

South Carolina Archives Association Annual Meeting 2018 "How do I . . . ?"

Friday, October 19, 2018

University of South Carolina – Aiken Gregg-Granitieville Library 152 Scholar Loop Aiken, SC 29801

Schedule

9:30 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:50 a.m.	Opening Remarks
10:00 a.m.	Keynote Address Dawn Corley, "The Charleston Silver Lady"
11:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions 1
11:30 a.m.	Break
11:45 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions 2
12:15 p.m.	Lunch and Business Meeting
1:30 p.m.	Break
1:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions 3
2:15 p.m.	Break
2:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions 4

10:00 a.m. **Keynote Address**

Dawn Corley, "The Charleston Silver Lady"

This year's SCAA conference keynote speaker, Mrs Dawn Corley, best known at "The Charleston Silver Lady"! Dawn Corley has been collecting and lecturing on silver from South Carolina for nearly 30 years. She is descended from one of Charleston's earliest silversmiths, and her silver collection is shown by museums throughout the world. Some of Dawn's most noteworthy pieces include silver that belonged to Robert E. Lee, John C. Calhoun, Wade Hampton, and porcelain that belonged to George and Martha Washington; pieces made by enslaved South Carolinians are included in her exquisite collection.

Her interactive lecture programs allow attendees the rare opportunity for a 'hands on' examination of these treasured pieces. Dawn had the honor of being the appraiser of the jewelry found on the Hunley Submarine in Charleston, and she has spoken for US Presidents, Foreign Heads of State, Joint Chiefs of Staff as well as many hundred private groups and organizations.

11:00 a.m. **Session 1A**

How do I engage the future alumni with the past? Presenter: April Akins, Lander University

Come join the conversation as we bring the future to the present via the past! We'll start by exploring four years of outreach to incoming freshmen through Lander University Archives experienced as a pop-up museum and from there share ideas and experiences in dynamically engaging students with archival materials outside the classroom.

Session 1B

Improving Transparency with Documentation: A Team Processing Approach Presenter: Jessica L. Serrao, Clemson University

Have you ever asked yourself, what was that archivist thinking?!? As archivists process collections, they often find they must make difficult decisions that change the arrangement or description of a collection. If we want to avoid becoming that archivist whose actions our successors question, we must create and document more transparent processing practices. Documenting our decisions can improve communication, consistency, and clarity. It promotes transparency and, in turn, supports the integrity and authenticity of the collection. This holds especially true when tackling large collections as a team over time as more moving parts are involved. This presentation will introduce how one team of processors at North Carolina State University documented their decisions using Google Sheets. Their technique supported collaborative decision-making, consistency in workflows and actions, and transparency among the team. This style of documentation is a good step toward internal transparency between colleagues, but it has the potential to expand into the institution's finding aids. The ultimate goal is to become more transparent with researchers and the public to improve their knowledge of the collections as well as archival processes.

11:45 a.m. **Session 2A**

Partnering to Create Document Based Questions with Digital Collections Presenter: Kate Boyd, University of South Carolina Libraries

A partnership between USC Digital Collections and the State Department of Education Social Studies Associate, funded by a NHPRC grant, provided K12 teachers 3 workshop opportunities at USC to learn how to create document-based questions using South Carolina digital collections. The enthusiastic teachers created 37 DBQs which will all be available online soon. I would like to show what the teachers were able to accomplish and how archivists can continue working with K12 to promote the use of primary resources throughout the state.

Session 2B

[How do I?...] Connect Social Movements with Impactful Special Collections Displays Presenter: Autumn M. Johnson, Georgia Southern University

What issue moves you to make your voice heard? What inspires you? These questions, posed atop a normally overlooked Special Collections display case, were transformed into meaningful conversations and authentic learning. The "What Moves You?" display was created as a visual response to a series of Special Collections inquiries regarding past student-led protests. The display highlighted a variety of Special Collections materials as well as contemporary information sources, connecting the institution's rich past with today's popular social movements The controversial Special Collections display highlighted Special Collections, successfully engaged students, and encouraged collaboration with faculty. This presenter will share the experience of building a library display using backwards design and the increasing importance of social justice in mind. Purpose-driven Special Collections displays can be effective tools in teaching information literacy and generating meaningful dialogue in communities.

12:15 p.m. Lunch and Business Meeting

1:30 p.m. **Break**

1:45 p.m. Session 3A

Implementing a Digital Humanities Project: Lessons from Digitizing Black Life and Culture in Middle Georgia

Presenters: Christian Pham, Adam Griggs, Stephanie Miranda, Gail Morton, Mercer University Library

Digitizing Black Life and Culture in Middle Georgia is a Digital Humanities (DH) collaboration between Mercer University's Department of Africana Studies, Mercer University Library, and the Macon-Bibb County Clerk's Office to digitize and create a searchable database of primary source materials that document slavery and African American life in Macon, Georgia and the surrounding areas. These records reside in the Macon-Bibb County Courthouse and include property records detailing the sale/purchase of slaves, Chain Gang records, and plantation maps. Ultimately, this project will provide access to primary source documents for researchers, local community members, and the public to better understand of the breadth and consequences of slavery in Middle Georgia before, during, and following the Civil War period. As the first Digital Humanities project Mercer University Library has initiated, building the framework alongside our partners was a learning experience. This project originated with the hope of supporting students, faculty, and the community while simultaneously kickstarting Mercer University's DH program. We will present the genesis of this project, the resources we investigated to digitize the materials at the courthouse, and the challenges we encountered working with

community partners. Furthermore, we will discuss the conflicts that arose between digital humanities and digital archiving.

Session 3B

Unraveling the Mystery of a mid-19th Century Quilt Presenter: Deborah Tritt Harmon, USC Aiken

In the Gregg-Graniteville Archives lives a mid-19th century quilt whose provenance card raised a lot of questions. Who created the quilt and how did it end up in the collection? What unfolded is an amazing detective story. Using the knowledge gleaned from research conducted on the textile mill village of Graniteville, South Carolina and collaborations with local historical societies, museums, and libraries the answers revealed themselves and the quilt's creator. This presentation will explain how Professor Harmon and a local archaeologist, George Wingard, solved the mystery.

Creating a Museum from Scratch Virginia Ellison & Molly Silliman, South Carolina Historical Society

Ms. Ellison and Ms. Silliman will describe their experience working with the archival team and exhibit designers to create a museum from its inception for the South Carolina Historical Society. The SCHS moved its archival collection from the historic Fireproof Building in January 2015 to renovate and reopen the building as a museum telling the story of South Carolina and its role in the nation's past. They will offer successes, failures, and hindsight wisdom for those embarking on similar projects.

2:15 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Session 4A

Tools to Amp Up Your Website Redesign Project
Presenter: Tabitha Y. Samuel, Waring Historical Library,
Medical University of South Carolina

Taking on a website redesign project for your library or archive can be an overwhelming task, especially so for short-staffed institutions. As libraries and archives strive to be more connected to their users, librarians and archivists often find themselves taking on projects outside of the realm of their expertise. Fortunately, there are a myriad of tools that can help you better meet the challenges of your web redesign project. The Waring Historical Library is the rare books and special collections library for the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Consisting of collections relating to the history of the health sciences in the southeast, the MUSC University Archives, and a digital archive, the Waring has been a hub of resources and information for Charleston, South Carolina's medical district in particular, but it's website has not had the best design to meet this need. In the summer of 2016, the Waring's staff decided to tackle the library's website redesign. Using LibGuides CMS and Omeka, the Waring's staff of four full-time employees, with no formal web design training and varying degrees of experience, assembled to create and launch a cleaner, more user-friendly and responsive site by the spring of 2018. This presentation will highlight the group's website redesign project along with a series of tools they found useful, ranging from applications to manage their workflow to icon, color-scheme, and responsive grid generators.

Session 4B

It Takes a Village: Collaboration with Student Workers and Archives Staff

Presenter: Patrick Dollar, UNC Greensboro

The presentation will focus on how UNC Greensboro's Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives promotes and supports collaboration between student workers and archives staff. I will focus on recent collaborations — including preparing and installing an exhibit with two staff members and a graduate student worker and using multiple students with different skill levels and strengths to expedite processing of a single collection. The presentation will draw on these and other projects at UNC Greensboro to illustrate how archivists can promote collaboration with their student workers — bolstering both the students' skill levels and experiences and accomplishing important archival work.

