



AIC News

March 2022

Volume 47(2)

Weeping glass removed from a daguerreotype. Contributed to the AIC Wiki by Amanda Maloney.

Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

About PMG

PMG formed in August 1979, the first AIC Specialty Group. It currently has about 475 members. PMG encourages and facilitates the exchange of ideas and information about photographic conservation and promotes the development of sound conservation practices, promotes publications, and disseminates responsible information on the care of photographs. Learn more at www.culturalheritage.org/photographic-materials-group.

PMG Wiki: From Print Chapters to Online Resource

By Alejandra Mendoza, Amanda Maloney, Emma Cieslik, Fernanda Valverde, and Luisa Casella for the Photographic Materials Group

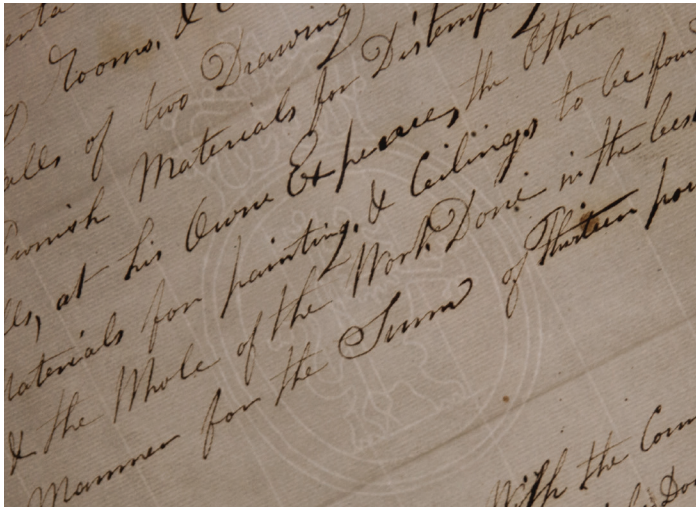
The American Institute for Conservation (AIC) Wiki (www.conservation-wiki.com/) is rapidly evolving into a uniquely important resource for conservators to find information for their daily practice and for research. It is also a vibrant social platform that engages colleagues worldwide.

Originating from the conservation catalogs that were created by AIC specialty groups, the most complete being that of the Book and Paper Group (BPG), the AIC Wiki is now the preferred platform for a variety of other content relevant to the conservation community. Beyond the initial conservation catalog content, other sections have since been developed that are relevant across specialties such as preventive care, and research and analysis. The AIC Wiki is used by more than AIC members; it has become an important knowledge database for the global conservation community.

The AIC Wiki is supported by AIC with ever-growing content added by various specialty groups, networks, committees, and working groups. Placing information on a wiki platform allows for easier access and the ability to enact changes in information content more quickly than is possible with print resources. The dissemination of knowledge with a centralized, adaptable platform makes the AIC Wiki an increasingly important upgrade to the catalogs. Having a centralized knowledge base also fosters a globalized gathering of knowledge, expanding the pool of contributors and users.

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In This Issue

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Deadline for July editorial submissions: June 1, 2021. Submit to carmina@culturalheritage.org.

We reserve the right to edit for brevity and clarity.

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From the Board President

Dear fellow AIC Members,

I'm writing with updates on a few of AIC's big projects, including the search for F/AIC's next Executive Director and the continuation of AIC's community-engaged strategic planning process.

Update on the Search for the Next Executive Director of F/AIC

As you may remember from my previous updates, the Search Committee has been at work since July 2021. Following a comprehensive review of F/AIC's resources and requirements for future leadership, we reached out to executive search firms with expertise in recruitment for the not-for-profit and cultural heritage sector. In September, we partnered with Freeman Philanthropic Services (FPS) on this important search.

FPS conducted a series of wide-ranging stakeholder interviews to learn about our organization and its leadership needs, developed a thorough and attractive recruitment strategy, and publicly launched the search in November of 2021. In addition to receiving applications from candidates applying through the publicly posted job ads, FPS also utilized their extensive network to speak with hundreds of individuals connected with our field to seek their thoughts about potential candidates for the opportunity.

The Search Committee is now considering an initial slate of highly qualified candidates with a deep appreciation for the preservation of cultural heritage. The committee will have completed review of these applications in February, and interviews soon after. I will keep you updated as this process progresses.

Continuation of AIC's Community-Engaged Strategic Planning Process

In January, I wrote with an overview of a new strategic-planning process led by the AIC Board. Our goals are to engage both internal and external stakeholders to identify potential strategic directions for AIC, and then, from these, to clarify our priorities and goals for the next three-year term.

This process began with AIC's Internal Advisory Group (IAG, AIC's volunteer leadership group). Through two online feedback prompts as well as in-person discussions at the IAG meeting in November 2021, IAG members provided advice about updates to our core values, areas where AIC is doing well, and areas for improvement and growth. IAG members also suggested and prioritized key stakeholders to engage in the strategic planning process.

Working from the foundational information generated by IAG discussions, board members are now speaking with key constituencies within or closely associated with our organization. In this phase of the process, we are working with these groups to refine the suggestions made by the IAG and to explore whether there might be important gaps or crucial missing elements. For example, February conversations with the Emerging Conservation Professionals Network, the Equity and Inclusion Committee, and the FAIC board produced crucial insights.

Overall, our goals are to clarify AIC's strategic priorities and build a sense of shared purpose. As the winter and spring progress, we will speak with more of AIC's key stakeholders. There will be opportunities for all AIC members to contribute through online prompts and conversations, as well as in-person discussions at the annual meeting. I look forward to sharing more information from this process as it continues, and I hope you will participate.

—Suzanne Davis, AIC Board President, davissl@umich.edu



Suzanne Davis,
AIC Board President

PMG Wiki: From Print Chapters to Online Resource

Continued from cover

AIC Wiki Beginnings

When the Book and Paper Group began creating their *Paper Conservation Catalog* in 1984, several AIC specialty groups were inspired to make similar compilations of conservators' existing texts as "working knowledge on materials and techniques used to preserve and treat works of art and historic artifacts" ([AIC Wiki, landing page](#)). These documents were designed to support the daily practice of conservation and promote the conservator's mandate of continued research and training.

In 2008, Paul Messier, then Director of Communications on the AIC board, contacted the chair of each specialty group with published catalogs to determine if they would be in favor of migrating existing materials to an online wiki format. Receiving positive responses from all groups, a grant proposal was submitted to the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT). This grant was awarded in April 2009 ([Striegel, 2009](#)) and additional funding from the National Parks Service (NPS) was also secured. The initial step was to migrate all existing content to the website, creating a structure that would allow for each specialty group to adapt the platform to their needs. Working with a vendor, published materials were digitized and data was cleaned to allow posting on a website. Each specialty group created their own wiki committee or nominated a chair to lead the effort for developing content. Specialty groups with no previously published knowledge compendiums were encouraged to begin their own wiki efforts.

Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog

At the 1989 Kansas City PMG Winter Meeting, attendees nominated John McElhone, Nora Kennedy, and Sarah Wagner to form a Conservation Catalog Organizing Committee, which was tasked with surveying the membership about interest in combining efforts to create a print *Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog*. This publication would follow the example and structure of the *Paper Conservation Catalog*, which began in 1984 and was published in nine editions until 1994 by the BPG (see: [AIC Wiki, "History of BPG Wiki"](#) and ["History of PMG Wiki"](#)). The survey also inquired about the outline structure and assessed willingness of members to volunteer to contribute to or compile the chapters. Results of the survey (with 48 responses out of 218 members, a 22% response rate) were presented at the 1990 AIC Annual Meeting in Richmond, Virginia, and showed that PMG members endorsed the idea but did not support implementing a rigid production schedule. Using the extant model for catalog production, PMG then created committees to compile information on specific topics.

The first three topics with interested compilers were:

- › [Inpainting](#) (first to be completed in November 1994 - Debbie Norris, compiler)
- › [Cased Objects](#) (completed in September 1998 - John McElhone, compiler)
- › [Exhibition Guidelines](#) (completed in May 2001 - Doug Severson, 1992-1993, and Stephanie Watkins, 1993-2004, compilers)

These were the only three published chapters by 2007 when the AIC Wiki was launched. The original texts for the three completed chapters now exist as PDF files linked within the online wiki chapters to preserve the original information in its original format. Other chapters had established committees and work had begun but was not completed. Topics included:

- › Silver Mirroring Treatment Strategies (Lyzanne Gann, compiler, started in 1991)
- › Humidifying, Drying, and Flattening (Humidification - Erin Murphy, compiler, 2000-2005)
- › Flattening (Jiuan-Jiuan Chen, 2006-2008, and Stephanie Watkins, 2009, compilers)



Photographic Materials

Main Catalogs Page > Materials and Treatment > Photographic Materials > Photographic Materials



Photographic Materials Group Wiki

The Photographic Materials Group Wiki (PMG Wiki) is a publication of the **Photographic Materials Specialty Group** of the American Institute for Conservation. The PMG Wiki is an interactive and collaborative resource for conservators and conservation students to learn and share about topics in photograph conservation. It is a dynamic endeavor that aims to foster communication and connectivity through an active exchange of information on developing research and the current trends and needs of the field.

The **history and development of the PMG Wiki and the Photographic Materials Conservation Catalogs, published before the existence of this online publication, are recorded here.**

Contribute

AIC and PMG members are welcome and encouraged to contribute by becoming a Page Compiler, contributor-at-large, or buy sending feedback to wiki.pmg@gmail.com.

NEW! The PMG Wiki Committee has created a new avenue for contributions by submitting information, images, corrections, comments and suggestions using this Google Form.

[Click here for more on how to contribute to PMG Wiki.](#)

PMG Wiki Committee

The PMG Wiki Committee is composed of volunteer PMG members and one Chair position appointed by the PMG Chair.

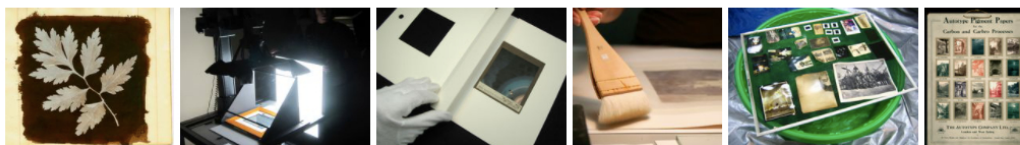
Current PMG Wiki Committee members are: Luisa Casella (Acting Chair); Emma Cieslik; Amanda Maloney; Alejandra Mendoza; Fernanda Valverde. You can reach the PMG Wiki committee at: wiki.pmg@gmail.com.

The Roles and Definitions of the PMG Wiki Committee can be found in the [Discussion](#) tab of this page.

Disclaimer

The AIC PMG Wiki and previously The Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog were developed by and for professional conservators. While persons in related fields may benefit from being acquainted with its content, these publications do not intend to provide step-by-step recipes for the untrained. The content presented has been developed over several decades and there may be out-of-date information. Readers are strongly encouraged to consult the growing body of relevant literature in addition to the information found in the AIC Wiki entries. The PMG Wiki does not endorse, approve, nor recommend any treatments, methods, or techniques described herein. Individual conservators are solely responsible for determining the necessity, safety, and adequacy of a treatment for a particular object.

Copyright 2022. Photographic Materials Group Wiki is a publication of the Photographic Materials Group of the American Institute for Conservation. It is published as a convenience for the members of the Photographic Materials Group. Publication does not endorse nor recommend any treatments, methods, or techniques described herein. Please follow [PMG Wiki guidelines](#) for citing PMG Wiki content, keeping in mind that it is a work in progress and is frequently updated.



You can find a List View of the PMG Wiki Outline in the Discussion tab of this page, or using this link.

Feedback on ways to improve the ease of use an accessibility of this landing page is welcome and encouraged.

Photograph Conservation [edit | edit source]

- What is a photograph?
- Definition and Evolution of the Field
- History of the Photographic Materials Group
- History of the PMG Wiki
- Photograph Conservation Initiatives Around the World
- Photograph Conservation Bibliographies
- Training in Photograph Conservation
- Photograph Conservation Laboratories

Photographic Materials [edit | edit source]

- Photographic Processes
- Color Photographic Materials
- Digital Prints
- Cased Photographs
- Glass in Photographic Materials
- Plastics in Photographic Materials
- Multi-Media, Collage and Composite Constructions

The PMG Wiki landing page contains background, structure, and topics. This is a capture of the PMG Wiki page as of January 26, 2022.

Stephanie Watkins was the first chair of the PMG Wiki Committee and served in that role for the next 13 years, making significant contributions to the platform, inspiring others to submit material, and promoting its use. As the PMG Wiki content evolves, the PMG Wiki Committee will maintain and update the [History of the PMG Wiki page](#), including a list of new pages created by year.

Outline Structure

The *Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog* outline was modeled on the *Paper Conservation Catalog* structure. This structure has been revised for the online wiki version; however, the hierarchical structure of the pages will become less relevant as the content continues to expand collaboratively. Cross-specialty content creation allows users to find more complete information on specific topics; in addition to pages that cover more general preventive care topics, the AIC Wiki has pages that are maintained by members of multiple specialty groups, such as the page on Rigid Gels ([AIC Wiki, Gels](#)).

Page Structure

The general structure of PMG Wiki pages is modeled on the early *Paper Conservation Catalog* template, with headings:

- › Purpose
- › Guidelines
- › Factors to Consider
- › References
- › Techniques
- › Further Reading

A template page that includes these can be found on the wiki as a starting point for new pages ([AIC Wiki, Help:PMG Blank Chapter Template](#)). This structure does not work for every topic and can be adapted as needed.

Recent and Current Focus

The current efforts and focus of the PMG Wiki Committee are to ensure that each current page in the PMG section has an assigned page compiler responsible for overseeing any changes to the page. This helps to divide up the workload of monitoring changes and ensuring content quality. The compiler is also assigned the task of updating pages with recent research and publications.

Interest across the AIC Wiki is expanding to include text translations into various foreign languages. The BPG Wiki has led this effort on their pages and has created several pages with translations that appear as stand-alone PDF documents. This workflow creates a snapshot of the time in which the translation was created, resulting in a form of “version control.” PMG has taken the first steps to create Spanish translations of its pages, and we hope these will be uploaded to the platform as PDFs in the upcoming year.

The COVID-19 period has seen a rise in engagement in online activities. For the PMG Wiki Committee, increasing activity has meant establishing monthly conference calls and finding more time to reorganize its guidelines and work practices.

Cross-specialty Collaboration

Since 2020 there has been an increase in cross-specialty communications within AIC Wiki committees. PMG has held a series of conference calls offering informal opportunities to discuss strategies for membership engagement, share tips on practical aspects of the wiki, and strengthen the community support that is the basis of this resource. Collaboration between BPG and PMG is of high interest, since there are many areas of overlapping interest; the BPG and PMG Wiki committees are planning to host their first joint lunch session at the 2022 AIC Annual Meeting where both groups will announce the launch of a page devoted to photograph albums. The goals of increased communication are to create better content on the platform, avoid duplicating efforts on similar topics, and provide better tools for the users.

Engaging Users

In the early years of AIC Wiki, many attempts to solicit PMG contributions focused on events at meetings where colleagues were asked to sign up for a training session to work together on one specific topic. Like the [Wikipedia "Edit-a-Thon"](#) events, BPG offers similar targeted initiatives at AIC Annual Meetings through their annual BPG Wiki Discussion Session, where participants are invited to suggest improvements and additions to existing wiki content and structure, and can discuss new changes on a selected page or topic. Since the end of 2020, the PMG Wiki Committee has reached out directly to colleagues and asked for their contributions on specific topics related to their research or recent work. Although many of these colleagues are not AIC members, they have generously offered their time, expertise, and research results to benefit the wider conservation community.

The PMG Wiki Committee is now striving to engage conservation students in AIC Wiki work. As part of their coursework, these students are reading fundamental texts and current research, and they are likely to have great interest in compiling data for this type of platform. In 2020, PMG members affirmatively voted to offer student wiki contributors a free book on photographic materials from PMG/AIC as an incentive and recognition of the effort they put into adding content. This has been well received, and four student contributors have thus far benefitted from this offer.

In 2021, the PMG Wiki Committee created the Google form "[AIC PMG Wiki Page Submissions](#)" to offer a simple way for colleagues to send any input, images or content to be uploaded. The form is linked to the PMG Wiki landing page and was announced to members through the Global Conservation Forum. We have not received any contributions and increasingly find that reaching out directly to colleagues with specific invitations or requests is the most effective way to engage new contributors. The PMG Wiki currently has 48 editors, with 21 added or renewed last year by direct request.

Reviewing and Vetting Content

The success of a collaborative information resource like the PMG Wiki depends on the engagement of its users. Creating a cooperative professional knowledge platform risks some level of inaccuracy in that the entered content may not be immediately peer reviewed, may be outdated, or may have errors. The implementation of page compilers helps provide a structure for reviewing new or revised content. In addition, student contributors work with page compilers when entering content. Wiki platforms depend on the volunteer efforts of the community to help improve content and fill in knowledge gaps. They also offer several features that allow for exchange of information, such as the Discussion tab. These tools are currently being explored by PMG Wiki; we count on membership and contributors to make the most use of such tools.

Technical Considerations

When the AIC Wiki was implemented in 2009, users had to be comfortable entering content and editing using wiki markup language, which looked complicated and required a learning curve for ease of use. Since AIC's 2021 upgrade to the platform, users can enter content into the pages more easily; the tool closely resembles common text editing software, familiar to most (see [AIC Wiki Project: Current Events](#)). This change hopefully reduces the tension some previously experienced in entering content and will facilitate more contributions.

Currently, new users are required to watch an [online training video](#), created by e-editor Rachael Arenstein, that provides an overview of the resource and editing steps. The PMG Wiki Committee has been available to assist members through one-on-one calls to help new editors get started or answer any technical questions.

A semantic wiki update was activated in early January 2022, creating an underlying database structure to facilitate automated navigation menus and more complex search options. This will create a more organized organizational structure sitewide and increased interlinking of similar content types and topics. The pages created in the semantic wiki will prompt editors to enter baseline information, such as categories,

which will generate connections, navigational aids and content grouping, and will allow multi-level searches. Many aspects that are now manually coded and entered will soon be automated through the use of semantic category tags.

Usage of AIC Wiki Content

There has been consistent growth in AIC Wiki usage over the wiki's lifetime. In 2017, the wiki averaged about 10,000 visits per month. Since a peak of 46,000 users in June 2021, the wiki now averages about 20,000 visits per month, with a cumulative total of more than 800,000 visitors since March 2017.

Other observations include:

- › The wiki appears to be a workday site, with most views from Monday to Friday.
- › Most of the AIC Wiki traffic consists of users accessing specific content through direct links rather than browsing the platform.
- › Increasingly people navigate directly to the AIC Wiki through AIC's website or Google.
- › The AIC Wiki has a global use; the top ten countries that users are connecting from include: Indonesia, United States, United Kingdom, India, Hong Kong, Canada, Australia, Philippines, Nigeria, and Germany.
- › Anecdotally we know that the AIC Wiki is being actively used as a resource in training programs outside the United States.

The wiki saw a significant increase in work engagement and viewers over the last two years of the pandemic. Site usage is also high around AIC's annual meeting each year as new content pages are highlighted by speakers.

Current and Future Scope of the PMG Wiki

The PMG Wiki Committee strives to make the wiki a clear and convenient place for colleagues to search for information. We have had positive feedback about how important this resource is to colleagues, particularly outside of North America. Our goal is to recruit volunteers who share this vision and see value in offering their time and expertise to a resource that will benefit and dynamically engage colleagues globally.

There is undoubtedly room for improvement. We count on all those interested in this content to help make this conservation encyclopedia reach its full potential. The PMG Wiki Committee is a group of passionate individuals who see great value in contributing to this open platform and we hope our colleagues will respond to the call for helping it grow, together.

—Alejandra Mendoza, *Photograph Conservator, Producer at Colectivo Rokunin*;
Amanda Maloney, *Special Collections Conservator, Weissman Preservation Center at Harvard Library*; Emma Cieslik, *MA in Museum Studies Student at George Washington University, Curatorial Intern at the National Museum of American History*; Fernanda Valverde, *Photograph Conservator, Amon Carter Museum*; and Luisa Casella, *Photograph Conservator, West Lake Conservators*

References and Resources

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- › The support of *AIC Wiki* e-Editor, Rachael Perkins Arenstein for providing help with analytical data.
- › Sarah Wagner for offering access to important archival documents about the creation and development of the *Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog*.
- › Stephanie Watkins for information about the origins of AIC PMG Wiki.
- › Michele Smith, Diane Knauf of the BPG Wiki Committee for reviewing this article.

Association News

2022 ELECTION UPDATES

AIC Board of Directors Election: Voting Opens March 21

The board election, open to all AIC members with voting rights (Fellows, Professional Associates, and Associates), will run from Monday, March 21, to Friday, April 8.

As in past years, the election will be conducted online on a member-only page of the website. Voting members will receive an email with instructions on how to vote by March 21. If you would like to receive a paper ballot, please contact info@culturalheritage.org or 202.452.9545. **All ballots, electronic or paper, must be cast or received by 8:00 p.m. ET on Friday, April 8.**

The slate of candidates for the AIC Board of Directors election includes:

SECRETARY (2-YEAR TERM):

- › Jennifer McGlinchey Sexton (incumbent, completing first of 3 possible terms)

TREASURER (2-YEAR TERM):

- › Elmer Eusman (incumbent, completing first of 3 possible terms)

DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS (3-YEAR TERM):

- › Luisa Casella
- › Sarah Reidell

The election results will be announced during the Opening General Session of the annual meeting and during the Member Business Meeting on May 25 (see box).

AIC Nominating Committee Election: Voting Opens March 21

The Nominating Committee election, open to all AIC members with voting rights (Fellows, Professional Associates, and Associates), will run from Monday, March 21, to Friday, April 8.

As in past years, the election will be conducted online on a member-only page of the website. Voting members will receive an email with instructions on how to vote by March 21. If you would like to receive a paper ballot, please contact info@culturalheritage.org or 202.452.9545. **All ballots, electronic or paper, must be cast or received by 8:00 p.m. ET on Friday, April 8.**

The slate of candidates for the Nominating Committee position includes:

- › Fletcher Durant
- › Chela Metzger

The election results will be announced during the Opening General Session of the annual meeting and during the Member Business Meeting on May 25 (see box).

AIC Member Business Meeting to Be Held Online

To allow more members to attend our Member Business Meeting, we will host this year's meeting online following the annual meeting in Los Angeles, California. Please join us on May 25, 2022, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. ET.

We will share the agenda closer to the meeting, but you may [RSVP now](#) to ensure our Zoom webinar has plenty of seats.

Specialty groups are planning their business meetings for the week of May 23.



AIC Member Business Meeting

Our 2022 business meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 25, at 1:00 p.m. ET via Zoom.

You may reserve your seat now: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/2022-aic-member-business-meeting>



Specialty Group Business Meeting

Your 2022 specialty group business meetings will take place during the week of May 23 via Zoom.

As they are scheduled, you will be able to save your spot at learning.culturalheritage.org/members.

Volunteer Opportunities

We are excited to present you with a list of volunteering opportunities within our many different committees, specialty groups, and networks. A full description of the positions is available online at our “[Volunteer Opportunities](#)” webpage, where you can also apply to one or more calls. Position descriptions also include an estimated time commitment.

COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP OPENINGS

Committee	Position, Time Commitment	Term length	Commitment & Duties	Requirements or preferences
Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation Advisory Committee	Member (1 available) (3 hours/month)	2 years, with 2 possible 2-year renewals	Participate in 1-hour monthly calls. Provide input, ideas, and advice regarding workshop topics, speakers, and content. Contribute to special projects as assigned, including acting as the committee liaison for a workshop.	Experience with photographic materials. Interest in training and education, public engagement and outreach, or mentorship. Preference may be given to applicants whose geographic locations, employment type, professional background, or experience diversify the current committee demographics.
Communications Committee: K-12 Outreach Subcommittee	Members (2 available) (3-5 hours/month)	2 years, with possible renewal	Commit to monthly calls. Choose a focus on ongoing project areas, including but not limited to: annual teacher workshops at AIC; updating and expanding wiki and webpage resources for internal outreach; external outreach/collaborations with allied groups and professional organizations; social media.	An interest in exploring new ways of communicating conservation topics, theory and ethics to young learners and their educators. Preference may be given to applicants with professional background or experience in an area other than objects conservation.
Communications Committee: Outreach Subcommittee	Members (2 available) (2-3 hours/month)	2 years	Participate in monthly calls. Help monitor, improve, and create outreach content, suggest partnerships and strategic activities that facilitate outreach. Collaborate with other groups in the Outreach Committee or within AIC.	Broad interest in communications and outreach, including community outreach. Preference may be given to applicants in specialties or areas of focus not currently represented in the subcommittee.
Communications Committee: Publications Subcommittee	Committee member (3-5 hours/month)	2-year term, with an option of serving a second term	Responsibilities include attending monthly 1-hour working meetings, writing occasional blog posts, and researching topics pertaining to group goals.	Desired qualifications include an interest in AIC’s publications, skills to support outreach efforts, and interest in making publications more accessible.
Communications Committee: Wiki Working Group - New!	Members and chair (8+ available) (2 to 6 hours/month)	2-year terms, with options for 1- or 3-year terms for starting members	Help start this new group! Participate in monthly calls, join teams as desired for wiki projects, liaise with wiki committee chairs and Publications Subcommittee	Experience or interest in the AIC Wiki. Editing experience helpful.

Committee	Position, Time Commitment	Term length	Commitment & Duties	Requirements or preferences
Education & Training Committee	Member (3 available) (3 hours/month)	3 years with possible 2-year renewal	Participate in 1-hour monthly calls. Review scholarship and grant applications at least one cycle each year. Evaluate and comment on workshop topics and proposals. Contribute to special projects as assigned.	
Emergency Committee	Member (2 available) (4 hours/month)	3 years, with 1 possible 1-year renewal	Serve on subcommittee (Programming, Annual Meeting, Social Media, AIC News, Wiki) with a fellow committee member. Report out on progress during monthly calls.	None
Equity & Inclusion Committee	Members and co-chair (3 available) (4 hours/month)	2 years, with 1 possible 2-year renewal	Serve as leaders of projects and help plan programming. Review documents/guidelines for other AIC committees with an inclusive lens.	Strong commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in conservation.
Imaging Working Group (RATS)	Vice Chair (~5 hours/month)	1-year term that transitions into 1-year term as Chair	Attending IWG meetings and Leadership Team meetings, supporting IWG Chair and IWG Secretary, learning/training while providing support to the Chair	Demonstrated interest in imaging and in networking with other imaging, conservation, and allied professionals.
	Wiki and Community Lead (~6 hours/month)	2-year term	Attend meetings, post notes and meeting content to wiki, track and promote IWG wiki progress	
	Secretary (~7 hours/month)	2-year term	Agenda distribution, notetaking, internal and external communications about meetings, collaborating with Wiki and Community Lead	
	AIC Annual Meeting Program Chair (Varies)	2-year term but first year has option for 1-year or 3-year terms	Expect ~5-10hrs/month in Sept-Oct for the abstract review process and April-May for session prep, Annual Meeting; ~3-4 hrs/month for other months. Plan session, call for presentations, and prepare for meeting.	
Membership Committee: Member Engagement Subcommittee	Member (3 available) (3-4 hours/month)	2 years, with 1 possible 2-year renewal	Support new AIC members, increase awareness of benefits and opportunities in the organization, with a focus on recognition and enhance the member experience. Encourage members to take on volunteer leadership roles, provide support to first-time volunteers, recognize the work of volunteers, and promote ongoing member engagement in AIC, including promotion of membership designations.	Preference may be given to applicants in career stages, membership types, or backgrounds not currently represented on the Subcommittee.

SPECIALTY GROUP AND NETWORK NON-ELECTED OPENINGS

Group or Network	Title, time commitment	Term length	Commitment and duties	Requirements or preferences
Book and Paper Specialty Group (BPG)	<p>Publications Committee Co-Chair (1 available)</p> <p>(time varies with tasks assigned)</p>	2-year term	<p>Assists Chair in ensuring that the responsibilities of PubComm members are addressed in a timely manner. Each member is expected to organize their work, meet deadlines, and maintain schedules.</p> <p>Works with Chair to organize conference calls and in-person meetings at the AIC Annual Meeting, to develop and report on projects, and to address current and future BPG publication related issues.</p> <p>Ensures that summary notes from conference calls reflect the deliberation and reasoning behind actions taken by the committee.</p>	<p>Skills: To fulfill the demands of this position, the Co-Chair must have good interpersonal, communication, and project management skills as well as an interest in overarching publication and communication topics. The time commitment for this position varies throughout the calendar year with PubComm activities.</p>
	<p>Art on Paper Discussion Group (APDG) Co-Chair (1 available)</p> <p>(time varies with tasks assigned and time of year)</p>	2-year term	<p>Developing the discussion topic, securing speakers, and coordinating and moderating the 2-hour session</p> <p>Authoring the session summary for the <i>BPG Annual</i></p> <p>Contributing edits to the Book or Paper Wiki for an entry related to the session topic</p> <p>Selecting an incoming APDG co-chair for the following annual meeting</p>	
	<p>Library and Archives Conservation Discussion Group (LACDG) co-chair (1 available)</p> <p>(time varies with tasks assigned and time of year)</p>	2-year term	<p>Duties shared between co-chairs include:</p> <p>Developing the discussion topic, securing speakers, coordinating and moderating the 2-hour session</p> <p>Authoring the session summary for the <i>BPG Annual</i>.</p>	
Collection Care Network	Secretary/Treasurer (5-10 hrs/month)	3 years with renewal	<p>Scheduling, note-taking and archiving minutes of CCN Officers monthly meetings. Treasurer responsibilities are minor, including proposing a small annual budget and facilitating any disbursement of monies through AIC staff.</p>	<p>Demonstrated interest in collection care and in networking with other collection care and allied professionals. Please share your background/ experiences with collection care, and the nature of your interest in serving the CCN community.</p>
Contemporary Art Network	Co-editor of the Contemporary Art Review (2-6 hours/month)	3 years, shared position with a 2nd editor	<p>Encourage and gather submissions for CAN!'s official publication CAR and shepherd the submissions through the editing and publication process. Works closely with AIC's staff liaison.</p>	

Group or Network	Title, time commitment	Term length	Commitment and duties	Requirements or preferences
Electronic Media Group (EMG)	Website Director (1-3 hours/month) (1 available)	Two-year term with option to renew	The Website Director oversees EMG's online presence. Activities include keeping EMG's websites up to date and working with AIC staff to ensure EMG is represented on the AIC website.	We encourage any candidates who are interested in creating a social media presence for EMG and/or coordinating updates to the EMG Wiki to apply for this officer role.
Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN)	Communications Co-officer (1 available) (3-5 hours/month)	2 years, no automatic renewal	Attend monthly officer call and other calls as needed, propose and support ECPN projects, collaborate with other officers to create content and programming for emerging conservation professionals.	Applicants will be evaluated on their statement of interest, related experience, and the representation of underrepresented demographics.
	Digital Platforms Co-officer (1 available) (3-5 hours/month)	2 years, no automatic renewal		
	Outreach Co-officer (1 available) (3-5 hours/month)	2 years, no automatic renewal		
	Professional Education and Training Co-officer (1 available) (3-5 hours/month)	2 years, no automatic renewal		
	Vice Chair (1 available) (3-5 hours/month)	2 years, no automatic renewal		
Objects Specialty Group (OSG)	Postprints Editor (1 available) Postprints: 5-15 hours/month	Open ended terms	Postprints editor will contact presenters, arrange for submission of articles and figures, and work with contracted team of professional copy editors and layout designers to help produce the annual OSG Postprints.	Applicants should excel at time management and organization, have strong writing skills, a love for editing, and a diplomatic communication style.
	Wiki editor (1 available) Wiki: 1-4 hours/month	Open ended terms	Wiki editor will liaise with other wiki editors and encourage new and existing wiki editors to expand on the Objects pages. Wiki editor will identify pages that need more content.	Applicants should have familiarity with the AIC Wiki, an interest in expanding and improving the OSG content on the Wiki, and experience in Wiki-editing.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Communications Committee

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS SUBCOMMITTEE: ANNUAL MEETING GENERAL SESSION POSTPRINTS!

In celebration of AIC's 50th Anniversary and Annual Meeting, the Communications Committee is pleased to announce the creation of a new publication, *AIC Annual Meeting General Session Postprints*, with the first volume containing articles from the general and concurrent general sessions of the 50th Annual Meeting.

This annual publication will provide an opportunity for general and concurrent session presenters to expand on their presentations in the form of scholarly articles and essays. The publication will be produced in digital format and released within a year of the annual meeting.

Jennifer Evers, of the Library of Congress, has been appointed Managing Editor for a two-year term beginning with the inaugural issue this year. Jennifer has already begun preparing for this important role, and she has recruited Erik Farrell (Mariners' Museum and Park) and Emma Kimmel (New York University) as assistant editors to ensure that this publication becomes a sustainable and valued resource for membership.

We are excited by this new opportunity to broaden the reach of our general and concurrent sessions and provide a published record of our anniversary year annual meeting. We look forward to great contributions from our colleagues!

In other news, we have recently invited Jennifer Hauck of Baltimore, Maryland, to the Conference Proceedings Subcommittee and look forward to her help in moving projects into 2022 and beyond!

—Justin Johnson, Chair, Conference Proceedings Subcommittee, jjjohn@uw.edu

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE: CARING FOR YOUR TREASURES

The Outreach Subcommittee is working on a project to revise the AIC resource *Caring for Your Treasures*.

In its current form, *Caring for Your Treasures* is a set of PDF resources full of information and tips aimed at the general public with information about caring for a variety of cultural heritage object types. We sent a survey to the AIC Member Community in spring 2021 to solicit feedback on how members use these resources and how they could be improved. This feedback was used to create a new template that is more user friendly and accessible. We will be reaching out to specialty groups and networks soon to request assistance in creating updated PDF and web versions of these resources to share on the AIC website.

—Colleen Grant, Senior Collection Manager, SASB, The New York Public Library, and Chair, Outreach Subcommittee, colleengrant@nypl.org

Emergency Committee

BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS: RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY!

"The U.S. has sustained 310 weather and climate disasters since 1980 where over-all damages/costs reached or exceeded \$1 billion [...]. The total cost of these 310 events exceeds \$2.155 trillion," reports NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), formerly the National Climatic Data Center. On the Climate.gov blog, Adam B. Smith wrote in February, "In 2021, the U.S. experienced 20 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters, putting 2021 in second place for the most disasters in a calendar year, behind the record 22 separate billion-dollar events in 2020." These events affected not only homes and businesses, but also cultural sites.



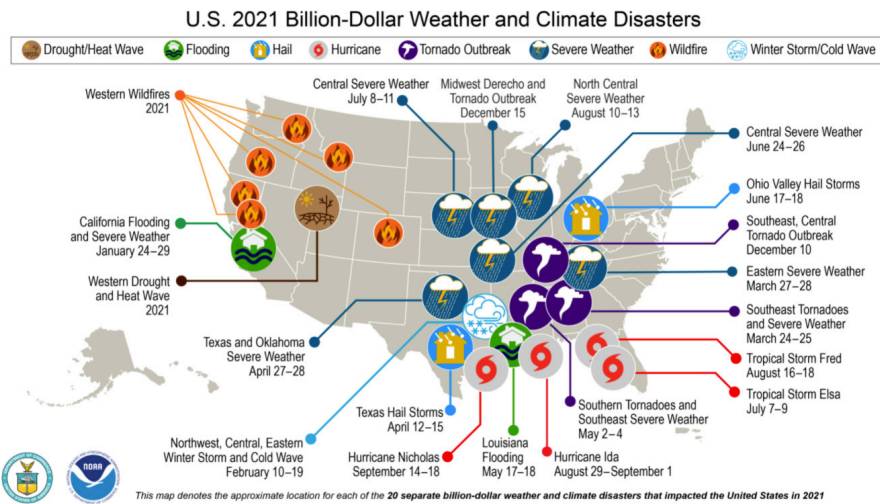
About the Committee

The Communications Committee work is primarily done through its subcommittees:

- > Conference Proceedings
- > Publications
- > Outreach
- > Website

K-12 Outreach is now a subset of the Outreach Subcommittee, and the new **Wiki Working Group** will be within the Publications Subcommittee.

Where is your cultural heritage institution on this map?



Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) U.S. Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters (2022). <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/billions/>, DOI: 10.25921/stkw-7w73

What is the United States doing to combat climate change and protect cultural heritage?

The Biden Administration has established a Climate Change Task Force, which required federal agencies to submit Climate Change Action and Resilience Plans in 2021. Two agencies we would like to highlight are the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Smithsonian Institution.

NASA: NASA's plan has adaptation actions that include integrating climate risks into risk analysis; agency resilience planning; and advancing aeronautics research on technologies and processes that reduce contributors to climate change. NASA's new chief scientist is focused on raising public and outside agency awareness of NASA's climate work, from climate modeling using satellite data to making flights more efficient.

Smithsonian: The Smithsonian's Climate Change plan includes details on institution-wide efforts to assess their vulnerabilities and enhance their resiliency. The collections section aims to protect national collections, mitigate collections risks, and prepare staff for responding to increasingly extreme weather through long-term planning and preparedness training while reducing or not increasing their energy reliance.

FAIC Connecting to Collections Care

MayDay Saving Our Heritage #MAYDAYPREP PREPAREDNESS PROTECTS OUR HERITAGE

Collections Emergency Kits
May 19, 2021 1:00-2:30 pm ET

FAIC Connecting to Collections Care

FAIC INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES **LearningTimes**

Connecting to Collections Care, a program of the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation, provides free training and web resources for all types of small and mid-sized cultural organizations. This program is made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Learning Times provides technical support.

0:29 / 1:30:50



Learn More

Melissa King, Rebecca Kaczkowski, and Samantha Snell gave a Collections Emergency Kits webinar last May, which is free to view at <https://connectingtocollections.org/collections-emergency-kits>.

Preparing for Seasonal Change

Considering the NOAA reports and government agency plans can help us direct our own activities. As we move into the spring months, let's prepare our collections and spaces for storms of increasing intensity and frequency. Some reminders:

- › Are the building drains and gutters clear of debris?
- › Are sump pumps in working order?
- › Is your phone tree up to date?
- › Do you have enough absorbent socks in your emergency kit?

Still need more preparedness tips and emergency kit information? Check out the resources available through [Connecting to Collections Care](#) including a webinar specifically on emergency kits.

—*Samantha Snell, National Collections Program, Smithsonian Institution, AIC Emergency Committee co-chair, snells@si.edu, and Melissa Miller, PRICE Program Contractor, National Collections Program, AIC Emergency Committee member, millermq@si.edu*

Get in Touch

What major natural disasters have you faced in the last few years? How is your institution dealing with more frequent, more severe disasters?

Comment on AIC's Facebook page or Twitter feed, or tag us on social media using #AICEC, or email us at emergency-comm@culturalheritage.org

We would love to hear from you!

Equity and Inclusion Committee

The Equity and Inclusion Committee continues to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) within AIC as well as in the wider conservation field through several different projects that align with our mission:

ACCESSIBILITY

- › EIC is compiling a report that encompasses the results of our 2021 Accessibility Survey. Information about accessibility and issues facing conservators that identify with a disability has not been collected by AIC before, so our results have the potential for organizational impact. EIC member Ronel Namde has been collaborating with Sally Kim, Jennifer Hain Teper, and Joshua Valentine on the survey. We hope that the final report will be released at the 2022 AIC Annual Meeting.

DEIA RESOURCES

- › EIC also continues to collaborate with other AIC groups and committees. We are currently working with the Education & Training Committee to compile DEIA resources for the AIC Wiki.
- › EIC is also currently working to create learning opportunities for conservators in the form of a DEIA-related workshop that will hopefully take place in Fall 2021.

TRANSLATIONS

- › Many AIC committees, networks, and specialty groups have recognized the need for foreign language conservation content to make the field and our organization accessible to more people. EIC is currently working with APOYOnline to translate some of our resources.
- › EIC is working to create a webpage on the AIC site that will act as a hub for the non-English conservation content that is being created. This hub will clearly organize the information and will provide links for visitors to follow. The hub will begin by focusing on Spanish and Portuguese content. We hope it can grow to incorporate other languages as well. If you have Spanish and/or Portuguese conservation resources that you would like listed on the new web hub please send them to eic@culturalheritage.org.

MEETING GUIDELINES

- › In preparation for the 2022 AIC Annual Meeting, EIC is working with the AIC Board to update the "Guidelines for AIC Annual Meeting In-person and Online

Events and Presentations” and “Guidelines for Giving Your Own Land Acknowledgments.” We are also working on social media posts to highlight tips that can be used to make presentations more accessible. Please be sure to follow AIC’s social media accounts to keep an eye out for our upcoming posts.

EIC is in search of 3 new members to fill upcoming vacancies in our committee. At least one of the positions will fill the role of co-chair. We encourage all who are interested to apply and will be accepting applications until April 1, 2022. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions.

—Anya Dani, EIC co-chair, anya.dani@yahoo.com

Materials Working Group (MWG) Update

The Materials Working Group (MWG), formed in 2018 as a CCN working group, was productive in 2021, despite all the challenges wrought by the pandemic’s second year. The unprecedented development of MWG electronic content for the AIC Wiki and CAMEO in 2021 resulted from all the small online committee meetings that continued after the 2-day online meeting in November 2020. Resources resulting from these efforts were presented at the AIC/SPNHC Joint Meeting in May 2021; the presentation and online resources are freely available on the [AIC YouTube](#) channel and the [AIC Wiki](#).

For our online program in November 2021, the MWG hosted two full-length days of programming that balanced four blocks of concurrent sessions focused on small-group work projects and four full-group joint discussions. The MWG community continued work on group projects and heard from peers working on related projects in their institutions. Slack was incorporated as a communication and file-sharing tool, especially critical for peer-to-peer collaboration while attendees were in different concurrent sessions. Nearly 70 attendees participated over two days including both new and returning colleagues.

The MWG community continues to work on a series of projects and initiatives coordinated by three subcommittees:

- › [Testing & Standards](#)
- › [Selections & Specifications](#)
- › [Resources & Dissemination](#)

The concurrent sessions provided opportunities for the community to continue to work on project collaboratively, including resources such as:

- › [Materials Testing Results](#)
- › [Materials Fact Sheets linked with CAMEO](#)
- › [The MWG Zotero bibliography](#)
- › [Image Gallery of Damages](#)

The meeting provided an opportunity for contributors working on projects with topical overlap—such as the group developing the MWG navigation framework for [choosing materials](#), the [NPS Exhibition Guidelines](#) group, and the [Fact Sheets](#) groups – to come together for a series of crossover sessions that helped to identify strategies for complementary work.

SESSION SUMMARIES

Testing & Standards

The first concurrent session for Testing & Standards was a general discussion about the status of the [2020/2021 Round Robin](#), a materials testing initiative to compare test results for the same materials using the same test methods. The session focused on how to store the data and make it accessible to the conservation community and concluded with a decision to conduct a 2022 Round Robin using the same seven test materials as well as four to six examples of materials marketed as



Access Your Invoices for Tax Returns

All transactions including purchases and membership renewals are located in your profile at www.culturalheritage.org/MyTransactions.

Log in to see your open orders and invoices. Use the dropdown menu to see Paid Receipts and download them by transaction.

Donation receipts are typically sent separately.



Book Discounts

Members receive 15% discount on items in the AIC store and 20% off a selection of conservation and preservation books published by Routledge and CRC Press.

- › [Log in to visit the Member Discount page!](#)

“sustainable” or “having low VOCs” that can cause problems for cultural heritage collections. The second session consisted of flash presentations on current testing and technical research topics, while the final two sessions were used by our three test method subcommittees (Microchemical Testing, Oddy Testing, and GCMS Testing) to review the 2021 Round Robin data that has been submitted to-date and to assess differences and similarities in results. If you are interested in participating in the Round Robin, please contact [Dr. Christopher Maines](#).

Materials Testing Results

A small and dedicated group convened to standardize and update links between CAMEO and the Materials Testing Results pages on the AIC wiki. One primary improvement was making large and cumbersome tables on CAMEO collapsible.

The regular group of editors has plans to schedule virtual work hours so they can work synchronously outside of the annual meeting. Volunteers interested in participating and making tangible progress on the sites are welcome to reach out to [Samantha Springer](#).

Image Gallery of Damages

Another small but enthusiastic group convened for one concurrent session focused primarily on evaluating the gallery page's utility and offering effective ways to link images to existing categories and pages on the AIC Wiki. The group developed a spreadsheet with keywords for pollutant damages, cross-referencing them with categories and pages on the wiki, and assessing searchability.

The group plans on holding quarterly meetings to assign tasks and is also considering the possibility of linking to outside glossaries to increase readership and encourage image contributions. If you have images that can contribute to the glossary, [Justine Wuebold](#) would love to hear from you!

Zotero Bibliography

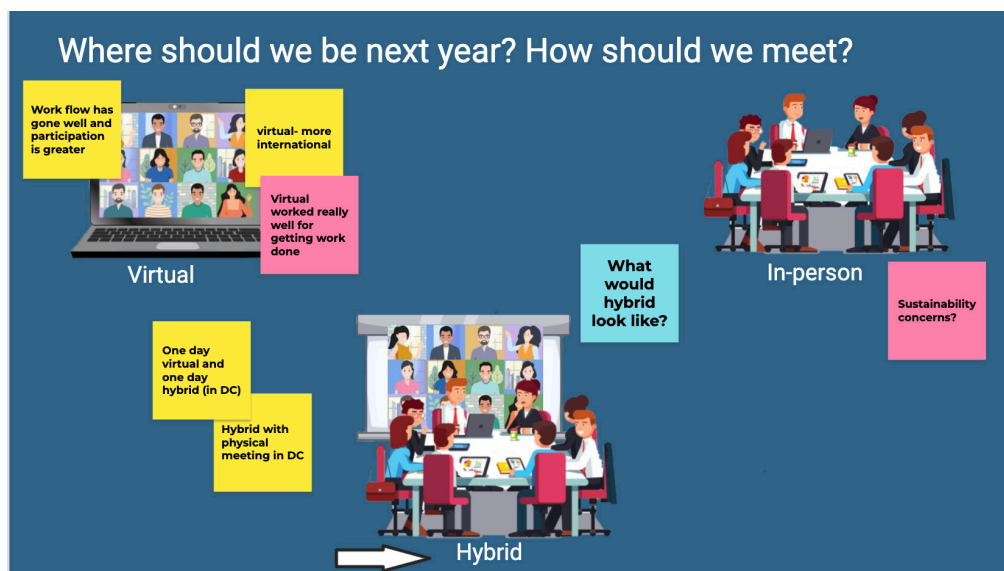
The Zotero subcommittee brainstormed about topics that might be useful in filling out the [Zotero](#) folders where more citations are needed, in addition to reviewing current content. The group met with Rachael Arenstein (AIC's E-Editor) and Michele Derrick (CAMEO Editor) about citations found in the MWG section of CAMEO and determined that these citations will be added to Zotero. The group also tested the use of the [Google form](#) for adding citations to Zotero and made edits. In the coming year, the form will be assessed further and additions will be made to the bibliography.

Since the meeting, the MWG Zotero subcommittee established a collaboration with the new Materials Testing Benchmarking project (an IMLS-sponsored project directed by Dr. Eric Breitung at the Metropolitan Museum of Art) to contribute to the project's literature review and add citations to the Zotero library. If you would like to contribute entries to the Zotero project or become involved with the subcommittee, please contact [Lauren Fly](#) and [Werner Haun](#).

Cross-over Sessions

A group of cross-over sessions provided a meeting place for MWG participants actively involved in editing the [Exhibition Standards and Guidelines](#) on the AIC Wiki, the [Choosing Materials for Storage, Exhibition & Transport](#) pages, and the [Fact Sheets](#) subgroups of the MWG. These three groups explored connections, discussed re-organization and titling of Exhibition Standards and Guidelines categories, and noted where overlap creates opportunity for directing intended users to specific resources. Participants creatively used pre-loaded Jamboards (a feature of Google Drive) to efficiently and effectively organize and record their thoughts; these graphic aids then served as a collaborative record of the work accomplished.

As a direct result of these meetings, a subset of contributors from the Fact Sheets and Exhibition Standards and Guidelines groups created a template for revising the Exhibition Guidelines Tech Notes. They are actively working on updating these documents in parallel with revising and reorganizing the narrative sections of the Exhibition Standards and Guidelines and creating new Fact Sheets in larger online working groups. In another



Screenshot of a Jamboard used to facilitate the full-group discussion to determine how the MWG annual meeting should be held in November 2022; participants anonymously contributed “sticky note” thoughts onto the board as the discussion unfolded. Courtesy of Rebecca Kaczowski.

session, participants reviewed the range of Tech Notes and their organization and rearranged them into topic groupings. These suggestions for Tech Notes reorganization were documented for future consideration.

SUMMARY AND FORWARD INTO 2022

The overall goal was to achieve clearer focus about how the three MWG subcommittees and their information resources are interlinked, a goal that was readily achieved through smaller Zoom breakout sessions, inter-session communication using Slack, and facilitated screen-sharing.

When the AIC Board approved the establishment of the MWG in 2018, it was approved as an exploratory working group. Since that time, we have been working toward a series of short-, mid-, and long-term goals that seek to:

- › Identify existing and missing resources
- › Develop communication bridges between colleagues engaged in the various aspects of materials selection for exhibition, transport, and storage
- › Establish a community of users and contributors to these resources

Five years in, the MWG Steering Committee is planning to evaluate its progress against its goals and to strategize about the next five years and beyond. In addition to long-range visioning for the group, the Steering Committee plans to host another virtual annual meeting in November 2022. Be sure to check the Collection Care Network’s column in future issues of AIC News for more information.

—Rebecca Kaczowski, Chair, Materials Working Group, aic.mwg@gmail.com

Looking for professional development opportunities?

Calls for Papers, Conferences, Seminars, and Courses are continually updated on our website at www.culturalheritage.org/allied-organizations-events.

Annual Meeting News



Explore the Meeting

Explore the virtual meeting!

- › [Find information on our website](#)
- › [Review abstracts and authors bios, then filter by topic, dates, or authors](#)
- › [Discover tours, pre-sessions, and workshops!](#)
- › [Don't forget to Fit Test your respirator!](#)

In-Person Meeting with a Virtual Component

Be part of history and join us either in person or as a virtual attendee at our 50th Annual Meeting, to be held at the Westin Bonaventure in Los Angeles, California, May 13-18, 2022. For the first time, we will be live-streaming and recording roughly a third of all the in-person annual meeting talks.

- › In-person attendees will have access to all the talks being presented and will also be able to view the recordings of the livestreamed talks. Recordings of all livestreamed talks will be available about two weeks after the conclusion of the annual meeting through October 31, 2022.
- › Virtual Component attendees will have the option to stream those sessions that are part of the virtual component live—just like being in LA without the palm trees! Virtual component attendees will also have access to the recorded sessions through October 31.

In-person and virtual attendees get two annual meetings for the price of one. You can decide which presentations to see live or live-streamed (in Pacific Time) and which to see at the time of your choosing.

ATTEND IN-PERSON

Join us in Los Angeles for this historic moment and reunite with colleagues that you may not have seen in a while. COVID-19 cases are trending downward and we, along with our partners, are working to ensure the safest environment at our in-person events. This is a good time to consider if you feel comfortable and ready to join us and celebrate in person. View our [Program & Schedule](#) online and our [COVID-19 Vaccination Guidelines](#). In addition to all the amazing sessions, we are offering two full pre-session days of workshops, tours, and seminars. The opening reception will be at the Getty Center and many specialty groups are planning their receptions in Los Angeles. For those able to join in LA, we look forward to celebrating in person!

VIRTUAL COMPONENT: DRAFT SCHEDULE NOW AVAILABLE

While we wish everyone could attend the meeting in person, we understand this may not be possible for everyone. That's why we created the virtual component composed of roughly a third of the talks presented at the in-person meeting—so as many people as possible can join us to mark our 50th anniversary! You can see which talks are part of the virtual suite by looking for the “VC” icon in our draft [Program & Schedule](#). We've chosen these talks based on speaker availability and technical factors, and we expect to update the schedule as changes occur. Livestream these talks or watch them later.

We've extended the early registration rates (just \$145 for AIC members) for the virtual component to March 15.

Join us at the annual meeting any way that you are able and help us celebrate AIC's “Happy 50th.”

—Ruth Seyler, AIC Meetings & Advocacy Director,
rseyler@culturalheritage.org



See you at the Westin
Bonaventure in Los Angeles!

Foundation News

Held in Trust

This groundbreaking collaboration between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) is already quite familiar to some of you. For anyone needing a quick refresher, here are the facts:

Held in Trust is an initiative within the NEH's [A More Perfect Union: America at 250](#). It explores the intersection and impact of urgent global challenges with the profession including sustainability (environmental, financial, collecting, and conservation practice); social and racial justice; diversity and equity; climate change and environmental impact; and technological and scientific innovation. Its [mission](#) is to evaluate the state of preservation and conservation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the United States, to develop a forward-looking vision for its preservation and conservation. The project seeks to incorporate diverse and varied points of view and includes expertise and partners not previously or typically consulted. Although this project incorporates many AIC members, ideas, and initiatives critically important to us, Held in Trust is intended to explore the field of preservation and conservation writ large.

After identifying [nine subject areas](#) for study, the [Steering Committee](#) and their working groups have been hard at work characterizing the field as it presently exists, identifying current challenges, and envisioning a way forward in which the field of preservation and conservation has everything it needs. What will it take to move from a world in which we are merely surviving to one in which we are thriving?

In addition to many working group members who lend their perspective from outside the field, the project is supported by an [Advisory Council](#) of organizations involved in preserving cultural heritage. The Advisory Council is currently reviewing the work of the steering committee and working groups and is sharing feedback. The next step in the review process will include reaching out to several groups and committees within AIC for their feedback.

Brief summaries (in draft form) of the work conducted so far in the nine subject areas under study can be found [here](#). We welcome your comments and thoughts in the [Held in Trust Discussion Forum](#), where you can see updates from the working groups, or via the project email hit@culturalheritage.org. This forum is open to anyone wishing to join. If you would like to become more involved, we're soliciting readers! As project materials, reports, and handouts are created, please email us at hit@culturalheritage.org if you would like to see them and provide your feedback about these draft materials!

A session on Held in Trust will be offered at AIC's 50th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles on Saturday, May 14, 2022, 1:00 to 3:00 pm PT — before the Awards session. We are planning for an interactive session at which you can roll up your sleeves and dig into the project with us in a substantive way. Everyone is welcome and the session will be livestreamed for all virtual attendees. Then, next spring, stakeholders, policy and decision makers, funders, and community representatives will gather for a Washington, DC-based National Convening where we will present Held in Trust's work.

One example of a project that arose from the Held in Trust process is the proposed development of a web-based platform that would identify levels of risk from climate hazards which could be collocated with the locations of cultural heritage resources. This information would lead to the development of resources for cultural heritage sites which would enable them to set priorities and develop and implement climate action plans, thereby promoting and activating resilience in the face of increasing challenges related to climate.

Collaborative Practice

The idea of implementing collaborative practice in conservation reaches into collecting institutions, maker communities, and holders of knowledge outside of conservation; this has profound implications for how future conservation and preservation professionals may be trained, along with the ethics and guidelines for practice, and environmental standards.

Share Your Ideas

Would you like to see a conservation/preservation-related StoryCorps-like project? How about a new Save Outdoor Sculpture (SOS)? Do you have other ideas? Share them in the HIT Forum: <http://bit.ly/HITDiscussionForum>

HELD IN TRUST: KEY TOPICS AND STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRS		
<p>Field Sustainability: financial, collecting practice, conservation practice</p> <p>Alison Gilchrest Debbie Hess Norris</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New philanthropic trends, opportunities, and partnerships • Strengthening the private sector's visibility, influence, and sustainability • Sustainability of collecting practice 	<p>Climate Change and Environmental Impact</p> <p>Héctor Berdecía-Hernández Sarah Sutton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy • Education for action • Awareness of impacts 	<p>Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility</p> <p>Isra El-beshir Sarah Scaturro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation • Caretaking and interpretation
<p>Collection Care and Preventive Conservation</p> <p>Mariana Di Giacomo Laura Hartz Stanton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for resilience • Advocacy • Preventive conservation 	<p>Philosophy and Ethics in Conservation</p> <p>Landis Smith Glenn Wharton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation philosophy • Conservation ethics • Collaborative conservation 	<p>Education, Professional Development, Leadership</p> <p>Valinda Carroll Ellen Pearlstein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Professional development • Leadership
<p>Engagement, Communication, Storytelling</p> <p>Lauren Dugas Glover Michelle Ramos Laura Hartz Stanton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement • Artifacts • Storytelling 	<p>Science and Materials</p> <p>Francesca Casadio Sarah Scaturro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation • Sustainability • Science for the humanities 	<p>Digital Technology: Research and Practice</p> <p>Paul Messier Linda Tadic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation of technology-based cultural heritage • Technologies, tools, and methodologies • Non-institutional archives

We owe the Steering Committee and their working groups profound gratitude for their thoughtful and thorough examination of our work in preservation and conservation. Through this process, we will develop a clear-eyed view of the future we wish for, the collaborators we need, and the way forward. We hope to hear from you as you explore this project, and to see you IN PERSON at the Held in Trust session in Los Angeles on May 14th! As always, please feel free to reach out with your thoughts.

—Pamela Hatchfield, FAIC, FIIC, FAAR, Robert P. and Carol T. Henderson Head of Objects Conservation Emerita, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and Coordinator, Held in Trust, phatchfield@mfa.org

Connecting to Collections Care Advisory Group Welcomes New Leadership

The Connecting to Collections Care (C2C Care) Advisory Group recently welcomed two new members to the Professional Development Working Group:

- › Silvia Manrique Tamayo (Collections Manager/Conservator, The Wolfsonian-Florida International University) and
- › Sally Shelton (Associate Professor of Practice, Associate Chair and Graduate Advisor of Heritage and Museums Sciences, Museum of Texas Tech University).

We extend our gratitude to two Advisory Group members whose terms ended in 2021: Heather Galloway and John Simmons. Both Heather and John were instrumental in building C2C Care throughout its early years. Thank you for your work in supporting small and mid-sized institutions in their preservation efforts!

2021 FAIC Donors

The Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) thanks the many individuals and organizations who provided financial support in 2021. Our work would not be possible without the dedicated donors who choose to invest in our Foundation and its initiatives. Your gifts, no matter what size, are very important to us. This listing is current as of January 31, 2022. Please report any inaccuracies to Eric Pourchot at foundation@culturalheritage.org. Thank you for your support!

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FAIC Holds First All-Network Alliance for Response (AFR) Meeting

In January, FAIC hosted an inaugural all-network AFR meeting for networks nationwide with a discussion focused on “Network Communications.” Attendees heard from the chairs of the Coordinated Statewide Emergency Preparedness Massachusetts (COSTEP MA) network, Atlanta’s Heritage Emergency Response Alliance (HERA), and the Texas Collections Emergency Resource Alliance (TX-CERA) about tools they have implemented to increase network connectedness. This effort was led by the AFR Advisory Committee, which was newly established in 2021. FAIC plans to host up to two all-network meetings annually.

Insurance Considerations After Disasters: Webinar Recording Available

FAIC hosted a seminar on “Insurance Considerations for Cultural Institutions After Disasters” on February 2, 2022. Speaker Nicole Sheley, an insurance adjuster and risk assessor, outlined the process of contacting insurance providers post-disaster and explained what to expect from insurance providers during, after, and in the process of determining loss of collections. This webinar was made possible in part with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The recording can be viewed at <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/products/insurance-considerations-for-cultural-institutions-after-disasters>.

FAIC Welcomes Haley Michael, New Education Assistant

Haley Michael joined FAIC in January 2022 as Education Assistant to work with Education Manager Sarah Saetren in support of the Foundation’s professional development programs. Haley is a current MA student in Museum Studies with a museum management concentration at the George Washington University in Washington, DC. She previously worked with the California Statewide Museum Collections Center and started her career in Wisconsin with the Door County Historical Society, the Grohmann Museum, and the Logan Museum of Anthropology. Haley has extensive experience in collections care, including major cataloging projects and NAGPRA compliance work. She received her bachelor’s degree in Anthropology and Creative Writing from Beloit College in 2019. You can reach her at hmichael@culturalheritage.org.



**Haley Michael, FAIC
Education Assistant**

2022 FAIC Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowship

The 2022 FAIC Samuel H. Kress Publication Fellowship has been awarded to Laura Buchner to support the development of a manuscript on the history, fabrication, and preservation of dalle de verre, a type of stained glass popular in mid-century Modernist architecture. The final work will bring attention to the dalle de verre technique and will be relevant to a wide audience of conservators, architects, and preservation specialists.

Buchner is Senior Architecture Conservator and Project Manager at Building Conservation Associates in New York, NY. She was awarded the 2018 James Marston Fitch Mid-Career Fellowship, where her research focused on dalle de verre. Her previous publications on the subject include an article in *Stained Glass* magazine, a co-authored APT bulletin article, and a chapter in the recent publication *Concrete: Case Studies in Preservation Practice*.

FAIC has awarded 49 Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication fellowships since 1994, which have resulted in 35 published works to date. The Fellowship provides a \$30,000 stipend for up to an 18-month period to allow the Fellow to commit time to completing a full-length manuscript. We anticipate the next fellowship deadline will be November 1, 2022, for projects starting in 2023. Applicants must be Fellow or Professional Associate members of AIC.

International Attendees: Apply for the International Virtual Meeting Scholarship

With support from the Getty Foundation, FAIC is covering the registration fees for one hundred individuals to participate in the [virtual components](#) of the 50th AIC Annual Meeting in May 2022.

Learn more about the [International Virtual Meeting Scholarship](#) and apply online.

FAIC Grant and Scholarship Applications Due May 15

Guidelines and application information are located at www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding. All materials must be submitted online by the published deadlines for consideration.

FAIC/Tru Vue Conservation and Exhibition Grants of up to \$3,000 and a donation of Optium Museum Acrylic or UltraVue Laminated Glass to support projects in glazing applications for preservation and exhibition of museum and library collections.

FAIC/NEH Individual Professional Development Scholarships of up to \$1,500 are available to AIC members who are US citizens or residents to support registration and/or attendance at upcoming FAIC workshops that are supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Visit <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/conservation> for more information on these programs.

FAIC/Mellon Photograph Workshop Professional Development Scholarships are available to international attendees of the upcoming FAIC Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation. The awards up to \$1,000 help defray expenses related to attendance, plus waive registration fees. Visit <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/conservation> for more information on these programs.

Please note that the review process takes up to eight weeks following the application deadline. For more information, contact Sarah Saetren, Education Manager, at funding@culturalheritage.org or 202.661.8071.



Learn about the FAIC/Kress Publication Fellowship

Guidelines for application to the Kress Publication Fellowship are online at www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding/publication.

Applications open July 2022 and are due November 1.

FAIC Professional Development Courses

FAIC professional development programs are a crucial source for continuing education for conservation professionals. FAIC established an endowment fund for these programs with the support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and contributions from individuals. Additional sources support some workshops, as noted below. Full course descriptions and registration information are available at <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/conservation>.

Photographic Chemistry for Preservation

Ongoing, self-study course

Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation fund for Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation

Making the Ask: Developing Negotiation Tactics in the Field of Conservation

Ongoing, self-study course

Annual Meeting Workshops

May 13 – 14, 2022, various locations in Los Angeles, CA. Learn more and register at www.culturalheritage.org/events/annual-meeting/current-meeting/program-schedule/workshops.

- › Packing and Crating Basics: Traveling with Your Art and Objects
- › Gels for Photographs
- › Textile Cleaning: Stain Reduction
- › Re-usable and Modular Book Cradle System
- › Getting the Most Out of XRF, Raman, and Infrared Imaging
- › Repairing Transparency: Filling Scratches and Chips on PMMA Objects and Face Mounted Photographs
- › Introduction to Costume Mounting

Rigging Basics

May 18-20, 2022, LACMA, Inglewood, CA

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Videography and Conservation

March 31, April 7, and 14, 2022, online

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Metal and Composite Threads in Textiles

June 8-10, 2022, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

The Big Picture

June 13-16, 2022, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation fund for Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Airbrushing in Conservation

September 19-21, 2022, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Rigging Basics

October 12-14, 2022, Penn Museum, Philadelphia, PA

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Continued on next page

Remedial Treatment of Asian Paintings Collections for Paper Conservators

Fall 2022, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Photograph Conservation Basics

October 24-27, 2022, New York Archives, New York, NY
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Remedial Treatment of Asian Paintings Collections for Paper Conservators

November 2022, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Block-lifting Archaeological Artifacts

Dates TBD, Arizona State Museum, Tucson, AZ
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Virtual Couriers

Dates TBD, online
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Collaboratively Assessing Community Needs

Dates TBD, online
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Exploring Ethics: Practice to Philosophy

Dates TBD, online
Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities




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Allied Organizations

Association for Preservation Technology International (APT)

APT WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. GREG GALER

The Association for Preservation Technology International (APT) is pleased to announce the appointment of their new Executive Director, Dr. Greg Galer. He began at APT on February 22, 2022.

Dr. Galer brings over 30 years of diverse historic preservation and non-profit management experience to APT, most recently as Executive Director of the [Boston Preservation Alliance](#) for the past nine years. From cultural resource and historic collection management to involvement in hundreds of historic building projects, his knowledge of material culture and the built environment is extensive, and his success leading non-profits is clear. He holds a PhD in the History and Social Study of Science and Technology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Arts with Honors from Brown University.

APT is a multi-disciplinary membership organization dedicated to promoting the best technology for protecting historic structures and their settings and cultivating the exchange of knowledge in the international community.

PRESERVATION ENGINEERING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE'S CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year, APT presents the David Fischetti Award for an outstanding article that advances the field of preservation/conservation engineering. Articles submitted for award consideration may be project related or based on research. Articles must have been previously published in a peer-reviewed journal or similar publication and should cover any of the following topics:

- › History of engineering design, methods, or systems (structural, building enclosure, mechanical, electrical, fire protection, vertical transportation, etc.)
- › Application of analytic methods with proper judgement in analyzing archaic systems
- › Re-evaluation and comparative analyses of historic analytic methods
- › Assessment of historic materials and systems
- › Integration of modern systems with historic and archaic systems
- › Innovative methods of repair of historic systems
- › Incorporation of engineering judgment and simplified methods

The award is sponsored by APT's Preservation Engineering Technical Committee (PETC). Please visit the PETC website for details at www.apti.org/david-fischetti-award. Submissions should be sent to petc@apti.org, and the deadline is Friday May 27, 2022.

Visit the AIC Career Center to find and share positions and internships at careers.culturalheritage.org.

IIC, AIC, and Icon

LINKED CONSERVATION DATA: DATA POLICY AND TEMPLATE

The Linked Conservation Data Consortium is pleased to announce the endorsement of a Data Policy Primer and Template by the International Institute for Conservation (IIC), the American Institute for Conservation (AIC), and Icon (the Institute of Conservation) in the UK. The policy was developed in conjunction with staff from all three organizations as well as through feedback received during and from workshop discussions.

Organizational Statements

IIC: <https://www.iiconservation.org/content/conservation-data>

The Linked Conservation Data project is funded by UKRI-AHRC. IIC is pleased to be an endorsing partner with AIC and Icon to this project. Further information on the engagement and consultation undertaken to produce the new Policy Primer can be found at the above web-address alongside a video introduction to the project, templates and material presented to the Policy Document Workshop held at the IIC Edinburgh Congress Online in 2020 and supported by a dedicated IIC Special Interest Community in Conservation Data championed by Dr Athanasios Velios and Kristen St.John.

AIC: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/about-us/initiatives-partnerships/linked-conservation-data>

Statement from the AIC Board of Directors issued with its endorsement of the Linked Conservation Data Policy Template and Primer, November 30, 2021.

AIC is pleased to join with Icon and IIC to endorse the Linked Conservation Data Policy Template and Primer. Open access to shared data is a key underpinning of digital scholarship in the humanities and sciences, and the rich data produced by conservators and conservation scientists could be aggregated and analyzed to shed light on previously unanswered questions. Data that is locally controlled but widely accessible is called "linked data." For linked data to be successful, institutions should follow some basic best practices in policy and technical considerations. [...] We encourage collecting institutions and conservation practices to consider best practices in capturing conservation and environmental data, sharing it internally, and planning for open sharing in the future. F/AIC is committed to providing opportunities for our members and other stakeholders to learn more about linked conservation data as policies, practices, and technology evolve.

Icon: <https://www.icon.org.uk/groups-and-networks/documentation-network/linked-conservation-data.html>

Icon welcomes the publication of data sharing policy template produced by the Linked Conservation Data Project, in consultation with Icon as well as AIC and IIC. The template is practical and flexible, enabling organisations to adapt it to suit their needs, and includes a primer to help with this. Icon encourages its members and the wider conservation profession in the UK to consider using the policy template when planning to share data with internal or external collaborators, or publishing open access Datasets. The policy template is a timely contribution to supporting high quality scholarship in our field and its production is an excellent example of collaboration between academics and professional bodies. Icon is pleased to have played a role in the delivery of this project.

The Data Policy Primer and Template are useful for developing strategies and policies surrounding *all* types of data generated and used in the conservation profession. These documents have been developed in the context of the Linked Conservation Data project but are not limited to data used in Linked Data applications. More information about the Linked Conservation Data Project can be found on the project website: www.ligatus.org.uk/lcd.

The Data Policy Primer and Template has been published on the [Linked Conservation Data project website](#).

Several principles guided the development of the document:

- › Data is shared as openly as possible observing copyright rules, cultural ownership and excluding sensitive data.
- › Data is shared after a period specified by the data owner to allow for any publications by the data producer to take place first.
- › An attribution to the data producer is included with the shared data.
- › Data is shared in an open format; a file format whose specification is freely available, allowing the use of license-free software.
- › Vocabularies used to produce the data are shared with the data.

Included with the policy primer are FAQs explaining key concepts and terms used throughout, a summary of challenges and opportunities, and the template itself. The template can be modified at several key points to reflect and harmonize with other policies, as per the purview of adopting institutions and participants.

Some examples of how this will be useful to conservators include:

- › A conservation department plans the long-term deposit of treatment documentation to an online repository.
- › A conservation department applies for funding to assess and treat a collection and is requested to provide a plan for publishing data as part of the application.

In both cases, the template can be used to specify the kind of records that will be shared and the permissions for further use.

We welcome feedback from colleagues and organizations who are planning to share conservation records and develop policies based on this template. We also encourage further discussions with professional bodies and groups on how the template can be improved and further developed.

The Linked Conservation Data project has been funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council in the UK through a Networking Grant (Research Networking Highlight FIC Digital Scholarships) and a Development Grant (AHRC UK-US Partnership Development Grants).

—*Kristen St John*, kstjohn@stanford.edu, and *Athanasios Velios*, a.velios@arts.ac.uk

Funding Opportunities

A list of non-FAIC conservation-related grant and fellowship programs is posted on our website. The page includes descriptions of funding opportunities for both institutional and individual applicants, along with links that provide specific information about each program. Contact organizations to confirm current offerings and new deadlines.

<https://www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding/outside-funding-sources>

This page is updated annually by students from The George Washington University Museum Studies program. Thanks to Emma Cieslik to updating the information on this page in February 2022.

Note that funding for individual study or research programs in conservation through FAIC can be found at www.culturalheritage.org/resources/funding.



Have a question or concern about health and safety in your workplace?

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Health and Safety Considerations for Menthol: A Case Study in Evaluating Risk for Household Products

By Adrienne Gendron, Kerith Koss Schragar, and Anne Kingery-Schwartz

INTRODUCTION

Conservators often borrow tools and materials designed for other purposes and use them in ways unintended by manufacturers. It is tempting to assume that chemicals found in common household products, such as cosmetics, medicines, or food, have already been vetted for safety and can therefore be used without additional precautions. However, the use of these products in conservation often varies significantly from the commercially intended use. Frequently, conservators use chemicals at higher concentrations or for longer durations than those found in over-the-counter applications. In addition, the exposure scenario is entirely different; where a commercial product may be intended for acute skin application or even ingestion, in a conservation context the route of exposure may be entirely through inhalation. Because published safety data is based upon common usage, it may not be applicable to the ways materials are applied in conservation contexts. One example is the use of menthol as a temporary consolidant. Menthol is found in over-the-counter medicines and food, but is it safe to use in a conservation context as well?

MENTHOL IN CONSERVATION

Menthol has been suggested as an alternative to cyclododecane for use as a volatile binding medium or temporary consolidant (Rozeik 2018, 1; Rowe 2018, 13). With many of the same characteristics as cyclododecane, it offers additional advantageous working properties; it has a faster sublimation rate, a lower melting point, does not solidify as quickly when molten, and forms a solid, dense film rather than an open structure with needle-like crystals. Following reduced accessibility of cyclododecane due to increased cost in importing hazardous materials, menthol has been suggested as a “non-toxic” and more widely available option. For example, Kremer lists it as “non-toxic” in their technical data sheet (“87108 Menthol” N.d.).

Menthol has been used primarily in small amounts (<10 grams) but also in large scale applications, such as for archeological fieldwork (Hamilton 2021). One source describes using it as a protective barrier for mold making (Chock 2020). Application methods typically involve dropper and brush; menthol’s lower melting point makes brush application significantly easier than with cyclododecane (Rowe 2018, 16). After application, menthol is typically allowed to sublimate off for a period of days or weeks.

IS MENTHOL A SAFER ALTERNATIVE TO CYCLODODECANE?

Many conservators perceive menthol to be safe because it is found in many household goods. But is it?

Although many conservation users believe that cyclododecane is safe or not safe based on their interpretations of available health and safety information, in reality there is very little toxicological information available specifically about inhalation exposure to support either view due to its limited industrial or commercial use (Koss Schragar et al. 2017). Unlike cyclododecane, menthol is a familiar commercial product found in products such as topical ointments, cough drops, gum, and liqueurs, and is classified as “generally recognized as safe” (GRAS) by the FDA. The commercial usage of menthol in these ways has been cited in several publications as validation of its safety in conservation contexts. Among five articles in English referring to menthol in AATA, three make brief reference to menthol’s “well-established safety profile” (Han et al. 2016, 271; Han et al. 2018, 1334; Han et al. 2014, 1043) and one references the compound’s “very long history of being used in food and medical-related products” and “pharmaceutical applications” (Yu et al. 2019, 104).

However, these papers do not discuss that in these commercial applications, menthol is present in very low concentrations; for example, 15mg in Halls Super Menthol Cough Drops and 2.6% in Vick's Vapo Rub versus kilograms of undiluted menthol that could be potentially used as a consolidant for large sculpture or in archeological situations. As a medicine or food additive, menthol exposure is limited to minutes or hours, while conservators are potentially exposed to the material at full concentration for long periods of time. One paper provides a more extensive discussion of safety concerns; the authors cite a lack of information available on the toxicity of volatile binding media, and they recommend caution and adequate PPE until further studies are conducted (Sadek et al. 2018, 201).

The toxicological literature further demonstrates a lack of clarity concerning hazards associated with menthol use. For its use as a fragrance, menthol receives a yellow triangle from the EPA's Safer Chemical Ingredients List, indicating it "has met Safer Choice Criteria for its functional ingredient-class, but has some hazard profile issues" and it "is not associated with a low level of hazard concern for all human health and environmental endpoints... While it is a best-in-class chemical and among the safest available for a particular function, the function fulfilled by the chemical should be considered an area for safer chemistry innovation" (EPA 2022).

Toxicological Parameter	Results	Source
Occupational Exposure Limits	None available	PEL, REL, TLV, MAK
Acute Inhalation Toxicity: Gases/Vapors (LC50)	None available	
Acute Inhalation Toxicity: Dusts & Mists (LC50)	Rat 5.2ppm (Category 4, Low)	European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)
Acute Oral Toxicity (LD50)	Rat 3300 mg/kg (Slightly Toxic)	NCBI 2022
Acute Dermal Toxicity (LD50)	Rabbit > 5000 mg/kg (Practically Non-Toxic)	NCBI 2022
Irritant	Skin, eye, respiratory tract, mucous membrane	NCBI 2022
Carcinogenicity	Not classified	ACGIH, IARC, NTP, or CA Prop 65
Embryotoxicity	Hatching rate for zebrafish embryos decreased with exposure to menthol. All died when the concentration exceeded 0.01 mg/mL. Surviving embryos exposed to menthol showed a significant increase in malformation rate.	Zhang et al. 2018
Teratogenicity	None available	
Reproductive toxicity	None available	
Neurotoxicity	None available	
Other reported health effects	Hypersensitivity reactions (contact dermatitis), flushing, headache, insomnia, unsteady gait, thick speech, tremor of the hands, mental confusion, depression, vomiting, cramp in the legs and bradycardia, painless blanching or erythema, possible corrosion, profuse sweating, intense thirst, nausea, diarrhea, cyanosis from methemoglobinemia, hyperactivity, stupor, blood pressure fall, hyperpnea, abdominal pain, hemolysis, convulsions, coma, and pulmonary edema followed by pneumonia.	NCBI 2022

Table 1. Summary of Available Toxicological Information on Menthol.

Similar to cyclododecane, menthol SDSs vary among different suppliers and manufacturers (ex: Kremer, Sigma, Fischer, Flinn) and by isomer (Menthol CAS 89-78-1; L-menthol CAS 2216-51-5, D/L-menthol CAS 1490-04-6). The relevant toxicological information for L-menthol is presented in Table 1. Notably, no occupational exposure limits have been established. Menthol is a documented skin, eye, and respiratory irritant in both human and animal studies (effects not established for cyclododecane). The remaining acute and chronic data is limited. Note that lack of classifications or data should not necessarily be interpreted as an indicator of safety.

There are no human studies related to chronic, high-level, or undiluted exposures to menthol or data related to inhalation as would be relevant for a conservation setting. However, two cases of extreme menthol exposure have been published:

- › One individual suffered coma, skin lesions, and gastrointestinal and neurological symptoms following ingestion of large amounts of menthol in the form of two bags of 10 mg menthol cough drops consumed daily (Baibars et al. 2012)
- › A second case involved fatal intoxication resulting from occupational exposure (inhalation of vapor) at a peppermint factory (Kumar et al. 2016).

Remarkably, one publication evaluates the toxicity of menthol with regards to its specific use as a temporary consolidant. In this study, zebrafish embryos were incubated with four temporary consolidants (cyclododecane, menthol, coumarin, and ethyl maltol) to determine their biological effects on embryos. The authors concluded that these materials “resulted in an increased mortality and malformation rate, and a decreased hatching rate.” The order of embryotoxicity was determined as menthol > coumarin > ethyl maltol > cyclododecane (Zhang et al. 2018, 50).

HEALTH EFFECTS

Side effects of exposure to menthol in large amounts (menthol poisoning) include palpitations, rapid heartbeat, convulsions, dizziness, tremors, losing consciousness, unsteadiness, blood in the urine or no urine output, rapid or shallow breathing, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting (Mount Sinai 2022). Additional reported health effects are included in Table 1 listed above. As conservators we should be equally concerned about acute health effects as well as chronic effects (i.e., cancer and reproductive effects); even minimally altered physical or mental states can have serious effects on safe working practices especially when working at heights or in confined spaces, which can lead to more serious injuries.

SAFETY PERCEPTIONS AND SURVEY RESULTS

Surveys conducted by members of the AIC Health & Safety Network in 2017 and 2021 (AIC 2017, 2021) revealed that the majority of respondents care about the health and safety implications of their treatments. In both 2017 and 2021, over 90% of conservators said that they considered health and safety concerns “very important” or “somewhat important” in formulating their treatments. Yet, less than 25% of respondents in both surveys reported that they were frequently successful at finding health and safety information if Safety Data Sheets were incomplete, as is the case for both menthol and cyclododecane.

In the 2021 survey, only 32 of 190 respondents had heard of menthol as a replacement for cyclododecane, indicating that it is still a new material to the field of conservation. Responses were inconsistent regarding how conservators viewed the safety of menthol. While 7% of respondents thought menthol was not hazardous, 33% thought it was hazardous, and 61% did not know. When asked directly whether household products should automatically be considered safe to use in conservation contexts, 92% of respondents indicated that they should not. However, 27% of respondents who indicated that menthol was not hazardous stated this was because it is a common household ingredient.

The survey also reflected some confusion about available safety information; 18% of respondents indicated that they would consider menthol safe because of SDS information, while 22% of respondents indicated that they would consider it unsafe because of SDS information. When compared to cyclododecane, 47% thought menthol was safer than cyclododecane and 42% thought it was comparable to cyclododecane. Responses on the hazardous nature of each chemical individually were consistent with this impression (Figure 1).

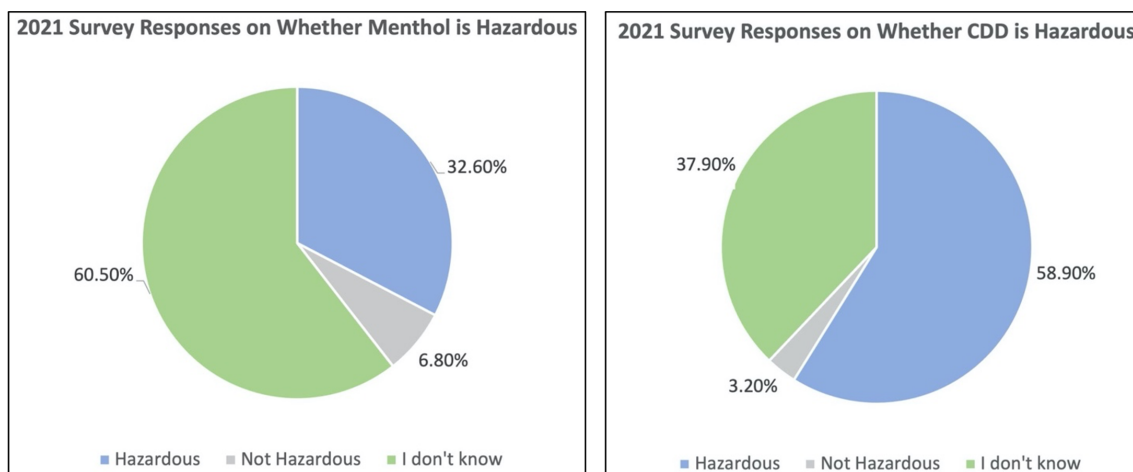


Figure 1. Pie charts showing 2021 survey responses on whether menthol is hazardous (left) and whether cyclododecane is hazardous (right).

Notably, there was a change between 2017 and 2021 on respondent opinions of the safety of cyclododecane. In 2021, 59% considered it hazardous (compared to 49% in 2017), 3.2% considered it not hazardous (compared to 18.4% in 2017), and 38% did not know (compared to 33% in 2017). This is an interesting result considering there has been no new health and safety information on cyclododecane between the two surveys. However, the commercial availability of cyclododecane did change, suggesting accessibility and familiarity do play a role in health and safety perceptions. In addition, some conservation-related talks, papers, and conferences may have also raised concern over cyclododecane in the conservation community (Koss Schrager 2017; Roseik 2018).

FINAL THOUGHTS

Menthol may at first glance seem like a low-risk replacement for cyclododecane due to its familiarity from household products. However, familiarity in everyday use does not necessarily mean materials are safe for use in a conservation context. The occupational exposure scenario experienced by conservators using menthol as a temporary consolidant has not been evaluated; thus, conservators should not assume that it is low risk.

Like many potentially hazardous chemicals used in conservation, menthol can be safely applied with proper precautions.

- › Because the primary route of exposure is inhalation, proper ventilation and respiratory protection should be used in all stages of treatment from application through complete sublimation.
- › Consider that the menthol will be sublimating for a period of days or weeks after application, creating long-term opportunities for exposure.
- › Small-scale objects should ideally be kept in a running fume hood until the menthol is fully sublimated.
- › Conservators should minimize the amount of heat used for melting (a cup warmer is ideal for melting small amounts at low temperatures) due to the combustibility of menthol solutions and because it can decompose into carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide at high temperatures.
- › Although there is no published information on glove compatibility for menthol, conservators should exercise caution and use synthetic gloves while working with this material.

Choosing the Right Gloves for Working with Menthol

As you may have guessed from the lack of other safety information related to menthol, safe glove choice is also not straightforward. Glove materials must be selected for the specific chemical.

For assistance in choosing the correct gloves for some common conservation chemicals see the Health & Safety Network's "[PPE Chemical Protective Material Selection Guide](#)" (AIC, 2014).

Information about testing of various glove materials for their resistance to menthol breakthrough is not available through glove manufacturers; therefore, conservators must rely on available literature and their specific use to assess the type of hazard and the possible risk. Performance of glove materials with structurally similar chemicals may provide some guidance.

For example, nitrile may be the glove of choice for most conservation tasks, but a [study](#) on the chemical breakthrough of Kimberly Clark nitrile gloves for limonene, which is a monoterpene (menthol is a monoterpene), recommends: "The lavender, sterling, and purple gloves should not be used as personal protective equipment for exposure to limonene, even for short period exposures. Although the blue gloves provided the best performance compared to the other gloves, they can only be used for no more than 20 minutes."

It is important to remember that despite similarities, all chemicals react differently; therefore, users should avoid prolonged contact with menthol even with gloved hands.

Most importantly, the 2017 survey revealed that most conservators respect their colleagues' work and regularly rely on the opinions and reported practices of their peers to determine their own level of precaution when using novel materials and techniques. Therefore, it is paramount to use more protective health and safety protocols to ensure that best practices are maintained when conclusive toxicological information is missing.

—Adrienne Gendron, ag6561@nyu.edu, Kerith Koss Schrager, kerith@the-foundobject.com, and Anne Kingery-Schwartz, aekingery@gmail.com

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New Materials, Research, & Resources

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program at the Worcester Art Museum

As part of the 2021 virtual MuseumPests.net Working Group meeting, Hae Min Park and Eliza Spaulding presented “The Impact of COVID-19 on the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program at the Worcester Art Museum,” which they are excited to share here for further consideration and discussion. They are interested to learn how the pandemic has impacted IPM programs at other institutions.

The Worcester Art Museum (WAM), located in Worcester, Massachusetts, opened to the public in 1898. Its collection is over 38,000 works of art and is global in breadth. Approximately 152,000 square feet in size, its facility comprises multiple building campaigns, which each have their strengths and weaknesses from a building envelope perspective.

WAM's IPM program is co-managed by its Conservation, Registration, and Facilities departments. Conservation and Registration oversee the areas of the museum with collection material, including the galleries, storage, conservation labs, and the library. Facilities oversee all other areas of the museum, including the kitchen, cafe, offices, classrooms, and museum grounds. An IPM Coordinator for Collections, who is either a Conservator or Registrar, works with 1-2 staff members with experience working with collection material. Within Facilities, the Facility Manager works with a pest management contractor. Collectively, we each monitor traps monthly. Protective Services also monitors for pests during their security rounds; their role in IPM changed significantly during the pandemic. All members of Conservation, Registration, and Facilities meet periodically to share information and troubleshoot. The IPM Team for Collections records its data in a custom Excel database.

During the early months of the pandemic, with restrictions on the number of staff allowed on-site and limited remote access to the museum's server, the IPM Team for Collections collaborated to a greater degree than usual with Protective Services to develop a temporary, hybrid monitoring program. Protective Services staff uploaded images of the traps to a shared drive, and IPM team members inspected them remotely and recorded their pest data on a free web-based platform.

Several features worked well with this protocol: It was user-friendly, easily accessible, and the images were clear enough to identify the majority of the pests. In retrospect, saving the traps would have allowed us to confirm our identifications and examine pests not visible in the images once we were back on site. Beginning in June 2020, the museum established safety protocols for essential staff to return to the museum on a limited basis. The program resumed as before the pandemic, except for meetings which were and continue to be held virtually.

Ultimately, our pest monitoring program was largely uninterrupted because of our Protective Services staff, who generously took a more active role by taking on additional monitoring responsibilities of the collection spaces during the early months of the pandemic. Through good communication, we were able to quickly create and implement a temporary monitoring protocol until the IPM Team for Collections returned to the museum. As the Protective Services staff are perceptive to changes to the collections, facilities, and even foot traffic within the museum campus (especially spaces that normally don't get visited by Conservation), we foresee that they will continue to be an invaluable partner in identifying problematic areas in the museum and improving the IPM Program.

Since the 2021 virtual MuseumPests.net Working Group meeting, we had an opportunity to compare pest data collected from areas of the museum with collection material from 2019, 2020, and 2021. During these three years, the museum was open, except for seven months from March to October 2020. The number of pests observed in 2019 and 2021 are very similar with a marked decrease in 2020, suggesting the reduced foot traffic that year directly impacted the number of pests observed in the museum. In the future, it would be interesting to analyze the data to determine if and how the museum's closure impacted the types of pests observed.

—Hae Min Park, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Paintings Conservation, Walters Art Museum, hmp0296@gmail.com; and Eliza Spaulding, Paper Conservator, Worcester Art Museum, elizaspaulding@worcesterart.org

New Publications

Brennan, Julia M., and Linh Anh Moreau. *Our Ancestors Knew Best: Traditional South-east Asian Textile Treatments and their Place in Modern Conservation*. Bangkok: SEAMEO SPAFA and QSMT, 2019. ISBN: 9786167961231. The work, data, and research presented in this book are the results of a collaborative project between the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO SPAFA) and the Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles (QSMT), entitled “Capturing and Sharing Traditional Methods in Textile Preservation in Southeast Asia.” It is available to download at: <https://publications.spafajournal.org/index.php/spafapub/catalog/book/35>.

Cooper, Catherine, ed. *New Approaches to Ancient Material Culture in the Greek & Roman World: 21st-century Methods and Classical Antiquity*. Leiden: Brill, 2021. ISBN: 9789004440692. This collection of papers demonstrates the variety of methodologies being used to study ancient material culture and art. It is volume 27 in the series “Monumenta Graeca et Romana.”

Domínguez Rubio, Fernando. *Still Life: Ecologies of the Modern Imagination at the Art Museum*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2020. ISBN: 9780226713922. The author goes behind the scenes at the Museum of Modern Art in New York to provide an account of some of the spaces, actors, and forms of labor traditionally left out of the main narratives of art, including those related to the protection of artworks.

Gardiner, Joy, and Joan Irving. *Caring for your Cherished Objects: The Winterthur Guide*. Winterthur, DE: Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, 2021. ISBN: 9781538142516. This book offers advice from conservators at the Winterthur Museum on how to properly care for art objects of value. It is a volume in the Winterthur Decorative Arts series.

Gilbert, Zanna, Pia Gottschaller, Tom Learner, and Andrew Perchuk, eds. *Purity is a Myth: The Materiality of Concrete art from Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay*. Los Angeles: Getty Research Institute, 2021. ISBN: 9781606067239. The papers in this volume discuss a variety of topics, including the general history, emergence, and reception of Concrete art; processes and color; scientific analysis of works; illustrated chronologies of the paint industry in Brazil and Argentina; and Concrete design on paper. It is a volume in the “Issues & Debates” series.

Huxley, Robert, Christiane Quaisser, Carol R. Butler, René WRJ Dekker. *Managing Natural Science Collections: A Guide to Strategy, Planning and Resourcing*. Abingdon, Oxon; New York, NY: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2020. ISBN: 9781138386815. Four experts in the management of natural science collections provide guidance in the making of strategic and operational decisions regarding care, development, access, and resource management.

Madariaga, Juan Manuel, ed. *Analytical Strategies for Cultural Heritage Materials and their Degradation*. Cambridge: Royal Society of Chemistry, 2021. ISBN: 9781788015240. This book reviews analytical strategies used in the examination of cultural heritage assets, with a focus on the methodology employed and the ensuring of reliable results. It is volume 19 in the “Detection Science” series.

Panayotova, Stella, ed. *The Art and Science of Illuminated Manuscripts: A Handbook*. Turnhout, Belgium: Harvey Miller/Brepols, 2020. ISBN: 9781912554591. This book is a guide to cross-disciplinary research efforts focused on non-invasive scientific analyses of illuminated manuscripts. It is volume 3 in the series “Manuscripts in the Making.”

Stoner, Joyce Hill, and Rebecca Anne Rushfield. *Conservation of Easel Paintings*. Second edition. Abingdon, Oxon; New York, NY: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2021. ISBN: 9780367023799. This volume updates the comprehensive text on the history, philosophy, and methods of the treatment of easel paintings first published in 2012. It is a volume in the “Routledge Series in Conservation and Museology.”

—Sheila Cummins, *Collections Development Librarian, Getty Conservation Institute*,
scummins@getty.edu

People

Sonya Barron is excited to share that she has accepted a conservator position at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). She was previously at Iowa State University Library in Ames, where she had worked for six years. Before that Sonya was at the Huntington Library in Southern California for five years. Sonya is looking forward to connecting with friends and colleagues in the DC/MD/VA area and working on some amazing bound collections! She can be reached at sonya.barron@nara.gov.

Judith Levinson retired in December 2021 after almost 38 years as Director of Conservation in Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), NY. She is currently Director Emerita and a research associate at the museum, and she will continue to work on several projects with AMNH colleagues, including an IMLS funded project concerning best practices for feather conservation, a publication on gut skin, as well as a variety of other future activities. She has returned to her pre-conservation passion for making pottery and sculpture from clay and is loving the time she can use to participate again in this artform as a conservator!

Allison Lewis recently joined the preventive conservation platform [Conserv](https://www.conserv.io) as a Conservation Liaison after spending seven years at the Oakland Museum of California as an Objects Conservator. She is looking forward to hearing from members of the AIC community about environmental monitoring and IPM, and to helping collections large and small solve their preventive conservation challenges with [Conserv's](https://www.conserv.io) remote dataloggers and free [Conserv Cloud](https://www.conserv.io) software that was developed specifically for cultural heritage collections. Email her at allison@conserv.io.

Teresa Jiménez-Millas joined the Metropolitan Museum of Art in January 2022 as part of a team responsible for the research and conservation of the collection from the Michael C. Rockefeller Wing and the galleries for the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas. Her previous professional practice has taken her across North American and Europe, where she has gained experience treating a wide range of organic and inorganic materials in institutional and private settings. Her museum experience includes stints at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archeology and Anthropology, where she was project conservator for the reinstallation of the Africa galleries in 2019 and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, where, among other projects, she documented the Nampeyo ceramic collection. Most recently, Teresa worked as a conservator for Tracy Power Objects Conservation, a private practice based in San Francisco. She can be reached at teresa.jimenezmillas@metmuseum.org.

Christine Manwiller is excited to share that she is now Associate Conservator at Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. She spent her third-year internship at the Folger Shakespeare Library and grew to love the DC area, so she is thrilled to be part of the art conservation community there. Her new contact information is: christine.manwiller@mbible.org.

Lisa Muccigrosso joined the Iowa State University Library as Conservator in January 2022. Lisa previously served as the von Clemm and Driscoll Family Conservation Fellow at the Boston Athenaeum, and as Book Conservation intern at both the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) and the National Park Service HACE Center. She may be reached at lmucci@iastate.edu.

Sarah Owens now works in private practice at her Alaska-based conservation business, Interwoven Fibers LLC. Sarah moved to Alaska in 2013 to take up the position of Conservator at the Anchorage Museum which she held for eight years. She has been fortunate to travel around the state, providing assistance in her specialty area of textile conservation and working with many Alaskan artists to better understand the raw materials they use to make objects and clothing. Sarah completed a fellowship in conservation at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC (2011-2013); during this time, she first visited Alaska, which cemented the dream of living there. Sarah can be reached at sarah@interwovenfibersllc.com.

Viviana van Vliet began work as a project paper conservator to stabilize and prepare documents, books, maps, newspapers, and manuscripts for digitization at the Archivo General de Puerto Rico (General Archive of Puerto Rico) in September 2020. This is a three-year Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funded project. She previously worked for seven years as the paper conservator at the Museo de Arte de Ponce in Puerto Rico. For the past three years she has been working on grant funded projects at the School of Architecture, University of Puerto Rico on a general condition assessment of the rare book collection and the Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico for treatments of artworks on paper. She can be reached at vvypaperconservator@gmail.com.

Lindsey Zachman is very glad to have recently joined the conservation team at the Mariners' Museum and Park, Newport News, Virginia. She previously completed a fellowship at Colonial Williamsburg and joined the Mariners' Museum as Paper Conservator in September of 2021. She can be reached at lzachman@marinersmuseum.org.

In Memoriam

Barry R. Bauman (1949 – 2022)

Barry R. Bauman, who devoted 40-plus years to preserving and analyzing fine artwork and masterpieces, died Saturday afternoon, February 5, 2022, at his home in Riverside, Illinois.

Born in Syracuse, New York, Bauman received his bachelor's degree in 1969 from Beloit College, and a master's in art history with a specialization in Dutch Baroque painting from the University of Chicago in 1971. One year later, he joined the Conservation Department at the Art Institute of Chicago and served the museum for 11 years as associate conservator of paintings. He was elected an AIC Fellow in 1982. In 1984, Bauman founded the Chicago Conservation Center, a facility and resource for the conservation of paintings, works of art on paper, objects, frames, murals, and textiles. The center grew to become the largest private conservation facility in America.

In January 2004, Bauman left the private sector to establish Barry Bauman Conservation, dedicated to offering complimentary conservation services to museums and nonprofit organizations. In 2012, Bauman received worldwide recognition for establishing and revealing as a forgery the only known portrait of Mary Todd Lincoln painted during her time in the White House.

Bauman is survived by his beloved wife Mary, nee Bourke; sons Ian William Bauman and Jeffrey Scot Bauman; sisters Sharon (Don) Corton and Nechie (Andy) King; five brothers-in-law; and many nieces and nephews.

—Ian William Bauman, info@studiobauman.com

Note: this obituary was reprinted in part from <https://www.kuratkonosek.com/obituaries/barry-bauman>.

Leyla Lau-Lamb (1950 – 2021)

Just before 2022 began, we lost a vibrant conservator and dear colleague, Leyla Lau-Lamb. Leyla was a treasured friend and mentor in the field of papyrus conservation.

Originally a native of Hannover, Germany, Leyla earned a degree in nursing, but her enthusiasm for the theater and travel took her across Europe and North America. In the 1980s, she joined her husband in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and started her career in book-binding and conservation at Bessenberg Bindery. She began working at the University of Michigan (U-M) Library as a conservation assistant in the 1990s.

Leyla participated for over 10 years in the multi-institutional Advanced Papyrological Information System (APIS) grant project, one of the first major online databases of cultural objects. From her deep experience she wrote the detailed [APIS Guidelines for Conservation of Papyrus](#), which are still referenced widely. She initiated and taught a biennial papyrus conservation seminar to groups of conservators and papyrologists, the only offering of its kind in the US. She made a huge impact on the accessibility of U-M's papyrus collections, the largest in North America. After a 26-year career at the U-M Library, she retired as senior conservator in 2016.

Those who were privileged to know and work with Leyla remember her laugh and her capacity to live life to the fullest. To honor her memory and incredible contribution to the field of conservation, the U-M Library has created the *Leyla Lau-Lamb Papyrus Conservation Seminar Fund* to support the needs-based attendance of a conservator or papyrologist in a seminar held at U-M every two years. To support this tribute fund, please visit the online [Library Giving Page](#) and enter the name of the fund into the "Write In" field. We cherish all that she shared and carry on her legacy of professional care and ethical standards in the preservation of these ancient treasures.

—Marieka Kaye, marieka@umich.edu

Note: Portions of this article were first published in the Kelsey Museum, University of Michigan Newsletter at: <https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/news-events/all-news/search-news/in-memoriam--leyla-lau-lamb.html>



Barry R. Bauman with Molly the Dog, Tairua NZ, courtesy of the Bauman family



Leyla Lau-Lamb works on a rare book treatment in the Conservation Lab, University of Michigan Library. Courtesy University of Michigan.

Conservation Graduate Programs

Conservation Student Research Topics

PATRICIA H. & RICHARD E. GARMAN ART CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT AT BUFFALO STATE

Materials Research Projects for the Class of 2023:

Student Name	Masters Project Title
Lorna Brundrett	19 th Century Medical Saddlebag: An Analysis and Treatment
Lindsay Cross	The Technical Study and Conservation of a Multiplex Hologram
Camille Ferrer	Revealing Your True Self: A Technical Study and Conservation Treatment of an Overpainted Portrait
Meredith French	Conservation Treatment of a 19 th Century Painted-stencil Lithograph: An Unconventional Devotional Object
Grace Johnson	<i>Our Lady of the Remedies of La Paz</i> : Study and Treatment of a Colonial Andean Painting
Charlotte Li	Conservation Treatment & Technical Analysis of a Blue & White Parian Vase
Christy McCutchen	Conservation of Georges Mathieu's <i>Pour une aliénation définitive du logos</i>
Katherine McFarlin	Conservation Treatment of a Chinese Inlaid Box
Emily Mercer	Nassau Hall Stair: The Analysis & Conservation Treatment of a Gelatin Silver DOP Photograph
Khanh Nguyen	Technical Study & Conservation Treatment of a 19 th Century Folk Portrait
Maeve O'Shea	Treatment of a 20 th Century German Cuckoo Clock

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, CONSERVATION CENTER OF THE INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS (IFA)

The IFA Conservation Center is pleased to announce the MA thesis topics for the class of 2023:

Student Name	Thesis Title
Erin Fitterer	Conservation Concerns Regarding Installations that Incorporate Living Plants: A Closer Look at Selected Case Studies
Ameya Grant	Life After Death: The Case Study of Nancy Graves's Calendar Series
Isabelle Lobley	Grand Jeté: Documenting the Leap from Page to Stage with a Digital Repository
Kayla Metelenis	Murillo's Panels: Exploration of the Artist's Panel Paintings for the Seville Cathedral
Felice Robles	Distributed Identity and Contemporary Photographs in Museum
Abigail Slawik	Codicology of Books of Engravings in the Grand Siècle
Peiyuan Sun	Celadon and Qing: Talking about the Shades of Green on Chinese Ceramics

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, ART CONSERVATION PROGRAM

We present Queen's University research projects for the class of 2021-22:

Student Name	Project Title
Melissa Allen	Comparing Coatings in the Conservation of 3D Printed, Magnesia-Based Cement Sculpture: Rygo
Sandrine Blais	The Lightfastness of Modern Inks on Paper
Robin Canham	Remoistenable Nanocellulose Film: Practical Application and Analysis
Emma Griffiths	The Technical Analysis of a Third Intermediate Period Yellow-Type Egyptian Coffin
Laura Jacobs	Investigation of the Appropriate Moisture Content to Prevent the Degradation of Mass-Produced Soaps Used in an Installation by General Idea Collective

Pui Yee Lam	An Evaluation of Mineral-Spirit-Borne Retouching or Isolating Mediums for Sensitive Unvarnished Acrylic Emulsion Paint
Camille Turner-Hehlen	Technical Analysis of a Tom Thomson Oil Sketch from the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University
Josie Hillier	A Technical Approach to Rembrandt: The Examination of <i>Head of an Old Man in a Cap</i>
Rachel Stark	Adhesives Testing on a Severely Delaminated Contemporary Oil Painting Containing Zinc - Methods and Ethics

Research thesis for 2021-22:

Student Name	Thesis Title
Miriam Bowen	Investigation of the Linkage between Metal Ion Migration to Drying Rate, Strength, and Metal Soap Formation of Oil Paint Films

UCLA/GETTY CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The UCLA/Getty Conservation Program presents the research topics for the class of 2023:

Student Name	Master's Title
Lauren Conway	Storage and Handling of Poison Weapons
Tamara Dissi	Fungal Pigments: An Investigation into their Environmental Stability and Application to Conservation
Jenny McGough	Compensation for Loss in the Conservation of Asian Lacquerware Using 3D Printing Technologies
Isabel Schneider	Characterization of Colorants Derived from Laundry Bluing Products
Céline Wachsmuth	Consolidants and Context: A Green Approach to the Consolidation of Low-Fired Pueblo Ceramics

WINTERTHUR/UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE (UD) PROGRAM IN ART CONSERVATION

We proudly present the research projects for the class of 2023:

Student Name	Materials Research Titles
Meghan Abercrombie	Using Peptide Mass Fingerprinting and FT-Raman to Determine Prehistoric Proboscidea Species from a Subfossil Tusk Fragment
Olav Bjornerud	The Effect of Vapor-Borne Acidity on Subcritical Crack Propagation in Three Limestones
Riley Cruttenden	Evaluating Textile Vacuum Cleaning Efficacy: Developing a Synthetic Soil to Compare Conservation Vacuuming Methods
Kaeley Ferguson	What's Cookin' Good Lookin'? A Study of Sampling Techniques for Stain Analysis on The Art of Cookery by Hannah Glasse
Sarah Fresnock	Poly Vinyl Acetate Adhesive after Cycling in and out of Cold Storage
Elle Friedberg	Analytical investigation of Robert Rauschenberg's dye and pigment-based inkjet transfer works: a case study of identifying colorants to understand fading
Verónica Mercado Oliveras	Uninterpreted Collections: Multi-Analytical Examination of Carta de Ejecutoria de Hidalguía de Sangre de Núñez D. Armesto, de Arce, an 18th-Century Spanish Illuminated Manuscript
Margaret O'Neil	Examining Surfactant Residue from Agarose Gel Cleaning and the Impact of the "Rinse Gel"
Alyssa Rina	Technical Study of a Japanese Buddhist Portable Shrine (Zushi)
Katharine Shulman	A Novel Approach: Agar as a Fill Material for the Conservation of Glass Objects Understanding Degradation/Stability of Agar Bioplastic Artworks

Doctorate Dissertation Title:

Student Name	Thesis Title
LaMar Gayles	Outlining Interdisciplinary Methods for Analyzing Historical Gems and Metals of the Black Diaspora

Specialty Group & Network Columns

Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)

ASG Leadership Positions

The Architecture Specialty Group is looking for nominations for the upcoming 2022/23 Program Chair (one-year term) and Secretary/Treasurer positions (two-year term). Please write to Nicky Defreeze, ASG Chair, to nominate yourself or an interested colleague.

Any questions about these volunteer positions can be sent to Sherry (Nicky) DeFreece Emery at ndemery@outlook.com. Nominations are due by March 15. The election will close on May 8, and new officers take their positions at the annual business meeting.

—Nicky DeFreece Emery, ASG Chair, ndemery@outlook.com

Book and Paper Group (BPG)

Why Volunteer?

BPG Members,

Now is the time of year when AIC groups post volunteer openings for terms beginning at or after AIC's annual meeting. Perhaps you have volunteered for BPG in the past. Perhaps you are a repeat volunteer. Perhaps you have never served as a BPG volunteer. No matter what your past experience with BPG has been, I'd like to address the question of why you should apply to become a volunteer this time, this year.

We have several exciting opportunities open right now. In addition to the co-chair roles listed below, the BPG Wiki always welcomes new contributors to share their own niche of expertise and to enrich this fantastic resource for our specialty as a whole.

As a consummate introvert, I have always dreaded "networking." The word looms in my mind in ominous capital letters: N E T W O R K I N G. I feel awkward just saying it. Yet, here I am, sitting on my couch snuggled up next to my dog, writing to a large group—over 1,200 strong—of colleagues, many of whom I have never met, to urge each of you to put yourself out here with me and volunteer for our professional organization.

- › *Why?* Because, quite simply, we need you. We need your voice, your perspective, your creative thinking, your sense of humor, your grit.
- › *What will you gain from putting in this service time?* Possibility. The possibility of new friendships, new projects, new ideas, new skills.

So, don't network. Come on out and *connect*, because we need opportunities to connect professionally in meaningful ways more than ever right now. The past two years of pandemic work life have brought new challenges, unforeseen heartbreaks, and unanticipated opportunities. Let's focus on the opportunities, and find ways to create even more, together.



ASG Online

Find ASG information at www.culturalheritage.org/architecture-group



BPG Online

Find BPG information at www.culturalheritage.org/book-and-paper-group

BPG Leadership Positions

Please visit the [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page for full descriptions and application instructions.

- › BPG Publications Committee Co-Chair (2-year term)
- › Art on Paper Discussion Group (APDG) Co-Chair, 2-year term
- › Library and Archives Conservation Discussion Group (LACDG) Co-Chair, 2-year term

Warmest wishes,

—Melissa Tedone, BPG Chair, mtedon@winterthur.org

Contemporary Art Network (CAN!)

Hello, Contemporary Art Network members and all members of AIC! We hope you are enjoying a happy and healthy 2022 and are pleased to present some of what we're working on and looking forward to this year.

2022 AIC Annual Meeting

First, CAN! is pleased at the prospect of seeing you all in person for AIC's 50th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, May 15–17. We will be exploring the conference theme, Reflecting on the Past, Imagining the Future, through collaboration with EMG and contributions to the Concurrent General Session. The draft schedule is out now so you can take a closer look at what is in store!

CAN! Conversation: Death of an Artwork

Thanks to everyone who joined the CAN! Conversations on January 19 and 20, on the topic of "Death of an Artwork." In part 1 (January 19), Rosario Llamas Pacheco presented her theoretical understanding of the death of contemporary artworks and discussed her ideas with Ana Lizeth Mata Delgado. They addressed questions about the integral components of artwork as well as the definition of "ruin" in contemporary art. In part 2 (January 20), Wendy Lindstrom of Mazzola Lindstrom LLP and Mary Sheridan, AVP Claim Salvage Manager with Chubb Insurance, discussed the legalities and economics of the death of contemporary art, with a focus on the art industry outside of museums and galleries once artwork is economically and legally considered a "total loss." They addressed questions of valuing artwork, protecting the rights of conservators, and the resale of conserved artworks.

Part 1 was presented in Spanish with simultaneous translation in English, while part 2 was presented in English with simultaneous translation in Spanish. We had over 165 participants each day, representing 18 countries, with both English and Spanish speaking attendees (according to our elective survey). If you missed the events, please check CAN!'s website in March, where we will publish the videos in both English and Spanish. CAN! hopes to continue conversations in both languages if we can raise enough funds.

Thanks to Zeeyoung Chin, Lily Bennion, Lizeth Mata, Magdalena Solano, Martha Singer, and all panelists for their assistance and participation in making this event possible, as well as the support from CAN! officers, AIC including Bonnie Naugle and Carmina Lamare-Bertrand, and Ilka van Steen and the INCCA steering committee. Special thanks to the Leeum Museum of Art for co-sponsoring with CAN! the English and Spanish interpretations.



CAN! Online

Find CAN! information at
[www.culturalheritage.org/
contemporary-art
-network](http://www.culturalheritage.org/contemporary-art-network)

CAN! Reading Group

We want to remind everyone about our CAN! Reading Group, which meets virtually for 1 hour to discuss recent contributions to contemporary art conservation theory in a relaxed and informal manner. Everyone is welcome to join this open space to grapple with perspectives on some of the more nuanced and complex aspects of the field and contemporary art conservation practice.

Our third session took place on Thursday, March 10, at 4:00 p.m. ET, and we discussed the 2017 article by Hanna Hölling, "The Technique of Conservation: On Realms of Theory and Cultures of Practice," *Journal of the Institute of Conservation*, doi.org/10.1080/19455224.2017.1322114. Stay tuned for our next one in July!

CAN! Leadership Opportunities

Are you interested in contemporary art and serving your membership community? CAN! will be filling several new officer positions in the upcoming election cycle and we encourage all interested persons to apply. All positions are open to anyone, and no prior experience is required. Look for the call in the [Volunteers Opportunities](#) page on the AIC website and CAN! online community. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Erin Stephenson, CAN!'s Communications Officer, for more information.

—Erin Stephenson, CAN! Communications Officer,
stephenson.artconservation@gmail.com

Collections Care Network (CCN)

CCN Leadership Position: Secretary-Treasurer

Are you interested in networking with other collections care professionals? CCN is looking for a new Secretary-Treasurer to begin after the 2022 Annual Meeting in May. The position description has been revised to include regular duties and also includes opportunities for (optional) involvement in CCN's outreach efforts, strategic planning, and other exciting initiatives and projects with our team! Access the posting and apply through [Volunteer Opportunities](#) on the AIC website.

Feel free to contact CCN Chair Priscilla Anderson (priscilla_anderson@harvard.edu) or current Secretary-Treasurer Claire Curran (ccurran@udel.edu) if you have any questions.

2022 AIC Annual Meeting

CCN's call for papers for the 2022 Concurrent General Session drew such a large volume of submissions relating to risk management that we have decided to devote an entire day (2 blocks) to this topic, which will be Tuesday, May 17th, from 10:30am PT to 4:00pm PT. We will also be hosting an education panel at the meeting, providing an opportunity to discuss the history of collections care education, the various educational trajectories that lead our colleagues to careers in collections care, and emerging trends in the education of tomorrow's collections care professionals. Visit the online program and use the Collections Care Network filter under "Specialty Session" to see all three days of presentations.

Thinking Outside the Box: A Panel Discussion on Museum Storage

Are you up for an afternoon of thinking outside the box about museum storage? Join us for an online panel discussion that will take place on Friday, April 1, 1:30-3:00 p.m. EST. Our panelists include textile care specialists Nora Frankel and Hannah Muchnik, and biological collections specialist Peter Giere, who will speak



CCN Online

Find CCN information at
[www.culturalheritage.org/
collection-care-network](http://www.culturalheritage.org/collection-care-network)

briefly about their own work describing their solutions to museum collections storage issues. Then we will open the session to all participants for questions and lively discussion on storage challenges, solutions, and all the magic that happens in between. This event is free of charge and open to everyone, just register here: <https://learning.culturalheritage.org/p/CCNMuseumStorageSpring2022>.

Changes Coming to the CCN Column!

Starting in the next issue of the AIC News, CCN will be organizing this column around particular themes rather than announcements. Stay tuned for columns that focus on everything from collections storage to mothers working in collections (a hint for the May issue!), and decolonizing collections care. Regardless of the theme, our column will continue to focus on the work and issues surrounding preventive conservation. If you have an idea for a theme that you would like to see us cover, please reach out to CCN Editor Wendi Field Murray at wmurray01@wesleyan.edu.

—Wendi Field Murray, CCN Editor, wmurray01@wesleyan.edu

Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN)

Graduate Program Abroad Resource: Spreadsheet

ECPN Outreach Co-Officers have launched the [Graduate Program Abroad Spreadsheet](#), a resource intended for use by undergraduate and pre-program students to learn more about international training programs. The spreadsheet is completely crowd-sourced from our community of current and recent graduate students who have participated in these programs, and it is intended to promote information sharing. Edits to the document are still welcome, and the sheet will eventually live on the ECPN Wiki.

New ECPN Liaisons

The ECPN Liaison Program is happy to introduce Ali Wysopal and Hector J. Berdecía-Hernández as Architecture Specialty Group (ASG) Co-Liaisons; Leah Humenuck as Research & Technical Studies (RATS) Liaison; and Caitlin Green as our newly established Hartford Regional Liaison.

New Instagram Series

The ECPN Digital Platforms Committee is developing a limited Instagram series inspired by the visual and first-person narrative format that has been popularized by the [Humans of New York](#) Instagram account. Posts will feature bios, stories, and reflections from individuals currently contributing to the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage, so we can share and celebrate the many ways someone can “be a conservator” or do conservation work. The aim is to use this visually oriented platform to broaden the narrative around what it means to conserve cultural heritage.

2022 AIC Annual Meeting: Call for Panelists

ECPN Vice-Chair Michaela Paulson would like to reiterate a call for participants from each of the specialty groups to join us on an [informal panel](#) that will dive into the intricacies of our conservation specialties. This in-person panel will take place on Sunday, May 15, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., right after the ECPN Townhall. Emerged and emerging professionals are encouraged to get in touch with Michaela at ecpn.aic.vicechair@gmail.com with any questions! We profusely thank members of the BPG and RATS groups who have already reached out with interest.

—Héctor J. Berdecía-Hernández, Co-Communications Officer,
ecpn.aic.communications@gmail.com



ECPN Online

Find ECPN information at
[www.culturalheritage.org/
emerging](http://www.culturalheritage.org/emerging)

Electronic Media Group (EMG)

2022 AIC Annual Meeting

We're looking forward to seeing our colleagues at the upcoming AIC Annual Meeting in Los Angeles! Presentations from EMG will focus on topics such as software-based art and collaborative approaches to building time-based media art conservation initiatives. Once again, EMG and CAN! are partnering to host a joint session. See the program here: www.culturalheritage.org/events/annual-meeting/current-meeting/complete-program.

EMG DEIA Listening Sessions

EMG officers and members are organizing two virtual listening sessions to invite contributions of thoughts and ideas on the topics of diversity, inclusion, equity, and accessibility within EMG specifically. The sessions are primarily intended for EMG members, but non-EMG members who are or have been affiliated with EMG are welcome to join.

Please fill out this short [contact form](#) if you would like to stay abreast of EMG's equity efforts or to register for one of the sessions. The sessions will take place on Thursday, March 24, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. EST, and on Tuesday, March 29, 8:00 – 9:30 p.m. EST. Each session will be moderated by an EMG representative and another member will act as notetaker. Since not everyone will be available for the listening sessions and some people may prefer to contribute in writing, those who fill out the contact form will also have the opportunity to share their thoughts via a feedback form before and/or after the listening sessions or in lieu of attendance, with the option to identify themselves or to contribute anonymously.

After the sessions, the organizers will review the information gathered; findings will be shared at the EMG Business Meeting in May, and also through email after the meeting. Organizers will use the information to determine EMG's next steps towards improving DEIA for our members, while keeping in mind how our activities might contribute to our broader communities. Please email electronicmediagroupAIC@gmail.com with any questions.

EMG Leadership Opportunities: Get Involved

The positions for Chair and Assistant Program Chair (a two-year term, which rolls into Program Chair for the second year) will be open for election this year. Please write to EMG Chair Kristin MacDonough or the EMG Officers to nominate yourself or a willing colleague by March 15.

If you are interested in serving as EMG's Website Director, visit the [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page on AIC's website to learn more and apply.

If you have any questions about the open roles or would like to suggest or nominate someone, please contact EMG officers at electronicmediagroupAIC@gmail.com.

—Kristin MacDonough, EMG Chair, kmacdo2@artic.edu

Objects Specialty Group (OSG)

2022 AIC Annual Meeting

OSG has a great line up of talks, including a joint session with the Archeological Discussion Group (ADG). OSG sessions will take place in the afternoon of Sunday, May 15; in the morning of Monday, May 16; and much of the day on Tuesday, May 17. We are tentatively planning a specialty group reception during happy hour on Monday, May 16. Your OSG officers are very much looking forward to seeing many of you in person for the first time in years!



EMG Online

Find EMG information at www.culturalheritage.org/electronic-media-group



OSG Online

Find OSG information at www.culturalheritage.org/objects-group

OSG Business Meeting

This year, OSG will not be hosting an in-person business meeting at the annual meeting. Instead, we will host the meeting on Zoom in late May/early June. We hope this format will allow many more OSG members to attend. Stay tuned for more information!

OSG Leadership Opportunities: Interested in volunteering your time and talents?

The OSG Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to run for Assistant Program Chair. Watch your email as voting will take place in mid-March. In addition, OSG has volunteer positions available for Wiki Editor and Postprint editor(s). Visit AIC's [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page for more information and to apply.

If you have any questions about the positions, contact a member of the OSG Nominating Committee: Rebecca Gridley, rebecca.ec.gridley@gmail.com, or Marci Jefcoat Burton, jefcoatm33@gmail.com.

—Megan Emery, OSG Chair, memery@preserveart.org

Research and Technical Studies Group (RATS)

New RATS-ECPN Liaison: Welcome and Thank You!

We would love to welcome Leah Humenuck to the team as the new RATS-ECPN Liaison. Leah is a current PhD candidate in Color Science at Rochester Institute of Technology and Conservator and Owner of Heritage Conservation and Consulting LLC. In her role as RATS-ECPN Liaison, she will attend monthly RATS meetings, engage in opportunities for involvement in RATS initiatives, work closely with the Imaging Working Group (IWG) to help push their wiki initiatives, and help facilitate the flow of information about projects between RATS and ECPN. We are excited for her to join and look forward to her role bridging RATS, ECPN, and the IWG! You can connect with Leah at rats.ecpn.liaison@gmail.com.

Leadership Opportunities: Volunteer with RATS

A second one-year term ECPN Liaison position, which can potentially renew for a second year, is currently available: We are still looking for another emerging professional to join the team! If you're interested and would like to apply, please reach out to the ECPN Outreach Liaison at ecpn.aic.outreach@gmail.com.

AIC 2022 Annual Meeting: Join RATS in Los Angeles!

Preparations for the 2022 AIC Annual Meeting continue! An informal panel run by ECPN will include emerged and emerging conservators from each of the specialty groups to talk about their specialties and delve into the details of what it means to specialize and be a part of their respective groups. Gregory Bailey, Chair Emeritus, will be representing RATS as the emerged conservator; the search for an interested ECP representative is ongoing. Please join ECPN and the Specialty Groups for this event on Sunday, May 15, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., and learn more about the SGs and how their skills intersect and complement one another!

—Federica Pozzi, Chair, federica.pozzi@centrorestaurovenaria.it



RATS Online

Find RATS information at www.culturalheritage.org/research-technical-studies

Textile Specialty Group (TSG)

2022 Annual Meeting

Planning for AIC's 50th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles is well underway! The meeting will take place May 13 – 17 (in person!), beginning with workshops—including two textile-oriented workshops, pre-sessions and tours, followed by the main conference. Kira Eng-Wilmot has organized a compelling program consisting of practical treatment, technical analysis, and cultural history within this meeting's theme of "Reflecting on the Past, Imagining the Future." To encourage those who are unable to travel to participate, there will also be a virtual component that will allow you to view a portion of the conference live or recorded on your device. For details and to register, visit the [Annual Meeting Page](#) (under Events) on AIC's website!

—Beth Szuhay, TSG Chair, bethszuhay@gmail.com



TSG Online

Find TSG information at www.culturalheritage.org/textiles-group

Note: PMG, H&S, CIPP, PSG, and WAG did not submit columns for this issue.

Friends Swag Supports FAIC

Have you been recommending to your friends and family that they support conservation by being part of Friends of Conservation?

The Friends program helps provide information about the field and helpful preventive tips (perfect for those who still struggle a little bit to grasp what you do!) and supports FAIC—which supports you. Encourage them to join at www.culturalheritage.org/friends.

Interested in picking up some fun swag for yourself to show your commitment to conservation? You can now purchase our Friends promotional items in our store!

These purchases directly support FAIC's general fund, so it's swag you can feel good about.

Visit store.culturalheritage.org to purchase.



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