

## **New England Archivists Annual Business Meeting**

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

March 24, 2012, 12:35 pm – 1:00 pm

### **Call to Order**

Nova Seals called the meeting to order and welcomed conference attendees to the annual business meeting.

### **NEA Announcements**

Jessica Sedgwick announced that starting with the Fall 2012 meeting NEA will be offering a discount for unemployed members on meeting registration.

Daniel McCormack mentioned that the Board approved the proposal to create roundtables within NEA. Roundtables will serve as self-governing autonomous structures and are expected to operate more freely than NEA committees would. Roundtables will be led by a three-person steering committee along with a chair person or liaison and can be composed of a minimum of 20 members. They will have their own bylaws which will be approved by the Board. Dan stated that roundtables are not intended to be substitute for participation in NEA.

Nova Seals took a moment to talk about the spirit of voluntarism by NEA members and mentioned some NEA accomplished during the past year including the development of online membership renewal. She also announced that NEA is in the process of beta testing online registration systems.

Nova Seals recognized Diane Yount for her 20 years of service as print coordinator. She also recognized Valerie Gillespie, Suzy Taraba, and the staff of Wesleyan for putting together and hosting the conference. She thanked Jessica Tanny for having her committee put an excellent program.

### **Approval of 2010 Annual Business Meeting minutes**

The Annual Business Meeting minutes of April 2, 2011 were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Maria Bernier presented the NEA's financial report for FY 2011. Overall, NEA's financial status is in good condition. She explained that there was a profit of \$7,255. Maria thanked Jane Ward for her hard work with vendors who contributed highly to the profit.

### **Presentation of Hale Award Winner**

Ellen Doon announced the winner of the Hale Award for 2012. Heidi Benedict of Rogers William University will use the award to attend the NEDCC Digital Directions Conference in June 2012.

### **Announcement of Election Results**

Elizabeth Slomba reported the results of the election. Vice President and President Elect: Alyssa Pacy, Secretary: Silvia Mejia, and Representative-at-Large: Colin Lukens.

Elizabeth recognized the members who also run: Jane Ward, Marta Crilly, Patrick Collins.

Nova recognized and thanked Elizabeth Slomba for her efforts of the last few years as vice-president, president, and immediate past president of NEA.

### **Remarks from Incoming President**

Nova Seals introduced Paige Roberts as the incoming president.

Paige Roberts began her remarks by expressing how honored she was to have been elected President of NEA and how impressed she was at the work of the organization. In her presentation entitled *Open Archives Sharing Historical Authority in a User Centered World* Ms. Roberts shared three trends that she sees the archives field is headed and talked about the role that archivists, archives, and NEA should play in the future.

The first trend, she explained, is toward crowd sourcing a shift from users who consume content to those who contribute. The second trend she sees is the managing of born digital materials. She talked about the critical need to disseminate workable processes so even those at small institutions can preserve and provide access to born digital materials in a sustainable way. As well as the significant role archivists should play in digital preservation. The third trend she talked about was collaboration beyond creating a participatory culture with scholarly researchers and other users of our collections. She expressed the opportunity to develop multi-institutional solutions to challenges.

She ended by saying that this is a tremendous time of opportunity and challenge and she is confident that we, as archivists can and will fulfill our purpose to collect, preserve and provide access to cultural heritage in a meaningful and ethical way in the future.

### **Adjournment**

The Annual Business Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm