



Executive Board

Spring Workshop Minutes | March 31, 2017 | 1-4 pm
Special Collections
Kresge Library, Nyberg Room – 242
100 Library Drive
Oakland University

1:01pm – SEMLOL Chair Katrina Rouan welcomed SEMLOL and thanked OU for hosting

1:02pm – Dr. Steven Weiter, Oakland University Dean of Libraries welcomed SEMLOL

1:04pm-1:44pm

Rare Books Preservation on a Shoestring

Dominique Daniel, Emily Spunaugle, Oakland University Libraries

Overview:

Major acquisitions in 1960s and 1970s

A few thematic collections named after donors

General Rare Book Collection: 2,800 books, Michigan history, literature, private presses, 1st editions,

Other formats: scrapbooks, civil war newspapers

Challenges:

Small library staff, no one with knowledge of rare books or archives until recently
benign neglect

Impetus for increasing visibility and use:

Profession-wide interest in primary source literacy

OU campus wide push for experiential learning

OU library faculty's exploration of alternative literacies

Condition survey instrument:

Book Room Assessment Form – 15 question form

Outcomes/Conclusion:

Started Jan. 2016, surveyed 2,600 items by March 2017

Results put into spreadsheets

Quantitative analysis: generate statistics that lead to actionable items

Break down stats per collection

Qualitative analysis: found hidden treasures like handwritten letters, hidden collection (New Masses),
interesting signatures, book as an object (marginalia, dried flowers, glued photo)

Identify exhibit materials

Familiarize with the strengths of the collection

Goal is to get materials used

Future plans:

Submitting for a preservation assistance grant for small institutions

Sustainable strategies for improvement

Find better space

Market value, research value appraisals

Collection development policy for special collections

Survey circulating collection and identify those books that should be in the special collections

1:44-1:46 Business Meeting

Katrina Rouan presented slate of candidates:

Chair Elect: Laura Manley, Monroe County Community College

Members-At-Large:

Richard Buboltz, Wayne State University

Damecia Donahue, Wayne State University

Kathie Mason, Eastern Michigan University

Amy Seipke, College for Creative Studies

Joanna Thielen, Oakland University

Voice vote approved slate unanimously.

1:46pm-2:30pm BREAK

2:30pm-3:01pm

Collecting With a Plan

Alison Greenlee, Wayne State University and Sarah Andrus, The Henry Ford

Received another large collection (1300 items, books and journals)

Questions about where will it go, when will it be processed

Already have a backlog: at least three other recent book collections of similar size waiting for processing

Storage: would like to keep it together, using donor's inventory system

Adding it to the queue: another large collection being cataloged at the time, two others in various stages of processing

The Henry Ford: Benson Ford Research Center

31,000 trade catalogs, rare books, and 19th, 20th century literature

Donation: Arthur S. Obermayer (1931-2016) Personal Library

Donor's library on the history of innovation

Traces the history of science and engineering from 1650- present

Donor had already established a classification system

Acquisition approved by Collections Committee

Curator oversaw packing and shipping

Upon arrival each item was inventoried

Conservation examination to determine which donated items needed treatment

Conservation stabilizes items and makes sure they are safe to be stored on the shelf

144 items (11%) required conservation work

Item records created so items could be tracked

Once item records done, can make a conservation request

3:03pm-3:35 pm

Access and Outreach at Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs

Kristen Chinery and Megan Courtney, Wayne State University

15 full time archivists

Collecting Areas: Labor, Urban Affairs, Wayne State University

Remote requests – mostly graduate students, other (media, filmmakers, genealogists), undergrads, faculty

Remote reference: very diverse, general public, donors, non-Wayne State faculty

Outreach Librarian hired in 2015

Online outreach:

Image galleries

Blog posts written by staff members, 2-3 per month, not always content driven, contain tags to link to other information

Virtual tours

Pinterest: 1275 visitors per month

Facebook and Twitter: advertise the things they are doing, good way to reach donors

Instagram- casual, younger audience

YouTube channel – short clips of digitized film materials

Classes & Instruction:

Actively pursue visits by classes on campus

Enhance relationship with community and campus

Events & Programming

Grant funded programming

3:35pm-4:00pm

Workshop ended and evaluations collected.

Respectfully submitted by Julia Eisenstein