SOURCE
October 8, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Officers present:
Sarah Malcolm, co-president
Amelia Rodriguez, co-president
Weatherly Stephan, treasurer
Erin Uhl, secretary

Other MLIS students present:
John Arthur, Shanna Caines, Susannah Gibbons, Scott Greenberg, Steph Mikitish, Maeve Pinto,
Matt Ragucci, Amelia Turnbull, Andrew Zintl

Sarah Malcolm, on behalf of Teresa Slobuski, gave a tour of the new SOURCE website. The next goal is to complete the Digital Archive. Adding resources to the site will be an on-going activity, in order to make the website a good source of information about the field of special collections, rare books, preservation and archiving. Members are asked to contribute useful links for this purpose, and to give general feedback on the new website.

Weatherly Stephan spoke about the value of attending the Society of American Archivists (SAA) annual conference. It was in Austin, Texas and the theme was "Sustainability in Archives." Notable individuals who she saw there were Frank Boles and Kathleen Roe, who wrote the textbooks used in the Manuscripts and Archives course. Audio recordings of sessions from the conference are available online at the SAA website.

Amelia Rodriguez gave an overview of the RUSLA talk featuring Ann Caputo, the president-elect of SLA. (A sheet of notes on the talk was handed out, which has been archived in the SOURCE binder). A few main points include changing the name of SLA, the importance of being able to give an "elevator talk," and a list of the divisions of SLA.

Sarah Malcolm encouraged members to attend the fall MARAC conference, October 29-31 in Jersey City, and pointed out the career center that will be taking place there on Friday the 30th.
Upcoming events include the October 16th trip to the NARA Regional Office in New York City and the November 13th trip to Princeton University’s Mudd Library.

The next meeting will be November 19th. Pictures of travel mugs were distributed, and members will vote online for their choice of mug for our fundraiser.

Matt Rothenberg shared what he learned from his experience of interning at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. There are over 2.5 million documents in its collection, and various types of media, such as artifacts, recorded media, photo archives, microforms, contract cards of players, and files on every major-league player. He spoke about the reference experience he gained, shared the varying types of questions patrons would ask, explained the responsibilities he was given as an intern, and told about the vast collections of the Hall of Fame.

Maeve Pinto shared her experience of interning at Yellowstone National Park Heritage and Research Center, which is an official NARA repository. She told about the range of reference assistance needed by patrons, from personal curiosity to thesis or dissertation research. The scope of the library’s collection is anything about or pertaining to Yellowstone. She told about the digitization of a annotated copy of the oldest published book in Montana, and told about the need for cataloging of the map collection after it was moved to a new location. She also shared anecdotes about driving the book-mobile to deliver books to park rangers.

Prepared by Erin K. Uhl