



Prepared by Barbara Brown

*College Libraries Committee
Commission on Preservation and Access*

● **Amherst, Massachusetts.** The Amherst College Archives has received two federal Morrow Papers. The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access and the U. S. Department of Education Higher Education Act, Title II-C Program have joined forces in providing \$105,000 to support this 18-month project. Anne Ostendarp has been named project archivist; preservation officer Daria D'Arienzo will be project director. Diplomat, financier, and lawyer Dwight W. Morrow (1873–1931) corresponded with business, political, and international leaders such as Reuben Clark, Calvin Coolidge, T. Coleman du Pont, and Sir Arthur Salter. The 120 linear feet collection was donated by Mrs. Morrow in 1954. For additional information on the project contact: Anne Ostendarp, College Archives, Robert Frost Library, Amherst College, Amherst, MA 01002; (413) 542-2299.

● **Albany, New York.** The first environmental control publication developed specifically for libraries, archives, and other organizations is called *Conservation Environment Guidelines for Libraries and Archives*, and has been published by New York State Library's Conservation/Preservation Program. The 88-page resource packet discusses the conservation environment, collections environment assessment and monitoring, and compromises for conservation environment goals. It also addresses building environments and systems that can create a good conservation environment. The packet is available for \$10.00 from: Tiffany H. Allen, The New York State Library, 10-C-47 Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230. Checks should be

made payable to: The University of the State of New York.

● **Washington, D.C.** A new eight-panel photographic exhibit that draws attention to the preservation and access of information in brittle books is available for short-term loan to universities and colleges, libraries, archives, scholarly societies, and other organizations from the Commission on Preservation and Access. The 10-by-7-foot modular display is built around a large full-color photograph of a brittle book with crumbling paper. The display includes velcro end panels for mounting information and photographs specific to an institution's own preservation program. Panels can be rearranged to serve as a complete backdrop for a conference booth or for a tabletop display. The exhibit is lightweight, portable, and easy to assemble. Institutions can borrow the display free of charge but must pay shipping charges. For more information contact: Trish Cece, Commission on Preservation and Access at (202) 483-7474.

● **Chicago, Illinois.** A new Preservation Training Program being launched by the Society of American Archivists (SAA) intends to create a critical mass of institutional preservation programs managed by competent archival administrators, and to do so as rapidly and efficiently as possible. The program was recently awarded a \$645,554 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities. SAA plans to train 60 archivists over a three-year period, examining preservation topics from a management point of view. More information is available from SAA, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605. ■ ■

Recruitment and mentoring programs for African-Americans developed in California

The California Librarians Black Caucus of Greater Los Angeles (CLBC) and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) have joined forces to develop a recruitment and mentoring program for African-Americans.

"We in the library community are concerned about the shortage of African-American librarians and we are developing aggressive programs to reach out to talented African-American students and bring them into the profession," explained Beverly Lynch, dean of UCLA's GSLIS.

The CLBC/UCLA Mentor Program's goals are threefold: 1) to increase awareness of career options in the field of library and information science, 2) to encourage African-Americans to attain the MLS degree at the GSLIS; and 3) to utilize practicing information professionals in recruiting, retaining, and mentoring prospective and enrolled African-American students. The program is supported in part by a \$27,000 Library Services Construction Act grant award from the California State Library.

During the past year a series of workshops were held to implement the Mentor Program's goals. There were two workshops involving prospective mentors; the first introduced the program and the GSLIS to CLBC members and the second involved the actual training of mentors. A mentoring handbook, prepared by Eric Brasley, the project's consultant from KPMG Peat Marwick Management Consultants, was used and may serve as a model to other organizations interested in developing similar mentoring programs. Contact the student services assistant at UCLA at (213) 825-5269 for more information about the handbook.

Two other meetings targeting library leaders and other professionals were held to generate support for the program and aggressive recruitment activities. Library directors of public and academic libraries in Southern California met at UCLA to discuss strategies for recruiting people from

underrepresented groups, particularly African-Americans, into the information field. The 25 library managers who attended spent an afternoon brainstorming ways to improve the general image of the profession and to identify viable strategies for recruiting stellar individuals into the profession. In a second meeting, career counseling directors from major universities in the Southern California area were invited to UCLA. This information session



Brainstorming at UCLA: Clark Wong, Cal State Univ., Northridge; Joyce Sumbi, LA County Public Library; Eric Brasley, discussion facilitator; and Sandra Reuben, LA County Public Library.

reviewed career options in library and information science as it is shaped in the '90s, and explored ways in which they could forge partnerships with GSLIS and CLBC to achieve the program's goals. The GSLIS is following up on initial contacts made at both meetings with visits to their campuses and library systems during 1991-92.

To complete the program implementation phase, a reception was held for prospec-

tive proteges to inform them of program benefits and to give them the opportunity to meet GSLIS staff and CLBC members.

Eric Brasley stressed that he wants African-Americans to be aware that the field of librarianship is much broader than traditionally thought. "The multicultural aspect of today's librarianship should make the field a great deal more attractive to African-Americans than it has been in the past," Brasley said. "Ethnic communities are going to be relying more and more on libraries and databanks for information, and they are going to need skilled librarians who understand their concerns to assist them in accessing that information. The goal of the Mentoring Program is to make sure those librarians are there for them."

CLBC and GSLIS share responsibility for administering, promoting, and monitoring the program. The program's success will be measured by how effective it is in increasing the number of African-Americans who complete the graduate library program in the near future. To date, the program has 13 mentor/protege pairs. ■ ■