



REGISTRARS' QUARTERLY FALL 1995

A PUBLICATION OF THE REGISTRARS' COMMITTEE - WESTERN REGION

NAGPRA

The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) has encouraged a profound re-examination of what it is museums of natural and cultural history collect. It is no longer legally acceptable for public institutions receiving federal support to acquire the human remains, associated burial goods, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony of the Native Americans and Hawaiians. Furthermore, the NAGPRA legislation requires us to inventory these categories of material currently in collections in consultation with tribal representatives, and to notify pertinent tribes of the institution's possession of culturally affiliated material. In some instances, the process is resulting in the repatriation of artifacts and human remains from museum collections. Needless to say, it has elicited a variety of responses from museologists and academics as well as from the tribal groups affected. By and large from my perspective, it may not always be easy but it has fostered a very healthy dialogue and reconsideration of the meaning of our work. All institutions, even those not legally required to comply must now deal with the ethical issues raised by NAGPRA. The articles here will provide a window into what this has meant to a representative of the Sioux tribe and to number of our museum colleagues as they make their way towards the November 16, 1995 deadline for its completion. Thanks to the contributors for their thoughtful articles.

The RC-WR has had quite of bit of activity in the last few weeks. The state reps in Hawaii, Idaho, Northern California and Oregon are passing their torches! My thanks to Sanna Saks Deutsch, Mary Suter, Faith Bilyeu and Loretta Harrison for their contributions during their terms. Two of our ex's are leaving to accept positions in new geographical areas. In fact, Mary is leaving the western region altogether and heading for the University Museum, University of Arkansas. SERA's (Southeastern Registrars' Association) gain, our loss! Faith isn't leaving the west, but heading south for a position at the Autry

Museum of Western Heritage in Los Angeles.

Welcome to new state reps, Pauline Fugino (Hawaii), Sharon Holmer (Idaho) and Irene Zenev (Oregon).

This year's WMA conference has plenty to offer registrars and collections managers, beginning with the RC-WR sponsored pre-conference workshop, "Current Approaches to Numbering Collections," and a party from 7:00 - 11:00 that evening sponsored by Atthowe Fine Art Services and Cooke's Crating. We will also have the chance to see one another at the RC-WR annual business meeting on October 19, 1995, at the sessions organized by our members designed to be of particular interest to the RC-WR membership and during evening events. If you are not able to attend the conference you may still attend the pre-conference workshop. However, you must enroll through the RC-WR Secretary Paulette Dunn Hennum. Look for the colored flyer inside this *Quarterly*. If you are attending the conference, enroll when you register with the WMA. Apologies for any confusion caused with pre-conference enrollment logistics. The location of the Atthowe/Cooke's party will be announced at the pre-conference workshop. If you are not planning to attend the workshop but plan to come to the party, contact either Scott Atthowe, Brian Cooke, Melissa Rosengard or myself for location information.

Don't forget, the RC-WR is once again offering a stipend to a member from each state to attend the WMA conference. This could be your year to win! Send a letter to your state rep by September 22, 1995 requesting this support stating your financial need and motivation to attend. You will be contacted by September 30, 1995 if selected.

Kathy Clewell is working once again to produce our RC-WR membership roster. It will continue in its prized spiral-bound format, but Kathy promises a shocking cover color this time around! If all goes as planned it will be ready for distribution at our annual business meeting. Those unable to attend

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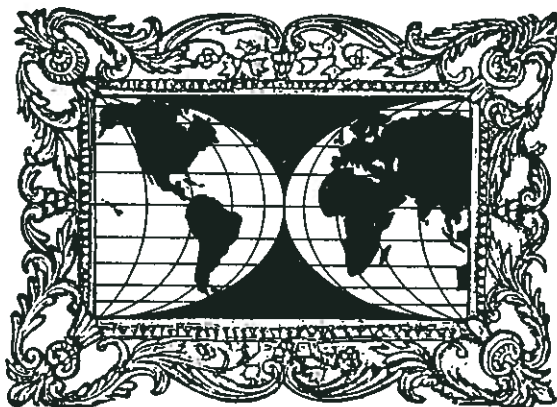
the meeting will receive your copy in the mail. Cynthia Eckholm has been working successfully to find the vendor support which underwrites the expenses of the roster production. Do thank them both for creating the tool most of us use daily. For the first time, the roster will include e-mail addresses for the "wired." Please check the list of e-mail addresses included here in the *Quarterly*. If yours is not included, make sure you contact Kim Caldwell-Meeks by e-mail (curry@getnet.com).

By now you have placed your ballot and voted for the new slate of RC-WR officers. I want to whole heartedly thank the nominations committee, Phil Stoiber, Mary Suter and Janet Ness who coordinated the nominations and put together the ballot. Phil gets special appreciation for keeping it all on track and even taking vacation time to produce the ballots. I believe the committee put together a quality choice of candidates which will ensure the on-going success of our committee. In spite of the fact you saw so many Californians listed, every effort was made to introduce diversity into the ballot. We encourage those of you

outside of California to consider throwing your name into the hopper in the future. In this day and age of telecommunications, faxes and express mailing services, the officers should be able to keep in touch no matter where they reside.

This is my final Chair's column in the *Quarterly*. Deb Slaney, Kim Caldwell-Meeks, Maren Jones and Sally Legakis have made publishing this newsletter such a smooth process. What a team! I will pass the responsibility for this column on to Melissa Rosengard who has served the past two years as our Vice-Chairperson. Melissa has been a pleasure to work with and I'm sure she'll be a superb Chair. I will miss the regular conversations with Melissa, as well as with Secretary Paulette Dunn Hennum and Treasurer Gina Cavallo Collins. Not to mention the rest of you who have been generous enough to participate as state reps, serve on our various committees, and chair or facilitate sessions at conferences. RC-WR has the best group of individuals I can imagine working with. Believe me I will find a niche in RC-WR in my post-Chair phase!

-Sarah J. Kennington, Chairperson



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REPATRIATION OF HUMAN REMAINS FROM CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

by Pauline Grenbeaux Spear

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) was one of the first institutions to respond to NAGPRA requirements for collections of human remains and associated funerary objects. The Department's history with the repatriation issue goes back to the early 1980s, when an attempted reburial of Native American human remains in a state park resulted in two lawsuits, a court injunction, and a complete inventory of all burial-related collections in DPR's possession. When passage of the federal law in 1990 made it clear that repatriation to culturally affiliated Indian groups was both legal and required, DPR was in a much better position to respond to the reporting requirements than institutions which had time-consuming and expensive inventory projects in front of them. It was, however, difficult to know *how* to respond since little was known or understood about the law (there are still no official guidelines). The National Park Service (NPS) staff were very helpful, but initially we were breaking new ground.

Our inventories identified 138 collections in our possession, representing about 700 individuals. Only a few were from out of state. Most of the DPR collections are from archeological projects in California State Parks. Some remains were donated to DPR many years ago as part of larger ethno-historical collections. Those collections on loan from federal agencies, Caltrans, the deYoung Museum, and the Hearst Museum were returned at their requests. The few other collections on loan to us will be repatriated by our Department with concurrence from the lending institutions. Collections from State Parks which are on loan to universities which are complying with NAGPRA will remain with each university for repatriation. If it turns out that there are institutions that are unable to comply, we will of course recall the collections and include them in our repatriation program.

Our notices went out in June of 1992. Since then, we have made *two* observations about the process that might be of interest to museums which have not yet reported about human remains.

1) *We have not been inundated with claims.* After sending out over 400 notices to California groups and individuals, and making concerted efforts to get the

word out through public presentations and published articles, we have received about fifty inquiries for information from individuals and groups. We've received only three claims. This is both a relief since an overwhelming workload was feared, and a disappointment since we really do want to get the human remains into the control of the cultural groups from which they were removed.

Several reasons have been suggested for this delay in making claims, one being the fact that many California groups do not have land for burials. However, it appears to me to be a matter of timing and organization. Just because (most of) our institutions have finally made repatriation a priority and assigned paid staff to comply with the law, does not mean Indian people can suddenly make the same effort. Most California Indians who have contacted our Department work on this issue as concerned community members and volunteers, not paid staff. They have busy lives, and their people face many problems of which repatriation is only one. Many groups still face problems with recognition and organization as a result of the system imposed on them by the federal government over the years. I realize now that it was not reasonable to expect them to respond promptly.

2) *Our first three claims have demonstrated that NAGPRA actually works.* Our first claimants, the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, asked to view the Tuolumne County collections during the consultation process as they have a right to do under the law. Their representative found a number of burial-related artifacts we had missed or misinterpreted, and our curator added those to the list of objects subject to repatriation. No other group has asked to view the collections since then, but it is important that they have the opportunity.

The second claim we reviewed was for ancient remains from Arizona which we determined to be affiliated with the Hopi Tribe. As required by NAGPRA, we submitted a notice with our findings to NPS for publication in the Federal Register. We thought this was merely a formality, as most people do not read the Federal Register. However, we were shortly contacted by a cultural officer from the Navajo

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Nation asking how we came to the conclusion that the remains were not affiliated with Navajo people, since they came from Navajo land. Our evidence and reasoning were accepted, and we went forward with the repatriation to the Hopi Tribe as planned. However, it was important that the Navajo Nation had an opportunity to know of our intentions and to satisfy themselves that the remains were properly affiliated.

Our third claim was for human remains from Gunther Island, near Eureka. Initially, two of the three federally recognized Wiyot groups attempted a joint claim from all three tribes, but a third group wanted a joint claim of only two groups. We ended up with two separate one-tribe claims, both of which were valid. The law is clear that, in cases of conflicting claims, the museum shall not repatriate and the claimants are

responsible for resolving the impasse. While we offered to facilitate meetings between the claimants, we were grateful to be excluded from tribal disputes.

If RC-WR members would like more information about our inventories and summaries, the reporting process, our Department's Committee on Repatriation, etc., please call me at (916) 653-4381. For information about how DPR is dealing with NAGPRA provisions for ethnographic collections, contact Rob Wood, the curator who is conducting those consultations, at (916) 653-7976.

Pauline Grenbeaux Spear is Museum Curator III, Interpretation Section, Park Services Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation in Sacramento, and coordinates the California State Parks repatriation program.

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LIFE AFTER NOVEMBER 16: LONG TERM IMPLICATIONS OF NAGPRA

by C. Timothy McKeown

As the inventory deadline nears, many museum professionals are turning their attention to the long term implications of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

NAGPRA formally affirms the rights of lineal descendants, Indian tribes, and native Hawaiian organizations to custody of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. The statute also provides a set of formal procedures to bring museums, Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations together to resolve the complex issues surrounding custody of these objects.

The statute lays out two sets of processes to ensure proper disposition of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.

Summaries are written descriptions of collections that may contain unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Summaries must have been completed by November 16, 1993, and amount to simple notification to each Indian tribe and Native Hawaiian organization of the nature of the collections held by the museum or Federal agency. Since consultation between a museum or Federal agency and an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization was not required until after completion of the summary, this document in many cases served as an initial step to bring Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations into consultation with a museum or Federal agency. Identification of specific unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony must be done in consultation with Indian tribe representatives and traditional religious leaders, since few museums or Federal agencies have personnel with the expertise necessary to make such identification. Over 700 museums and Federal agencies have provided summaries of their collections to Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations. Notices of Intent to Repatriate have been published in the *Federal Register* for 31,651 unassociated funerary objects, 192 sacred objects, and 16 objects of cultural patrimony.

Inventories are item-by-item descriptions of human remains and associated funerary objects. Unlike the summaries, inventories must be completed in consultation with Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, and represent a decision by the museum or Federal official as to the cultural affiliation of

particular human remains or associated funerary objects. Inventories must be completed by November 16, 1995, and provided to the culturally affiliated Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, as well as the Departmental Consulting Archeologist. Notices of Inventory Completion have thus far been published in the *Federal Register* for 2,260 human remains and 85,298 associated funerary objects. Inventories of *culturally unidentifiable human remains* - human remains for which no lineal descendant or culturally affiliated Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization can be determined - will be provided by the Departmental Consulting Archeologist to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee. The committee, a group of seven private citizens, is charged with making recommendations regarding specific actions for developing a process for the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains.

Some may be tempted to assume that completion of the inventory will effectively end their responsibilities under the statute. This is not the case. While the burden of preparing summaries and inventories will have passed after November 16, NAGPRA's legacy will be a sustained dialogue between museums, Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations about the treatment and disposition of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. Since NAGPRA places no statute of limitation on claims, museums and Federal agencies can expect increasing interest from Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations as they are able to review summary and inventory information. This dialogue will provide great opportunities to museums and Federal agencies to learn more about their Native American collections. It will also continue to raise complex issues regarding the confidentiality of sensitive information. Resolving these important issues will require museums, Federal Agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations to work together. NAGPRA is not a one-shot approach, but the new way of doing business.

C. Timothy McKeown, Ph.D. is NAGPRA program leader for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. Dr. McKeown has participated in a number of NAGPRA workshops, including a workshop held at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas, last April.

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NAGPRA, CONSULTATION AND THE FIELD MUSEUM

by Janice Klein

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act became law on November 16, 1990. Although it pertains to both newly discovered human remains and objects, and pre-existing collections, museums are, in general, more concerned with the sections of the law which deal with their current holdings. These require that every institution that has Native American objects and receives federal funds (or is part of a larger entity, like a university or township, which receives federal funds) must notify each tribe (or native Alaskan or Hawaiian organization) about certain types of material it holds which may be culturally affiliated with that tribe. By November 16, 1993, summaries of sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony and unassociated funerary objects - and the law contains precise definitions of each of these - had to be sent out, and by November 16, 1995, inventories of individual human remains and associated funerary objects must be sent out.

Museums are required to provide certain information, as well as *access to records, catalogues, relevant studies and other pertinent data*, while they may request from Indian tribes the name and address of the tribal official to act as representative in consultations, names and methods of contact for lineal descendants and traditional religious leaders and *recommendations on how the consultation process should be conducted*.

What is consultation and how does it work? Beyond a dictionary definition *to deliberate together*, I don't have any absolute answers, but I can describe what the Field Museum has been doing and how our consultation procedures are evolving. Even before NAGPRA was enacted, the Field Museum had begun developing policies and procedures for repatriation. The first, *Policy Statement Concerning Requests for Reinterment of Human Remains and Burial Objects* was passed by the Board of Trustees in 1989. In addition to providing for the return of human remains and associated funerary objects to the *appropriate representative* of the requesting group, the policy also allowed for the consideration of requests by groups for the return or loan of specific ceremonial objects which are actively needed for the current practice of traditional religion. All other requests would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Further development of our policies, following the passage of NAGPRA, resulted in the *Addendum to Field Museum of Natural History's Policy Statement*

Concerning Requests for Reinterment of Human Remains and Cultural Items, commonly called *The Addendum*. This was passed by the Board of Trustees in 1993 and includes detailed internal procedures for responding to requests for repatriation. As part of the curator's investigation into a repatriation claim, he is required to consult with the requesting tribe and complete a *Documentation of Request for Repatriation of Human Remains and Cultural Items Under NAGPRA*. This includes a series of questions, drawn directly from the NAGPRA regulations, which the tribe is asked to answer involving the significance of the sacred object or object of cultural patrimony, and why they believe that the Field Museum does not have right of possession.

Finally we have begun a set of *Repatriation Guidelines*, which are detailed step-by-step procedures for dealing with everything we could think of, including answering letters sent in response to the summaries, official tribal visits, and requests for repatriation, as well as requests for access to collections and documentation from *unofficial* Native American sources or from non-Native Americans. These Guidelines are only partially written and, like the other two documents, will require continued modification as we work with them.

In the past four years the Field Museum has hosted a number of visits from Native Americans and responded to several requests for repatriation. We have had formal visits - by which I mean those which included tribal and religious leaders or representatives approved by the tribal council - from the native Hawaiians, Iroquois, Blackfoot, Hopi, Ermineskin Cree, Pawnee, Navajo, Arapaho, Shawnee and Ute, as well as visits from individual Pawnee, Cheyenne, Crow, and Inuit, among others. We have responded to several repatriation requests and have returned human remains to the Blackfoot and native Hawaiians, a Sun Dance wheel to the northern Arapaho, and are in the process of returning bundles to the Pawnee and a wampum belt to the Oneida.

Before each official visit a pre-visit planning meeting is called by the Curator, to determine which staff members will be involved and what preparations need to be made. In some cases, we know in advance specific types of objects which will be asked for; in others, everything from a given area, including culturally unidentified material, may need to be made available. We review the documentation that we have on the

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relevant collections and have it available for study, as well. Depending on the size of the collection, we may need substantial preparation time to move all the objects to a single study area within the storerooms.

When the visitors arrive at the museum, we arrange for an official greeting by the most senior Museum staff member we can get, usually the Department Chair, but sometimes the President or a Vice President. The Curator, Collections Manager, Registrar and other staff members are also introduced at this meeting. If at all possible, we offer refreshments - coffee, donuts, banana muffins, lunch - at this time. At this point, we also discuss our understanding of the purpose of the visit and suggest a plan for carrying it out. Changes to the plan are expected and we do our best to defer to the preferences - and timetable - of the visitors. We have been fortunate that funding has been provided for several part-time student assistants - some of whom are Native American - to help with the summary and inventory processes. In addition to the Anthropology Department's staff, these students are made available to assist visitors with collections in storage and with the records. We do our best to provide direct access to all objects and documentation. If time permits and our visitors are interested, we will even show them our cataloguing systems and computer database work. It has been particularly helpful to have Native Americans on staff who can do this.

A Host Committee is also assigned to take care of the visitors' non-research needs. Their responsibilities may include making hotel reservations, meeting the visitors at the airport, escorting them to the Museum, and arranging for meals and other non-research activities with staff or other Chicago-area Native Americans. It is important that a private work and meeting space be provided. Right now we use the Anthropology Department's conference room for this purpose. We also try to be sensitive to any indication that visitors need to be alone with objects for private prayer or other activities.

Museum staff meet with the visitors at the beginning of each day of the visit, to respond to questions which may have arisen and facilitate any changes that need to be made to the planned schedule. A final wrap-up meeting is held including the Curator, Collections Manager and Registrar, during which we try to clearly identify any unanswered questions we need follow-up on, so that both groups know what commitments have been made. I would also suggest - although we have not yet instituted this - that a staff debriefing be held to review the visit and try to iron out

any difficulties that may have arisen.

To fulfill our obligations to the collections and the people who created the objects in them, consultation needs to go beyond what is required by NAGPRA. At the Field Museum we are also working on consultation procedures for exhibiting, storing and using our Native American collections.

Requests for photographic, loan and research use of Native American objects are all screened by the Curator. At his discretion we may require that prior permission be obtained from the appropriate tribe. In the case of photographic requests, we have developed a form which seems extremely cumbersome, but actually does work, which goes from Photo Archivist to Registrar to Curator to Registrar to Photo Archivist, each filling in a section along the way. The end result is either an approval for the request or the name and address of the tribal official for the requestor to contact. Amazingly, this whole process can be carried out in less than one working day.

It has been our experience that consultation with Native Americans regarding exhibition and research use of even *sensitive* material does not result in an automatic refusal. The Field Museum holds an important group of prehistoric and historic Hopi human remains, which the Hopi Office of Historic Preservation granted a physical anthropologist permission to study, recognizing the benefit her analysis would have for present-day Hopi.

We have also undertaken substantial consultation concerning the appropriateness of our current Native American exhibits. Some consultation has resulted in the removal of objects from view: we have covered over our Hopi kachina altars and removed a case of Navajo Nightway masks and two Iroquois false face masks. In each instance, we have explained to our visitors why these objects are no longer on display. In the case of - and in place of - the Nightway masks, we have posted a letter from Peterson Zah, Navajo tribal President, asking for the removal of the masks because *they are used in a sacred ceremony and should not be seen by uninitiated eyes.*

Consultation regarding the storage of our collection has also taken several forms. Many of the visits from Native Americans result in changes in the way objects are stored, for example, keeping pipe bowls and stems separate, or removing certain items from plastic bags so they can breathe. We are making provisions for *feeding* and smudging, which we feel may need a separate storage area for conservation reasons. As a consequence, we are also learning to address the

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NAGPRA ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES AT THE DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

by Ryntha Johnson

Since the passage of NAGPRA by Congress in 1990, museums throughout the United States have been concerned about how to report their collections to Native American groups. The Denver Museum of Natural History has a 100-year history of collecting, research and documentation; numbering systems, procedures and policies have all changed over the years, leaving a sometimes confusing trail of files and object records. In 1991, the Museum received a National Endowment for the Humanities Documentation Grant for the North American Indian ethnographic collections. The main goal of the project was to computerize an estimated 30,000 object records, thereby making them more accessible. The Anthropology staff considered computerization as the only effective way to deal with the enormous task of sorting and summarizing the information necessary for the November 1993 NAGPRA deadline.

Once the base line information was entered into the database, we began using our management system, ARGUS, to create lists of objects sorted by cultural affiliation if known and then by provenance. Within each cultural group, object types were summarized and sources were listed. In November 1993, the Museum sent out reports to 384 tribes by registered mail. Each tribe received a summary of all material in our collections that were attributed to their group or any closely affiliated groups. Material without a cultural attribution was sorted by geographic regions and reported to all tribes within those regions. For each of these reports, we created an activity record in ARGUS which linked the report to the individual object records in the database. We set up files in the collections department with a printout of each list, cross referenced by tribe name and by city and state. The office manager has a complete file of all the reports which were sent out, the signed delivery receipts and all correspondence, arranged by state. Copies of everything were sent to the NAGPRA Office of the National Park Service.

During the summer of 1994, we received our first requests for viewing objects. For each request, we had to first identify the objects the tribe was interested in, as the summaries had no identification numbers to work from. As Collections Manager, I would run a new search of the database to catch any additions or changes of tribal attribution, then print out a list with ID

numbers, descriptions, slide numbers and storage locations. When there was time, I would send the inventory list to the tribe so that they could indicate which items they wished to see. The day before the meeting, I would move the requested objects from storage into a special meeting room and cover any sacred materials with muslin cloth. During the meeting, I provided lists, original documentation information and forms for ordering slides. We coordinated with our guards so that our visitors could perform smudging ceremonies and other blessings as they wished. At this time we have had six consultations with tribal representatives, and as yet have had no official requests for repatriation. I feel that all of our meetings have been very positive and had a sense of cooperation and mutual respect on both sides.

After the summaries were mailed out, we began to prepare for the next deadline, November 1995, when the inventories of human remains and associated funerary objects need to be complete and sent out. We had already established a separate storage area for human remains where access was limited to only a few staff. In the fall of 1994, we hired a graduate student in physical anthropology to work with the collections. Her initial task was to inventory the remains and identify and separate out individuals from groups of commingled remains. She placed the remains of each individual in separate, labeled boxes which were then placed in closed cabinets. She produced detailed reports with descriptions of the material, paying particular attention to any physical characteristics such as dentition wear and flattened areas on the skull that might be evidence for cultural identification. She also made a determination of which remains were Native American and which were non-Indian.

Working with the collections manager, she also searched for all documentation relating to any of the remains. Catalog cards and accession files were of primary help, and quickly linked up any objects which were associated with the remains. However, in many cases we had to search through archives and interview staff members to gather the information we needed. We were also very concerned about land status as we had been contacted by the Bureau of Land Management. With grant funds provided by the BLM,

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PROMOTING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MUSEUMS AND INDIAN TRIBES

by Sebastian (Bronco) LeBeau

Communication and promoting verbal exchange between non-Indian and Indian people are oftentimes difficult tasks to accomplish, because of the nature of repatriation and the sensitivity of the subject matter requiring discussion. Many times over the past three years, I have talked publicly about what repatriation means to the Lakota and how personal and emotional this subject is to Indian people. Keeping the rhetoric out of the issue is not always accomplished by myself, nor is it always accomplished by museum curators or registrars. Emotions can run high on both sides, but speaking frankly from the heart is also a part of the healing process that we go through as our people work together to bring home our ancestors and their belongings.

For any real consultation to happen, the Indian and non-Indian must be open and honest with each other, and that means to let one another know how each really feels about the repatriation process. I have discovered through my own experiences that most individuals that I work with on the museum side are very positive about repatriation, and freely express their own personal viewpoint about this topic. Taking a moment listening to them express themselves is rather refreshing as I conduct a collection review, because I get to learn about the person and get to know the individual, not as an employee, or worker, but as a human being. I also believe that it is imperative that both sides need to be made aware of how the other feels, and NAGPRA representatives must not be afraid of speaking, or hearing words that touch our feelings. Words spoken with feeling, spoken openly and honestly, is the base from which good working relationships can be built on because you learn to *hear* each other and listen closely to what the other is saying.

Opening up your initial dialogue between Indian tribe and museum can be an awkward process, but growing to understand the values, principles and beliefs of each other will quickly allow you to give respect to each other. Yes, rhetoric can still occur, but between NAGPRA workers this is understood for being just another part of the repatriation process.

Communication, a real and beneficial verbal exchange of information, can happen if both sides simply speak the truth to each other about how they feel and how they would like to resolve the issues.

To the museum NAGPRA representative, I would say that you need not be afraid of asking difficult questions to Indian people about artifacts or ancestors. Yes, it can feel awkward to ask a direct question about why an artifact is considered a sacred object by the Indian people, but we understand that such questions need to be asked of us in order for each of us to effectively do our jobs. Indian people do have to reveal, to some degree, a percentage of pertinent *spiritual* knowledge about artifacts to museum personnel, because it's that knowledge about the artifact that can justify the return of cultural objects that fit the categories of repatriation as they are defined within PL-101-601, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

However, to clarify this statement, I also say to all Indian NAGPRA representatives that you need only reveal as much information as you deem necessary about the cultural object in order to make your repatriation request. What information some Indian tribes tell a museum about artifacts, and how in-depth that information is, is a decision for the Indian tribe alone to make, and you do not need to totally explain all aspects of a spiritual ceremony that an artifact is used in. You only need to prove through a preponderance of the evidence that the object does belong in a specific ceremony and that it is *needed* by your spiritual leaders.

No one should be afraid of asking questions, and no one should be afraid of expressing the position and perceptions of their people, or their profession, on repatriation. Honesty and openness benefit us all in this job, and if we do not express ourselves and inform each other about our world views, then no real and informative communication can exist.

Sebastian (Bronco) LeBeau is cultural preservation officer for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in Eagle Butte, South Dakota.

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For more information about advertising in this newsletter, please contact:

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Winter deadline is November 1, 1995 - Contact Cyndy TODAY!

(continued from page 9)

we were able to hire four part time staff to search the records and input data into the computer. We concentrated on the remains that we had identified as from New Mexico and Colorado, and we did identify 13 individuals and a small group of lithic materials which were recovered from public lands administered by the BLM. In June 1995, we transferred those materials to the BLM, and they will follow through with the consultation process and eventual repatriation for that group.

The total number of Native American human remains at the Denver Museum is fewer than 80 individuals and very few associated funerary objects. For remains with a clear cultural identification, we sent a report to that tribe. If only the region was known, we sent reports to all tribes known to have been in that area. For prehistoric remains from the Southwest and

Plains, we sent reports to all tribes in the region. In total, we sent complete inventories to 86 tribes in June 1995. We had a few prehistoric remains from east of the Mississippi River with no clear regional or tribal affiliation; those inventories along with a complete set of our other reports were sent to the NAGPRA Office of the National Park Service. Our office manager has files with the complete inventories, correspondence and return receipts from the mailing. We also have files on each of the individual human remains which have copies of all the documentation that we could find. We have not yet been contacted by any tribe, but are prepared for further consultation and final repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects to the appropriate tribal groups.

Ryntha Johnson is collections manager for the Anthropology Department at the Denver Museum of Natural History in Denver, Colorado.

DON'T LOSE YOUR RC-WR BENEFITS!

ARE YOU A RC-WR MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING?

Turn to page 27 to renew!

CALLING ALL AUTHORS!

If you have information to share in our Winter issue,
which will focus on **Loan Agreements**,
or our Spring issue on **Undocumented Collections**
please call editor *Deb Slaney* (phone 602-251-0253).

Contact *Kim Caldwell-Meeks* (phone 602-994-2621,
fax 602-994-7728, e-mail curry@getnet.com)

with news about members, positions available, awards, or regional activity.

Winter Deadline is November 1, 1995
Spring Deadline is February 1, 1995

E-MAIL REQUESTS...

RC-WR is currently updating our membership roster to include (information highway drumroll please...) e-mail addresses.

Please leave your e-mail address with Kim Caldwell-Meeks (curry@getnet.com).

Kim has provided a list of e-mail addresses in the Collections Notes of this issue of the Quarterly; the RC-WR membership roster (complete with address, phone, fax, and e-mail)* will be published later this year.

***name, position, address, phone, or fax changes to Paulette Dunn Hennum at tel (916) 264-5423, fax (916) 264-7342**

STIPEND AND AWARD

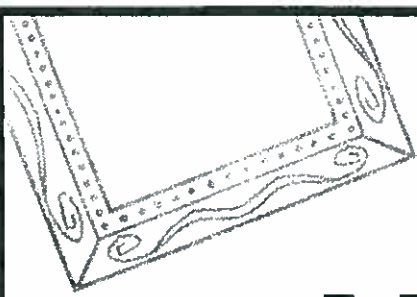
RC-AAM 1996 Travel Stipend Funded by Crozier Fine Arts

The Registrars Committee-American Association of Museums (RC-AAM) is sponsoring a travel stipend made possible by Crozier Fine Arts, a New York based company specializing in crating, transportation, freight forwarding, and storage. This stipend will help six people attend the AAM Annual Meeting in Minneapolis in 1996. Applicants for the Crozier Travel Stipend must be current voting members of the RC-AAM, who reside in the U.S. Registrars, associate and assistant registrars, collection managers, and museum staff whose work is registrarial in nature are eligible. Recipients will receive approximately \$500-700 toward the cost of round-trip airfare, the AAM Meeting registration fee and hotel accommodations. The application deadline for the Crozier Stipend is **December 1, 1995**.

RC-AAM Kay Paris Memorial Award

The Registrars Committee-American Association of Museums (RC-AAM) is sponsoring the 1996 Kay Paris Memorial Award. This award is for entry-level or new museum registrars or collection managers. Named in honor of the late Kay Paris, 1990 recipient of the RC-AAM Dudley-Wilkinson Award of Distinction, the Kay Paris Memorial Award was made possible through the generous donations to the RC-AAM by Kay's family, friends, and colleagues in her memory. The award has been given annually to six museum professionals since 1991 and will continue to be every year until the fund is exhausted. An effort will be made to give awards to one person from each of the six United States regions. Each award recipient will receive a packet consisting of key registrarial resources including memberships to the RC-AAM and the recipient's regional registrars committee and three major registrarial publications. To qualify for an award, an applicant must be an entry-level or new registrarial professional in a non-profit United States institution and employed for a minimum of one, and a maximum of three, years. Selection of the six award recipients by the RC-AAM Awards Task Force will be based on the applicants' present abilities, potential for development, and commitment to the profession. The application deadline for the Paris Award is **February 1, 1996**.

Selections for the stipend and award will be made by the RC-AAM Awards Task Force on the basis of demonstrated merit and financial need. All RC-AAM members will receive applications in a special fall mailing. For further information, contact Diane Hart Agee, Chair, RC-AAM Awards Task Force, Williams College Museum of Art, Main Street, Williamstown, MA 01267; 413/597-2429; fax 413/458-9017



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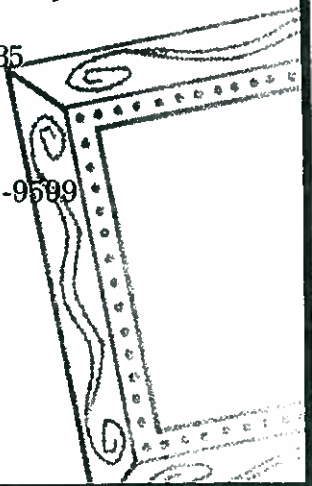

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(continued from page 8)

concerns which result from the concentration of a large number of sacred objects in one place. There are also questions of who should handle - and who needs to avoid - certain types of material. Some objects should not be touched by women, while other objects can be handled by non-Native Americans, but pose problems for members of particular tribes if they have not been initiated into the appropriate religious society.

There are many things that we have learned in the last few years. The most important is that consultation is a process. Policies, procedures and guidelines cannot be cast in stone, but will have to change as we see how they work and as we learn more about each other. It may not be easy and it will certainly not always be comfortable. We are, after all, members of different cultures with different ways of communicating and different preconceptions and expectations.

Part of the letter that goes to people who want to use photographs of Field Museum objects, telling them that they need to get permission from the relevant tribe, says, *we appreciate that this policy may pose challenges to all of us, but we are sure you understand the importance of respecting Native Americans' views regarding their cultural heritage.*

If the point of museums is to educate, then we wouldn't be doing a very good job if what we taught is that it is okay to ignore the beliefs and values of people that are different than our own, would we?

Janice Klein is registrar at The Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, Illinois, and chair of the Registrars Committee of the American Association of Museums. This article is a shorter version of a paper delivered at the Ohio Museum Association's annual meeting in 1994.

Nanette Skove, Art Conservator Specializing in Textiles
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NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT: BIBLIOGRAPHY & RESOURCES

Arizona State Law Journal, Vol. 24, No. 1 (Spring 1992): Issue on repatriation. Articles include "The Impact of the Federal Repatriation Act on State-Operated Museums," "Implementing the Native American Protection and Repatriation Act," "A Museum Perspective on Repatriation: Issues and Opportunities," "The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act: Background and Legislative History," "The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act: Prospects for New Partnerships Between Museums and Native American Groups," "Restoring the Ancestral Foundations of Native Hawaiians: Implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act," "Survey of State Repatriation and Burial Protection Statutes," "Walking the Spirit Trail: Repatriation and Protection of Native American Remains and Sacred Cultural Items," "Without Ethics and Morality: A Historical Overview of Imperial Archaeology and American Indians."

Arkansas Archeological Survey Research Series. Standards for Data Collection from Human Remains. (Available through the Survey at P.O. Box 1249, Fayetteville, AR 72702-1249. Cost is \$25.00 plus \$3.00 shipping. Standard Osteological Database (SOD), designed using these standards for use on IBM and Mac computers, is available from Jerry Rose, Department of Anthropology, Main 330, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, (501) 575-5247. Fee is \$15.00 for disks and manual.)

Bernstein, Bruce. "Repatriation and Collaboration: The Museum of New Mexico." Museum Anthropology, Vol. 15, No. 3 (August 1991): 19-21.

Carnes, Alice. "A Joint Effort: Planning Exhibits for the Museum at Warm Springs." History News, Vol. 48, No. 2 (March/April 1993): 22-25.

Federal Archeology, Vol. 7, No. 3 (Fall/Winter 1995). Issue on repatriation: "Special Report - The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act." Articles include: "An Epimethean View of the Future," "Inside the Act," "Interview With Carey Vicenti," "NAGPRA: Symbol of a New Treaty," "The Road to Common Ground," "Rooted in Native Soil," "Thoughts on Two Worldviews."

Karp, Ivan & Steven D. Lavine, Eds. Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991.

Karp, Ivan, et al, Eds. Museums and Communities: The Politics of Culture. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1992.

(continued on next page)

McManamon, Francis P. "Managing Repatriation: Implementing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act." National Parks Service Cultural Resources Management Bulletin, Vol. 15, No. 5 (1992): 9-12.

(Available from National Park Service, Cultural Resources, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20012-7127.)

Monroe, Dan. "Native American Repatriation: History, Requirements and Outlook." Western Museums Conference Newsletter (Winter 1990/91).

Monroe, Dan and Walter Echo-Hawk. "Deft Deliberations." Museum News, Vol. 70, No. 4 (July/August 1991): 55-58.

Museum News, Vol. 70, No. 1 (January/February 1991). Issue on repatriation: "Museums and Native Americans: Renegotiating the Contract." Articles include: "Cultural Chronology," "Dealing with the Past, and Looking to the Future," "Help for the Asking," "Policy in Practice," "The Repatriation Law Ends One Journey - But Opens a New Road," "Success Stories," "Survival of Culture."

Price III, H. Marcus. Disputing the Dead: U.S. Law on Aboriginal Remains and Grave Goods. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1991.

Ravesloot, John C. "On the Treatment and Reburial of Human Remains: The San Xavier Bridge Project, Tucson, Arizona." American Indian Quarterly, Vol. 14, No. 1 (Winter 1990): 35-50.

Roth, Evan. "Repatriation Saga." Museum News, Vol. 71, No. 6: 12-13.

Sackler, Elizabeth, et al. "Three Voices for Repatriation." Museum News, Vol. 71, No. 5 (September/October 1992): 58-61.

Suagee, Dean B. & Karen J. Funk. "Re-configuring the Cultural Mission: Tribal Historic Preservation Programs." National Park Service Cultural Resources Management Bulletin, Vol. 14, No. 4 (1990): 21-24.

Tabah, Agnes. "Native American Collections and Repatriation." AAM Technical Information Service Forum, Occasional Papers on Museum Issues and Standards, June 1993. (An excellent compendium that includes many of the articles noted here, as well as a reprint of the law, procedures and resources for compliance. Available from AAM, Dept. 4002, Washington, DC 20042-4002, (202) 289-9127, FAX (202) 289-6578. Cost: \$15.00 or \$12.00 for AAM members.)

(continued on next page)

RC-WR NEWSLETTERS

"WMC Session: Implementing Repatriation." (Summer, 1991)

List of Forensic Anthropologist working in Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Washington, Wyoming and British Colombia and Ontario, Canada.
(Winter, 1991-1992)

RC-AAM NEWSLETTERS

"A Preliminary Guide to NAGPRA." (Winter, 1992): 12-14.

"Beyond Repatriation: Emerging Responsibilities for Culturally Sensitive Collections." (Winter, 1994): 9-10. (A correction in this article is published in the Spring, 1995 issue--"NAGPRA Correction": 12-13.)

RESOURCES

The American Indian Ritual Object Repatriation Foundation acts as a facilitator for the repatriation of sacred objects by offering a variety of services to museums and Native American groups. (For further information contact AIROF, 463 East 57th St., New York, NY 10022, (212) 980-9441.)

Federal Archeology includes column "NAGPRA News." (Available from Departmental Consulting Archeologist/Archeological Assistance Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127, (202) 343-4101.)

Keepers of the Treasures is an intertribal organization that supports the cultural lifeways of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians and presents an annual cultural heritage and preservation conference. (For further information contact Mary Stuart McCamy, Project Director, Keepers of the Treasures, 666 Pennsylvania Ave, SE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20003, (202) 547-9009, ext. 3313.)

Map: Indian Land Areas Judicially Established, 1978. (Available from USGS Denver Distribution Center, (303) 236-7477.)

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act: Implications and Practical Application, October 26-28, 1995, San Diego, CA. (Course offered by University of Nevada, Reno, Division of Continuing Education, Cultural Resource Management. Instructors are Honorable Sherry Hutt and Dr. C. Timothy McKeown. Fee is \$375 for 1 credit course. Call 1-800-233-8928 for further information or (702) 784-4062 to register.)

(continued on next page)

Smithsonian Institution, Museum Reference Center: "American Indian Museums and Cultural Centers Resource Guide (1993)" and "Native American Museums (1987)" provide information about cultural organizations operated by Native Americans. (Available from Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Arts & Industries Bldg., Rm. 2235, 900 Jefferson Dr, SW, Washington, DC 20560, (202) 786-2271, FAX (202) 357-3346.)

Requests for additional information, questions and comments on NAGPRA should be addressed to Dr. C. Timothy McKeown, NAGPRA Program Leader, Archeological Assistance Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 13127, Washington, DC 20013-3127, (202) 343-4101, FAX (202) 523-1547. (The NAGPRA information packet includes copies of the law, a summary of procedures and implementation activities, and a list of Native American Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations and their contacts recognized under NAGPRA. This list is also available in WordPerfect and ASCII formats. The NAGPRA Review Committee has also prepared a memorandum containing sample inventory sheets and is currently drafting recommendations on the disposition of culturally unidentifiable Native American remains.)

CASSETTE LENDING LIBRARY

"Beyond Repatriation: Embergin Policies for Culturally Sensitive Materials." (1994 AAM Annual Meeting, Philadelphia.)

VIDEO CASSETTES

Ferrell, Michael. "Return of the Sacred Pole." Nebraska Educational Television, 1990, 30 minutes. Presentation on the repatriation of the Sacred Pole of the Omaha people in Nebraska from the Peabody Museum, Cambridge, MA. (Available from the Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium, Box 83111, Lincoln, NE 68501, (402) 472-3522.)

Ladd, Edmund J. & Tom McCarthy. "Zuni Repatriation." Museum of New Mexico, 15 minutes. Presentation of the Zuni outlook on repatriation of Zuni historic and prehistoric material, and the Museum of New Mexico's accommodation of Zuni concerns about their heritage. (Available from Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, P.O. Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504, (505) 827-6344.)

WMA Annual Meeting "Thrive in '95!"
October 18 - 21, 1995
Claremont Resort, Oakland, California

RC-WR pre-conference workshop "Current Approaches to Numbering Collections" will be held on October 18; the annual RC-WR business meeting & luncheon will be held on October 19, 1995.

If you are not a current WMA member, or have not received information on the upcoming conference, contact WMA (phone 213.939.6453, fax 213.939.6493).

COLLECTIONS NOTES

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Three interns are currently working with **Paulette Hennum** at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento. **Pam Wilson**, a master's candidate in Museum Studies at John F. Kennedy University, is inventorying the museum's costume and textile collection. She holds a B. A. degree in Textile Design from the University of California at Berkeley and is currently the Manuscripts Curator in the Special Collections Department of the Shields Library at the University of California at Davis.

Since 1987, the Art Service Group (ASG), a volunteer affiliate group of the Crocker, has funded stipends for collections management internships. **Corrine Kelly** and **Katherine Parker** were selected as the ASG interns for this year. Corrine and Katherine will perform a physical inventory of the Crocker's decorative arts collection and upgrade its storage. Corrine is a painter and has just completed a B. A. in Fine Arts at California State University, Chico. She attended the American Institute of Foreign Studies at the University of London in 1989 and worked as a gallery assistant at the 1078 Gallery in Chico for one year. Katherine holds a double B.A. with degrees in Art History and Studio Art from the University of California at Davis and is a practicing artist.

HAWAII

Pauline Fugino, Assistant Registrar with the Honolulu Academy of Arts has accepted the responsibility of being Hawaii RC-WR State Representative. Pauline returned to her hometown of Honolulu in January after having worked for several years in New York for the Smithsonian Institution. Welcome aboard, Pauline!

Pauline and **Sanna Deutsch** recently couriered Okinawan artwork to the Okinawa Prefectural Museum for a special exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa and the end of the Pacific War. **Valerie Free**, Collections Manager, Anthropology Dept. and **Laurie Gorman**, Conservator of the Bishop Museum also served as couriers for their collections.

The Registrar's Office of the Honolulu Academy of Arts is busy preparing 100 Japanese

paintings and prints for travel to five cities in Japan from September.

The U.S. Senate confirmed **Ruth Y. Tamura**, Gallery Director, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, as one of ten new board members nominated by President Clinton to the National Museum Services Board.

Georgianna Lagoria was appointed the new Director of the Contemporary Museum in Honolulu. Georgianna directed both the de Saisset Museum at Santa Clara University and the Palo Alto Cultural Center in California.

The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii has promoted **Judith Bowman** to Curator.

Linda W. F. Hee has moved from the Bishop Museum's Conservation Services to the Tropic Lightning Museum at Schofield Barracks.

The new staff at the Waikiki Aquarium include aquarium biologist **J. Charles Delbeek**, authority on coral and giant clam systems, and museum exhibits coordinator **Holger Schramm** from Mannheim, Germany.

In May, the spring conference of the Hawai'i Museums Association covered museum security, disaster planning and insurance. Of particular interest were slides shown by **John Wickstrom**, Chief of Security at the Seattle Art Museum, on earthquake damage in Kobe, Japan and the personal experiences of Hurricane Iniki shared by Kaua'i museum professionals **Bob Schleck** and **Carolyn Larson**.

A conference on preserving Hawai'i's traditional landscapes will be held in Honolulu at the East-West Center from September 15-17, 1995. For more information please call the Historic Preservation Program at (808) 956-9546.

OREGON

It is with regret that **Loretta Harrison** announces her resignation as Oregon State Representative for the RC-WR. She has enjoyed serving as state representative, but the demands of her present position as Executive Director of the Lincoln County Historical Society finds her spending less and less time working with the collections of the Historical Society. Loretta feels that she met some wonderful

colleagues, learned a lot and had some great fun in the process, and recommends the experience of serving as a state representative. Thanks for your help, Loretta!

We are delighted, however, to announce that **Irene Zenev**, Curator of History at the Douglas County Museum in Roseburg, Oregon, has agreed to serve as Oregon Representative. Her enthusiasm and organization kept her busy reorganizing her museum's storage of collections, converting their manual record keeping system to a computerized one, and volunteering with the Oregon Museums Association.

WASHINGTON

Workshop questions recently mailed to Washington State registrars gave four possible options. The options included, "The Legal Issues of Collection Management," "Not Enough Time, Not Enough Staff, Too Much Stuff," "Conservation Training for the Front Lines," and a collection storage workshop. In the final tally, "Conservation Training for the Front Lines" came in as the first choice. Also as first choice, the workshop will be held in late October or possibly early November 1995. The formal workshop planning will now continue! Any offers of planning assistance, ideas for venue, or general help will be gladly accepted. Contact Washington state reps **Laura Thayer** (509) 456-3931 or **Christine Runte** (206) 764-5700 to help out!

Paula Wolf has recently taken the position of Registrar at the Tacoma Art Museum. Previously Paula was Assistant Registrar at the Seattle Art Museum from 1980 to 1993, and served as Washington's coordinator for the Save Outdoor Sculpture! project in 1994. Just to complicate matters, Paula is also getting married on August 27, 1995; her new name will be Paula Wolf Collins. Double congrats!

AAM LIAISON REPORT (Melissa Rosengard)

The Government Affairs Department continues to work hard at saving funding for the arts. Please help by calling or faxing your federal and state representatives and let them know how important programs like the MAP surveys and the Conservation Project Support grants are to protecting our American

collections and our cultural heritage.

On a more hopeful note: **Annie Storr**, Director of the Education Department at AAM reports that a seminar on computer applications in museums that was hosted in Boston last year, "Highways & Byteways" will be repeated next February in San Francisco at SFMOMA. I was able to attend the program in Boston and found most of the sessions very relevant to collections management including database management, imaging, and internal and external networking. I also found that most of the issues discussed required only a simple knowledge of the basics. In fact, there were a couple of attendees there looking for advice on their first computer purchase. In addition to the technical discussion of hardware and software there were also some speakers giving interactive presentations on educational applications, i.e. kiosks in galleries and ways to internally network computer systems to track members, donor, etc. AAM was able to offer financial assistance last year so check on this if you are interested. More will be forthcoming about this seminar in late fall.

Lastly, AAM has a new staff person handling the Technical Information Services. TIS assists museums in improving professional standards in their programs and operations through the dissemination of technical information in a variety of practical and useful formats. These include files of articles and sample policies including long-range plans, collections management policies, job descriptions, disaster plans, etc. Assistance is available at no cost to AAM members for up to five inquiries per year. Contact **Roxanne Abarhams** at (202) 289-9121 for more information.

Finally, I have room for 1-2 people to stay at my house during the Western Museums Association annual meeting this October. If you're looking for a way to attend the conference but need to minimize the expense, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm about three miles from the conference and will be attending everyday, so I can also provide a ride if needed. Contact me at the Pardee Home Foundation at (510) 444-2187, ext. 201 if you're interested.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Des Moines Art Center is seeking a full

time Associate Registrar with excellent organizational, typing and commuter skills to work under the supervision of Registrar in maintaining a system, records and information relating to the museum's collection of approximately 3,000 objects.

Responsibilities include assisting the Registrar with insurance, inventory and storage, and other related activities of the permanent collection as well as the management of temporary exhibitions. Knowledge and experience with basic museum registration techniques/procedures, computerized record-keeping systems, rights and reproductions and an ability to work with and train intern/volunteers required. Candidates should have 2-3 years registrarial experience.

To apply, send a letter of application, resume and references to: Margaret A. Willard, Registrar, Des Moines Art Center, 4700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312. Tel: 515/277-4405; Fax: 515/279-3834. The Des Moines Art Center is an equal opportunity employer.

ELECTION NEWS

All voting members have been mailed their ballots for the election of the 1995 Registrars Committee - Western Region officers. **Phil Stoiber**, Nomination Committee Chair, urges members to return their ballots by September 17, 1995 to him at: Seattle Art Museum, P.O. Box 22000 Seattle, WA 97122-9700.

Phil would like to extend many thanks to the nomination committee members: **Janet Ness** at the Bishop Museum, Honolulu and **Mary Suter** at Idaho Museum of Natural History. Both worked hard to develop a slate of candidates. Thanks also to **Sarah Kennington** at the Fowler Museum, California and **Gina Cavallo Collins** at the Heard Museum, Arizona who added valued support. A final thanks goes to **Charlotte Brame** at the Seattle Art Museum, who coordinated the production of the ballots.
BE SURE TO VOTE!!!

Slate of Board Officers

CHAIR

Melissa Rosengard, Oakland, California

The past two years as Vice-Chair have been

personally and professionally rewarding for me in working with Sarah, Paulette, and Gina as well as RC-WR members whom I have gotten to know at conferences and in planning workshops and sessions. I want to continue the work that the board has been doing, and I especially want to keep the intent and spirit of past chairs that RC-WR be an important clearinghouse of information in our field and a tool for professional development and improvement.

I think our great strengths are in the quality of the newsletter and the programs that are organized by state reps. I will continue to work with the newsletter editors and with the state reps to ensure the standards of these important services. I will also work to encourage new ideas and suggestions on improvements to RC-WR. I would like to explore the possibilities of broadening access to our services for current and future members. These may include: the development of a home page on the Internet for information on RC-WR and transmission of the newsletter; greater use of appointed positions (or adding new ones) to delegate tasks and ensure greater participation of members; better coordination between the states so that advance notice of a workshop in any state can be sent to all RC-WR members; the offer of travel assistance to members in those states with so few members that they are unable to host regular programs; and a program of "traveling" workshops, i.e. those that have been successful in one state or region that could be easily repeated in another. I will also endeavor to represent fully the RC-WR membership in expressing our issues and concerns as a member of the boards of WMA and RC-AAM.

VICE-CHAIR

David Carroll, Salt Lake City, Utah

I am a 1981 graduate of the museum graduate program at Texas Tech University. I have worked professionally since 1981 in Wyoming, Montana and most recently Utah. I have worked for the Utah Museum of Fine Arts at the University of Utah since 1990, and in my present position as Collections Manager since July. For the past five years I have been an active member of the Utah Museums Association. I am currently completing my second term as a board member and treasurer.

I feel that participation in a state organization

has made me particularly sensitive to the needs of the smaller and more isolated museums typical of the intermountain states. I see my participation on the RC-WR board as important to representing constituencies that cannot regularly participate in a regional professional organization. A regional association must also be geographically balanced equally to represent the sometimes varying concerns of its membership. As a board member I will represent the concerns of the more easterly states in the Western Museums Association. I also look forward to a role in the Registrars Committee's preparations for the 1996 annual meeting in Salt Lake City.

Paulette Hennum, Sacramento, CA

I am delighted to be a candidate for Vice-Chair of the Registrars Committee-Western Region. I believe I have the experience and the enthusiasm to be an effective officer. I have been the Registrar at a medium-sized regional art museum for the past ten years and have previously worked at a large art museum and at an historical society. My affiliation with RC-WR spans fifteen years during which I have served as Northern California representative for four years and as Secretary for the past two years.

While I am committed to implementing the new Chairperson's priorities, I would also bring some of my own to the position. I believe that providing quality workshops to our members is a core function of RC-WR. From personal experience, I know that organizing a workshop can be a daunting task. I am interested in assisting state representatives in streamlining the development of meaningful workshops and in expanding member participation, especially in our remote regions, by actively promoting our stipend program. As another method of disseminating information, I am interested in exploring the possibility of publishing museum studies theses in our newsletter.

RC-WR has always been an integral part of my professional life and I would welcome the opportunity to assist in shaping its future for the next two years.

SECRETARY

Jacqueline Cabrera, Long Beach, California

The Registrars Committee has been an extremely useful resource for my professional development this past year as Registrar at the Long Beach Museum of Art. The Committee has provided me with opportunities to meet other colleagues in the field. Its resources have provided for me avenues to expand my knowledge of registrarial practices in art institutions as well as archaeological and cultural museums.

I therefore would like to contribute my skills, my enthusiasm and my five years experience in collections management to this committee. My museum experience began during my undergraduate studies at USC where I interned in the Textile Department at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and volunteered at the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum.

Upon graduating I worked as Painting Dept. Assistant at Sotheby's (LA) and until this past January I was also a Docent at the J. Paul Getty Museum as an Interactive Gallery Facilitator. As you can see I have a wide variety of museum experience that I am eager to share and contribute to the Registrars Committee.

I have been pleased to see that everyone I have met through this committee is so dedicated and enthusiastic about its goals. By being elected to this position I would have the opportunity to assist in maintaining those goals and to also see more museum professionals become involved in its growth. I am eager to assist the officers of this committee and I therefore hope that you will support my nomination with your vote.

Leslie Freund, Berkeley, California

I am honored to be nominated for secretary of the RC-WR. Having been a member for the RC-WR for several years, I am enthusiastic about the possibility of serving the association and our membership. During the past ten years I have held positions in registration and collections management in federal, state, and private museums including the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, the Arizona State Historical Society Museum, the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace, and the University of Nebraska State Museum. Presently, I am the Collections Manager at the Phoebe A. Hearst

Museum of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley. I received my M.A. in Museum Science from Texas Tech University in 1991. If elected, I will do my best to continue the high quality of service that we have come to expect from the RC-WR.

TREASURER

Elaine Hughes, Tucson, Arizona

I am honored at the prospect of serving the RC-WR as its Treasurer. A member since 1989, I benefit from the organization's newsletter and area workshops and am pleased at the opportunity to repay the organization with service as its Treasurer.

I have worked with museums collections since 1978 and received an M.A. degree in Museum Science from Texas Tech University in 1984. Since that time I have worked in positions that encompass registrarial duties, first as an Anthropology Collections Manager at the Museum of Northern Arizona and the Denver Museum of Natural History, and more recently as the Registrar at the Arizona State Museum in Tucson. If elected to the Treasurer's position I will perform the duties of this position with diligent care.

Marla Misunas, San Francisco, California

I would like to serve as our committee's next Treasurer. I've been involved in the museum field in various capacities over the past fifteen years, either as a volunteer, museum studies student, university administrator with the JFK University museum studies program, registrar of a small collection, or assistant registrar with a larger museum. I've worked in paid and non-paid positions, temporary and permanent assignments. My experience ranges from administration -- including budget creation and maintenance -- permanent collection work and exhibitions, to my current position, managing the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's digital image collections database.

The Registrar's Committee-Western Region is the most useful professional organization I've joined. I enjoy the congeniality of its members, and the effortless way information is shared -- whether it be through the tape or forms library, the newsletter, or through the best resource, the members themselves. The level of dedication and expertise in my fellow

registrars has always surpassed my expectations.

Recently I've become more involved with other committee members as I've worked on chairing a panel for the upcoming Western Museums Association annual meeting. This work has been rewarding in unexpected ways, as it fosters relationships with people I would not work with otherwise. To me, this is one of the best benefits Committee involvement can offer. If elected to serve, I would attempt not only to promote continuing networking between RC-WR members, but also to offer my skills in the more utilitarian areas of handling membership accounting, renewals and budgets, along with working to upgrade RC-WR's own software.

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

The University of Nevada, Reno offers a program of continuing education with short cut courses in cultural resource management. This program is conducted in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. The courses are designed for historic preservation and cultural resource management professionals working in government agencies, museums, or the private sector and those working in related fields, such as land management or environmental assessment.

Of special interest to registrars is the class, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA): Implications and Practical Application. Instructors will discuss practical methods of compiling summaries and inventories and interfacing with claimants. Lectures, cases studies and participant involvement will also center on the regulations and decisions of the Review Committee and will look at the future ramifications of decisions and any court actions. The one-credit course will be offered in San Diego, Washington, D.C., New Orleans and Minneapolis between October, 1995 and May, 1996. Instructors include the Honorable Sherry Hutt, judge with the Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix, Arizona, and Timothy McKeown, program leader for the national implementation of NAGPRA who works with the Archeological Division of the National Park Service. The fee for the two and one-half day course is \$375, and is due one month before

the start of each session.

For further information about this and other interesting courses, please direct your inquiries to: Cultural Resource Management, Division of Continuing Education/048, University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada 89557-0024. Tel: (800) 233-8928.

San Diego, California is the site for the **Third International Conference on Hypermedia & Interactivity in Museums (ICHIM)** and the Annual Conference of the Museum Computer Network (MCN). ICHIM will convene in conjunction with MCN '95 at the Hotel del Coronado from October 9 - 13, 1995. MCN '95 is the annual conference of the Museum Computer Network, a U.S. based association dedicated to the use of computer technology to achieve the cultural aims of museums.

Technology, administrative, legal and economic issues, design concerns, research and commercial implications will all be discussed from the perspective of museum applications and the diverse audiences for which they are created. The hands-on five day program includes seminars and workshops, speakers and panels, a commercial exhibit hall, a museum project demonstration hall, special interest group discussions, as well as receptions and a conference banquet.

Of particular interest to registrars are workshops on collections management computer tools, planning for museum automation, and capturing and storing electronic images of works of art. There are additional sessions on the use of the Internet, collections and archives management, and legal issues surrounding public access to digital image databases.

Conference registration after September 1, 1995 will be \$425 per person. For further information about the conference and hotel contact: ICHIM '95 - MCN '95, 5501 Walnut Street, Suite 203, Pittsburgh, PA 15232-2311. Tel: 412/683-9775; Fax: 412/683-7366; E-mail: 74543.2367@compuserve.com.

It's not too late to get your early registration in to the **1995 Western Museums Association Annual Conference**, to be held in Oakland, California from October 19 - 21, 1995. If your registration is postmarked by September 17, 1995, you'll save \$20 off of the regular registration rate. Reservations are also

going fast for the conference hotel, the Claremont Resort, so don't delay. Plans are underway for the most informative and exciting conference yet, so don't miss out! Contact: Annual Meeting, Western Museums Association, P.O. Box 36069, Los Angeles, CA 90036-0069. Tel: 213/939-6453.

RC-WR STIPEND FOR WMA

RC-WR will award stipends to members to attend this year's Western Museums Association conference in Oakland, California. Approximately \$250 will be awarded to one member in each of the Western Region states. To apply for the stipend, send a letter to your state rep by September 22, 1995. Winners will be notified September 30, 1995.

PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

Scott Atthowe and Bryan Cooke have given members added incentive to attend the RC-WR pre-conference workshop at WMA by hosting a party...after the workshop on Wednesday, October 18, 1995, 7:00-11:00 p.m., location TBA. Pencil it in!! Thanks Atthowe Fine Art Services and Cooke's Crating!

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Below are listed the names and e-mail addresses of colleagues who are now taking a ride on the computer information superhighway! As more people become computer literate, e-mail addresses will become as common as a telephone number. If you have an e-mail address, please let us know that we can tell others. All aboard!

Donna Baron, Alaska State Museum, donnab@muskox.alaska.edu

Kim Caldwell-Meeks, Scottsdale Center for the Arts, AZ, curry@getnet.com

Martha Fulton, Museum of History and Industry, WA, mfultonreg@aol.com

Sarah Kennington, Fowler Museum of Cultural History, CA, sarahk@fmch.ucla.edu

Renee Montgomery, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA, reneem@lacma.org

Janet Ness, Bishop Museum, HI, jness@bishop.bishop.hawaii.org

Ann Pinzl, Nevada State Museum, NV, pinzl@scs.unr.edu

Melissa Rosengard, Pardee Home Foundation, CA, rosenard@delphi.com

Pauline Fugino, Honolulu Academy of Arts, HI, johang@aloha.net

WESTERN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP
Wednesday, October 18

CURRENT APPROACHES TO NUMBERING COLLECTIONS

Presenters:

-Robert Futernick, Chairman of Conservation for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Director of the Achenbach Foundation, Contributor to the J. Paul Getty Museum Art History Information Project (AHIP) International Initiative for the Protection of Cultural Property;
-Jo Hill, Director of Conservation UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History

This workshop will address new approaches and review accepted methods of physically applying museum accession numbers to art and artifacts. Robert Futernick will discuss his experience in the use of bar code labeling of graphic art and photographic collections. He will also review the work of the AHIP Conservation Specialist's Marking Group including research into theft recovery techniques for works of art. Jo Hill will discuss solutions for marking difficult to number objects such as fragile textiles, glass, leather and very small objects.

Participants will receive hand-outs containing specific information for suggested materials and their sources and have the hands-on opportunity to use the materials and techniques. A question and answer/ discussion period will allow the audience to raise specific questions and share their experiences with others.

Location:

*The Claremont Resort, Spa and Tennis Club
Oakland, California*

Time: 10:100 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

***Fee: \$20.00 RC-WR members/ \$35.00 nonmembers
includes boxed lunch and workshop supplies***

Registration:

Those planning to attend the Western Museums Association Annual Meeting should register through the WMA (for information call: 213/ 939-6493.)

If you are not planning to attend the WMA Annual Meeting, register directly to:

Paulette Dunn Hennum, Registrar

Crocker Art Museum

216 O Street

Sacramento , CA. 95814-5399

PLEASE NOTE THE "RC-WR WORKSHOP" ON YOUR CHECK!!!

***ATTHOWE FINE ARTS SERVICES AND COOKE'S CRATING
ARE SPONSORING A POST-WORKSHOP PARTY, 7 - 11 PM
LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE WORKSHOP!!!!***

1995 RC-WR OFFICERS

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APPOINTED POSITIONS

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P.O. Box 2107
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FAX 619/232-9367

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Cynthia Eckholm
310/945-9187

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JOIN THE REGISTRARS' COMMITTEE - WESTERN REGION

Benefits include the RC-WR quarterly newsletter, membership roster, stipends for workshops & conferences, news on Western Museums Association activities, access to materials in the Forms Clearing House, as well as the Tape Lending Service, and a network of associates who provide support and knowledge.

Membership is valid for one calendar year and expires December 31, 1995.

- Voting _____ (Professionals who reside in the Western Region such as registrars, corporate registrars, collection managers, conservators, curators, administrators, students, volunteers, retirees, etc.)
- Non-Voting _____ (Professionals residing outside the Western Region or who are associated with for-profit organizations providing goods/services for cultural institutions)

Name _____

Position _____

Institution _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Membership Dues \$15.00 = Contribution \$ _____ = Total Payment \$ _____

All contributions beyond the annual \$15.00 dues are welcome and help to further the goals and programs of RC-WR.

Send this form and check payable to Registrars' Committee - Western Region to Paulette Dunn Hennum,
Crocker Art Museum, 216 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-5399.

1995

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vacant

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900 Exposition Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90007

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