

FOREWARD

The OSG session at AIC's annual meeting in Minneapolis, MN in June 2005 has been compiled into a 12th volume of Postprints. The call for papers aimed to connect with the general session's theme of *Documentation*, and to share advances made in practice for object conservators. The session was split into two themes to allow for a subject untouched at OSG session in the past, namely the topic of *Adhesives*. An hour tip session was also organized in collaboration with the RATS specialty group, with the theme of *Sampling Techniques for Analysis*. The tips were short, informal presentations geared towards increasing the communication between conservation scientists and conservators.

The talks centered on Documentation showed a range of emphasis including management, treatments, and examination tools. John R. Watson presented a database having broad relevance to all specializations, which provides us a linking tool for collections care from the present to the past and future. Also using databases, yet specifically linked to a moving project, Rachael Perkins Arenstein and Emily Kaplan shared their methods in tracking 800,000 Native American objects from the National Museum of the American Indian's collection. Sari Uricheck and Judith Levinson presented their work on surveying Carl Akeley's complex dioramas in the American Museum of Natural History – an impressive project preserving a unique type of museum object.

Two of the presentations related to the documentation theme are not included in the Postprints, however they are worth mentioning. Nancy Hairston from VanDuzen Archives and conservator Joanna Rowntree showed how 3-D scanning using laser technology could be an effective, non-invasive means for examination and documentation. Judith Bischoff presented a technique that she and her colleagues have developed using digital imagery to document microscopy analysis.

A bridge to the next theme was provided by Shelley Reisman Paine's presentation involving both documentation and adhesives. She showed how the numerous components of a ceramic tile Rhead fireplace were transferred and how this was documented, handled, and treated. Julie Unruh et al. also combined the themes showing their documentation of adhesive types used at the Arizona State Museum's collection. Two talks focused on properties of a commonly used adhesive, Acryloid B-72. Julie Wolfe presented studies made on its use for putty making, and Erik Risser addressed his work on the long-term properties such as creep and cold flow. Also looking at the properties of a particular adhesive, Elzbieta Kaminska and Jane Down spoke about their work researching the deterioration of cyanoacrylate adhesives. Specific to treatment techniques, Sylvia Keochakian and Scott Fulton gave an approach to the reversal of unstable adhesives. In conclusion, Eric Hansen gave a review on the effects of solvents on polymers as related to common resins used by conservators as adhesives. The paper by Paula Hobart, Mina Thompson and Maureen Russell, describing a loss compensation technique using Acryloid B72, originally was presented at the Poster Session. Unfortunately, Eric Risser and Eric Hansen were not able to submit their talks for publication in this volume, and the research carried out at CCI will be published in another format.

The value of publishing these talks, albeit in a non-juried volume, has significant importance in supplying additional resources and communication among our colleagues. The success of this meeting was greatly influenced by the collaboration with the other specialty group chairs, the AIC's Meetings & Design Director, Sheila Paige, and AIC's Director of Specialty Groups, Mary Striegel. I would like to thank Jamie Martin who co-chaired the tip session. The speakers all gave high quality presentations, and I am thankful to those who submitted their papers for the Postprint volume. As always due to her long-term commitment to editing and publishing the Postprints, I am very thankful to Ginny Greene.

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