



NATIONAL COUNCIL
ON PUBLIC HISTORY

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Public History News

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A quarterly publication
of the **National Council on
Public History** in cooperation with
the Department of History,
Indiana University-Purdue
University Indianapolis.

Bill Bryans, President
Marianne Babal, Vice President
Robert Weible, Past President

Patrick Moore,
Secretary-Treasurer

John Dichtl,
Executive Director



FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

by Rose Díaz
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The NCPH 2007 Program Committee was thrilled by the response to the call for proposals and worked diligently to provide the best possible program for the annual meeting. With the stimulating theme of “Many Histories, Many Publics–Common Ground?” we received over 90 proposals resulting in more than 70 sessions and workshops, as well as many special events and tours. Our president, Bill Bryans, expressed great enthusiasm from the beginning of the planning to “shake things up” and extended great latitude to the committee in shaping the program’s final outcome.

Above all, we come to the annual meeting to assess and continue our individual and collective growth in the field of public history and to hear the many “prisms of perspective” that call us to engage in history for the publics. The meeting “bookends,” an opening and a closing plenary, bring us together to discuss the field and its many professional connections and networks in forums on the growth and sustainability of the profession. The session panels engage the widest breadth and scope of public historians, community and oral historians, teachers, historic preservationists, consultants, media and film specialists, and a full range of agency and institutional activities demonstrating the

> continued on page 2

2007 CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Christopher M. Wilson will deliver the keynote address, “Crossing the Great Divide: My Life in Public History,” on Saturday evening. Wilson is the J.B.



Jackson Professor of Cultural Landscape Studies at the University of New Mexico School of Architecture and Planning in Albuquerque and the founding director of its Historic Preservation and Regionalism Program.

He has written extensively on architecture, tourism, and the politics of culture in the Southwest. Wilson's prizewinning *The Myth of Santa Fe: Creating a Modern Regional Tradition* (1997) deconstructs that quintessential American tourist town. He is currently completing a multifaceted work with other UNM faculty and students, *Center Place, Plaza, Square: The Historic Community Spaces of New Mexico* (Trinity University Press, projected 2008).

REPORT FROM THE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

by Jon Hunner
jhunner@nmsu.edu

Santa Fé, the host city for the upcoming conference in April, offers a unique experience for public historians. Over the centuries, Santa Fé has been the center of government, culture, and life for this outpost of the Spanish empire, for this northern state of the Republic of Mexico, and then for this southwestern territory of the United States. La Fonda Hotel, the conference headquarters, is a National Trust Historic Hotel of America. Across the central plaza from La Fonda lies the Palace of the Governors, the seat of government for New Mexico since 1607. Other buildings of interest near the Santa Fé Plaza are the New Mexico Fine Arts Museum, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, the Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, Sena Plaza, Loretto Chapel, and San Miguel Mission. Several miles to the southeast, along the old Santa Fé Trail, another cultural complex called Museum Hill offers the Museum of International Folk Art, the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, the Wheelright Museum of the American Indian, and the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art. Additionally, Santa Fé has many restaurants catering to all palates, hundreds of art galleries, and just as many stores selling clothing, books, and souvenirs.

To take advantage of the rich culture and heritage of the region, you can wander on your own or take one of our tours. On Saturday,

three bus tours will scatter around northern New Mexico. A full day trip will head north through mountain villages founded in the 1700s to Taos and the Taos Pueblo. An afternoon tour will drive east to the Pecos National Monument, a Native American ruin, with a stop at Glorieta, the site of a Civil War battle called the Gettysburg of the West. A third bus tour will go west to Bandelier National Monument, a canyon which preserves Native American ruins from the 1400s. This tour will also visit nearby Los Alamos, the birthplace of the Atomic Age. For those who want to stay in Santa Fé on Saturday, Cornerstones Community Partnerships, a historic preservation organization that focuses on earthen building traditions, will offer a walking tour of several of the historic buildings including the Palace of the Governors and the San Miguel Mission. And I will lead a walking tour of the sites in Santa Fé connected with the Manhattan Project and the making of the Atomic Bomb during World War II. So, from Native American pueblo ruins dating back to the 1400s to atomic cities, from arts and culture to cuisine and couture, Santa Fé awaits you.

Jon Hunner, Chair of the 2007 Local Arrangements Committee, directs the Public History Program at New Mexico State University. He wrote Inventing Los Alamos: The Growth of an Atomic Community.



109 E. Palace in Santa Fé served as the entry point for anyone stationed at the atomic bomb laboratory in nearby Los Alamos during World War II. With the lab's physical location top secret, this store front was the gate through which Nobel Prize winning physicists, other scientists, and technicians, military personnel, and their families passed on their way to "The Hill." Follow in the footsteps of atomic pioneers and spies on the "Atomic Santa Fé" tour, Saturday afternoon during the annual meeting.



Downtown Santa Fé in 1943 as captured by John Collier for the Farm Security Administration. (Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress.)



Downtown Santa Fe (Photo courtesy of Jack Parsons.)

REPORT FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE > continued from page 1

core of public history work. The workshops capture the organization's commitment to continuing education and training, partnerships with model programs, community involvement, and mentoring the next generation of public historians. The tours introduce one of the oldest continuously studied regions of the West, important to the historic and modern narrative.

The tours also take us to areas deeply rooted in New Mexico's multicultural story and interpretations where "common ground" is an ongoing negotiation. Special events at the meeting will further acquaint you with local sites and individuals who "walk in history," such as speakers Estevan Ráel-Galvez, the New Mexico state historian, and Chris Wilson, our banquet keynote. In addition to the more formal sessions,

we invite your participation in the variety of committee meetings available to further your knowledge and commitment to NCPH.

The program committee extends an invitation to come early or stay a few days after the meeting to "mosey around" the area and enjoy the amenities of the Santa Fé Plaza and the host hotels, the La Fonda and The Inn and Spa at Loretto. We have also arranged special rates for students at the Sage Inn with free transportation to and from the conference hotel. We look forward to greeting all of you in Santa Fé and to a wonderful meeting which you have made possible.

Rose Díaz directs the Political Archives at the Center for Southwest Research, University of New Mexico Libraries and is chair of the 2007 Annual Meeting Program Committee.



Public commemoration of De Vargas Day in Santa Fé, 1921. (Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.)

2007 NCPH ANNUAL MEETING

Join us this April in Santa Fé for nearly seventy sessions and...

■ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

- The Business of CRM: Contracting and Project Management
- Common Ground(ing): Online Collaborations, Technology, and the Future of History
- Historic Preservation in Native American Communities: Protocols, Protection, and Preservation
- Advantage Applicant: Improving Your Job Hunting Chances
- Public History Educators: Building an Integrative Public History Program

■ IN-DEPTH TOURS

- "Taos and Taos Pueblo via the High Road," "Bandelier National Monument and Los Alamos," "Pecos National Monument and Glorieta Battlefield," "Community Partnerships and Historic Santa Fé," and "Atomic Santa Fé"

■ EXHIBIT HALL (as of February 9)

- Arizona State University, History Department
- Middle Tennessee State University, History Department
- New Mexico Historical Review
- Oxford University Press
- Palace of the Governors/New Mexico History Museum
- Paradigm Publishers
- Rocky Mountain Online Archive
- Rutgers University Press
- U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center
- University of Massachusetts Press
- University of New Mexico Press
- University Press of Kansas

Poster session, special events, affinity breakfasts, and much more!

For registration, hotel, and program information, visit www.ncph.org.



THE PUBLIC HISTORIAN **JOURNAL SEEKS** **REVIEWERS FOR** **SANTA FÉ SITES**

The Public Historian will be organizing a special review section devoted to the historic museums and sites in and around Santa Fé, the host city for the upcoming NCPH conference in April. If you will be attending the meeting and are interested in being considered as a reviewer, please send a c.v. along with a description of your qualifications to write exhibit and historic site reviews and your pertinent areas of expertise to Lindsey Reed, Managing Editor, *The Public Historian*, LREED@history.ucsb.edu

2007 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS

Santa Fé Convention and Visitors Bureau, with special thanks to Christine Madden.

Underwriting additional meeting space at the Inn and Spa at Loretto

John Nicholas Brown Center for the Study of American Civilization
Sponsoring the Public History Directors'/Educators' Breakfast

The Lensic Theater
Sponsoring the Opening Plenary

Middle Tennessee State University, Department of History
Cosponsoring the Exhibit Hall and the Poster Session

Oklahoma State University, Department of History
Cosponsoring the Presidential Luncheon

University of New Mexico, Center for Religious Studies
Student funding for conference planning

NCPH ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTORS FOR 2006

NCPH wishes to thank the following individuals and institutions who contributed to the NCPH Endowment Fund during the calendar year 2006. Their gifts completed our five-year effort to raise \$90,000 to meet a \$30,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

A & P Historical Resources	Maria Quinlan Leiby
Jo Blatti	Steven Lubar
Shelley Bookspan	Martin Melosi
Cynthia Brandimarte	Marla Miller
Robert Buerki	Elizabeth Monroe
Michael Devine	Patricia Mooney-Melvin
John Dichtl	Martha Norkunas
Jennifer Dickey	Gale Peterson
Douglas Dodd	Thornton Perkin
Barbara Howe	Linda Shopes
David Glassberg	Alison Smith
Gray & Pape, Inc.	Donald Stevens, Jr.
Ronald Grele	Joel Tarr
Nancy Hewitt	Robert Weible
Harry Klinkhamer	Robert Weyeneth
	Amy Wilson

Forrest Younker
Marianne Younker
Sarah Younker-Koeppel
Joan Zenzen

Extra thanks to those who provided exceptional support in 2006

The History Channel
History Associates
Incorporated
Marianne Babal
Bill Bryans
Alan Newell
Constance Schulz

■ We are particularly grateful to The History Channel for a rousing fundraising start in 2006 and to History Associates Incorporated for a boost at the end of the year.



THE HISTORY CHANNEL.

■ If we have overlooked your name, please contact the NCPH Executive Office at ncph@iupui.edu or (317) 274-2716.

IUPUI

INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS

IUPUI Graduate Program in Public History

Established in 1984, the Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) Graduate Program in Public History provides training in the research, analytical, and communications skills that are common to all historians. Students benefit from a combination of classroom instruction and practical experience applying these skills in the public arena.

Program highlights include:

- Funded internships (with fee remission) in historical societies, museums, historic preservation organizations, libraries and archives, documentary editions, and other public history institutions.
- The opportunity for students to earn a Master of Library Science degree, Museum Studies Certificate, or Certificate in Documentary Editing in conjunction with the MA in History.
- A centrally located campus situated within walking distance of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, Indiana State Library, Indiana State Museum, Indiana Historical Society, and several other museums.
- Access to digital collections through the University Archives that includes Sanborn maps and Indianapolis city directories.

Graduate public history courses include:

- Historical Administration
- Historic Preservation
- Historic Site Interpretation
- Introduction to Archival Practice
- Local and Community History

For more information contact the Director of Public History, Dr. Philip V. Scarpino:
(317) 274-5983 or pscarpin@iupui.edu

Visit our website at: <http://www.iupui.edu/~history/gradpubhist.html>





by Bill Bryans
bill.bryans@okstate.edu

My column in the last newsletter related, among other things, an effort by the Board of Directors at its fall meeting to craft a precise, yet concise, definition of the term “public history” that could be used to convey to all an understanding of the term. You may recall that I invited NCPH members to participate in this endeavor by visiting the “public history” article on the web at Wikipedia, and offering their own revisions and discussion. A number of people responded, but work remains in devising the definition sought. So, I want to share with you how the process has evolved so far, volunteer some personal impressions, and once again seek your input.

When the board left Indianapolis in early November, its draft definition was as follows: “Public history is history in the public interest. Public historians engage individuals, communities, and organizations in producing and sharing historical understanding and making the past relevant.” A short time later a board member offered a slightly revised version: “Public history is history in the public interest. It is history that communicates the relevance of the past for the present, as it invites the general public to engage in historical inquiry.” In this definition, the focus on the production of public history shifts from the public historian to the history itself. It also includes a more direct partnership with the public in its formation.

At the time of my writing this, Wikipedia is proposing a much broader definition. Currently, it defines public history as:

the practice of conveying history to the public outside of a traditional academic setting. Public historians are historians who work in museums, historic homes, sites, parks and battlefields, archives, preservation, government agencies, corporations, or private historical and genealogical research consultant firms. They may also be living historians and interpreters. Public history is history that both engages the public and invites the public to participate in the writing of history.

This definition places particular emphasis on the various practices of public history in defining the term. Its last sentence also addresses the concepts of public engagement and shared authority. So does a suggested preface to the longer definition, offered off-line by another board member: “Public History is where people connect with their past.”

The latest contribution to this quest, made by a third board member, truly attempts to be succinct. It asserts: “Public history is a movement that promotes the study and practice of history as a calling which confers upon its practitioners a mission to make their special insights accessible and useful to the general culture.”

There is, in my opinion, much to like about this most recent definition. It refers to public history not just as a profession, a way to make a living. It portrays public history as a movement, which I believe addresses the connection between professional public historians and the publics they serve. I am also drawn to the idea of a calling embodied in the definition. I suspect it reflects the way many of us fundamentally feel about what we do. Public history, this definition manages to convey, is important to all of society, and what we do as

“ This definition places particular emphasis on the various practices of public history in defining the term. Its last sentence also addresses the concepts of public engagement and shared authority. So does a suggested preface to the longer definition, offered off-line by another board member: “Public History is where people connect with their past.” ”

public historians, therefore, is important because it has real societal value. This definition also accounts for what gives public history that value; the results have relevancy and utility that both include and transcend the discipline of history.

Despite being most drawn to this last definition, I think all of the versions above have merit. All embody what I consider the essential elements of public history. It is a profession rooted in the historical method and the discipline of history. How and where public historians ply their trade is another important consideration. For some, who like me direct a program in an academic department, it includes the classroom. For others the practice of public history occurs in museums, archives, national parks, state parks, historical agencies, historic preservation agencies and organizations, libraries, consulting firms, and other venues too numerous to mention. Perhaps most importantly, defining public history requires inclusion of the publics that serve as our audience, an audience that not only receives the products of our labors but also often participates in its production. The collaborative attribute of public history may well be its most significant quality.

But alas, we remain without the coveted precise definition we seek. Frankly, I do not have one to offer. I do hope, however, that these comments have stimulated some thought and that readers will share their own definitions, or comment on what I have said here, as we work toward this goal. You can do this through the Wikipedia web site, start a thread on H-Public, or simply email me or the executive offices. I can assure you your input is most welcomed. Thanks, and I hope to see you in Santa Fé!

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



by John Dichtl
ncph@iupui.edu

Here for the consideration of NCPH members and other friends of the organization is a draft version of the Long Range Plan—2012, a strategic map of priorities for the next five years. The NCPH Board of Directors and the Long Range Planning Committee would like to hear what you think of the document so far. Please send us your comments, questions, and ideas. I also encourage you to contact me or other members of the board and planning committee at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Santa Fé, where Plan 2012 will be discussed formally and informally.

LONG RANGE PLAN—2012 (DRAFT)

Background

This plan builds upon previous long range planning documents and sets a course for the future based on the implementation of those plans. Earlier plans include Plan 2005 (produced by the Long Range Planning Committee chaired by Dwight Pitcaithley in 1999-2000), Plan 2000 (produced by the committee chaired by Philip Scarpino in 1994-1995), and work by committees chaired by Martin Melosi in 1993-94 and Brit Storey in 1992-1993.

In 2004, the Long Range Planning Committee chaired by Rebecca Conard recommended that an ad hoc committee conduct an organizational self-assessment to ensure the organization was well-placed to meet the ambitious goals laid out in Plan 2005. The ad hoc committee, chaired by Robert Weible, met and concluded that, for the most part, NCPH was in good shape. It was financially stable, its annual conferences and professional journal were well-regarded among history professionals, and its board and committee members and staff were all firmly committed to the organization's well-being. Still, while the committee recognized that NCPH retained its leadership position in the field of public history, it also noted that other professional organizations were increasing their interest in the field—a potential concern at a time of individual and institutional budget constraint. Committee members consequently expressed concern that membership numbers were beginning to plateau and possibly to decline. They concluded that, because a growing membership was critical to the organization's long term health, NCPH could not afford to accept a status quo approach to its future.

The committee therefore supported the recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee of 2003-04 that 1) NCPH strengthen its executive director position and executive office; 2) NCPH reaffirm its good relationship with host institution IUPUI; and 3) NCPH stabilize its governing structure by lengthening the terms of the president and vice-president from one to two years.

NCPH's governing board approved the recommendations in 2005, and the changes were put into place within a year. NCPH re-described its

executive director position as a chief executive officer rather than as an administrative officer and conducted a national search to fill the position. In late 2005, NCPH hired John Dichtl, and within months Dichtl made other changes to strengthen the organization's staff structure. Changes included the upgrading of the administrative assistant position to program manger and the hiring of Sarah Younker-Koepfel. NCPH and IUPUI renewed their contract for another five years. And the organization's first two-year president and vice-president, Bill Bryans and Marianne Babal, assumed office in 2006.

In 2006, Dichtl worked closely with Bryans and Babal to encourage Long Range Planning Committee co-chairs Robert Weible and Sharon Babaian to create a mission statement and plan based on a broad, more clearly defined understanding of public history. With this in mind, committee members agreed: 1) that the discipline of history was important to everyone and that it should be an important part of our civic culture; 2) that NCPH should promote a more socially responsible role for professional historians; and 3) that NCPH should work with history practitioners and the public to build more useful public appreciation and understanding of history.

After considerable discussion, the committee drafted a mission statement and list of long term goals. It presented them to the NCPH Board for review and comment, and board comments and suggestions have been incorporated into this Long Range Plan.

Clearly, this plan presents an ambitious agenda for NCPH. Its successful realization requires careful thought, strong commitment, and hard work by everyone associated with the organization. It is the committee's belief, however, that NCPH is at an important juncture in its own history. The committee believes the organization will not succeed in expanding its membership by following a plan that is inward looking and self-serving. If it is to grow, the organization must distinguish itself from other professional organizations by giving prospective members, especially younger ones, reason to serve larger purposes than their own careers. The committee believes that this can best be done by actively strengthening the relationship between the profession and the public.

The plan that follows is, in essence, a statement of principles and major goals for the organization and is therefore much less detailed than previous documents. This plan provides a framework for work planning but leaves that task to the executive office, officers, board, and committees to carry out on a yearly basis.

MISSION STATEMENT (DRAFT)

Given the essential value of historical understanding, the National Council on Public History promotes professionalism among history practitioners and their engagement with the public.

LONG RANGE PLAN—2012 (DRAFT)

1. NCPH will promote professionalism and best practices in public history by:

- 1.1 Establishing and articulating professional standards, ethics, and best practices for public history practitioners;

- 1.2 Providing a professional network for developing and maintaining professional standards, facilitating best practices in the training of public historians, and promoting quality public history programming;
- 1.3 Offering ongoing professional development opportunities for members and others;
- 1.4 Expanding our programs for recognizing excellence in public history through awards, publications, the annual meeting, the web page, etc.

2. NCPH will provide leadership in addressing issues that arise at the intersection between history practitioners and the public by:

- 2.1 Developing partnerships and relationships with other organizations, professions and professionals, and communities;
- 2.2 Engaging our many publics in conversation about the relevance of history;
- 2.3 Being a strong advocate for the interests of public history practitioners in service to the public;
- 2.4 Supporting history education with a public historical perspective at all levels.

3. NCPH will effectively convey its identity and purpose by:

- 3.1 Developing and communicating a consistent organizational identity;
- 3.2 Learning more about who our members are and what they want from the organization;
- 3.3 Utilizing publications, media, conferences, and other resources to clarify and project our identity and purpose;
- 3.4 Articulating the benefits of NCPH;
- 3.5 Providing useful products and services to members, sponsors, and patrons;
- 3.6 Providing useful information to non-members.

4. NCPH will provide an effective structure for a diverse community of public history practitioners by:

- 4.1 Cultivating a membership that reflects the diverse community of history's publics and practitioners;
- 4.2 Creating/maintaining a responsive committee structure to meet the needs of the organization and its membership;
- 4.3 Monitoring staff needs regularly and providing support for their work;
- 4.4 Maintaining the financial security of the organization by, among other things:
 - 4.4a Establishing an endowment investment and management policy;
 - 4.4b Expanding endowment to further the goals of the organization;
 - 4.4c Establishing a policy for the use of endowment earned income.

*Respectfully submitted,
Long Range Planning Committee*

NCPH ELECTION RESULTS

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2007 election. New board and committee members will assume their duties at the end of the upcoming NCPH Annual Meeting in Santa Fé.

■ **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Martha Norkunas, *Project in Interpreting the Texas Past, University of Texas*

Greg Smoak, *Colorado State University*

Amy Williams, *Truman Presidential Museum & Library*

■ **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

James Gardner, *National Museum of American History*

Laura Feller, *National Park Service*

CONGRATULATIONS!

The NCPH membership has met its National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant goal. At the end of 2006, contributions reached the \$90,000 threshold needed to secure the NEH grant. The NCPH Endowment Fund now totals \$373,200. As co-chair of the Leadership Council, I want to thank the numerous NCPH members and organizations who contributed generously and often to this five-year campaign. As a result of your efforts, the Endowment Fund will be able to continue supporting the membership through awards and special programs.



With the close of this initial campaign we move to the next phase of what we hope will be an ongoing effort to build a well-endowed, effective, and sustainable organization. The Endowment Committee will convene in Santa Fé at the annual meeting to discuss the uses of the current endowment and to plan for the future. Feel free to attend and contribute your ideas and energy. And, don't forget to register for the annual Endowment Fundraising Event. Thanks again to the many contributors to this campaign!

*Alan Newell
Co-Chair, Endowment Leadership Council*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Emily Beliveau Vancouver, BC	Andrea Burns Wilmington, DE	Roberto Esposito Lindenwold, NJ	Barbara Gossett Garden Grove, CA	Scarlett Miles Nashville, TN	Sara Sandlin Albuquerque, NM
Kate Betz Fly Creek, NY	Kimberly Burton Oviedo, FL	Roda Ferraro Murfreesboro, TN	Tamsen Hert Laramie, WY	Anne Murphy Vancouver, BC	Angela Smith Nashville, TN Dixie Talbot Blue Rapids, KS
Isabelle Bisson- Carpentier Montreal, Quebec	Phillip Byrd Northfield, VT	Francis Flavin Arlington, VA	Jenna Hiott Perla, NM	Amy Nelson Racine, WI	Bruce Tyler Shelbyville, TN
Bridiga Blasi Las Cruces, NM	Benjamin Cawthra St. Louis, MO	Jami Forrester Fayetteville, AR	Rebecca Jansen Whitehorse, Yukon	Elaine Nelson Albuquerque, NM	Crystal Walker Topeka, KS
Allison Boals Washington, DC	Priya Chhaya Springfield, VA	Stephanie Fuglaar Houston, TX	Candace Kanes Portland, ME	Krissy O'Hare Montreal, Quebec	Scott Welch Panama City, FL
Sue Boland Fayetteville, NY	Estella Chung Los Angeles, CA	Yvonne Garcia El Paso, TX	Heather Kendall Chicago, IL	Dannyn, Peterson Indianapolis, IN	David Whisnant Chapel Hill, NC
Jamie Boyle Arlington, VA	Jim Conway Monterey, CA	Carrie Giauque Columbia, SC	Alice King Blue Rapids, KS	Janice Pope Blue Rapids, KS	Amy Williams Independence, MO
Matthew Brenzikofer Clay Center, KS	Krista Cooke Gatineau, Quebec	Elizabeth Gioia-Acres Las Vegas, NV	Susan Knowles Nashville, TN	Eugenia Potter Louisville, KY	Lee Wittmann San Matteo, CA
Kathryn Brightman New Bern, NC	Paul Densmore Marietta, GA	Hermine Glass Avery Marietta, GA	Lorraine Madway Wichita, KS	Paul Sadin Seattle, WA	Gerald Zahavi Elizabethtown, NY
	Amy Beth Dudley Germantown, TN		Will Mallatt Riverton, KS		

NCPH STAFF NEWS

Amy Powell joined the staff of NCPH in November 2006 as the undergraduate intern for the 2006-2007 school year. In May, Amy will graduate from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) with a bachelor's degree in history. She has been nominated

as a Top 100 student at IUPUI, and her senior seminar paper on the life of Daisy Douglas Barr has been recommended by faculty for possible publication. In the future Amy plans on applying to a Master's program in American History and eventually pursuing a PhD.



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

The National Council on Public History makes the public aware of the value, uses, and pleasures of history; advises historians about their public responsibilities; helps students prepare for careers in public history; and provides a forum for historians engaged in historical activities in the public realm.

Individual membership orders, changes of address, renewals, and business correspondence should be addressed to

National Council on Public History, 327 Cavanaugh Hall – IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140. E-mail: ncph@iupui.edu. Tel: 317-274-2716. New members are welcome. Join online or renew at www.ncph.org.

Institutional subscription orders, changes of address, and business correspondence should be addressed to Journals and Digital Publishing Division, University of California Press, 2000 Center St., Ste. 303, Berkeley, CA 94704-1223. Or visit < www.ucpress.edu >

We welcome submissions to *Public History News* sent to John Dichtl, Editor, at the above address. Articles 400-800 words in length; announcements and bulletin items up to 100 words. NCPH reserves the right to reject material that is not consistent with the goals and purposes of the organization.

www.ncph.org

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2008 NCPH ANNUAL MEETING

LOUISVILLE, KY

APRIL 10-13, 2008

The National Council on Public History invites proposals for sessions, presentations, panels, roundtables, poster sessions, and workshops for the 2008 Annual Meeting to be held at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY. Our theme will be, **Public Histories of Unity and Division**.

For this election-year conference, the Program Committee invites proposals for presentations that explore the role(s) public history has played in North American civic life, and particularly ways in which public history has been harnessed to foster unity, provoke division, or make sense of controversy. Suggested broad topics within this theme might include: deployments of history in political arenas; assessments of "civic engagement" initiatives; the challenges inherent in the interpretation of sites and events associated with wounds that divide the public; and the consequences when competing histories are ascribed to the same place, event, or person. The committee also welcomes proposals that explore other issues related to the impact of the public history enterprise on civic health and to the practice and teaching of public history.

The Program Committee prefers the submission of complete session proposals (including panels and roundtables), but will accept individual presentations for consideration as well. The committee also invites proposals for sessions in formats beyond the usual paper session, and encourages presenters in more traditional sessions to dispense with the reading of papers.

All proposals must include the following:

- A cover page listing ground and email addresses, phone number, and affiliation of each participant;
- An abstract of no more than 500 words for the session as a whole together with brief summaries of no more than 150 words for each paper or presentation;
- A two-page c.v. or resume for each participant; and
- Any requests for audio-visual equipment for the session.

Workshop proposals should follow NCPH guidelines, which are available upon request at ncph@iupui.edu

Individual proposal submissions should follow the requirements outlined above. The Program Committee will make every effort to construct sessions from topically related single proposals.



Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY. (Courtesy of www.gotolouisville.com.)

Send proposals to: ncph@iupui.edu, subject line: 2008 Program Proposal

Or via regular mail (submit one copy only)

NCPH 2008 Program Chair
327 Cavanaugh Hall - IUPUI
425 University Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
No FAX submissions accepted.

Proposal Deadline: postmarked or received electronically by September 4, 2007

2008 Program Committee:

Marla Miller, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
(mmiller@history.umass.edu), Cochair
Patricia Mooney-Melvin, Loyola University Chicago (pmooney@luc.edu),
Cochair
Perky Beisel, Stephen F. Austin University
Krista Cooke, Canadian Museum of Civilization
Tonia Woods Horton, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
Theodore Karamanski, Loyola University Chicago
Donna Neary, Donna Neary, Inc.
Patrick O'Bannon, Gray & Pape, Inc.
Ed Roach, Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP

A FRESH LOOK AT PUBLIC HISTORY

NCPH invites your input on a possible new project to replace the organization's 1990 video production, "Public History Today." The NCPH Curriculum and Training Committee, led by Phil Scarpino, produced that video to help explain the field to general audiences, and the organization has sold or rented many copies over the years. It is time for an update. Our first step is to create a detailed treatment, or production proposal,

with which to seek financial support for the project. Please contact the NCPH Executive Office at ncph@iupui.edu if you would like to help workup a treatment, have ideas or expert advice to share, or can point to model treatments, projects, or funding sources. Or simply let us know who or what you think should be included in an introduction to the field today.

Editor's note: This is the inaugural appearance of "Intersections," what we hope becomes a regular feature of *Public History News*. Our aim is to offer brief, reflective pieces illuminating how public historians interact successfully with each other, with the public, or with other professionals.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: UNIVERSITIES AND MUSEUMS WORKING TOGETHER

by Melissa Prycer
MPrycer@dallasheritagevillage.org

Teaching is a fundamental part of being a historian. We write, we teach, we create exhibits and public programs, and all in the name of sharing stories. Then why is it often so hard to connect universities and museums?

Over the past few years, I have begun actively building relationships with several local universities. Though this effort is far from complete, and though, in a way, I do not expect to ever be "finished," we have made some progress. A few things I have learned so far:

Think outside your usual audience. Both sides have to want to reach out to a different kind of audience in order for any collaboration to begin.

Learn to speak their language. Even though essentially we are all doing the same thing, we go about it in very different ways. Get to know your local museum; what they are doing may surprise you. For public historians, get to know your local university's history department. They may have public events or discussion groups for you to attend. Go and introduce yourself. If possible, attend state history conferences or join a local history listserv.

Talk to each other. It may be as simple as having coffee. Before trying some grand collaboration, both sides need to get to know each other. In talking, other ideas may spring to life.

Put your money where your mouth is. When money of any kind is involved, we start to take each other more seriously. For a recent lecture, we had financial support from a university; the author visited two classes while he was in town. From this experience, we have gained more respect from the university, and future (and possibly bigger) collaborations will be easier.

Get to know the museum you are considering working with. For this same lecture, the author submitted his comments to us in advance. Towards the end of his remarks, he discussed my institution unfavorably, and it was quite obvious that he had not visited in over a decade. (We have made significant changes to the history we teach in the last ten years, as well as our mission.) The remarks were also filled with misinformation about our institution, much of which could have been easily corrected by taking a look at our website. Constructive criticism of a potential partner is not wrong, but make sure you have your facts straight first.



Professor Roberto Calderon (left) and Curator Hal Simon speak following the lecture, "Less than White." (Photo courtesy of Dallas Heritage Village.)

“ We have to reach across the imagined divide between universities and museums. How else will public history continue to grow and develop? ”

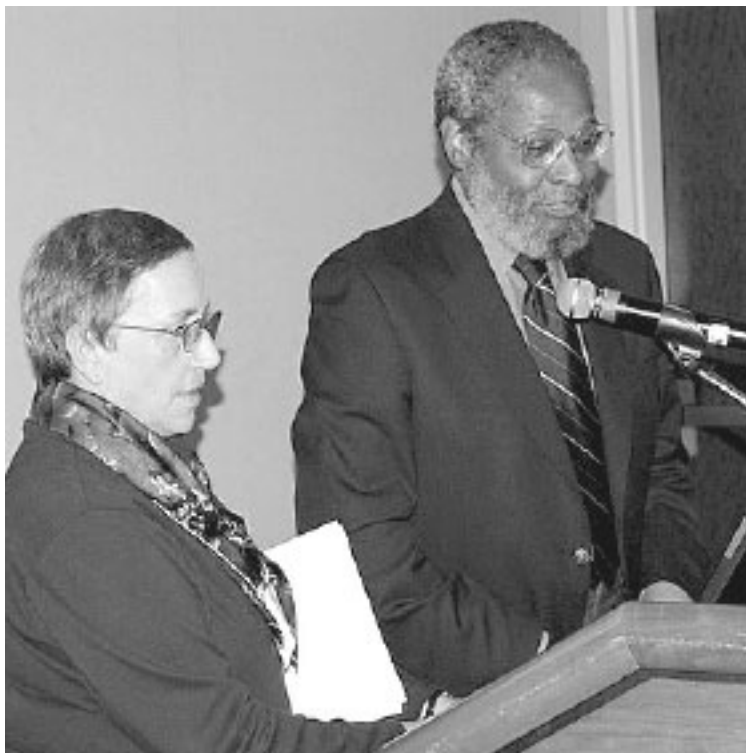
Use seemingly random connections to your advantage. I completed graduate school 1,200 miles from where I now work, so it was harder than I had imagined to crack into the local academic community. However, one of my former professors is well known in Texas history circles; I am continually amazed at how many doors this has opened.

None of this is easy, all of it is time consuming, and it requires both museum professionals and university academics to be proactive. We have to reach across the imagined divide between universities and museums. How else will public history continue to grow and develop?

Melissa Prycer received her MA in Public History from North Carolina State University. She is currently the Curator of Education at Dallas Heritage Village.

FIRST FORUM SUCCESS

by Marc Mappen, Karl Niederer, and James F. Turk



Moderator Giles Wright of the New Jersey Historical Commission and panelist Martha B. Katz-Hyman of Colonial Williamsburg at the session on "Slavery in New Jersey." (Photo courtesy of New Jersey State Archives, NJ Department of State.)

We are flattered that the editor of *Public History News* has asked us to describe how we succeeded in creating a "diverse and dynamic" conference—the New Jersey Forum—which was inaugurated in Trenton, New Jersey, on November 18, 2006. The total number of attendees was 230 people. One hundred percent of the attendees who completed the evaluation forms rated the event "good" or "excellent."

First a few words of explanation. For over two decades the New Jersey Historical Commission has run an annual conference. This event focuses each year on a single historical topic, and features a lecture by a nationally recognized academic expert. The Forum, in contrast, is a scholarly papers conference, with separate sessions on different topics, and with an emphasis on new scholars and scholarship, with presentations from graduate students, independent scholars, and public history practitioners. The annual conference attracts a diverse audience of history buffs, museum curators, and historical society volunteers. The Forum attracted the same audience, and added a much larger than usual number of university students and K-12 teachers.

The following are ingredients that we feel contributed to the success of the Forum:

Assess the concept. Formative evaluation played a key role in the project's development. We first discussed the New Jersey Forum idea with a number of academics and history professionals to evaluate the viability of the concept. Their response was universally favorable.

“ The Forum attracted the same audience—history buffs, museum curators, and historical society volunteers—and added a much larger than usual number of university students and K-12 teachers. ”

Coincidentally, a graduate student in history posed a similar suggestion on the H-New-Jersey listserv, sparking a comparably supportive grassroots response. We then looked at similar programs in other states, such as in Virginia and New York. This research and assessment provided constituent input and support from the outset. We also solicited participant evaluations and achieved a 44 percent return rate.

Establish a diverse advisory committee of stakeholders to solicit and vet proposals. We recruited our advisory committee from various branches of the history universe, including a decorative arts specialist, an archaeologist, and academics.

Take advantage of the Internet. The H-New-Jersey listserv has been around for over a decade and counts more than 700 subscribers. The proposal for a conference produced enormous enthusiasm on the listserv, and as planning continued H-New-Jersey provided a platform for seeking paper proposals and putting out publicity. We also set up an Internet wiki site where we posted session proposals for the advisory committee.

Develop a comprehensive and diverse sponsorship network. Three agencies of the New Jersey Department of State—the Historical Commission, the State Archives, and the State Museum—served as the principal sponsors. In addition, several other statewide organizations cosponsored the event (Advocates for New Jersey History, Eagleton Institute for Politics at Rutgers University, Association of County Cultural and Heritage Agencies, Council for the Humanities, Historic Trust, and New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance). All the sponsoring organizations were asked to circulate information by distributing brochures and/or by mentioning the event in print and email communication with their constituents. The State Department of Education also sent out notice on their social studies listserv.

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Thank you!

The support of the following institutions, each committed to membership at the Patron and Sponsor levels, makes the work of the National Council on Public History possible.

Join us in thanking them at the Annual Meeting in Santa Fé, April 12-15, 2007.

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NATIONAL COALITION FOR HISTORY UPDATE



by Lee White
lwhite@historycoalition.org

PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED FY 08 BUDGET SENT TO CONGRESS

On February 5, 2007, the Bush administration sent its proposed federal budget for fiscal year 2008 to Congress. Generally, programs of interest to the historical and archival communities are flat-lined, cut, or eliminated completely. A full copy of the President's proposed FY 2008 budget is available at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/usbudget/>.

Department of Education

The "Teaching American History" grants program at the Department of Education would be substantially cut under the Bush proposal. In FY '06 the program received \$120 million and the administration would slash that by over \$70 million to \$50 million in fiscal year 2008. The administration's rationale is "the number of quality applications for assistance under this program in recent years does not justify the current level of funding." Senator Robert C. Byrd, the original sponsor of the program, chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee. So one can assume that the proposed cut will not likely stand.

The Academies for American History and Civics, which supports workshops for teachers and students in those subjects, would see their \$2 million budget zeroed out.

National Archives and Records Administration

The Bush administration's proposed fiscal year 2008 budget calls for \$379.5 million for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). This is an increase of \$39.5 million over the FY 2007 appropriations of \$340 million, which is expected to be enacted as a year-long continuing resolution by the Congress.

Under the President's FY 2008 request, NARA would receive \$312.8 million for operating expenses; an increase of \$34.6 million over the FY 2007 expected appropriation of \$278.2 million. This includes funds to prepare for the George W. Bush Presidential Library, provide oversight by the agency's Inspector General of the work to develop ways to preserve electronic records, and to continue work on reducing the backlog of unprocessed text records.

The operating expenses also include funds for the operation of the Richard M. Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, California, which will become part of the NARA system of presidential libraries this year after being a privately-run institution since 1990.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) once again had its budget zeroed out in the Bush administration's FY '08 budget request, and our annual battle to restore funding for this vital program begins anew.

The Electronic Records Archives (ERA) program, a key NARA strategic goal aimed at providing a means to preserve electronic records and make them more accessible in the future, is funded in the FY 2008 request at \$58 million, which is \$13 million over the expected FY 2007 appropriation. This higher funding level for ERA will allow NARA to maintain progress on increment 1 of the system, which is scheduled to begin this fall.

For repairs and restoration to facilities owned by NARA, such as the National Archives at College Park, the National Archives Building in downtown Washington, and the presidential libraries, the President's FY 2008 budget requests \$8.6 million.

National Park Service Historic Preservation Programs

Overall, the National Park Service would receive the largest budget increase in its history, an additional \$258 million over the amount it received in fiscal year 2006. The centerpiece of the budget is the "National Parks Centennial Initiative," a ten-year effort to improve the nation's parks prior to the NPS centennial in 2016. In releasing the budget, President Bush announced the "National Parks Centennial Challenge," which has the potential of providing \$3 billion in new funds over the next ten years. It includes a federal commitment of \$100 million annually in discretionary funds, and a challenge to the private sector and the public to contribute \$100 million, with a match of another \$100 million in mandatory federal funding.

The 2008 budget includes \$63.7 million for historic preservation programs. The budget allocates \$10 million for the "Save America's Treasures" program, \$10 million for "Preserve America," and \$43.7 million for historic preservation grants-in-aid to states, territories and Indian tribes. It would also establish a "National Inventory of Historic Properties" grant program. Matching grants of \$4 million would be available to states, tribes, local governments, and federal land management agencies to make inventories more accessible. The budget also provides \$10 million for heritage areas. The "Heritage Partnership" program provides seed money for congressionally designated, but locally managed, national heritage areas.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities would see a small increase of \$400,000 over the amount the administration requested last year for total funding of \$141 million. The "We the People" initiative that focuses on the teaching and learning of American history and culture would receive \$15.2 million. Two new "We the People" programs would be initiated. The "We The People Videoshelf" would distribute American films that focus on historical events and themes to libraries nationwide. The second program would be run in conjunction with the State Department and bring foreign school teachers and humanities practitioners to the U.S. to participate in Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops.

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AWARDS, GRANTS, AND INTERNSHIPS

The Getty Foundation offers Campus Heritage Grants to assist colleges and universities in the U.S. manage and preserve their historic sites, buildings, and landscapes. Application deadline is April 10, 2007, though preliminary letters may be submitted at any time.
<<http://www.getty.edu/grants/>>.

Stratford Great House, a National Historic Landmark, seeks two students enrolled in graduate programs in American history and one student enrolled in an undergraduate program in American history to apply for 10 week summer internships from June–August 2007. Questions to Sarah Gross at sgross@stratfordhall.org. Apply by April 23, 2007.
<<http://www.internshipprograms.com/InternshipDetail.asp?InternshipID=31491&PrevForm=CompanyDetail>>.

Martha's Vineyard Museum seeks several interns for summer 2007 positions including: curatorial intern, oral history intern, education intern, development/ administrative intern, and library/archive intern. Employment begins in June and preference will be given to those applicants who can work until Labor Day. Apply by March 30, 2007.
<<http://www.marthasvineyardhistory.org/internship.php>>.

The McFaddin-Ward House in Beaumont, TX, offers a ten-week summer internship (between May and September) with exposure to projects and duties in all areas of a historical house museum. Candidates with a strong interest in working with collections or interpretation, and with a background in museum studies, history, art history, or education are preferred. Apply by April 1, 2007. <www.mcfaddin-ward.org>.

The History of Science Society Fellowship in the History of Space Science funds a nine-month research project that is related to any aspect of the history of space science. It is open to applicants who hold a doctoral degree in history or a closely related field, or students who have completed all requirements for the PhD, except the dissertation, in history of science or a related field. Stipend is \$17,000. The fellowship term must fall between July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008. Apply by April 2, 2007.
<<http://hssonline.org>>



CALLS FOR PAPERS, ARTICLES, PROPOSALS, AND PRESENTATIONS

The First Annual **Cultural Studies Graduate Student Conference**, September 28-29, 2007, in Arlington, VA, invites paper proposals on topics such as: how cultural programming produces knowledge, and how knowledge of cultural programming is produced in and through institutions, such as museums. Graduate students should submit abstracts of 300 words or less to Vickie Watts by March 15, 2007. Questions to Vickie Watts vwatts@gmu.edu. Visit <<http://mason.gmu.edu/~rgeh1/pocp/index.html>>.

The 42nd Annual **Northern Great Plains History Conference** invites proposals for papers or sessions in any area of history for their conference October 3-7, 2007 in Duluth, Minnesota. One-page abstracts and vitae are due March 31, 2007, to Eleanor Hannah, Department of History, University of Minnesota, Duluth, email: ehannah@d.umn.edu. Any proposals in the field of military history should be sent to Professor Joseph C. Fitzharris, University of St. Thomas, email: jcfitzharris@stthomas.edu.

The Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies invites papers for the 2007 conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba, October 17-20.

Proposals for panels or papers must be 250 words and received through email by April 2, 2007. Direct submissions and questions to Pam Perkins, Steering Committee, CSECS at pperkin@cc.umanitoba.ca. Visit <<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/humanities/index.html>>.

The Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era invites papers and proposals for the OAH and AHA conferences. The 2008 AHA meets in Washington, D.C., January 3-6, 2008, and the OAH meets in New York, March 28-31, 2008. Deadline is April 15, 2007. Electronic submissions are encouraged. Please direct submissions and inquiries to Jack Blocker, Chair, SHGAPE Program, email: jblocker@huron.uwo.ca.

The Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes invites proposals for papers, special sessions, and panel discussions on the conference themes of historic agricultural landscapes and their preservation, and transportation as effected by evolving transportation systems. Presenters must be members of PAS: APAL. The deadline for submitting material is July 2, 2007. For further information, contact Dr. Paula S. Reed, Conference Co-chair, Phone: 301-739-2070, email: paula@paulasreed.com. Visit <<http://www.pioneeramerica.org>>

The Ninth Annual Conference on Illinois History seeks proposals for individual papers or panels on any aspect of Illinois history, culture, politics, geography, literature, and archaeology. Send proposals by March 10, 2007 to Thomas F. Schwartz, State Historian, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 North Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, Phone 217/782-2118, Fax 217/558-1574, tom.schwartz@illinois.gov

The **8th Maritime Heritage Conference** Program Committee invites abstracts for papers and full session proposals on a specific subject or aspects of Maritime and Naval History, Maritime Libraries, Historic Ships, Shipbuilding and Preservation, and Maritime Heritage Education. One-paged, single spaced abstracts and CVs of no more than three pages due June 1, 2007. Send proposals to the Conference Program Chair, Kevin Sheehan, at librarian@sdmaritime.org or The Maritime Museum of San Diego, 1492 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, California 92101. Tel: 619-234-9153, ext. 118, Fax: 619-234-8345.



Council on America's Military Past, presents their 41st Annual Military History Conference, May 9-13, 2007, Hampton, VA, which will focus on the military history of the Tidewater Virginia area. <http://www.campjump.org/2007_conference.htm>.

The Society of Women and the Civil War is holding its 9th Conference on Women and the Civil War, July 27-29, 2007, Chester County, PA. The goal of the conference is to increase awareness and understanding of women's roles and lives in the Civil War. For more information, visit <http://swcw.org/under_construction.htm>.

The Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums presents its 2007 Annual Meeting, "Following Old Trails, Blazing the New: Museums & Community," June 2-6, 2007, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Questions can be directed to Mick Woodcock, Sharlot Hall Museum, MICK@SHARLOT.ORG. More conference information can be found at <http://www.alhfam.org/index.php?cat_id=113&nav_tree=111,117,113>.

U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites presents their 10th International Symposium, April 18-21, 2007, San Francisco, California. The symposium will include field tours, mobile workshops, poster session, and multi-media presentations. For more information, visit <<http://www.icomos.org/usicomos>>.

The New England Historical Association (NEHA), a regional affiliate of the AHA, holds its 78th conference at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester on May 5, 2007. For proposed papers or information contact the program chair, Luci Fortunato, NEHA, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA 02325; lfortunato@bridgew.edu or see <www.wpi.edu/~jphanlan/NEHA>.

Decisionmaking for Cultural and Natural Resources in the Legal Environment, a workshop prepared through the National Preservation Institute, teaches how to navigate the legal environment in the management of cultural and natural resources and cultural property. Contact NPI at 703.765.0100 or info@npi.org for further information. <<http://www.npi.org/>>

The University of Victoria is offering a continuing education distance learning course titled, Managing Cultural Organizations, September 17– December 21, 2007. Registration fee is \$620 with an August 20 deadline. <<http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/crmp/courses/ha488a-distance.aspx>>

The Living Landscape: Cultivating our Heritage Conference will be held April 10-11, 2007, at the Five Brothers Convention Center in Waterloo, Iowa. <<http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org>>

CONFERENCES AND LECTURE SERIES

Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, March 29-April 1, 2007, Minneapolis, MN. The theme for the OAH centenary conference is "American Values," which will explore how the United States defines its existence in terms of not only universal values but also American Values. <<http://www.oah.org/meetings/2007/index.html>>.

Museums and the Web 2007 Annual Conference, April 11-14, 2007, in San Francisco, CA. The conference will explore how different institutions across the world use the internet for the presentation of cultural, scientific, and heritage content. Registration for the conference closes April 6, 2007. Any questions can be directed to Jennifer Trant and David Bearman at MW2007@archimuse.com.

American Association of Museums Annual Meeting and Museum Expo, May 13-17, 2007, Chicago, IL. The theme of the meeting is "Why Museums Matter," and includes sessions, events, tours, workshops, and career enrichment. Registration is now open. More at <<http://www.aam-us.org/index.cfm>>.

JOBS AND POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS) is seeking an Executive Director to provide leadership for the State Historic Preservation Office, Historic Sites, Special Projects, State Historical Museum, and 48 ISHS employees. Candidates should be able to function effectively in a complex political environment. A strong background in public history is preferred. For more information and an application, visit: <www.idahohistory.net>

Freedom Museum in Chicago is seeking a Director of Exhibits and Programs to develop and manage the museum's exhibitions, develop programs, and help with outreach and educational efforts. An advanced degree in museum studies and 5-10 years of previous museum experience is preferred. Submit resume, cover letter and salary requirements to: MTFResumes@mccormicktribune.org. Visit <<http://www.freedommuseum.us/>>.

The Department of History at **University of Massachusetts Boston** is searching for an Historian/Archivist at the Assistant or Associate Professor level to direct an Archives track in the MA degree program. The candidate should hold a PhD in History, have experience working in an academic archives program or in a research archive, and have demonstrated facility with current information technology applications. Send c.v., cover letter/letter of interest, and a list of references to the Chair of the Search Committee for Archives, Search 590d, Department of History, University of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125.

An Executive Director is sought for the **Vancouver Maritime Museum** in Vancouver, BC, to provide new direction and reinvigorate the day-to-day operations. Experience in the maritime sector as well as a strong background in operations and change management, combined with an enthusiasm for public institutions is preferred. Send letter, resume and salary requirements to: director@vancouvermaritimemuseum.com.



The Nantucket Historical Association has a full-time Special Events Assistant position available. Knowledge of function/event management, excellent customer service skills, and the ability to maintain effective relationships with staff, vendors, and the community are required. Send resume to Nantucket Historical Association, ATTN: Human Resources, PO Box 1016, Nantucket, MA 02554, or email jrichard@nha.org.

The University Library at St. Thomas University, is seeking to fill a Archivist and Museum Curator position for its new archive, special collection and museum facility planned to open in the Fall of 2008. This position requires a graduate degree in Museum studies or management. An MA in Public History would be highly considered. Submit cover letter, resume and three current letters of reference, along with photocopies of transcripts from institutes of higher education to Ms. Isabel Medina; University Library; St. Thomas University / 16401 NW 37th Avenue, Miami Gardens, Florida 33054. Phone: 305-628-6769, email imedina@stu.edu

The United States Military Academy at West Point is accepting applications for the position of Director, Center for Oral History. Responsibilities

include leadership, creative visionary, public speaking with strategic outreach and fundraising experience. Candidates should possess a PhD in History. Mail or email letter of application, c.v., statement of oral history and teaching philosophy, three letters of recommendation, and sample of scholarship to Major Victoria Campbell, Department of History, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY 10996. For more information, contact Major Campbell at victoria.campbell@usma.edu or 845-938-5083.

Tetra Tech, EC in Portland, Maine is seeking a full-time Cultural/Historic Resource Specialist. Graduate degree with experience in research and cultural resource management required. Contact Amy at northwest.web@tceci.com for more information.

The Health Museum of Houston, TX, is seeking an Exhibit Graphic Designer to produce creative museum exhibits. BA required. Museum experience is preferred. Mail resumes to The Health Museum, ATTN: Human Resources, 1515 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004. <<http://www.thehealthmuseum.org/>>

BHE Environmental, Inc. is seeking an Architectural Historian in Cincinnati, OH.

Should have MA or PhD in architectural history, architecture, historic preservation or a closely-related field, and at least three years experience in Cultural Resources Management as a Principal Investigator. Contact cloyd@bheenvironmental.com for more information.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum is seeking a Chief of Collections Management to provide guidance in strategic planning, budget development, policy, and collection management administration. Apply at the USAJOBS/USHMM Fast website at <https://jobs1.quickhire.com/scripts/ushmm.exe>.

Lowell National Historical Park is currently seeking applicants for an interdisciplinary position. The person selected will be appointed in one of the following occupational series, Historian, GS-0170-12, Museum Curator, GS-1015-12, or Anthropologist, GS-0190-12. <http://www.nps.gov/lowe/parknews/employment.htm>.

The Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA, seeks a Director of Education to develop learning and teaching tools for teachers and faculty and to lead strategic planning initiatives. MA degree required. Email inquires to edujobs@computerhistory.org. http://www.computerhistory.org/about/jobs/ed_director/

Roger Williams University School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation seeks Assistant/Associate Professor of Historic Preservation. Submit letter of interest; c.v.; selected examples of teaching, professional, scholarly and/or creative work; and names and contact information of three references, to the Office of Human Resources, Roger Williams University, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI 02809.

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana seeks Senior Architectural Field Surveyor to work on surveys of Benton, Newton, and Pulaski counties. The position will last from May 2007 to June 2008 (dates flexible). Contact Amanda Jones, Survey Coordinator, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 340 West Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202, Fax: 317-639-6734, E-mail: survey@historiclandmarks.org.

The NEH's new Digital Humanities Initiative would receive funding of \$1.4 million, which will support projects that use, or study the impact of, digital technology on research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities.

Funding for NEH's Federal and State Partnership programs would increase by \$133,000, but Education, Preservation and Access, Public Programs, Research, and Challenge Grants would all be cut. The National Endowment for the Arts would receive \$128.4 million or a \$4 million increase.

Smithsonian Institution

The budget request for the Smithsonian is \$678.4 million. Of that amount, \$571.3 million is for salaries and expenses and the facilities capital budget is \$107.1 million. Included in the request is nearly \$10 million for planning and staffing of the new National Museum of African-American History and Culture, which will eventually be built on the National Mall. The capital budget will help fund the continuing renovation of the National Museum of American History-Behring Center, which is scheduled to reopen in 2008.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

The President's budget request for the Institute of Museum and Library Services is \$271 million, which is \$24 million or almost 10 percent more than it received in 2006. Library grants would be funded at \$214 million and museum grants at almost \$40 million. These amounts reflect nearly \$8 million in new funding for each grant program.

Both the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation would be flat-funded at \$9 million and \$6 million respectively.

Lee White is the new executive director of the National Coalition for History.

OAH CENTENNIAL MEETING



The Organization of American Historians (OAH) will hold its centennial meeting in Minneapolis on March 29-April 1, 2007.

As part of this event, the OAH Committee on Public History invites all historians to a town meeting to discuss the role of public history within the organization and the charge of the committee for the next 3-5 years. The committee seeks ways in which to serve the OAH's efforts to reach a wider audience, increase the dialogue between public and academic historians, and think broadly about the involvement of scholars in public life. The town meeting will be held on Friday, March 30, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Hilton Minneapolis.

For more information on the conference as a whole, visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings/2007/index.html>

Public History for Undergraduates

by John Krugler
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and John Schlotterbeck
jschlot@depauw.edu

Undergraduates still do not know about public history. Despite proliferation of graduate programs since the late 1970s, public history instruction for college students remains a haphazard endeavor. The dozen or so undergraduate minors and certification degrees in public history/museum studies lack common focus, objectives, or participating departments.

We both now identify ourselves as public historians (in addition to our academic credentials). Our training came as traditional, text-based scholars, and our careers have developed mostly in the academy with primary interests in undergraduate teaching. Along the way, we developed keen interests in public history that have taken us far beyond our own graduate training.

Teaching public history and museum studies courses at DePauw and Marquette has strengthened our conviction of their value to undergraduates. We are fortunate our institutions encouraged us to attack a basic problem: Lack of awareness of public history among our undergraduate constituents. Even the most committed history majors often do not know what public historians do in their professional capacities.

Neither of us set out to become crusaders in the academy on behalf of public history. Circumstances rather than intentionality provided the initial thrust.

Krugler's interest started innocuously, almost serendipitously, as a result of a family vacation to Colonial Williamsburg. He responded to his "discovery" of public history (remarkably absent from his graduate training in the late 1960s) by sharing the experience with students. He taught an undergraduate course on the museum that included a spring break trip to Colonial Williamsburg in 1982. He progressed through several public history experiences, including publications, acting editor of the *William and Mary Quarterly*, working closely with staff for eight years as a member of the Historic St. Mary's City Commission, and currently in fund raising as an elected trustee of the Old World Wisconsin Foundation. These experiences increasingly translated into new courses for Marquette undergraduates and culminated with approval of an Interdisciplinary Minor in Public History in 2005.

Schlotterbeck's public history involvement began with an invitation in the 1990s from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to assist in revising the content and presentation of James Madison's Montpelier. He later co-directed a Trust initiative to develop inclusive interpretations of slavery and African American life at six Trust plantation properties. Working with public historians developed an appreciation of the possibilities of artifacts and historic sites for teaching the past to diverse audiences. He created a course, "History Beyond the Classroom," that explores material culture, house museums

and history exhibits, and public memory. More recently, he coordinates a museum studies faculty discussion group at DePauw and assists with exhibit planning, publications, and development at the Putnam County Museum.

What makes our commitment to public history advocacy within the academy noteworthy is that both of us chose to go beyond our expected, and traditional, responsibilities of classroom professors. Our experiences with public history and the committed, creative, and concerned women and men who labor in that vineyard have convinced us that public history courses are ideal learning places for undergraduates. First, students learn about professionals who call themselves "public historians." Next, they compare how academic historians and public historians practice their craft to expand the many ways we can answer

“ For students, such courses provide an answer to history majors’ perennial laments: “What can I do with a history major?” They discover exciting and challenging careers in the public arena and expand their analytical skills, especially using material culture as historical evidence and reaching diverse audiences. ”

the question: What did happen in the past? In our classrooms, students examine the origins and functions of house museums, historic sites, and exhibits, and learn to analyze cultural artifacts. Through hands-on exercises, meeting with professionals, and internships, students gain practical knowledge of public historians' work.

For students, such courses provide an answer to history majors' perennial laments: "What can I do with a history major?" They discover exciting and challenging careers in the public arena and expand their analytical skills, especially using material culture as historical evidence and reaching diverse audiences. Public history courses get students off campus into the community to discover everyday history around them. Internships give students real world work experiences that may lead to employment after graduation. Finally, by examining different ways people remember, celebrate, and present the past, students deepen their understandings of cultural roles of museums and historic sites.

Teaching public history fosters professional partnerships between academic historians and public historians by inviting public historians into the classroom and by taking students on museum field trips. Academics learn from public historians how to use material culture to teach the past in the classroom. Academic historians, in turn, can share their professional expertise and teaching experiences with public historians at local historic sites and museums. Finally, public history's interdisciplinary nature encourages working with colleagues in other departments to build support for public history and museum studies on campus.

Developing public history instruction benefits academic institutions by building alliances with local cultural institutions. DePauw supports the Putnam County Museum through student interns, January Term teaching opportunities for the Museum Director, and financial support. Marquette works closely with Old World Wisconsin to foster summer programs for local high school and middle school teachers. Conversations about public history across disciplines can lead to new courses and programs with minimal additional institutional cost.

Public history professionals gain from the presence of undergraduate instruction. These courses recruit the next generation of public historians and prepare them for future graduate work. Museums gain motivated, energized, and inexpensive interns. Finally, they provided opportunities for building collaborative relationships with academic historians.

Our experiences hardly exhaust the possibilities undergraduate public history instruction can take. We have found our work with public historians to be rewarding on both the professional and personal level. Above all,



Winter Term students helping pack Putnam County Museum artifacts for the move to the new building. (Courtesy of John Schlotterbeck.)

our teaching has kindled enthusiasm for history among some undergraduates that otherwise might have been unlit.

We will expand on these thoughts and discuss two different models for undergraduate public history and museum studies programs in a

panel at the NCPH Annual Meeting in Santa Fé in April.

John Krugler is Associate Professor of History at Marquette University, and John Schlotterbeck is Professor of History at DePauw University.

FIRST FORUM SUCCESS > continued from page 11

Build on an existing conference series.

For this inaugural year, the Forum took the place of the Historical Commission's annual conference, and was thus able to draw on the commission's resources. The commission has an established procedure and budget for handling brochure design, printing, mailing, conference arrangements, catering, and exhibitors. The commission also has a large and diverse mailing list, and offers continuing professional development credit to teachers. Finally, the commission has worked in the past with a hotel conference center, so making the arrangements was relatively simple.

The above are our suggestions. But lest we seem too snooty about this, we should confess some errors, or to put this more positively, note some lessons we learned.

Do not have more than three speakers

per session. We set up some sessions with three speakers and other, longer ones with four. Our judgment was three-speaker panels were much more manageable for the audience.

Do not trust presentation technology. We encountered numerous glitches with getting laptops and LCD projectors to work together properly. We did not anticipate these difficulties and should have spent more time making sure everything would function. In the future, we will ask presenters to send us their presentations well in advance of the event so that programs can be downloaded and tested and—in case all else fails—to bring photocopied sets of their Power Point slides.

Have registrants select their session choices

in advance. This is important when the conference facility has different sized breakout rooms available. We originally guessed, for example, that the session on women's history would be one of the most popular.

We were wrong—the archaeology session drew a larger crowd, but was located in a smaller breakout room.

The above glitches aside, the first New Jersey Forum achieved great success overall and we plan to make it a biennial event.

Marc Mappen is the Executive Director of the New Jersey Historical Commission. Karl Niederer is the Director of the New Jersey State Archives. James F. Turk is the Curator of Cultural History at the New Jersey State Museum.



Congressman Rush Holt (NJ12th District) addresses the 2006 New Jersey Forum. Courtesy of the New Jersey Historical Commission.



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