



**Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries**

c/o The Historical Society of Pennsylvania  
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**JUNE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Wednesday, June 7, 2006, 3:30 p.m., Jefferson Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)**

**Delaware Art Museum, 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, Delaware 19806**

**A G E N D A**

Call to order, welcome and introductions

Minutes of the March 15, 2006 meeting (p. 2)

Treasurer's report (will be distributed at meeting)

Discussion and next steps (see executive director's report, p. 6)

- PACSCL's place among other consortia or associations serving our members
- Building the Greater Philadelphia Research Collections Network
- How to serve PACSCL members and other constituencies in the areas of outreach and professional development
- Orienting new PACSCL directors and embracing the new leadership

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 27, 3:30 p.m. , The Wagner Free Institute of Science  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!**

*The meeting will be preceded by an executive committee meeting (same agenda) at 2:30.*

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Directions to the Delaware Art Museum are online at

[http://www.delart.org/visit/plan\\_visit.html](http://www.delart.org/visit/plan_visit.html)



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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (draft)  
Wednesday, March 15, 2006, 3:30 p.m., The University of Pennsylvania Library  
Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, Meyerson Room (Second Floor)**

***In attendance:** Richard Shrake, American Philosophical Society; Roger Moss, The Athenaeum of Philadelphia; Eric Punroy, Bryn Mawr College; Ronald Brashear, Chemical Heritage Foundation; George Wohlreich, College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Robert Kieft, Haverford College; David Moltke-Hansen, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Karl Krueger, The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia; Dan Elliott, Philadelphia Museum of Art; Margery Sly, Presbyterian Historical Society; Derick Dreher, Rosenbach Museum & Library; Caryn Carr, The State Library of Pennsylvania; Tim Murray, University of Delaware; Michael Ryan and Carton Rogers, University of Pennsylvania Library; Lynn Dorwaldt, Wagner Free Institute of Science; Laura Blanchard, PACSCL.*

***Not represented:** Academy of Natural Sciences; City of Philadelphia Department of Records, Delaware Art Museum, Free Library of Philadelphia; Hagley Museum & Library; LaSalle University Library; Library Company of Philadelphia; National Archives; Pennsylvania Horticultural Society; Swarthmore College; Temple University Library; The Union League of Philadelphia; Villanova University; Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library.*

**Call to order.** David Moltke-Hansen called the meeting to order and welcomed Ronald Brashear, Chemical Heritage Foundation; George Wohlreich, president of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Carton Rogers, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries, University of Pennsylvania; and Caryn Carr, director, Bureau of Libraries, Office of Commonwealth Libraries.

**Minutes.** Margery Sly asked that the size of the collections formerly held at the Presbyterian Historical Society's Montreat facility be corrected: 70,000 volumes, 7,000 cubic feet of manuscripts, and a collection of objects. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the minutes were accepted as amended.

**Treasurer's Report.** Laura Blanchard reported on behalf of outgoing treasurer Janet Evans that PACSCL had \$29,003.30 in its checking account as of February 28, 2006 and \$20,705.84 in the Vanguard Money Market account as of December 31, 2005.

**Nominations and Elections.** Derick Dreher, acting on behalf of the nominations and governance committee, presented the slate of candidates for executive committee members, incorporated herein by reference. Upon motions duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the following candidates were elected for the 2006-07 year:

David Moltke-Hansen, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, chair  
Robert Kieft, Haverford College; vice chair  
V. Chapman-Smith, National Archives, secretary  
Derick Dreher, Rosenbach Museum & Library, treasurer  
Lynn Dorwaldt, Wagner Free Institute of Science, at-large  
Margery Sly, Presbyterian Historical Society, at-large

The nominations and governance committee recommends the appointment of a new chair for the professional development committee and that the committee consider programs and activities to benefit the membership. Eric Pumroy will continue pro tem as chair of the access committee, Joan Decker of the outreach committee, and Derick Dreher of the nominations/governance committee.

It was noted that with the imminent departure of Michael Ryan from the University of Pennsylvania the development committee will need a new chair. It was agreed that Michael Ryan's departure is a great loss to the Philadelphia special collections library community. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried it was resolved that

**WHEREAS**, Michael T. Ryan has worked tirelessly to raise the public profile of rare book and manuscript libraries while directing the special collections department of the University of Pennsylvania Libraries for more than 15 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael T. Ryan's efforts at transforming the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries to a formal not-for-profit corporation contributed significantly to the organization's success over the past decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael T. Ryan served the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries as treasurer from 1992-1994 and as president from 1994-1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael T. Ryan has served the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries most recently as chair of its development committee, member of the executive committee, and leader of the planning team for the forthcoming deaccessioning project; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael T. Ryan's continued support and counsel have contributed to the success of PACSCL's funding initiatives over the past fifteen years; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael T. Ryan is now leaving the University of Pennsylvania Library to assume the leadership of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries both acknowledges with the deepest gratitude the Philadelphia library community's profound debt to Michael T. Ryan for his many contributions and wishes him every success in the years to come.

**New Member Application: The German Society of Pennsylvania.** It was agreed to defer consideration of the German Society's application for associate membership until fall 2006, when the library was once again open to the public. Members will offer to meet with Society leadership to offer advice and counsel in spring 2006.

**Check-signing authority.** Because PACSCL requires two signatures on checks in amounts greater than \$1,000, it was agreed that the organization requires more than two authorized signers. Additionally, Laura Blanchard is not currently authorized under new regulations to make inquiries about PACSCL's Vanguard Money Market fund. Upon motions duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was

**RESOLVED**, that David Moltke-Hansen and Janet Evans continue to be authorized to sign checks drawn on PACSCL's Citizens Bank account #6401384747, and that Derick Dreher also be so authorized; and

**RESOLVED**, that Laura Blanchard be authorized to make inquiries concerning PACSCL's Vanguard Money Market Account # 9905939002.

**Reports on collaboration with other consortia.** Robert Kieft reported on three developments linking PACSCL with other professional organizations

- **PACSCL / PALCI / PALINET.** Executive directors and board members from these three organizations, plus HSLC and the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, met in November to determine ways in which the organizations could work together to share resources and expertise and avoid duplication of effort. The group hopes to have a vision statement to share with its members in spring/summer 2006.
- **Statewide digital library initiative.** A group convened by PALINET and embracing many of the consortia listed above as well as additional university libraries and historical societies is meeting to consider ways in which they can collaborate on a state-wide or regional digital library effort consisting of harvesting of metadata on existing digitization projects as well as developing new projects under the general theme of "For, By, and About Pennsylvania."
- **GIS and CLIR.** Representatives from PACSCL were invited to speak at a CLIR meeting in April, and a publication or an expanded GIS conference might arise from those discussions.

**OPAC.** Dan Elliott reported that all six participating libraries had migrated to ExLibris and were in various stages of using the new OPAC – testing the databased and preparing to switch to production. The establishment of a one-click search with other libraries using the Z39.50 protocols is the next step in this project.

**Consortial Survey.** Robert Kieft reported that the project now has a director and that a launch meeting would be held in late spring, possibly in connection with the June quarterly meeting.

**Collaboration and deaccessioning conferences.** Eric Pumroy and Derick Dreher reported on planning for these two conferences, scheduled for July 17 at the Union League of Philadelphia and October 6/7 at the Chemical Heritage Foundation, respectively. The collaboration conference will be a half-day event, combining brief case histories and ample time for small group discussion. The deaccessioning conference will examine this complex topic with regard to the legal environment, professional guidelines and ethical issues, with speakers representing professional organizations, libraries and museums, and legal advisors.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Blanchard  
for the Secretary

## Executive Director's Report

The past three months have seen significant progress on two major PACSCL initiatives as well as a number of meetings and consultations about the planning challenges awaiting us.

Today's board meeting will center on four topics that will continue to shape our long-range planning, and this report will offer background on progress in these topics so that we may focus our meeting time on discussions that will define and advance PACSCL's agenda. These four discussion points will give us a basis for determining the kinds of leadership and organizational infrastructure that will be needed to advance PACSCL's agenda. Organizational issues, including the possibility of a changed committee structure, can flow from these conversations.

- PACSCL's place among other consortia or associations serving our members
- Building the Greater Philadelphia Research Collections Network
- How to serve PACSCL members and other constituencies in the areas of outreach and professional development
- Orienting new PACSCL directors and embracing the new leadership

### 1. PACSCL's place among other consortia/associations serving our members.

David Moltke-Hansen, Robert Kieft, and others have reported out at previous meetings on conversations among three local or regional library consortia: PACSCL, PALINET, and PALCI, as well as the Office of Commonwealth Libraries. On May 31, representatives of these groups met at the PALCI meetings in State College. The conversation yielded general agreement on three areas where all three groups could work together:

- **The Pennsylvania digital library** –the collaborative arrangement currently under discussion that will link existing digital initiatives through federated searching and provide a platform for the discussion of issues such as metadata, as well as identifying opportunities for collaborative projects.
- **High level professional development** – conferences, colloquia, etc., including distance learning.
- **Interconsortial information sharing** among the directors of the four groups, to be shared in turn with members. Increased communication will allow us better to collaborate on programs where appropriate and to make them available to each others' members. The consortia can thereby leverage resources to benefit a broader audience among their overlapping memberships or shift planning to avoid duplication of effort.

Robert Kieft is taking the lead on drafting a vision statement ( see page 9) to summarize the areas of potential collaboration, and will lead a discussion to get member comment on these and further areas of collaboration and cooperation among the three consortia.

### 2. Building the Greater Philadelphia Research Collections Network: Next Steps? New Directions? (See <http://www.pacscl.org/members/> at "white papers" section [userid "member" and password "resources"] for the GPRCN document)

In 2004, PACSCL conceived the Greater Philadelphia Research Collections Network, embracing several initiatives to make our collections more broadly accessible to a range of publics. These

initiatives include a) the OPAC/Z39.50 project, b) the consortial survey, c) the “Philadelphia GeoHistory Network” GIS planning project, and d) an open archives initiative.

**a. OPAC/Z39.50.** The OPAC project is inching toward completion on the OPAC side, with all six libraries’ ALEPH500 catalogs either in production or in implementation. We are now beginning the three-phase linkage of other member libraries into one unified catalog, as you know from my e-mail of 6/2/06 (“OPAC and the PACSCL “one click” search interface”) introducing our consultant, Linda Bills, who will be contacting you shortly.

**b. Consortial Survey.** The consortial survey project is off to a strong start after an initial delay in hiring a project director. Many of you met our new project director, Christine Di Bella, at the May 26 kickoff meeting. The handouts distributed at the kickoff session are now online in the passworded member section of the website (<http://www.pacscl.org/members/>, userid: member; password: resources ). Christine is joining us at Wednesday’s meeting so that any of you who weren’t present will have an opportunity to meet her and put a face to the name and e-mail address. We’ve had strong response to our job posting for two surveyors, so hiring will take place soon; we expect the first surveys will take place in early fall.

**c. GIS.** Among the follow-up conversations from the GIS project are the possibility of a publication under the auspices of the Council for Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and the creation of a “pocket culture browser” that will allow users to identify and explore historic sites and cultural resources on location using wireless technology and handheld devices. We see some genuinely exciting ways in which GIS applications can transform the way we organize information about our collections. Robert Kieft, together with Joan Decker and her colleague Robert Cheetham, presented on our GIS experiences at a recent CLIR meeting (see the Philadelphia section of CLIR Issues the article “Symposium Kicks Off...” at <http://www.clir.org/pubs/issues/index.html>); they will report on the project’s reception there and lead discussion on its implications for building the GIS network going forward.

**d. Open Archives.** We can consider the interconsortial digital initiative sponsored by PALINET, PALCI, and Office of Commonwealth Libraries (see pt.1 above) as one potential way of addressing the issues we raised with the “Open Archive Initiative” position paper, especially in that Pitt has volunteered its OAI harvester to build a registry of records for digital collections at PA institutions.

Beyond the current initiatives, we need to consider what we should do to build the research collections network. We can consider whether to pursue the issue of records management and archiving for other cultural institutions, particularly in view of the changes to the Philadelphia cultural landscape that may occur as many larger institutions come under new leadership. I am hopeful that a lively discussion of these and other possibilities will result in agreement on future directions around which PACSCL’s working groups can shape new programs.

### **3. How to serve PACSCL members and other constituencies going forward in the areas of outreach and professional development**

We have four programs and events for outreach to colleagues and for our own professional development on our consortial to-do list:

- Collaboration with museums and historic sites (July 17, 2006, see p. 13)
- Deaccessioning (October 6-7, 2006)
- Digital asset management (2007)
- An externally-focused meeting on the consortial survey (Summer 2007)

Additionally, a 2008 symposium to present the findings of the consortial survey is part of the grant proposal for that project. These activities will aid us in the professional development of our members and will serve as outreach to potential members and to colleagues in other collecting institutions.

In terms of outreach to other audiences, the GIS follow-on activities offer outreach possibilities for a variety of stakeholders and user groups. Additionally, the OPAC project includes funding for outreach to scholars, educators, and the general public, including the production of a brochure and the expansion of our website. Some public outreach activities, including the National History Day (a great success, with two full days of competition) and related O.V. Catto initiatives, reach a general Philadelphia audience. As V. reminds us, both these initiatives build recognition among both the K-12 educational community and a variety of public sector stakeholders.

As our various projects, especially the OPAC/Z39.50, approach completion, we will both want and need to strengthen our outreach to multiple constituencies to raise our visibility with funders and other stakeholders in addition to serving those audiences.

**4. How to manage PACSCL in a time of expanding membership and changed leadership in many organizations?** A significant number of PACSCL institutions – as well as other cultural institutions in the Philadelphia area -- will have (comparatively) new leaders within the next year or so or are new to the consortium. We need to consider how to orient these new leaders to current and past PACSCL programming and culture while at the same time maximizing the opportunities for PACSCL to benefit from their fresh perspectives, talents, and viewpoints.

*--Laura Blanchard  
June 5, 2006*



## **1. Meeting notes:**

Friends, we met in Philadelphia in mid-November at the Philadelphia Club to talk about our consortia, their plans for the future, and how they might work together to leverage member resources and avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. The meeting was prompted in part by the sense that, although started for different purposes and to provide different kinds of services to members, membership overlaps to a substantial degree; we also sense that the interests of the various groups are in some sense converging because of the information technologies all use and because of changing relationships between libraries and other information services.

At the meeting everyone agreed that a digital library project spanning various consortial domains was a promising area for cooperation. Some of our libraries or agencies have great collections, others have considerable technical expertise in the creation of digital collections and access to them, and still others have technical and fiscal capacities for encouraging or connecting individual projects across the library, educational, and cultural heritage sectors. We thought, therefore, that the three consortia and the Commonwealth Libraries might collectively try to address the challenges of how best to coordinate access to digital collections and to develop digital content across institutional and sectoral lines. Various models are available to us, and PALINET has taken the bit in its teeth since November by convening a statewide, inter-consortial group to address the possibilities for a digital collections collaborative.

We also recognized interconsortial interests in K-12 education and in the economic development role of libraries, government agencies, and cultural heritage institutions. In the latter case, the examples of pharmaceutical and information sciences are well known, but Pennsylvania libraries especially might consider the contribution their materials can make to cultural and heritage tourism and community building, an important priority at the Commonwealth level. We also mentioned the prospects for further development of collecting and resource sharing structures and how to leverage the expertise and resources of each consortium and of their individual members on behalf of the common weal. We noted that academic libraries or their collective interests have traditionally not received funding from the Commonwealth in the way that school and public libraries have (although even in these arenas the record is not consistently the brightest).

The meeting concluded with the suggestion that we draft a "vision statement" based on the discussion, one that states what libraries can do for our region and the resources they need to do it, one that coordinates the agendas of our respective consortia or develops a shared agenda that our consortia and their members are willing to invest in. Such a statement would have to recognize the resources--staff, access to public and other funding sources, technical and other kinds of knowledge, communication channels and networks, existing programs that could be extended or leveraged-- that each consortium or its members brings to the interconsortial effort. We also agreed that we would circulate this document for comment and that we would try to meet again here in Philadelphia in May to discuss it and prepare a working draft.

## **2. Some initial verbiage toward a doc:**

The Office of Commonwealth Libraries, PACSCL, PALCI, and PALINET were founded for their individual purposes and under various auspices to serve the library and related educational and cultural heritage communities in the Commonwealth. Resource sharing, union listing and common cataloging services, technology deployment, training and support, the promotion of education, creating access to materials, professional development and networking, joint purchasing of materials, providing members a funding base for operations or special projects, and creating a forum for discussion, planning, or activism to some degree have informed the work of all four groups. Today, membership in these consortia overlaps to varying degrees, and the advent first of information sharing systems and later of technologies associated with digitized library content have created important challenges and opportunities for each group. These changes in the information landscape, together with the advent of such other information institutions as the Web and the search engines and user habits associated with it, have precipitated strategic planning discussions in each consortium of how to leverage local resources through sharing of knowledge and cooperative provision of services and infrastructure.

The question we ask ourselves is how can we leverage our common interests and capabilities in a manner that makes an effective case for broad (institutionalized, state) support for library collaboration in relation to cultural heritage, specifically in the context of developing digital resources and services that will bring tangible benefit to the educational, economic, and cultural environment in Pennsylvania. As we seek in our several ways to make resources available to the communities we serve, from kindergartners to graduate students, from independent learners to teachers and university professors to citizens and the business communities, can we find a way to marshal support to build the resources and the resource-distribution and resource-access mechanisms that will bring Pennsylvania's intellectual and cultural resources to everyone in the Commonwealth.

Vision statement: the libraries, archives, museums, and state agencies represented by Office of Commonwealth Libraries, PACSCL, PALCI, and PALINET recognize:

- that the system of information collection, discovery, and access must join the interests of all levels of education so that everyone in Pennsylvania will be able to locate and use that information;
- that public and private institutions, foundations and corporations, and the various levels of government must cooperate to create and fund this system;
- that we have in place technical expertise, communication and information-sharing infrastructures, information systems, resource sharing models, and various funding streams;
- that the technologies exist and are developing which will allow us to create and distribute information about collections and collections themselves in digital form.

By pooling human, technical, collection, and fiscal resources and by seeking further funding from member institutions and state agencies, we will:

- build the digital library of Pennsylvania
- ensure the cataloging, access, and preservation of physical and digital collections

- create a cross-sectoral resource-sharing infrastructure that recognizes the different needs and traditions of the sectors
- deploy the various collections and services of public, private, research, school, college/university, historical, and museum institutions for the benefit of all levels of education and especially for bringing primary resources to bear on K-12
- work with such economic interests as tourism, business development, and knowledge industries to make historical and current resources available to them
- develop education efforts to inform our several publics and constituencies about the importance of this joint effort

Questions:

1. Can we put something in about how to insure such programs against the vagaries of one funding stream or another?

2. Can we find something to say about education for information professionals and librarian/archivists/curators that would involve library schools and other professional education providers in this?

3. Is the vision statement for internal purposes-- convincing our organizations to get behind this-- or should it be for external purposes--a vision statement of what creating the Pennsylvania digital library would mean to Pennsylvanians and others? NJ is working on an advocacy campaign for funding the NJ Digital Highway and it is focused on what the NJDH can do for NJ (the external vision). It will make a difference in how your bullets are expressed. We might want to try to do a combination of both internal/external messages; such a strategy would keep the bullets but finish each one with an impact phrase.

Below are some of the talking points from the NJDH text:

Preserving in digital form New Jersey's historical and cultural records and making them easily accessible on the web will provide multiple benefits for many different communities across the state by:

- Enhancing local governments' ability to access historical documents and the records relating to their community
- Facilitating the Open Public Records Act by providing broad accessibility to digital versions of documents that are easy to locate throughout the state.
- Giving New Jersey researchers and planners easy access to maps and documents for research on local development, planning, and environmental issues
- Creating opportunities for enriching the educational experiences of 21st century New Jersey students at all academic levels through the use of primary information that brings New Jersey history alive
- Providing tools for educators to develop engaging curricular programs and their potential sharing across the state
- Providing a prominent web presence for those outside New Jersey to the history and culture of the state for travel, tourism, and business

- Bringing New Jersey history and culture to life for a broader appreciation by the state's citizens
- Making it possible for genealogists to trace their family history
- Leveraging the /NJDH/'s robust technical infrastructure and digital standards to reduce costs for all institutions, municipalities, county governments, archives, and libraries

*--Robert Kieft*

## **PACSCL Collaboration Conference, July 17, 2006**

The program for the conference on expanding collaboration among the Philadelphia-area collecting institutions is just about in place. The meeting will be held on Monday, July 17th from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at the Union League of Philadelphia, and its purpose is to expand a conversation among special collections libraries, museums and historic sites on how we can collaborate more effectively to preserve the region's cultural resources and enhance the cultural life of the community. The first part of the meeting will feature presentations on experiences and opportunities in collaboration. The speakers are Kenneth Finkel (WHYY, on cultural institutions and the media), Ingrid Bogel (CCAHA, on a central collections facility), David Moltke-Hansen (HSP, on the Greater Philadelphia Research Collections Network), and Page Talbott (on the Franklin exhibition). The rest of the day will be devoted to break-out groups and discussions. The goal is to come out of the meeting with some plans for continuing the discussion, either through small groups or further large meetings. The meeting is being co-sponsored by PACSCL and the Museum Council of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley.

*--Eric Pumroy*