AERI 2010

Granting Agencies

When: Tuesday, 6/22, Time: 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Where: Great Lakes Central

Abstract:

Support for research in issues related to archives is provided by a number of private foundations and federal agencies. Representatives of three of the nation's leading funders of archival activities (National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services) will briefly describe their agencies' current funding priorities and provide an overview of relevant grant programs. They will then field questions concerning the grant application and review processes.

Presenters:

Kevin Cherry, <u>Institute for Museum and Library Services</u>
Lucy Barber, <u>National Historical Publications and Records Commission</u>
Joel Wurl, <u>National Endowment for the Humanities</u>

Bios:

Kevin Cherry

Kevin Cherry is Senior Program Officer at the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Through its grants, research, and convenings, IMLS works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. Kevin helps coordinate IMLS' largest discretionary grant program, the 21st Century Librarian Program, which seeks to support the development of the nation's library and archives workforce. A special collections and manuscripts librarian by education and training, Kevin has worked in public, community college, and research libraries, as well as a state library agency. He has also taught in a school library media program. While consultant for special collections at the State Library of North Carolina, he was manager of one of the nation's first statewide digitization programs, NC ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) where he became a well-known advocate for small- to medium-sized cultural collecting agencies. Before coming to IMLS, Kevin was active in the governance of the American Library Association, serving on that organization's council. Kevin is interested in outreach, public programming, and teaching roles of archives and special collections. His dissertation research analyzed online K-12 history teaching materials created by state archives and collaborative digitization programs. More specifically, this research briefly outlined the history of the use of primary sources to teach history, before attempting to better understand how well online archival materials support seven different aspects of domain-specific cognition in history. Based upon this research, his dissertation proposes the creation of a shared, collaborative framework to teach the skills involved in the "doing" of history. Kevin has a BS (Biology), MA (History), and MSLS, and he has defended his dissertation at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a native of Denver, NC, and lives in Washington, DC.

Lucy Barber

Dr. Lucy Barber is the Deputy Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the grantmaking arm of the National Archives. The NHPRC focuses on preserving and making accessible the records the document the history of the American nation. She oversees the Commission's grantmaking programs and general operations and serve as deputy to Executive Director Kathleen Williams.

Lucy G. Barber was a 1984 Truman Scholar and received her B.A. in History from Haverford College in 1986 and her Ph.D. in History from Brown University in 1996. In 1995, she joined the faculty as an assistant professor in the history department at the University of California, Davis. At Davis, she taught courses on modern American history, from the introductory survey to advanced reading courses for graduate student. She launched a public history program within the department, developing an undergraduate public history class, and a formal internship program. In 2001, Barber left UC Davis for a position as an archivist at the California State Archives, where she worked on the online catalog project and began its electronic records efforts.

She is the author of *Marching on Washington: The Creation of a National Political Tradition*, (University of California Press, 2003). In 2006 she was named Director for Technology Initiatives at the NHPRC, overseeing policy and grants for archival projects, especially those involving digitizing of historical materials, preservation of electronic records, and development of new tools and training programs. She continues to manage a small portfolio of grants that support professional development for archivists and documentary editors and the development of new tools for both profession.

On a personal note, she grew up in Amherst, Massachusetts, which had an innovative history education program that Dr. Cherry studied, and meant that she did her first research in archives at Jones Library and the University of Massachusetts at age 13! Copies of the papers are in the private collection of her mother. She also writes about her family history at http://overrepresented.blogspot.com/.

Joel Wurl

Joel Wurl is a Sr. Program Officer in the Division of Preservation & Access, National Endowment for the Humanities, where he currently coordinates the division's "Humanities Collections & Reference Resources" program. He is also Adjunct Instructor in the Applied History program at George Mason University. Prior to joining NEH in October, 2006, he worked for 20 years with University of Minnesota's Immigration History Research Center ending there as Head of Research Collections and Associate Director. From 2002 to 2005, he served on the council and executive committee of the Society of American Archivists and as editor of the Midwest Archives Conference's journal *Archival Issues*. He co-chaired the program committee for the 2008 SAA annual meeting in San Francisco. Wurl's publications have appeared in both archival and immigration/ethnic history journals, and he is general editor for "North American Immigrant Letters, Diaries, and Oral Histories," an online publication of Alexander St. Press. His 2005 article "Ethnicity as Provenance: In Search of Values and Principles for Documenting the Immigrant Experience." received the bi-annual Margaret Cross Norton Award for outstanding contribution to *Archival Issues*. Wurl was named a Distinguished Fellow of SAA in 2007.

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