

AMIS – VMCAS - VMS Joint Section Meeting

Washington, DC 2018

Minutes

Elizabeth Reilly (with additions from Kim Andersen and Sharon Mizota)

AMIS (Audio and Moving Image Section) - VMCAS (Visual Materials Cataloging and Access Section) - VMS (Visual Materials Section) joint section meeting called to order by VMS Chair, Kim Andersen at 4:15 pm on August 16, 2018.

Announcement from outgoing council liaison Amy Cooper Cary:

- Incoming council liaisons are Melissa Gonzales for VMS / VMCAS and Ricky Punzalan for AMIS
- Report on Monday SAA Council meeting:

Two resolutions passed and will be presented at Friday's meeting

The Council endorsed the Protocols for Native American Archival Materials as an external standard

VMS Business presented by Kim Andersen:

- VMS Committee reports will be posted on VMS website: saavms.org
- Proposed revisions to the Standing Rules were approved
- Nikki Shayer of the Communication Committee conducted a survey of social media use: 75% want section news through email, 53% use social media; and she requests more content for the newsletter
- VMS Education Chair, Alexis Peregoy, has resigned
- Kim thanks the VMS Steering Committee for all of their work
- Election Results:
Chair-elect, Mary Alice Harper (Ransom Center, UT Austin)
Member at Large, Patrick Cullom (Wilson Library, UNC Chapel Hill)
Member at Large position vacated by Alexis Peregoy will be assumed by Jessica Tai (Library Special Collection, UCLA)
- There is \$250 from the SAA Section funding pilot project that needs to be spent

VMCAS Business presented by VMCAS Outgoing Chair, Sharon Mizota

- Ashley Levine is the VMCAS Incoming Chair
- Mention of potential merger of VMS and VMCAS since there is a 50% overlap in membership.
- There were no elections for VMCAS this year

AMIS Business presented by AMIS Outgoing Chair, Tre Berney

- Moving image added to Recorded Sound section name: special call was approved 89% to 11%, new change is posted on section website, "Audio and Moving Image Section"
- Mention of potential to work with AMIA (Association of Moving Image Archivists) to set up Audio Visual related workshops at future SAA meetings
- Election Results posted to AMIS website:
Incoming Chair, Sarah Cunningham
Chair-elect, Patrick Midtlyng
Web/Media Liason, Calvin Rydbom
Newsletter Editor, Kelly Applegate
Steering Committee, Judy Chou, Laura Starratt, Shannon Erb, JA Pryse
- Introduction of Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship through The American Archive of Public

Broadcasting (collaboration of WGBH and the Library of Congress). Group of ten fellows from two 2018 cohorts introduced. Sarah Buchanan worked with the fellows and reminded us that AV education is a part of archival education

Incoming VMS Chair, Sandra Varry, introduced keynote speaker Richard Urban (Digital Asset Manager and Strategist, Corning Museum of Glass). “Managing Digital Assets: A Journey” urbanrj@cmog.org

Fascinating look into an archives in a museum in a corporation/business and how the archives work there is remarkably similar to academic archives work, government archives work, etc.... Face same challenges – particularly in digital realms. Urban a good and engaging presenter. His First SAA!

Discussion covered:

- Working across libraries, archives, museums
- Migration from MediaBin to Piction
- Also changing ILS from Voyager to Alma
- Mimsy XG collection mgmt; Alma feeding into Piction DAMS
- ArchivesSpace also there, but not well connected
- Tension between item level & archival description
- Technical debt from the past
- Item level description in the past; how are we going to change these systems and how we change mindsets?
- What’s the role of DAMS for born digital?
- What is an asset? What are the policies that govern what we treat as assets.
- One of top 3 museums on Youtube. But videos waiting to be managed.
- Records retention policy is old and mainly focused on paper > trying to take a fresh look and how it applies to digital assets - do we need these things forever? How do things become part of institutional archive?
- What’s our preservation strategy & platform?
- Revisiting rights metadata. Oriented to internal processes, Trying to change policies > outward facing, standards based.
- Continuing Education: Build capacity to deal with changes. Introducing Adobe Bridge to apply base level metadata. Developed local controlled vocab. Managing tagging & organizing in DAMS.

- Working at scale - command line tools. Process finding aid metadata into embedded metadata
- Digital records retention > move to cloud-based storage
- 75-85% of personal drive are video & digital images - doing an assessment. Are they assets?
- Email retention; records retention discussions - how to build a sustainable preservation model
- When we talk about collections it's what we care about. Revisiting access through Web site. Drupal based, talks to different systems.
- Connecting museum records with library records - collection/accession - finding aid
- Users come in through Google, but other parts of Web site don't link to finding aids or catalog. How do we link so people can follow those relationships, linked data?
- Want to look at IIIF. Not about metadata; how do we represent archival context at item level? IIIF allows you to build links and hierarchies where they exist. Bring together different formats. IIIF users group on Web site.
- Question: how did you get support from higher ups? It's surprising for a small institution.
- IT is very motivated; lots of duplicative stuff - it's in their interest to reduce storage. Now it's unmanaged. Trying to bring thought and care to that. What is sustainable? Who are our audiences? We're doing some more evaluation. We are the world leader in this niche.

VMS outgoing chair, Kim Andersen led discussion on the possible merger of VMS and VMCAS:

- History of VMS and VMCAS: Before the internet, some VMS members wanted another time to discuss cataloging so they became an SAA Roundtable.
- List-serves, conference calls, and video-conferencing means that separate meetings are less needed.
- Merging makes sense because of program competition
- VMS no longer endorses programs
- If merger happens, consider a ways of keeping discussions specific so as not to clog email list; should there be 2 separate list-serves or just one?
- Concern raised for gathering enough interest to get people to run for committee positions (on VMCAS) so a merger would hopefully fix that
- VMCAR formed out of a need that no longer exists (before there were standards for description)
- VMCAR was a roundtable that got swept up in the SAA change to make everything a section

- Roundtables were less formal than sections as they were places for people to get more personal and talk. They offered a little more intimacy. If we do merge, we should still offer a place for people to get together and share.
- SAA is open to having a day during the Annual Meeting that is more dedicated to section meetings and workshops
- Section business is less needed in meetings because that can now be shared easily online.
- Overall consensus is overwhelmingly to move forward with merge!

AMIS discussion:

- Consensus is that yes, partnerships with AMIA and local groups for AV workshops and training makes sense.
- VMS and ARSC (Association for Recorded Sound Collections) would also like to partner for these types of things.
- Meeting attendee who is in charge of hiring has had trouble finding candidates qualified in AV, metadata, sound, etc. and would like to see more workshops in order to give people more experience.

Announcements:

- The Library of Congress Special Collections will likely be hiring for a bunch of positions in the near future.
- The National Gallery of Art is currently hiring for a Media Archivist in the Gallery Archives