

Winter 2009

## SOLINET Product News

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## **HBCU NEWS**

### **HBCU Library Alliance Hosts Third Membership Meeting Special Pre-Conference on Photograph Preservation**

The HBCU Library Alliance presented its Third Membership Meeting October 26-28, 2008 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Meeting attendees participated in strategic planning with a focus on the expansion of the HBCU Digital Collection. The keynote presentation was delivered by Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College for Women. The “Care and Conservation of Photographic Collections” pre-conference was part of an Andrew W. Mellon multi-year project in partnership with the University of Delaware and SOLINET. Ten HBCU colleges and universities participated in this project and received valuable training in the preservation of photographic materials documenting the history and culture of HBCUs.

## **SOLINET PRODUCT NEWS**

### **SOLINET and Mississippi Library Commission Form First Librarianship Institute**

The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) a \$100,000 Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Grant to conduct an intensive, in-residence workshop for mid-level public library staff.

The first Librarianship 201 Institute was held February 2 -6, 2009 in Jackson, and was conducted in partnership with SOLINET. The institute covered topics

in public library advocacy, management, ethics, and technology. Nationally recognized scholars and practitioners of library science shared both theoretical and practical aspects of librarianship with participants. Participants were selected through a competitive application process.

### **ASERL to Create Shared Digital Collection “Intellectual Underpinnings of the American Civil War”**

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) has announced that its member libraries will create a new shared digital collection under the umbrella of the body of works titled “Intellectual Underpinnings of the American Civil War.” This new online collection will contain 5,000 digital items from rare and special collections held by the 38 research libraries that belong to ASERL. The items will be online for public use by 2011, which is the 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War.

As part of this effort, ASERL libraries will provide online access to materials published between 1850 and 1865, from a broad array of subjects. The digital items will be housed on servers at the contributing library. A subject-specific portal is under consideration to aid in browsing, but the initial plan assumes users will find items via commercial search services, such as Google. A development team drawn from ASERL member libraries will determine digitization and metadata standards, as well as the means for linking the collection together, which can improve search rankings and findability. This will be the first time all ASERL libraries

have contributed to a cooperative digital library project.

### **Members Overwhelmingly Approve Merger**

With a “Yes” vote of more than 95%, the voting representatives of both SOLINET and PALINET approved the merger of the two organizations, and the creation of a new organization — Lyrasis. The effective date of the merger is April 1, 2009. “Our members will now be able to collaborate with peers at diverse institutions throughout the Mid-Atlantic, the Southeastern US and nationally, working together to respond to constantly changing expectations of our users, wherever they may be,” stated Kate Nevins, Executive Director at SOLINET. Both organizations are committed to continuing business as usual as they evolve into a single entity. To ensure a smooth integration, representatives from both organizations will keep members informed of progress and new initiatives during this transition period.

The combined resources, shared expertise, and improved operating efficiencies will result in:

- Rapid implementation of new programs
- Greater consortial savings opportunities
- Extended networking and collaboration among members
- Innovative technology solutions in areas including open source, digitization, and collection management
- An expanded education curriculum covering the latest

topics with industry experts from both networks

### **SOLINET Preservation Services Provides Free Assistance to Help You through the Preservation Assistance Grant (PAG) Application Process**

Small- to medium-sized institutions can apply for \$6000 to preserve and care for their collections through the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)’s Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions. SOLINET Preservation Services can assist you in this process by providing complementary application support through project planning, letters of commitment, resumes of qualified SOLINET consultants and trainers, and review of grant narratives and budgets. Eligible institutions include non-profit libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, arts and cultural organizations, and town and county records offices.

SOLINET can assist your institution in the following types of activities:

- Preservation needs assessments and long-range preservation plans
- Collection or item-level surveys
- Purchase of storage furniture, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies
- Facilitated disaster planning
- Collections care program building
- Attendance at preservation workshops

**Grant Amount: \$6,000** *No matching funds are required.*

**Application Deadline:** May 14, 2009

**For assistance with your grant application, contact Jessica Leming, Preservation Services Librarian at [jleming@solinet.net](mailto:jleming@solinet.net) or 1-800-999-8558 x 4936.**

For more PAG Program information and eligibility requirements, visit the [NEH grant](#) site. Please note: All applications for PAG must be submitted through [grants.gov](http://grants.gov), the government-wide grants portal. For more information, visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants).

## **SOLINET PERSONNEL NEWS**

**Timothy Cherubini** joined SOLINET as the Director of Information Resources, Collections, and Scholarly Communications. In this newly created role, Mr. Cherubini will build on SOLINET's solid reputation within the information industry by directing and managing the overall framework guiding SOLINET's offerings of collections-related products and services.

A 20 year veteran in the library industry, Mr. Cherubini brings to SOLINET member libraries a wealth of knowledge in the areas of collection management, digitization, open access, and scholarly communication. In addition to providing the vision for collections initiatives, including educational opportunities and guiding members and partners on scholarly communication, Mr. Cherubini will also share valuable industry insights on SOLINET's blog and in a regular column in SOLINET's quarterly newsletter, *Solutions*.

SOLINET reinforces its Consortial Licensing Program with the addition of

**Nancy Harris**, Consultant. SOLINET is reinforcing its newly formed Consortial Licensing Program with the expertise of Nancy Harris. Formerly the Director of Consortia at Thomson Gale, Ms. Harris has more than 18 years of experience working in and with libraries. Her areas of expertise include vendor negotiation, integrated library systems and project management.

## **STATE NEWS**

### **FLORIDA**

The State Library and Archives of Florida announced that the University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries' Central Florida Memory (CFM) project "Picturing the Past: Photographs and Postcards of Central Florida" was awarded one of the 2008-2009 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants in the amount of \$52,002. The grant will be used to build upon the successful Central Florida Memory project (<http://cfmemory.org>) which is the work of a consortium of regional historical societies and libraries, including the UCF Libraries' four partners in the grant: Museum of Seminole County History, Orange County Library System, Orange County Regional History Center, and Rollins College Olin Library. This year CFM welcomes two more partners: Stetson University's duPont Ball Library and Bethune Cookman University's Carl S. Swisher Library.

Central Florida Memory was created to provide access to library, museum, historical society, and archival content in Central Florida; produce an extensive digital resource for scholars, students, teachers, genealogists, residents, visitors,