

discussion of the proposed revisions to the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* to be held in conjunction with the general (business) session. The Ethics and Standards Committee expects to have a draft of the revised code and standards, together with a detailed reference document explaining the rationale and assumptions made regarding the changes, ready for mailing to all members during the second week in May. Please read the materials carefully, and come prepared to discuss this vital document.

We are pleased to report the promotion of Michelle Flynn from administrative assistant to program assistant and to welcome Kristen E. Wenzel as administrative assistant. Kristen, a graduate of the University of Utah with a major in anthropology, completed a summer field program in historical archaeology at Colorado College, and worked for several years in the Public Affairs Office of the Internal Revenue Service, where she received Special Act and Managers Awards.

The staff all look forward to welcoming you to Denver and a truly fine 21st annual meeting.

Membership News

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce the following new Fellows and Professional Associates:

FELLOWS

Deborah Bede Karen Garlick
Edward McManus

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES

F. Carey Howlett Ada H. Logan
Marlene Matalon Sarah Murray

Want to Vote on the
Code of Ethics Revision?

Become a PA in 1993!

The deadlines for submitting Professional Associate and Fellow applications are **July 16**, and **October 15**.

Applications are available from the AIC office.

Health & Safety News

The Health and Safety Committee recently received a call from a paper conservator concerning the use of sodium borohydride. The label warns against mixing it with water, but conservators use sodium borohydride as a 0.5% or less solution in water for stain reduction procedures. Sodium borohydride, like any anhydride, creates heat when hydrated. If a small amount of water were introduced to a bottle of the chemical, high heat would be generated. This problem is avoided by adding a small amount of the chemical to a large amount of water. Since sodium borohydride is corrosive, wear gloves and goggles and use a fume hood or respirator during mixing procedures. During use of dilute solutions, avoid skin contact or inhalation.

FINAL CADMIUM STANDARD PUBLISHED: OSHA's final rule on cadmium regulates all cadmium compounds, including cadmium pigments, at PEL 0.05mg/m³ to protect workers from kidney damage and cancer. Currently the Arts, Crafts, and Materials Institute (ACMI) labels cadmium paints with a warning not to spray or airbrush to preclude inhalation, but it does not require a cancer warning if the cadmium pigments are not soluble (like cadmium sulfide, CdS). A number of arguments in support of the OSHA rule suggest that the ACMI labeling policy should be reconsidered. One of the more convincing points is that insoluble cadmium pigments can contain soluble impurities. For example, insoluble CdS is likely to contain soluble CdSO₄ because CdS will convert to CdSO₄ in the presence of light. Conservators should be advised to treat CdS products as though a cancer warning were present. *ACTS FACTS*, 6, no. 10 (October 1992). Monona Rossol, editor, [redacted] New York, NY 10012.

POLYESTER RESIN CURING AGENT STUDIED: In a draft technical report accepted by the National Toxicology Program's (NTP) peer review panel, short-term toxicity studies of methyl ethyl ketone peroxide (MEKP) show that MEKP used in some polyester resin casting mixtures is acute-

ly toxic by skin contact. At very low doses applied to the skin, rats and mice developed ulcerative skin lesions and showed changes in the spleen and bone marrow. MEKP was known to be a skin irritant, but the health hazard from skin exposure was not thought to be this serious. (It was also known to be a sensitizer; to cause eye and respiratory irritation from exposure to vapors; and to cause blindness from a splash in the eye.) Skin contact was studied since it is the most likely means of exposure during polyester resin casting. Those working with MEKP curing agents should take extra care to protect their skin completely. *ACTS FACTS*, 6, no. 9 (September 1992). Monona Rossol, editor, [redacted] New York, NY 10012.

CAA Call for Manuscripts

AIC is pleased that the College Art Association has accepted our proposal to develop a special issue of its *Art Journal*. CAA is now seeking manuscripts for this issue, devoted to "Conservation and Art History." The issue will focus on questions of methodology and of interpretation of physical evidence. Topics that might be addressed include the history of restoration as a reflection of changing taste and standards of restoration, particularly in the 19th and 20th centuries; the viability of restoring badly damaged works; artists' thoughts on restoration in general and restoration of their own works in particular; the role of technical examinations in current connoisseurship and art historical scholarship; and the examination of methods and materials as related to an artist's iconographical program. This list is not exhaustive; however, all papers must consider and closely examine actual works rather than theoretical positions. Collaborative efforts between art historians and conservators are encouraged. Please submit a one-page abstract by **September 1** to: Maryan Ainsworth, Metropolitan Museum, 1000 5th Ave., New York, NY, 10028, or James Coddington, Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd St., New York, NY 10019-5498.