AIC annual meeting

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) will hold its annual meeting June 8–13, 2000, in Philadelphia. The general session, beginning June 9, is devoted to preservation of electronic media and there are many presentations planned about this topic.

The keynote speech, to be given by Maxwell L. Anderson, director of the Whitney Museum of American Art, is titled “Cupped Hands in the Stream: Digital Media’s Challenge to Collecting Institutions.” There will also be sessions conducted by AIC’s specialty groups, particularly Books and Paper, Electronic Media and Photographic Materials, which may be of interest to librarians, archivists, and conservators.

For more information, please contact Megan Dennis at AIC, 1717 K Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20006; phone: (202) 452-9545; fax: (202) 452-9328; e-mail: info@aic-faic.org; URL: http://aic.stanford.edu.

LC digital background paper

The National Digital Library Program (NDLP) and the Conservation Division of the Library of Congress have mounted “Conservation Implications of Digitization Projects” on the American Memory project’s Background Papers and Technical Information Web page. This two-part PDF document was produced by staff who worked on American Memory’s more than sixty digital collections.

A key goal of all these projects was protection of the original items during and after scanning. This paper covers topics such as space, environment, equipment, staff training, and review of items for conservation that relate to that protection. The document also contains “Care and Handling of Library Materials for Digital Scanning,” the handouts prepared for training project staff.

The URL is http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ftpfiles.html. For more information about these documents, contact NDLP at ndlp@loc.gov.

MICROLINK discussion list

The State Library of South Australia is hosting MICROLINK, a new discussion list devoted to preservation microfilming. It is intended to be a forum for practitioners and will cover issues and ideas related to the creation of preservation microfilm. It should complement the MICROFORMS@lists.uoregon.edu, which covers collection development, bibliographic control, and reading equipment.

To subscribe, go to http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/microlink. For more information, contact Heather Brown, manager, Image Services, State Library of South Australia, Box 419 GPO, Adelaide 5001, South Australia, Australia; phone: +61 8 82077317; fax: +61 8 82077274; e-mail: heatherb@slsa.sa.gov.au.

PADI improved

The Preserve Access to Digital Information (PADI) Web site, established by the National Library of Australia in 1997, has been expanded into a “subject gateway” with more powerful search capabilities. To continue improvement of the Web site, users of the information already contained there are encouraged to suggest additional resources by using an online form. Users are also encouraged to join a new discussion list, padiforum-l, for exchange of news and ideas about digital preservation issues.

The PADI URL is http://www.nla.gov.au/padi/. Users may subscribe to padiforum-l by sending an e-mail message to listproc@nla.gov.au, leaving the subject line blank, and typing in first line of the message “subscribe padiforum-l [your name].” For more information, contact Deborah Woodyard, PADI/Digital Preservation, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600, Australia; phone: +61 2 6262 1366; e-mail: padi@nla.gov.au.

Jane Hedberg prepares this column for the College Libraries Committee, Commission on Preservation and Access. Submissions may be made to Jane Hedberg, Wellesley College; jhedberg@wellesley.edu; fax: (781) 283-3690