



## **2025 ANNUAL MEETING**

# ***Show Me the Money: Sustaining Archives and Archival Programs***

University of Toledo

Thursday, May 15 (virtual)  
& Friday, May 16 (hybrid)

#SOAAM25

# Keynote Speakers

## Patricia Hswe

Patricia Hswe is the program director for Public Knowledge at The Mellon Foundation. As the Foundation's program area that supports libraries and archives, Public Knowledge makes grants that strive to increase equitable access to—and activation of—recorded knowledge that helps to build an informed, heterogeneous, and civically engaged society. Previously, Patricia worked in the libraries at Penn State University, where she co-founded the department of publishing and curation services (now the department of research informatics and publishing) and at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she was program manager for a set of grant initiatives funded by the Library of Congress and by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Originally a Russian literature scholar, Patricia holds a PhD from Yale University in Slavic languages and literatures. She also received an AB in Russian language and literature from Mount Holyoke College and an MS in library and information science from the University of Illinois. Patricia is currently a member of the board of trustees for the Metropolitan New York Library Council and sits in the advisory team for LibraryPAC.



## Sara Bushong

Sara Bushong is the Dean of the University Libraries and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at Bowling Green State University. She provides strategic leadership for the UL connected to the BGSU strategic plan FORWARD. Sara's responsibilities as Dean include development/fundraising, donor stewardship, strategic planning, budget management, facilities and program planning, and statewide consortial leadership in OhioLINK. Sara began her tenure at BGSU as Head Librarian for the Curriculum Resource Center and then served as the Department Chair for Special Collection and Associate Dean before becoming Dean in 2011. Sara holds an undergraduate degree in music education and master's degree in education from BGSU along with a master's in library science from Kent State University.



## Jordan Cravens

Jordan Cravens '09, '13 is a senior director of development at Bowling Green State University. She provides fundraising leadership to the colleges of Education and Human Development; Health and Human Services; Technology, Architecture and Applied Engineering; and the Division of Student Affairs. Jordan began her career in annual giving at BGSU with increasingly progressive roles in the organization. Prior to her work in advancement, she served on the BGSU volleyball coaching staff. She is a two-time alumna of BGSU with degrees in journalism and a master of education, specializing in sport administration.

# Schedule At a Glance

## Thursday

8:45—9:00 AM	Opening	<a href="#">Online</a>
9:00—10:00 AM	Session: Crucial Conversations: Focus on Funding for JEDAI Projects	<a href="#">Online</a>
11:00 AM—12:00 PM	Session: Unveiling Pauline Trigère Through Grant-Funded Digitization	<a href="#">Online</a>
<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>		
1:00—2:00 PM	Highlighting Ohio Grant Opportunities for Cultural Heritage Organizations	<a href="#">Online</a>
1:00—2:30 PM	Empowering Communities Through Effective Grant Writing	<a href="#">Online</a>

## Friday

8:30—9:30 AM	Registration / Continental Breakfast / Silent Auction	
9:30—10:30 AM	Welcome & Morning Keynote: Patricia Hswe	Ingman & <a href="#">Online</a>
10:45—11:45 AM	Concurrent Sessions	
	Find the Grants and Endeavor to Write!	Ingman & <a href="#">Online</a>
	Sustaining the Collection: A Case for Funding Environmental needs through Persistence, Data, and Teamwork	Thompson
11:45 AM—12:30 PM	Lunch / Business Meeting / Awards Ceremony / Silent Auction	Ingman & <a href="#">Online</a>
12:30—1:30 PM	Afternoon Keynote: Sara Bushong and Jordan Cravens	Ingman & <a href="#">Online</a>
1:45—2:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
	Developing Rapport:	Ingman & <a href="#">Online</a>
	Working with Advancement Professionals to Support Special Collections	
	Finding the Perfect Fit:	Thompson
	Grant Selection Strategies for Archives and Libraries	
2:45—3:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
	They Never Trained Me on That: Tips for Navigating Grant Research, Submissions, Management, and Reporting	Ingman & <a href="#">Online</a>
	A Different Perspective: Nonprofit Fundraising & Grant Writing	Thompson
3:45—4:30 PM	Crucial Conversations:	Ingman
	Archival Work and Advocacy in the Current Political Climate	

# Program—Thursday

8:45—9:00 AM                      Welcome

[Join Online](#)

9:00—10:00 AM                      Session

## **Crucial Conversations: Focus on Funding for JEDAI Projects**

[Join Online](#)

**Presenters:** *Jeff Regensburger, State Library of Ohio; Alyson Pope, Council on Library and Information Resources; Sharon Burney, Council on Library and Information Resources; Hannah Kemp-Severance, University of Akron*

Does your archive or library have collections that document diverse or under-represented communities? Do you have ideas for projects to preserve, process, or make such collections available for research but are unsure how to find funding for these kinds of projects, or ask questions about what types of grants are even available? Join the SOA Justice, Equity, Diversity, Accessibility, and Inclusion (JEDAI) committee for a panel discussion with representatives from The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and the State Library of Ohio. CLIR will discuss their Digitizing Hidden Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices grant program and the State Library of Ohio will discuss the LSTA grant program. Our panelists will also share tips for successful applications and answer your grant-related questions during this session.

11:00 AM—12:00 PM                      Session

## **Unveiling Pauline Trigère Through Grant-Funded Digitization**

[Join Online](#)

**Presenter:** *Virginia Dressler, Edith Serkownek, Eve Fenn, and Katie Gable; Kent State University*

In this panel, our NEH grant team will talk about the grant application and proposal process, but also the current work on the grant, as well as expected and unexpected challenges. In July 2023, Kent State University Libraries was awarded a Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), totalling \$165,947. The grant funded the digitization of the sketchbooks and pressbooks from award-winning fashion designer, Pauline Trigère. The grant funded the purchase of a high quality overhead scanner, as well as funds to hire students for the digitization and description of the collection. We will share both expected and unexpected challenges of managing a large grant-funded initiative, adding in some tips and tricks.

# Program—Thursday

1:00 AM—2:00 PM

Session

## Highlighting Ohio Grant Opportunities for Cultural Heritage Organizations

[Join Online](#)

**Presenters:** *Virginia Dressler, Kent State University; Jeff Regensburger, State Library of Ohio; Betsy Hedler, Ohio History Connection; Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Connection; Tina Ratcliff, Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board; Amber Bales, Ohio Preservation Council*

This session will bring together panelists from a number of Ohio non-profits, including Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA), Ohio History Connection (OHC), Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB), Ohio Preservation Council (OPC) and the State Library of Ohio (SLO). Join us for an overview of information on grant opportunities for libraries and archives, as well as some shared tips and tricks for successful grant applications.

1:00—2:30 PM

Mini Workshop

## Empowering Communities Through Effective Grant Writing

[Join Online](#)

**Presenter:** *Nesha Brown, WeConquer.org*

Nesha Brown, a seasoned Senior Impact Consultant with deep roots in the communities she serves, shares her expertise in securing grant funding to drive meaningful social change. Starting her journey as a sole proprietor, Brown focused on meeting the underserved needs of her community, and over time, has built a successful career helping organizations and initiatives thrive. Through her experience in developing programs like Conqueror Community Savings Program, she's developed a keen understanding of how to craft compelling proposals, build lasting partnerships, and leverage funding to maximize impact. In this session, Brown will teach participants how to grant smith winning proposals, think like a funder, draft a solid boiler plate, and build impactful relationships.

## Help us Improve the Conference!

Session Evaluations (one form for all sessions):

<https://forms.gle/T5yBdDMqWWQVcfVYA>



Conference Evaluation:

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# Program—Friday

8:30—9:30 AM                      Registration/Continental Breakfast/Silent Auction

9:30—10:30 AM                      Welcome: Matt Francis & Morning Keynote: Patricia Hswe  
Ingman & [Online](#)

10:45—11:00 AM                      Break

10:45—11:45 AM                      Concurrent Sessions

**Find the Grants and Endeavor to Write!**    Ingman & [Online](#)

**Presenter:** *Shelby Beatty, Sinclair College*

“Find the Need and Endeavor to Meet It” is the motto of Sinclair Community College, a 138-year-old public college in Dayton, Ohio. Prior to 2021, the robust archival collection sat largely hidden in the College Library. Thanks to grants from the Ohio Local History Alliance in 2021 and Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board in 2022, Sinclair’s Archivist along with student staff were able to digitize, describe, and preserve College collections and bring the Archives into the 21st century. This presentation will discuss finding grant opportunities, writing your grant narrative, and tips for successful grant completion. Access Sinclair’s [Ohio Memory](#) page (OLHA grant funded) and Sinclair’s [OHRAB Grant Final Report](#).

**Sustaining the Collection:**    Thompson

**A Case for Funding Environmental needs through Persistence, Data, and Teamwork**

**Presenter:** *Eric Harrelson, Miami University*

Preservation and Conservation Librarian Eric Harrelson from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio will present on efforts to find funding for an upgrade to improve the environmental conditions of the Walter Havighurst Special Collections and Archives through the National Endowment for the Humanities Sustaining Cultural Heritage grant. This presentation will cover the process from initial inception to submission of the grant. The process includes work shared by a multidisciplinary team across departments in the University across several years, as well as communication and investment from upper administration, both in regards to institutional support as well as internal funding.

# Program—Friday

11:45 AM—12:30 PM                      Lunch and Awards/Business Meeting/Silent Auction Ends  
Ingman & [Online](#)

## Congratulations to our Award Winners!

<b>New Professional Scholarship:</b> Madison Thomas Keegan Kiley	<b>Ohio Preservation Council Scholarship:</b> Kelley Hummingbird
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**Student Scholarships:**  
Matias Cruz  
Katharine Nusbaum

## SOA Business Meeting Agenda

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Welcome                           | f. Nominating                                       |
| 2. Recognition of Outgoing Leaders   | g. Newsletter                                       |
| 3. Incoming Leaders Election Results | 7. Old Business                                     |
| 4. Award Winners                     | 8. New Business                                     |
| 5. Treasurer’s Report                | a. SOA 2026 Annual Meeting                          |
| 6. Committees Reports                | b. Proposed Revision to Constitution—<br>Section 10 |
| a. Educational Programming           | 9. Adjournment                                      |
| b. Membership & Awards               |   |
| c. Marketing & Communications        |   |
| d. Advocacy & Outreach               |   |
| e. JEDAI                             |   |

12:30—1:30 PM                      Afternoon Keynote    Ingman & [Online](#)

**Building Authentic Relationships:**  
**How a Sprint Campaign Strengthened Momentum for Library Fundraising**  
*Sara Bushong and Jordan Cravens*

1:30—1:45 PM                      Break

# Program—Friday

1:45—2:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions

**Developing Rapport:**

Ingman & [Online](#)

**Working with Advancement Professionals to Support Special Collections**

**Presenter:** *Judith Wiener, Ohio State University Health Sciences Library*

Fundraising on university campuses and within non-profit organizations often means working with advancement and development professionals, many of whom do not have experience with the needs or opportunities provided by special collections. This poster session will detail how the Medical Heritage Center at The Health Sciences Library at The Ohio State University has worked with development professionals over time to create development and endowment funds to further its mission to preserve, promote, teach, and celebrate the health care legacy of central Ohio as the essential foundation from which the future of the health sciences is born.

This session will particularly focus on ways archivists can educate advancement professionals about the work of special collections and how to translate and articulate the funding needs of our departments to meet with the goals of fund-raisers and donors alike.

**Finding the Perfect Fit: Grant Selection Strategies for Archives and Libraries**

Thompson

**Presenter:** *Kristen Newby, Columbus Metropolitan Library*

The work that goes into compiling a competitive grant application is often just a glimpse into the time and effort a successful grant-funded project requires. To make these efforts worthwhile, it's important for libraries and archives to be strategic and intentional about the grants they pursue. Join Kristen Newby from Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) to learn about the factors to consider when exploring grant options and how they impacted CML's decision to pursue four different grant-funded projects and the impact of their decisions.

2:30—2:45 PM

Break

2:45—3:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions

**They Never Trained Me on That:**

Ingman & [Online](#)

**Tips for Navigating Grant Research, Submissions, Management, and Reporting**

**Presenters:** *Christopher Harter, University of Cincinnati; Sophia McGuire, City of Gahanna*

Increasingly grant funding has become part of the archival landscape as more institutions seek funding beyond operating budgets to assist with processing backlogs, digitization projects, and public outreach. Yet, grant writing and supervision are skills and knowledge rarely taught in archival or library programs. How does one even begin to seek grant opportunities and how does one not only write a successful grant application but also ensure deliverables and outcomes are met? What is an Opportunity for Funding Notice and what is it like to work with a program officer at a funding agency. Not to mention how to navigate [grants.gov](#).

The panelists will bring their experience working on grants funded at the local, state, and national levels to provide tips on how to research and author grant applications, how to develop project budgets, proactive grant management, and both the opportunities and precariousness of grant funding for archival institutions.



# Program—Friday

2:45—3:30 PM Concurrent Sessions, cont.

## **A Different Perspective: Nonprofit Fundraising & Grant Writing**

Thompson

**Presenters:** *Kathy Selking, Toledo Lucas County Public Library; Sarah Wammes, The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio; Kristin K. McFadden, Taft Museum of Art*

Take a look at fundraising and grant writing from the perspective of three non-archival organizations. Our presenters, from a variety of organizations in northwest Ohio, share lessons learned from successful fundraising campaigns and grant proposals from outside the archival / cultural memory world and answer your questions.

3:30—3:45 PM Break

3:45—4:30 PM Crucial Conversations

## **Archival Work and Advocacy in the Current Political Climate**

Ingman

**Moderators:** *Matt Francis, Ohio Northern University; Nicole Sutton, Columbus Metropolitan Library; Hannah Kemp-Severence, University of Akron; Adam Wanter, MidPointe Library System; Melissa Dalton, Preserve-It, LLC*

A session dedicated to facilitating confidential, small-group based discussions between attendees that focus on archival work and advocacy in response to current events. Goals of the session include providing a safe space where attendees can talk to, learn from, and support one another; and to provide an opportunity for feedback to SOA on how the organization can support archivists at this time and moving forward.

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# Constitutional Amendment—Revision Proposal

## Constitution – Section 10

### *Rationale:*

As researched by then SOA President Amy Rohmiller in September 2022, it was determined that SOA Council's then practice of voting email most likely violated the Ohio Revised Code that provides oversight for organizations like SOA (in particular Section 1702.25). While Council immediately changed its voting practices, we overlooked updating the Constitution's language. This proposed change is designed to reflect current SOA practices to be fully compliant with the Ohio Revised Code and to simplify the language of the current bylaw.

### *Current Language:*

10) The president shall call Council meetings at convenient intervals, and notify Council members at least 15 days before the date of the meeting. Half of the total Leadership members with voting privileges shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at Council meetings.

~~Special deliberations of Council between official Council meetings may be held by electronic means (such as e-mail or other Internet communication systems) to vote upon a particular issue brought before Council for a decision. These deliberations are subject to the following:~~

- ~~• A majority of the Council members shall have access to the appropriate electronic media, as verified by their response to a call for any particular deliberation. As with other Council business, three members shall constitute a quorum for the deliberation and, once established, shall be present until the deliberation is adjourned.~~
- ~~• The technology used for the electronic deliberations shall allow the members full access to and full participation in all deliberation transactions either continuously or intermittently throughout the specified time of the deliberation.~~
- ~~• The affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum shall be the minimum vote requirement for the adoption of any motion.~~
- ~~• The secretary shall ensure that any special deliberations of Council are reflected in the next minutes.~~

### *Proposed Revision:*

10) The president shall call Council meetings at convenient intervals, and notify Council members at least 15 days before the date of the meeting. Half of the total Leadership members with voting privileges shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at Council meetings.

**In compliance with Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.25 (effective August 19, 2005), SOA Council may take actions in between meetings if there is unanimous approval from all current voting members of SOA Council and if approval is granted through written documentation. Written approval can be recorded either through a physical or electronic means (including email). Appropriate documentation for any actions taken in between meetings will be filed with the minutes of the subsequent meeting.**

# Acknowledgements

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Thank you to the University of Toledo for hosting the conference!

Thank you to everyone who worked on this year's program and local arrangements!

Meghan Crawford, Capital University; Matt Francis, Ohio Northern University (SOA President; Betsy Hedler, Ohio History Connection (SOA/ OHC Liaison); Jennifer Long Morehart, Bowling Green State University (SOA Vice-President); Riza Miklowski, Akron-Summit County Public Library; Sara Mouch, University of Toledo (Co-Chair); Michelle Sweetser, Bowling Green State University (Co-Chair); Adam Wanter, MidPointe Library System

# SOA 2024-2025 Council



Matt Francis—President

Jennifer Long Morehart—Vice President

Sophia McGuire—Treasurer

Shelby Beatty—Secretary

Jim DaMico—Council

Kristen Newby—Council

Jessica Hays—Editor, *Ohio Archivist* (ex officio)

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