time working with these types of assignments with little to no project management training in our repertoire. In this workshop, participants will learn practical project management skills and tips with real-world application possibilities. We will discuss the ins-and-outs of project planning, scheduling, communication, and system utilization. Participants will be invited to share their successes and challenges, as well as present current projects for group discussion and assistance.
Instructors: Stephanie Bayless and Brian Robertson from the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies.
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014
Time: 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Grant Writing Workshops
Description: These workshops are being developed and offered by experienced professionals Ann Hodges and Danielle Plumer, who have given a great deal of thought to the best way to prepare people to write grants that get funded.
The first grant writing workshop, Part 1—Grants 101: Becoming a Grant-Ready Institution, was a one-hour webinar offered on April 22, which covered available sources of funding and basic information about grants, for those new to the enterprise.

Grant Writing Workshop Part 2—Planning Fundable Grant Projects
Description: The second grant writing workshop is a three-hour in person workshop, covering grant planning and basic application information, intended for all audiences but especially people fairly new to grant writing.
Title: Planning Fundable Grant Projects
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014
Time: 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Cost: $50

Grant Writing Workshop Part 3—Grant Writing Clinic
Description: The third grant writing workshop is a three-hour, in person grant writing clinic, intended for experienced grant writers. Attendees will be asked to submit an application. The deadline for the application is May 12, 2014.
Title: Grant writing Clinic
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014
Time: 1:30-5:00 p.m.
Cost: $75

Please visit the SSA website for more information and to sign up for these courses. http://www.southwestarchivists.org/workshops14

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST SSAERS TO EARN THE DAS CERTIFICATE:

Hillary Bober
Julia Corrin
Dara Flinn
Amanda York Focke
Irwin Lachoff
Angela Ossar
Sarah Powell
Rebecca Romanchuk
Laura Saeger
Lorraine Stuart
Jessica Tucker
Tonia J. Wood
Kent Woynowski
The SSA 2014 host committee has been working hard to ensure that New Orleans’ “Casting a Wide Net” conference will be most memorable. To that end, we have scheduled a number of tours, a delightful evening reception on Friday, and many panel sessions that should appeal to all archivists, no matter their institution or interests.

There are four separate repository tours on Friday afternoon, two of which will be walking tours in the French Quarter.

- The Historic New Orleans Collection and the Jazz & Heritage Foundation (French Quarter walking tour).
- The St. Louis Cathedral and Old Ursuline Convent (French Quarter walking tour).
- Tulane University’s Louisiana Research Collection and the Amistad Research Center (Uptown tour).

Current exhibitions include Hale Woodruff’s Murals at Talladega College at the New Orleans Museum of Art, and “Shout, Sister, Shout: The Boswell Sisters of New Orleans” at the Historic New Orleans Collection.

For those who wish to explore New Orleans further, there is a link on the Conference website, http://www.gnoarchivists.org/2014-ssa-guide-to-new-orleans/, that offers a few other options for enjoying your time here.

Also opening just in time for our conference is the Outlet Collection at Riverwalk (www.riverwalkneworleans.com), a shopping experience that promises high-end goods for budget-minded shoppers. The Riverwalk is six blocks from the conference hotel and will be well worth a visit, in between attending panels, touring cultural institutions, and eating, drinking and making merry, Archivist style. Where else would you want to be but in New Orleans in May?
# Schedule-At-a-Glance

## New Orleans, Louisiana: May 28-31, 2014

**NOTE:** Schedule subject to change.

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<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<td>Plenary Session: 8:30-9:30</td>
<td>SSA Past, Present &amp; Future: 8:30-9:30</td>
<td>Breakfast &amp; Business Mtg: 8:00-10:00 SLOTTO: 9:00-10:00</td>
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<td>All Day Workshops</td>
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<td>Inreach and Outreach for</td>
<td>The Road Less Taken: New</td>
<td>Boot camp: Records Management: Embracing</td>
<td>Boot camp: Driven by Disaster: How Unexpected</td>
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<td>Digital Archives (9:00-5:00)</td>
<td>means and paths towards the</td>
<td>the Dark Side</td>
<td>Events Challenge Collection Activities</td>
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<td>archival profession</td>
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<td>New Mexico Historical Records</td>
<td>Tribal Archives: Lone Arranger in Indian</td>
<td>Stories We Don't Tell, Or Do We?</td>
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<td>Advisory Board Grant Program:</td>
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<td>What’s Cooking in the</td>
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<td>Morning Only Workshops</td>
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<td>Planning Fundable Grant</td>
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<td>Projects (8:30-11:30)</td>
<td>Minnows: Reeling Volunteers</td>
<td>and Using Maps of Your Data</td>
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<td>&quot;Lights, Camera, Archives!</td>
<td>&quot;Hidden Learning: The Student Experience in</td>
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<td>&quot;Digging Deep: Exposing the</td>
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<td>Project Management for</td>
<td>Marketing Archives: Promoting</td>
<td>Historic New Orleans Collection</td>
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<td>Archivists (1:00-5:00)</td>
<td>Archival Finding Aids on</td>
<td>&amp; Jazz Heritage Foundation</td>
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<td>Grant writing Clinic (1:30-5:00)</td>
<td>Social Media – What Worked</td>
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<td>and What Didn’t Work</td>
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<td>Changing Directions: Fresh</td>
<td>St. Louis Cathedral &amp; Old Ursuline Convent</td>
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<td>Perspectives on Prioritizing</td>
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<td>and Processing Collections</td>
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<td>Amistad Research Center</td>
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<td>&quot;Commemorating the Battle</td>
<td>&quot;SNAP Happy Hour: 5:30-7:00</td>
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### Rideshare/Roomshare

Archivists of Central Texas have created a rideshare/roomshare signup sheet as an editable Google doc, and are inviting people to use it to find car pool buddies and roommates: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Al33u94ehNFjdHVoSzZYOVVEdk2VkhIMkF6SFpPb3c&usps=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Al33u94ehNFjdHVoSzZYOVVEdk2VkhIMkF6SFpPb3c&usps=sharing)

Or try this link: [http://bit.ly/1t9OiW7](http://bit.ly/1t9OiW7)
Spotlight on T-Kay Sangwand, Human Rights Archivist

The HRDI also holds collections donated through traditional means. Some of those collections include the papers of lawyer Scott J. Atlas\(^5\), who represented Ricardo Aldape Guerra, a Mexican national wrongly held on US death row for fifteen years. Also, the HRDI holds materials of filmmaker Deborah Shaffer’s, including raw footage from her award winning documentaries *Dance of Hope* [Chile], *Fire from the Mountain* [Nicaragua], the Oscar winning *Witness to War: Dr. Charlie Clements* [El Salvador].

**Q:** How does the HRDI collaborate with other archives and records creators? Do they come to you or do you seek them out?

**A:** All of our partnerships have resulted from word of mouth connections and personal introductions from students, faculty, and other allies.

**Q:** You have a strong background, both in your studies and work, with underrepresented communities in archives. How has that helped with the work you do now at HRDI?

**A:** I think it’s strengthened my commitment to working with communities to preserve their/our histories, and to ensure that these archives are accessible, usable, and accountable to the communities that they represent.

**Q:** Do you have any thoughts about the role of social justice in archives or the critique of the archivist activist? The HRDI seems inherently social justice oriented. Do you consider your professional archival work social justice work? And if so, do you think social justice work is limited to human right archives?

**A:** Yes, I definitely believe that HRDI’s work belongs to a social justice framework, but I don’t believe that social justice work in archives is limited to explicitly defined human rights archives or archivists. As archivists, our decisions around appraisal and accession literally shape the historical record. We have the responsibility to ensure that the historical record is representative of the communities in which our archives are embedded, and not just those who are most prominent and powerful. This critical archival practice can be enacted within any archival context, not just human rights archives.

**Q:** How are you incorporating your Brazilian Studies Specialist work with HRDI work?

**A:** I hope that one of the next HRDI partnerships will be with a Brazil based human rights organization!

**Q:** What’s an average day at work? What are your favorite and least favorite tasks?

**A:** I love that there is no average day at work. Serving as both a subject specialist librarian and archivist affords the opportunity work on a number of diverse projects and tasks. These include the usual archival work of processing collections, working at the reference desk, leading instruction sessions, and selecting materials for purchase. I also have less traditional tasks, such as traveling to partner organizations to build relationships and provide equipment and archival support; giving tours to special guests like Junot Diaz; digging through the library’s record collection to find music to play at events and display in exhibitions; and helping to organize live music events in the library.

**Q:** How are you finding Texas and Austin?

**A:** Being born and raised in Los Angeles, it took me a while to adjust to Austin, but I am definitely enjoying being here now. Some of my favorite things about Austin are: lack of traffic, short commutes, and cheaper rent (at least relative to LA); the Alamo Drafthouse; SXSW (yup, I said it); East Side King; and the community I’ve found here.

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Find us on Facebook!

SSA reminders and updates, local repository news, jobs, and more!
[https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists](https://www.facebook.com/southwestarchivists)

Follow us on Twitter

Every Facebook post gets tweeted, along with non-regional news and events. Follow us at [https://twitter.com/SWarchivists](https://twitter.com/SWarchivists)
Lowell Observatory, a private, nonprofit research institution located in Flagstaff, Arizona, is excited to announce the completion of its Putnam Collection Center (PCC), which will be dedicated on June 7, 2014. The PCC contains the Observatory’s library and archives, reading room, processing room, offices, and lobby. The lobby will house “Big Red,” Percival Lowell’s 1911 Stevens Duryea touring car, as well as exhibits of items from the archives. The lobby space will have visual access into the collection repository, and will serve as a tour stop for the Observatory’s public programs.

Architect Jim Roberts of Roberts-Jones Associates, Inc. in Phoenix designed the PCC building. It is secure and climate controlled, and the lobby has a separate HVAC system to accommodate the Stevens Duryea automobile. The Observatory’s collections are currently housed in several less-than-ideal locations across the campus, and they will be brought together in the PCC. Collection materials include the personal papers of several Lowell astronomers, trustees and other employees; Percival Lowell’s personal library, rare books, correspondence, observation logbooks, photographs, blueprints and drawings, hand-drawn Mars globes, over 30,000 photographic glass plates—including one of the Pluto discovery plates (the other is at the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum)—audiovisual material, newspaper clippings, and scientific instruments and equipment.

Boston astronomer Percival Lowell founded Lowell Observatory in 1894 to conduct studies of the planets, particularly Mars, using the 24-inch Clark Telescope. Lowell’s theories about artificial canals on Mars were controversial, but they also inspired the science fiction genre and writers, including H.G. Wells and Edgar Rice Burroughs. In 1912, Lowell astronomer V.M. Slipher observed the first evidence of the expanding universe, and Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto at the Observatory in 1930. Today, Lowell Observatory is an active research institution with over a dozen astronomers studying stars, planets, comets, asteroids and galaxies. Some 80,000 visitors each year enjoy tours, telescope viewing, exhibits, multimedia shows, and more.

For more information contact Lauren Amundson at Lauren.Amundson@asu.edu.
When most people think of architecture in Houston, they think of modernist or post-modernist work by architects such as Mies Van Der Rohe, Philip Johnson, Cesar Pelli, and I.M. Pei. However, in recent years works from earlier periods have gained considerable public attention, creating strong interest in preserving the city’s older architectural heritage. In 2010 the Woodson Research Center at Fondren Library was presented with an offer to acquire and preserve a collection from the heir of a local fabricator of high-quality custom architectural details in metal and other materials.

Founded in the late 1920s by Herman Weber as Weber Iron Works, Weber Iron & Wire Company created original designs and duplications of fine 19th-century ornamental ironwork for the projects of many of Houston’s leading architects of the 20th century. Most notably, the firm produced work for John F. Staub and Birdsall P. Briscoe, known for their homes in River Oaks, Broadacres, and other historic Houston neighborhoods.

During the 1920s, Staub designed homes in the romantic European vernacular styles then popular. After the early 1930s, however, he displayed a preference for more restrained architectural styles, especially Georgian Revival. His first independent commission in Houston was for the River Oaks Country Club (1924, demolished). Staub was retained to design Bayou Bend (1928), the house of Ima Hogg. Between 1924 and 1958, Staub designed thirty-one houses in River Oaks and a number of houses in Broadacres.

Briscoe began independent practice in 1912 and worked until 1955, and was best known for his elegantly composed and detailed houses. His finest houses, designed between 1926 and 1940, exhibit an array of historical architectural styles and are distinguished by the architect’s gift for proportion and ornamental detail. He worked extensively in the Houston neighborhoods of Courtlandt Place, Shadyside, Broadacres, and River Oaks.

The collection of architectural details includes extraordinarily beautiful pattern boards (design molds) and metal castings of botanical, geometrical, and animal ornaments from the 1930s to the 1990s. Other materials include photographs, architectural drawings, reference books, and tools used in the manufacturing process. In order to produce the exceptional metalwork exactly as specified by the designs of the architects, scale and full-sized drawings of the designs were created. Artisans then sculpted the pattern with full ornamental details in clay; the clay replica was cast in aluminum and placed on a pattern board used to make the final castings in iron, bronze, or aluminum.
The Woodson is fortunate to have documentation of the process in the archives – from scale drawings to photographs of the installation of the ironwork design.

Acquisition of the materials required the collaboration of members of the Rice University community, members of the Houston chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and Houston preservation communities over the period of a year, and the purchase was finalized in 2011. Over the next months the materials were cleaned, identified, and organized, and a large-scale digitization project was put into place. The Weber-Staub-Briscoe Architectural Collection (MS 586) can be viewed by appointment at the Woodson Research Center. A catalog of representative objects from the collection has been finalized and is now available in the Woodson. Over the next months the materials were cleaned, identified, and organized, and a large-scale digitization project was put into place. The Weber-Staub-Briscoe Architectural Collection (MS 586) can be viewed by appointment at the Woodson Research Center. A catalog of representative objects from the collection has been finalized and is now available in the Woodson.

The Weber-Staub-Briscoe Architectural Collection (MS 586) can be viewed by appointment at the Woodson Research Center. A catalog of representative objects from the collection has been finalized and is now available in the Woodson. An online archive of 951 digital objects photographed and scanned from the collection is available in the Rice Digital Scholarship Archive at http://scholarship.rice.edu/handle/1911/68494, and the related finding aid is found at https://library.rice.edu/collections/WRC/fnd/finding-aids/manuscripts/0586. Interested parties can also view Weber ornamental ironwork in public venues such as Bayou Bend (the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston showcase of American decorative arts) and Glenwood Cemetery. For further information, contact Dara Flinn at (713) 348-2542, dflinn@rice.edu.

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Annual Conference

The Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) will host its seventh International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums at the Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel and Conference Center, June 9-12, 2014, in Palm Springs, California. Held on the tribal lands of Agua Caliente Band of the Cahuilla Indians—the original inhabitants and host tribe—the conference will attract more than 560 participants from almost every tribal nation in the United States.

Funded by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), ATALM 2014 provides opportunities for archivists, librarians, museum staff, educators, students, tribal leaders, researchers, and community volunteers to participate in 18 pre-conference events, 88 conference sessions, 22 hands-on workshops, and 60 poster sessions; plus vendor and artist exhibits, keynote luncheons, and cultural events.

Conference sessions, presented by experienced leaders in the field of tribal archives, libraries, and museums, will cover digital projects, cultural tourism, collection management, fundraising, volunteer development, exhibit production, archives operations, digital storytelling, oral history, endangered languages, staff development, literacy projects and model library and museum projects. Pre-conference tours include a curator-led tour of The Autry National Center of the American West in Los Angeles and a tour of the Pechanga Cultural Resource Facility in Temecula. Evening cultural events are planned at the Agua Caliente Cultural Center and the Palm Springs Museum of Art.

Honorary Chair for the conference is Dr. W. Rick West, President and CEO of the Autry National Center of the American West and founding director of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC.

A full schedule of events and sessions may be found at www.atalm.org. The event is open to the public with registration costs starting at $250.00. For additional information, phone (405) 522-3515 or email atalminfo@gmail.com.

ATALM

The Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums is a not-for-profit educational organization that provides leadership in the development of indigenous archives, libraries, and museums by advocating excellence in cultural programs and services, promoting education and citizen empowerment, and providing the tools and support necessary to meet the challenges of growth and change. For more information, including a list of board members and previous programs, please visit www.atalm.org.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. For more information, visit www.imls.gov.

Since 2006, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries has played a leading role in supporting national educational programs and services for tribal archives, libraries, and museums. As the official state library of Oklahoma, the Department commits resources to helping ensure quality library services for the state’s large indigenous community. For more information, visit www.odl.state.ok.us.
The University of Arkansas Libraries Special Collections opened the papers of former U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers to researchers in a ceremony March 19, 2014, in the Helen Robson Walton Reading Room in Mullins Library at the University of Arkansas. Guest speakers were Carolyn Allen, Dean of University of Arkansas Libraries; Sharon Gaber, provost of the University of Arkansas; Senator David H. Pryor; Archie Schaffer, nephew of Senator Bumpers; and Timothy G. Nutt, head of Special Collections.

The Bumpers papers (MC1490) were donated to the University of Arkansas special collections department by the senator in 2000. The collection includes biographical materials, correspondence, legislative and committee materials, personal and office records, speeches, photographs, audio-visual materials and ephemera, all of which document his roots in Arkansas, as well as his senatorial and post-senatorial career in Washington, D.C. The event featured an exhibit of photographs and documents from the collection.

Bumpers was born Aug. 12, 1925, in Charleston, Arkansas. He completed one semester at the University of Arkansas before joining the U.S. Marines. After his discharge in 1946, Bumpers returned to the university and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in political science in 1948. Bumpers earned his law degree from Northwestern University in 1951 and returned to Charleston to manage his family’s hardware and furniture store, and to open a private law practice. Bumpers was elected Charleston city attorney in 1952 and served until 1970. Following the Supreme Court decision on Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, Bumpers advised the Charleston School Board to abide by the ruling, and consequently, Charleston School District became the first public school district in the South to integrate.

In 1970 Bumpers ran for governor of Arkansas, and for the Senate in 1974, where he served until his retirement in 1999. During his twenty-four years in the Senate, Bumpers served on the Appropriations Committee, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and as chair of the Small Business Committee. He developed a reputation as a fiscal conservative, seeking drastic cutbacks to defense spending and striving toward reducing the national debt. He introduced a bill in 1983 to designate 91,000 acres in Arkansas as wilderness, earning him the Legislator of the Year award from the National Wildlife Federation. In 1998 he was awarded the Ansel Adams award from the Wilderness Society.

The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees named the College of Agriculture, Food and Life Sciences in his honor in 1995. In 2003 he published his memoirs, The Best Lawyer in a One-Lawyer Town. He and Betty live in Little Rock. For more information please visit http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections, or contact Joshua Youngblood at jcyoungb@uark.edu or (479) 575-7251.

The Texas Collection at Baylor University hosted the Texas Map Society’s annual Spring Meeting on April 4-5, 2014. This was the first time the event was held on the Baylor campus in Waco, Texas. The festivities began with a private tour of The Texas Collection and the Ray I. Riley Digitization Center. The program included unique interpretations of Texas maps given by Robert Caldwell, Jim Tiller, Walt Wilson, Kenna Lang Archer, and Jeff Dunn at the Armstrong Browning Library.

A new exhibition, “Mapping Texas: From Mexican State to Republic,” was created for this special event. The exhibition traces the evolution of Texas from a Mexican state, through the republic years and ultimately its admission as the 28th state of the United States. This special collection of maps depicts the internal and external factors that contributed to the final boundaries of the state. The exhibit utilizes travel narratives of individuals who explored Texas from 1820s through the 1840s. Published along with their exciting accounts were maps that introduced new audiences to the landscape and possibilities of Texas. Featured individuals include: General Manuel de Mier y Terán, a Mexican General and explorer who assisted in the creation of Stephen F. Austin’s map of Texas; Mary Austin Holley, a cousin of Stephen F. Austin who chronicled her Texas travels; and George Wilkins Kendall, a participant of the ill-fated Santa Fe Expedition.

This exhibition is ongoing throughout the summer at The Texas Collection. The maps on display in the exhibition, in addition to a number of other maps from the time period, are also available to be viewed online through Baylor Libraries Digital Collections at http://digitalcollections.baylor.edu. Information about the Texas Map Society can be found at http://www.texasmapsociety.org. For more information contact John S. Wilson, Director of The Texas Collection, at (254) 710-3457 or john_wilson@baylor.edu.
The Oklahoma Department of Libraries, in partnership with the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board and the Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust, announce that the City of Oklahoma City Clerk’s Office was awarded a Preservation Assistance Grant of $2,610 to purchase archival housing for some of their oldest documents.

The City Clerk’s Office maintains the permanent official record of city business and many documents date back to 1890 when Oklahoma City was incorporated. All records held by the City Clerk’s Office are open and available for research, but most do not currently have an index for public use. Archivist Jennifer Day is currently developing the archival program, which will include publicly-available finding aids and item-level indexes. Preservation housing is a vital step in the process, and receipt of these grant funds will make that possible.

“We hope that these grants will facilitate increased local support for the care of historic collections held by organizations such as the City Clerk’s Office,” said Susan McVey, Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

The grant opportunity was an outcome of a statewide survey that assessed the condition of collections held by Oklahoma’s 800 museums and libraries. The study found that almost all organizations have lost historic materials through theft, environmental damage, and other causes. “It is our goal to stem the loss of Oklahoma’s heritage by providing funding for secure storage, environmental controls, archival storage supplies, fire detection, and other projects that address threats to collections,” McVey said.

Support for the grant program was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the funding arm for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Grants totaling $50,000 were awarded to twelve Oklahoma institutions. With support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), an additional twelve organizations will receive the assistance of a professional conservator to assist with the development of Collections Assessment Plans.

For more information on contact Jennifer Day at jennifer.day@okc.gov.
In addition to taking care of their court business, visitors to the newly renovated Municipal Court Building at 106 S. Harwood can also learn the story behind the century-old structure. “The City of Dallas Municipal Building - Majestic Icon of Dallas” is now on semi-permanent display on the first floor of the historic 1914 city hall.

The exhibit tells the story of the building and its connection to Dallas municipal government, Dallas history, and the building’s role in the life and death of President John F. Kennedy. Eight panels discuss the history and architectural facets of both the 1914 building and its 1956 annex, recently restored for Court and Detention Services. Other panels relate the history of Dallas city government and the many services the city delivers to its citizens.

The exhibit panels are displayed behind the historic cashier windows of the first floor, which are no longer used, and include historic documents, reproductions, and photos from the Dallas Municipal Archives and other local collections. The Archives, a division of the City Secretary’s Office, received a grant from the Austin-based Humanities Texas, which fosters Texas heritage, culture, and education.

“A major audience for this exhibit will be students in grades six through twelve, specifically seventh graders who take mandatory Texas history,” said City Archivist John Slate. “We anticipate that students will tour the building to learn about Dallas government, through a prepared curriculum developed by the University of North Texas and offered through the online Portal to Texas history.” These lesson plans will join other Dallas-related curriculum at http://education.texashistory.unt.edu/lessons/primary%20source%20sets/JFK/index.html.

Completed in 1956, the Old Municipal Building and its Annex served as Dallas City Hall for 22 years, until the current City Hall was completed in 1978. The former city jail held presumed JFK assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, and the building’s underground garage was where Jack Ruby fatally shot Oswald on November 24, 1963.

For more information contact John Slate at (214) 670-5270 or john.slate@dallascityhall.com.
Each spring, volunteers construct a Western-themed town called Fiesta City at the University of Houston. The Frontier Fiesta tradition features musical and theatrical performances, cook-offs, carnival booths, concessions; and it raises money for scholarships. On March 18, the exhibit "Frontier Fiesta: The Greatest College Show on Earth" opened on the first floor of MD Anderson Library at the University of Houston. It runs until June 6, and documents Fiesta’s long history.

The first two Fiestas were held in 1940 and 1941, but due to World War II, the program was suspended in 1942. Reestablished in 1946, it ran until 1959. The festival was reinstated again for its third run in 1992 and continues today. The early Fiestas raised money to address campus needs, such as a student recreation center and swimming pool. For most of its duration, and to date, proceeds from the festival fund scholarships for entering freshman and current students. In the early 1950s, Life magazine proclaimed Fiesta the “Greatest College Show on Earth.” And during this second run, the event grew to its greatest popularity. During its heyday, Frontier Fiesta attracted as many as 100,000 people to the UH campus, including celebrities and visitors from all over the nation, including Ed Sullivan, Kenny Rogers, and Humphrey Bogart – just to name a few.

A large part of my job as a university archivist at the University of Houston consists of documenting student life, and Frontier Fiesta is a long-running feature of student life here at UH. When I arrived at University of Houston a couple of years ago, I proposed doing a Frontier Fiesta exhibit. Fiesta is such a popular, student-run, philanthropic event—and we have a lot of really fantastic archival material related to it. The exhibit highlights the philanthropic work of students, and shows them working together, learning new skills, such as construction, salesmanship, marketing, organizing, and leading; and doing all this for fun, community, and the greater good.

As University Archivist, I see a renaissance in our university’s interest in its history and traditions; after eighty-seven years, the university community has been around long enough to have developed and to appreciate our traditions. Departments on campus are documenting their histories. People are interested in the history and traditions of events such as Frontier Fiesta. The outpouring of interest in this exhibit, as evidenced by a large turnout at its opening and the collaboration of many units and individuals both on and off campus, demonstrates how we are becoming a culture that appreciates its history and traditions.

This exhibition has been highly collaborative, as have others I have worked on over the years. Exhibitions are great outreach and a great way to build relationships. Creating an exhibit such as this one has allowed me, as a representative of the University Archives, to develop stronger ties with administration, departments, and student groups across campus. It has opened the opportunity for University Archives to collect more proactively; that is, to begin collecting now what we will want in the future, and to begin documenting our history in the present before it is lost.

I love to do exhibits; they are so much fun. They give me a chance to exercise my creativity, and I learn so much about my collections. I get to tell a story and illustrate it with photos, drawings, news clippings, yearbook articles, historic documents, textiles and other artifacts. I have the opportunity to work with many departments both within and outside the archives to make it work, including my

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PAPERS OF ARKANSAS’S FIRST OPENLY GAY ELECTED OFFICIAL
Kaye Lundgren, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture recently processed the Kathy Webb Papers (UALR.MS.0236). This collection is now available for viewing at the Arkansas Studies Institute, and the finding aid is available by searching the catalog at http://www.arstudies.org. The collection contains the legislative papers of Representative Kathy Webb, of Arkansas’s 37th district, and focus on children, education, the environment, health, and various house and senate bills.

Kathy Webb, born 1949 in Blytheville, spent her youth in Little Rock. She managed John F. Kennedy’s U.S. presidential campaign for her fifth-grade class, while enrolled at the Williams Elementary School. Since that time, Webb has volunteered and campaigned for every Democratic presidential nominee, including Hubert Humphrey, George McGovern, Jimmy Carter, Walter Mondale, Michael Dukakis, and Bill Clinton. She also served as a delegate to the Virginia state convention for Bill Clinton. In addition, she has participated in various state political campaigns and worked full time for the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Webb successfully ran for the Arkansas House of Representatives 37th district seat in 2006 and was sworn into the House as its first openly gay elected official in January 2007. Webb ran unopposed in 2008 and 2010. Due to term limits, she could not run for re-election in 2012. During her time in the House of Representatives, she served as co-chair of the Joint Budget Committee as the first woman to hold that position. In addition, she served as co-chair for the Governor’s Working Group on Corrections and Sentencing Reform, the Sustainable Building Design Task Force, and the Governor’s Task Force on Global Warming. She also served on the Rules, Education, and Facilities Committees and was a member of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

While in office, Webb lobbied for the protection of the environment by promoting renewable energy sources and energy efficiency. She also championed Arkansans by advocating for quality education and affordable health care. Webb remains involved in community service, participating in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and serving as director for the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance. For more information contact Kaye M. Lundgren at kmlundgren@ualr.edu.


The Muse lantern slides of Japan constitute a single series within a larger archival collection. The William E. Muse Lantern Slide collection, whose full finding aid can be found at http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/smu/00246/smu-00246.html, contains 1,458 glass slides featuring early 20th-century scenes of Africa, Asia, and Europe. The slides were created or collected by William E. Muse to illustrate his lectures on different regions and cultures he had encountered while traveling around the globe. The collection presents a rare look at the world encountered by an early 20th-century adventurer.

William Edgeworth Muse (1865-1942) was born in South Carolina, raised in Texas, and attended Texas A&M University. In December 1885 he married Adine Martin (1866-1935) of Brownwood, Texas. The couple moved to Chicago, where William Muse specialized in business law at the John V. Farwell Company, one of the largest wholesale dry goods concerns in the Midwest. Muse retired around 1910 and settled in Glen Rose, Texas. In retirement, Muse served as a judge, traveled internationally, and gave frequent illustrated lectures on his travels.

As early as 1920 Judge Muse announced that he intended to donate his large lantern slide collection to an educational institution in Texas. In 1938 he lent the collection to Southern Methodist University (SMU). Shortly after Muse’s death in 1942, his sister, Ethel Muse Gillespie, donated the collection to SMU.

The William E. Muse Lantern Slides of Japan were digitized in 2013 with the financial support of the Perkins School of Theology through the Lewis Howard Grimes Curriculum Endowment fund. Digital Projects Librarian Rebecca Howdeshell created the CONTENTdm Digital Collection of images scanned by Southern Methodist University’s Norwick Center for Digital Services.

Bridwell Library is the principal bibliographic resource at SMU for the fields of theology and religious studies. For more information please contact Timothy S. G. Binkley at tbinkley@smu.edu.
Texas Music Museum Celebrates 30th Anniversary
Jacinta Amaro and Sergio Guerrero, Texas Music Museum

The Texas Music Museum was founded in 1984 with the mission of collecting and preserving artifacts, documents, and reference material surrounding the diverse traditions of Texas music, and of utilizing these collections in the presentation of exhibits, educational programs, and performances. As part of the celebration of our thirtieth anniversary, we recently hosted a night of Western Swing Music, and were fortunate to have The Stardusters perform. The band consists of Ray Tesmer, Howard Kalish, Roger Beck, Jim Bowles, and J. C. George. The performance was excellent and enjoyed by all.

During the event, we had the opportunity to honor the work and contributions of Joseph Castle. Castle was known by some as “Yehudi,” an alias he used while teaching at the University of Texas at Austin. Mr. Castle was a music educator, composer/arranger, and versatile musician. He played both classical and country and western music. He specialized in teaching classical guitar in his music studio and published twenty-eight music books on classical guitar, violin, and piano.

Joseph Castle passed away in 1992. His wife Florence, an accomplished pianist in her own right, and son Paul Castle were there to receive the award in his name.

The Texas Music Museum has plans for further events to celebrate the anniversary in the upcoming months. These include live music programs celebrating Texas rock, blues and jazz. In September, the museum will present its fourth annual International Music Festival celebrating the many cultures representing the increasingly diverse range of Texas Music.

For further information, please contact Jacinta Amaro at jacinta_tmm@yahoo.com or (512) 350-4566, or visit the Texas Music Museum website at http://texasmusicmuseum.org.

SNAP Happy Hour
SAA Students & New Archives Professionals Roundtable
Thursday, May 29th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Batch Bar, located in the conference hotel.
If you have plans to attend the 2014 Society of Southwest Archivist’s Annual Meeting, come on out to the SNAP Happy Hour...or “SNAPPy Hour”. Please join us at the meet-and-greet to imbibe some tasty beverages and speak with fellow students, emerging professionals, and experienced archivists. The meet-up will start at 5:30 p.m., so there will be plenty of time to grab a craft cocktail, mingle with fellow SNAPpers, and get dinner afterward. Please contact Melissa Gonzales, SNAP Roundtable Chair, at (817) 272-7511 or mgonzales@uta.edu with any questions. Hope to see you there!
The University of Texas at San Antonio Libraries is launching a dynamic online exhibit to honor Gebhardt Mexican Foods Company, a San Antonio business that revolutionized chili powder and Mexican convenience foods across the country for almost a century. The online exhibit can be found at lib.utsa.edu/gebhardt, and is available in both English and Spanish.

The zesty virtual exhibit represents a historical journey that follows the popularization of chili powder and Mexican cuisine, taking the viewer through the twists and turns that began with one man’s vision to offer America something it had never tasted before. The exhibit highlights this progression in an online, multimedia format through text, photographs, and original advertisements.

Dubbed “That Real Mexican Tang,” the San Antonio based firm started in 1896 with Willie Gebhardt’s passion to cook and his infatuation with Mexican food. Soon after opening a restaurant in New Braunfels, Texas, Gebhardt relocated his business to the Alamo City and began pursuing his dream of offering novel tastes beyond the Lone Star State. Gebhardt achieved his dream by importing ancho peppers from Mexico to produce a fine and tasty chili powder. His company published Mexican cookbooks and went on to promote other products such as canned chili, canned beans, deviled sandwich spread, and Mexican dinners-in-a-box. Through impressive marketing in radio commercials, newspaper and magazine advertisements, the company was able to achieve critical acclaim, and the Gebhardt name became synonymous with Mexican cuisine to Americans across the nation.

In 1989 the UTSA Libraries Special Collections acquired the Gebhardt Mexican Foods Company records. In 2013, the collection was digitized with the goal of making it more accessible to the general public and creating a new experience that could be appreciated by a broader audience. “It’s a little bit of a lighter approach, which is something you don’t always see in library exhibits. We are dipping our toes in new waters and bringing one of our collections to life in a way that no one else has ever done before,” said Anne Peters, communications director for the UTSA Libraries.

The University of Texas at San Antonio Libraries Special Collections preserves the legacies of San Antonio and South Texas through a rich array of primary resources. Strengths of the collections—which are open to academic and casual researchers alike—include San Antonio history, urban development and architecture, regional authors, Mexican cookery, women and women’s history, and the Texas-Mexico border region. For more information, visit the UTSA Libraries Special Collections website at http://lib.utsa.edu/special-collections, or contact Amy Rushing, Head of Special Collections at the UTSA Libraries, (210) 458-5984 or at amy.rushing@utsa.edu.
The title of this article makes me think of that great line from *Good Morning Vietnam*, “Excuse me, sir. Seeing as how the V.P. is such a V.I.P., shouldn’t we keep the P.C. on the Q.T.? ‘Cause if it leaks to the V.C. he could end up M.I.A., and then we’d all be put out in K.P.” But I digress.

Archivists and historians have always been inexorably linked. Indeed, the archives profession grew out of the realization by historians that unless someone saved the documents and records, historians would not be able to do their jobs. And many of us in the profession today call ourselves Archivists-Historians (or vice versa). This relationship was highly evident at the March 2014 annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in San Antonio.

SSA has had a long-standing presence at TSHA, sponsoring a program at every annual meeting, as it has done for many years. This year, the SSA prepared a panel sharing three important online Spanish Texas collections. The session title was: “*Viva Tejas*: Spanish and Mexican Texas History Sources on the World Wide Web,” moderated by Mark Lambert of the Texas General Land Office. Authors and papers in the session were: Brenda Gunn, “In English, Online, and For All: Expanding Access to Texas history through the Bexar Archives;” José Barragán, “That They May Possess and Enjoy the Land [Records Online]: The Spanish Collection of the Texas General Land Office;” and Amy Rushing, “Kathryn Stoner O’Connor Collection at the UT San Antonio Libraries.” The presenters shared stories of their institutions’ efforts to make these important collections available online, at least in part. The session had great attendance and was very well received. At the close of the session, archival enterprise firebrand Dr. David Gracy delivered a rousing exhortation on the importance of the state’s archival institutions, and his fire and brimstone sermon was received with a chorus of “Amens” and “Alleluias.”

Dr. Gracy has been instrumental in reviving and invigorating the TSHA Archives Committee, ably chaired by Monte Monroe from Texas Tech University. The Archives Committee met on Friday during the conference, and discussed potential legislative issues around open records; the impact of TSHA’s support on the legislative appropriations for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission; and how the TSHA Archives Committee could collaborate with other like-minded organizations to educate about archival issues in Texas and to support legislative initiatives. Among the ideas discussed were having more archival related programs at future TSHA meetings, and pushing to have one archival related story every year in the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*. The meeting closed with much energy and passion to further the committee’s efforts, and current TSHA President John Nau has expressed his support and commitment to the committee as well.

The close of the conference brought an opportunity for scholars, publishers, and librarians/archivists to sit down and discuss the future of digital humanities scholarship. The University of North Texas sponsored the meeting, called “Opportunities for New Types of Research Alliances in Texas History.” UNT received an Andrew Mellon Foundation grant to improve the sustainability of digital scholarship productions in Texas History, and this session allowed various interests to discuss what this sustainability may look like. Much of the discussion was spurred by the fact that the traditional model – research, publish, deposit completed work in a library – does not fit well with digital humanities. Instead of a book manuscript, a scholar may end up with a website, database, or similar digital work, and they may not intend (or be able) to keep it current or workable as they move on to their next project. A bigger question, not raised at the meeting, is one of appraisal: are all these digital humanities projects worthy of preservation, and who will make that decision? Resources, or lack thereof, may make the decision for us. It is critical for archivists to not only monitor conversations and projects such as this, but to actively participate and help dictate the solution, not be dictated to.

Historians are not our only users, by any means, but they will always be one of our more active user bases. Additionally, because of the importance archives have in their work, they can be one of our strongest advocates. This was in strong evidence at TSHA, so let’s not keep it on the Q.T.
TSLAC Mural Celebrated with Exhibit and New Saturday Hours

Cesar Garza, Texas State Library and Archives Commission

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) in Austin is marking the 50th anniversary of its historical lobby mural with an exhibit of unique items illustrating Texas’s journey from European province to American state. For five decades, an expansive wall painting has greeted visitors in the lobby of TSLAC’s Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, just east of the State Capitol. Created by artists Peter Hurd and Peter Rogers in the summer of 1964, the mural provides an artistic panorama of historical events, groups, and individuals that shaped Texas history for the past 400 years.

The exhibit, also in the lobby, features selected documents and artifacts from the agency’s archives that illustrate stories in the mural—including life during Spanish rule, a key political figure of the Republic, a German pioneer who negotiated peace with the Native Americans, establishment of citizens’ rights in the new nation, the path to statehood, and the story of Hurd and Rogers’s artistic vision.

The exhibit, “Texas Moves Toward Statehood: Stories Behind the Mural,” is free and open to the public at 1201 Brazos Street. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. However, the agency has expanded its hours of operation on the second Saturday of every month in 2014. On Second Saturdays, the agency’s three public service areas – the Texas State Archives, the Texas Family Heritage Research Center, and the Reference and Information Center, in addition to the current lobby exhibit – will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For complete information about Second Saturdays, please visit https://www.tsl.texas.gov/news/2013/tslac-to-open-on-second-saturdays, or follow TSLAC on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/tslac for highlights from the exhibit. The mural has been captured and described in a photo set on the agency’s Flickr page at https://www.flickr.com/photos/tslac/sets/72157633836393285.

An 1846 booklet that belonged to German pioneer John Meusebach. His fiancée in Germany sent the booklet to him in Texas. Image courtesy of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

PAPERS OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN AND AMBASSADOR NOW PROCESSED

Bailey Hoffner, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, University of Oklahoma

Archivists at the Carl Albert Center have recently completed arrangement and description of the papers of former Congressman and Ambassador James R. Jones. Born in Tulsa, Jones served as Appointments Secretary to President Lyndon B. Johnson before representing Oklahoma’s 1st Congressional district from 1973 to 1987. During his tenure he served on a number of committees, including Ways and Means and Interior and Insular Affairs, and served four years as chairman of the Budget Committee.

Consisting of approximately 420 cubic feet of records, the Jones Papers offer unique insight into legislative and political matters of the late 1970s and earlier 1980s. This collection is particularly rich in the areas of budget reform and tax policy, and it serves to highlight the development of contemporary issues such as entitlement reform and discretionary spending.

Processing of the James R. Jones Collection was made possible by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). For more information on the collection or the grant, please contact Bailey Hoffner at baileys@ou.edu.
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In a competitive application process consisting of nearly 75 candidates, Melissa Gonzales has been selected as a participant in the 2014 Archives Leadership Institute (ALI). ALI is a program funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and is being hosted at Luther College for the years 2013-2015. The Archives Leadership Institute at Luther College (ALI@Luther) will provide advanced training for twenty-five innovative leaders, giving them the knowledge and tools to transform the archival profession in practice, theory and attitude.

Participants were selected for the 2014 ALI@Luther program based on their exceptional leadership skills and potential, the ability to influence change within the archival field, a strong commitment to the archival profession, demonstrated professional organizational involvement and service, a collaborative and innovative spirit, and representation and/or support of diversity within the profession.

Melissa is currently the University Archivist at the University of Texas at Arlington. Prior to this position, she worked as the Processing Archivist at the Donald C. & Elizabeth M. Dickinson Research Center at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, and as the Goliad County Archivist in Goliad, Texas. She received her Master of Science in Library and Information Science with an archival concentration from Simmons College in 2009, and became a certified archivist in 2011. Her professional activities include serving as the current chair of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) Students and New Archives Professionals Roundtable (SNAP), and sitting on SAA’s Mentoring Subcommittee for the past year. She also participated in SNAP’s Bylaws Subcommittee before being elected to the Steering Committee for 2012-2013. Regionally, she has served as an Executive Board member for the Society of Southwest Archivists from 2012-2013, as well as currently serving on the Membership and Publicity Committees, respectively.

The leadership intensive held at Luther College is a weeklong immersion program that embraces a distraction-free, focused opportunity for emerging archival leaders to develop necessary theories, skills, and knowledge. Participants engage in daylong workshops focusing on current and vital strategies for archival leadership, such as new leadership thinking and methods, strategies for born digital resources, project management, human resource development, and advocacy and outreach. Participants will also take part in team building activities that embrace the beauty and fresh-air of the Upper Iowa River bluff country in northeast Iowa.

Following the weeklong intensive at Luther College, participants will return to their institutions to develop a post-intensive practicum project. The chosen practicum project will serve as the primary focus for all ALI@Luther participants in the following year and will meet the goal of connecting archival leadership skills with practical application. Throughout this process, an ALI steering committee mentor will provide guidance and support for the proposed project.

The institute will conclude with a practices workshop to be held in conjunction with the joint annual meeting of the Council of State Archivists (COSA), the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA), and the Society of American Archivists August 10-16 in Washington D.C. The content of the practices workshop will consist of facilitated conversation focused on applying leadership learning to ongoing projects and practicums. To learn more about ALI@Luther see http://www.archivesleadershipinstitute.org.

Ed. Note: Christian Kelleher at the University of Texas’s Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection was also invited to the 2014 ALI cohort. SSA-area ALI alumni include Jennifer Day, Brenda Gunn, Rebecca Hankins, Rachel Howell, Tara Laver, Stephanie Malmros, Mary Manning, Katie Salzmann, T-Kay Sangwand, Gerianne Schaad, Mark Shelstad, John Slate, Linda Trujillo, and Linda Whitaker.
On March 20, the Arkansas History Commission repatriated the 6th Missouri Cavalry Regimental flag to the Missouri State Museum during a ceremony at Pea Ridge National Military Park. Dr. Linda Endersby, director of the Missouri State Museum, accepted the flag on the museum’s behalf. The flag’s journey back to Missouri has been a long and winding one and the significance of the event was obvious to both the participants and to the audience. For over 150 years, the flag has been cared for by a variety of people, including both private individuals and public institutions.

Thomas Clark Wright, commander of the battalion the flag represented, was its first owner. Wright was born in Ohio in 1823. He and his family moved to a farm in southwest Missouri in the 1850s. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Wright moved his family back to Ohio. He then enlisted as a captain with the Dade County Squadron of Missouri Cavalry. The regiment fought at the Battle of Wilson’s Creek in August 1861, and was later consolidated into Fremont’s Battalion of Missouri Cavalry. Over the next six months, Wright moved up the ranks quickly and was promoted three times: first to major, then to lieutenant colonel and finally to colonel.

When the 6th Missouri Cavalry was formed after the consolidation of two Missouri battalions in February 1862, Wright was given command of the newly formed regiment. With the regiment’s companies scattered across Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana, the 6th Missouri Cavalry participated in numerous campaigns and battles, including the Red River Campaign, the Battles of Prairie Grove and Pea Ridge, the siege of Vicksburg and the occupation of Helena.

Wright was honorably discharged in 1863 and the flag remained in his possession until his death in Indiana in 1875. Wright’s descendants, one of whom had moved to Arkansas, donated the flag to the Garland County Historical Society, where it remained in their collection for a number of years. In 2004, the flag was removed from their collection and was donated to the Arkansas History Commission. Before the repatriation, the flag was briefly on exhibit at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in 2011.

During the ceremony, Dr. Lisa Speer, director of the Arkansas History Commission, and Dr. Ray Granade, director of library services at Ouachita Baptist College, spoke about the history of the flag and its regiment, with Dr. Granade stressing the importance of the military service of the men who fought and died under the flag. Toward the end of the ceremony, re-enactors representing both Union and Confederate soldiers made a symbolic exchange of the flag using a replica, and after concluding remarks the ceremony ended. The flag is back in Missouri for the first time in 150 years and now resides at the Missouri State Museum in Jefferson City. For more information, contact state.archives@arkansas.gov.

TSLAC MEETING

About ten archivists, representing a variety of Austin repositories, had a successful conversation with State Archivist Jelain Chubb at the Texas State Archives and Library Commission (TSLAC) on March 24. With the goal of helping inform the agency’s priorities as TSLAC looks to revise its strategic plan in advance of the 2015 legislative session, the group discussed their views of the past, present, and future work of the agency.

Major themes that came up included the importance of emphasizing the archives and records sections of TSLAC (not just the library) to legislators and other stakeholders; the need to align stated agency goals with the historic priorities and mandates of the legislature; and general agreement on the importance of increasing resources for electronic records and archives, and of attracting and keeping qualified staff through adequate salaries and professional development activities.
Lisa Cruces joins the University of Houston Libraries’ Special Collections from the University of Notre Dame’s Hesburgh Libraries. The newly-created position of the Hispanic Collections archivist addresses the need to document the influence of Hispanic history and culture in Houston.

Donna Guerra has accepted the position of Director of Archives of the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio.

Melissa Gonzales and Christian Kelleher were accepted to the Archives Leadership Institute (http://www.archivesleadershipinstitute.org/).

At the recent, Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting in San Antonio, SSA sponsored a session, “Viva Tejas : Spanish and Mexican Texas History Sources on the World Wide Web.” The session was moderated by Mark Lambert, Texas General Land Office, and speakers included Brenda Gunn, Archivist at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History José Barragán, Texas General Land Office, and Amy Rushing, University of Texas at San Antonio.

At the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History on the UT Austin campus, Jessica Meyerson is now the Digital Archivist, and Justin Kovar is the Audiovisual Archivist.

Claire Galloway Jenkins became the Director of Archives and Records for The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta in September 2013. Prior to this, Jenkins worked for two years as the Director of Records Management and Archives for the Diocese of Fort Worth.

Thomas H. Kreneck, Ph.D. CA received the Mary M. Hughes Research Fellowship in Texas History from the Texas State Historical Association at its 2014 conference in San Antonio. Kreneck received the award for his project on a biography of John J. Herrera, Houston attorney, LULAC leader, and 20th century Mexican American civic activist. Kreneck will conduct much of this research at the Houston Metropolitan Research Center, which holds the Herrera Papers.

Kera Newby and Holly Hasenfratz, the new institutional archivists at the Dickinson Research Center of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, gave papers at the Popular Culture Conference in Albuquerque, NM in February.

Lauren Nightingale accepted the position of Reading Room Assistant in the Reading Room at The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza. Lauren is a graduate student of History at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Jeanne Prince from the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society, retired in April, and can be found tooling around the West in an RV with her husband John.

JA Pryse, Digital Archivist at the Oklahoma Historical Society earned a Fellowship Award for the Smithsonian Affiliations Visiting Professionals Program; published work in the Chronicles of Oklahoma; and published My Life with Dean A. McGee with the Oklahoma Heritage Association.


Michele Reilly has taken a new position of Associate Dean of Libraries at The James E. Brooks Library, Central Washington University. Michele’s past positions include; Head of Digital Services at the University of Houston Libraries and the State Publications Librarian at the Arizona State Library Archives and Public Records.

Vickie Sheffler retired in February from her position as Archivist from Northeastern State University in Oklahoma.

Krishna Shenoy, Librarian in the Reading Room at The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza earned her Master’s Degree in Information and Library Science from the University of North Texas in Denton, TX.
Over the course of the last forty years, we have witnessed profound changes in our systemic responses to social and economic challenges. Not unlike previous eras, we have been lagging in our change infrastructure. Change is constant, yet preparation is not a Standard Operating Procedure in our large, post-industrial systems. The United States has over 360 million “faces” of cultural understanding and appreciation.¹ As the archives and records profession moves forward through and beyond the digital age, we must faithfully perform our professional aims as we face and engage technological and social changes. We face a complex set of considerations associated particularly with systemic changes and technological iterations. Our skillful execution will be as pivotal as the work of those who came before us.

During the first quarter of 2014, the opportunity to plan the processing of a large, community-based, multi-located collection presented itself through a longstanding community-based relationship. A building is being restored and funds are being raised to support the building. No funds have been generated for collection processing and presentation.

Over the last fifty years, several individuals have harvested separate alumni-related collections associated with the schools, now dissolved. The consulting aim was to understand the client’s needs and intentions. The next step was to utilize the analytical data for plan development and implementation. The plan needed to be understood by the clients and associated stakeholders.

The process involved many extended discussions with key players and stakeholders. This was necessary until comfort levels were established and stable. The need for individual buy-in must not be undervalued when taking on an independent archival or museum development project with multiple key stakeholders. The following categories were established to facilitate their understanding of the tasks at hand. Each category was expanded with multiple sub-sections. They are as follows:

- Introduction
- Mission
- Governance and Management
- Overview of Collection and Holdings
- Collection Evaluation, Valuation and Planning
- Education
- Patron Access
- Other Policies and Administrative Practices
- Facility
- Collection Marketing, Programming and Venue
- Initiative Budget Projection (3-year)
- Regional and National Relationships
- Memorandums of Understanding
- Appendix I: Glossary

In developing a plan for this group, the objectives were to establish guidance, education and management tools, while planning and executing the curatorial process. The categories above are transferrable, adjustable and expandable, depending on project needs.

Assessment and accessioning of the holdings is currently underway. As the advising and coordinating pivot-point, it is critical to take the time to clearly lay out a plan. A change in plan is easier to explain to stakeholders as “adjustments are being made during implementation,” rather than as “I’ve changed my mind.” The significance of establishing and preserving collegial trust cannot be overstated. Systematically educating your team or clients is as critical as doing the detailed work, which they may not otherwise functionally understand or yet appreciate. Aim to get off on the right foot with a plan. Making adjustments to a plan will be easier to understand as steps are implemented.

We look forward to implementing this plan, and all of the challenges, opportunities, and changes included. For more information about this project, please contact D.E. Yarrington at deyresearch@yahoo.com, or join the discussion on the SSA website at http://www.southwestarchivists.org/lets-talk.


LET’S CHAT

Have opinions on project planning and leadership, consulting, or on any other archival issue? Make your voice heard, and listen to others, on the SSA website “Forums” tab, at http://www.southwestarchivists.org/lets-talk.
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