Preservin' the South
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Preservation News by Tina Mason, Education Officer, SOLINET Preservation Field Services.

NEW PRESERVATION PUBLICATIONS

New Publication Presents a Non-Technical Discussion of Preservation Issues

A new publication from the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Library Print Preservation: An Administration Briefing, by George J. Soete, reviews the current state of preservation of paper resources, such as books, journals, newspapers, maps, archives, and photographs, in research libraries across the country. The 29 page examination of preservation methods and costs grew out of request for a non-technical survey of current treatment options by ARL library directors and other non-preservation professionals. Among the methods examined are retroactive measures (reformatting options, item repair, and item enclosure) and preventative measures (security, controlled storage, environmental management, commercial binding, and mass de-acidification). More information on the publication may be found on the ARL website. www.arl.org/arl/pr/print_presentation.html

Guides for Film Preservation to be Published

Two new reference tools are being published on the preservation of film collections by the National Film Preservation Foundation (FNPF) funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The Film Preservation Guide: The Basics for Archives, Libraries and Museums and IPI Media Storage Quick Reference, are designed specifically for non-specialists working with regional films, home movies, and other motion pictures found in public and nonprofit institutions. The guides explain preservation and storage techniques that are practical for regional collections and include illustrations developed by the Selznick School. The Film Preservation Guide covers archival practices for handling, identifying, copying, providing access to, and storing motion pictures for research institutions with limited budgets. The Image Permanence Institute (IPI) developed the Media Storage Quick Reference to help small institutions with diverse multimedia holdings develop storage plans — long consider the single most important step in protecting film collections. More details on the publications are on the NFPF website, www.filmpreservation.com.

SOLINET PRESERVATION SERVICES NEWS

New SOLINET Program Loans Environmental Monitoring Equipment

Providing an adequate storage environment is the most cost-effective per-item strategy for protecting your assets. The best way to detect problems with temperature, humidity, and light levels is through an environmental monitoring program. Thanks to a generous donation of environmental monitoring equipment from the Northeast Florida Library Information Network (NEFLIN), SOLINET Preservation
Services is now offering a loan service for institutions that want to monitor environmental conditions, but do not own the proper equipment. The new Environmental Monitoring Equipment Loan Service includes the following equipment:

Temperature and Humidity Monitoring Kit — includes a Dickson recording hygro-thermograph and a sling psychrometer

Light Monitoring Kit — includes a Crawford UV monitor, an Arten light meter, and a light damage slide rule

Moisture Detection Kit — Delmhorst moisture meter

For more detailed information about the equipment or the terms and fees of the loan service, visit the SOLINET website at www.solinet.net/preservation/loanprograms.

SOLINET Offers Online Preservation Workshop

As SOLINET pursues its goal of providing training to members in all areas of the Southeast, a web-based training program has been added as a means to serve members who are geographically remote or limited by budget or staffing considerations. SOLINET’s E-cademy offers training without travel and, in some cases, a more flexible timeframe for completing a workshop. Preservation Services has joined in this effort by creating its first online course, Developing a Disaster Plan.

Disaster planning requires the support and commitment of staff from many departments, including facilities and fiscal affairs. Plan preparation is more successful and effective when undertaken by a committee with staff representatives from across the institution. This web-based workshop is designed to support the work of an institution’s disaster planning committee. Taught in 3 two-hour sessions over the course of six weeks, it guides participants through the development of a written disaster plan. Homework assignments will require input and support from a variety of staff members. The modules cover the establishment of a planning structure; information gathering, including risk assessment and resource list development; setting recovery priorities; an overview of recovery procedures; plan development; and working with disaster recovery vendors.

The workshop is delivered in real-time and has a fixed schedule. On the day and time of your course, you will log on with your instructor and fellow students. Your monitor will provide a variety of visual aids; "streaming audio" will make it possible for you all to speak to each other. You can raise your hand, ask questions, request clarification —— just as you would in a classroom. And if you run into technical difficulty, a dedicated troubleshooter is standing by to provide tech support.

(See www.solinet.net/workshops/techreqs for more information on what you will need.)

For more information on this course and other web-based training, see the Workshop & Training section of the SOLINET website, www.solinet.net.