

**Strengthening Missouri’s Documentary Heritage:  
Report of the Regional Forums for the MHRAB Strategic Planning Project**

Staff from the Missouri State Archives led seven regional forums and an open hearing at the Missouri Conference on History. In each session, the discussion was organized around the MHRAB “Draft Recommendations” document that came out of the last MHRAB meeting. Participants were allowed to comment on each item.

The narrative sections of this report come from the discussion during the meetings. Some are observations and analyses of the report-writer. Most are comments from the meeting participants; in those cases, the meeting is identified parenthetically.

Participants’ remarks are included under the goal/objective being discussed at the time. Some of these relate to multiple objectives or were not directly related to the objective being discussed.

**Participation at the Regional Forums**

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b># of Participants</b>	<b># Institutions Represented</b>
Independence	March 3, 2009	16	12
Springfield	March 18, 2009	23	16
Kirksville	March 24, 2009	7	4
Missouri Conference on History (Springfield)	April 17, 2009	14	14
Cape Girardeau	April 21, 2009	12	10
Columbia	April 28, 2009	7	6
St. Louis	May 12, 2009	23	21
Jefferson City	June 16, 2009	8	6
<b>Total Attendance</b>		<b>110</b>	<b>89</b>

Participants’ remarks are included under the goal/objective being discussed at the time. Some of these relate to multiple objectives or were not directly related to the objective being discussed.

**Goal I: Develop Better Approaches to Documenting Missouri History**

**1. Develop a program to obtain collection/acquisition policies from all historical records repositories and to create and sustain a database of such policies.**

- It was clear in all the meetings that many repositories have no idea what information resources exist regarding archival practices – either in print or online. This problem is particularly acute in repositories without professional archivists on staff.
- Some regions (KC Area Archivists, Springfield, St. Louis) have effective mechanisms for coordinated collection development and report little “competition” for collections.
- A curator asked whether small-town museums and historical societies might establish a network for giving out-of-scope items to a more appropriate repository. [Cape]
- In all meetings, there was strong support for creating a database of archival institutions, with information about their collection strengths/policies, to facilitate deaccessioning or recommending a more appropriate recipient of a donation.
- Uniformly strong interest in MSA providing sample policies and documents online – mission statements, collection policies, deaccession policies, deeds of gift, etc. Most

organizations without such policies said they would develop them if reliable, “vetted” templates or samples were available. There must be a variety of templates, suited to different types and sizes of repositories.

- Some repositories acknowledged that a major dilemma is deciding what to deaccession. [Kirksville] Others said a collection policy would help when declining collections that are out of scope. [Cape] One archivist reported that the archivist has no role in deciding about acquisitions, as the academic institution’s administration makes those decisions. [St. Louis]

**2. Adopt a set of broad subject areas, e.g. agriculture, arts and culture, business and commerce, education, government, religion, as a framework to analyze the adequacy of documentation in Missouri and as a basis to promote action.**

- This item seldom generated much interest or discussion.
- Several participants observed this objective (as stated) is too vague. The broad subject areas need to be broken into smaller, discrete topics. [Springfield]
- John Dougan (Missouri State Archivist) generally introduced it with the question: “What is *not* being collected?” Others introduced the topic with: “How can we improve our mechanisms for sharing information about what is being collected and by whom? and how do we identify the lacunae?” Some items mentioned:
  - women’s history [Springfield]
  - minorities in Missouri [Springfield]
  - immigrants: Bosnian immigrants in St. Louis [Columbia]; Hispanics [Columbia]; other recent immigrant groups in Missouri [Columbia]; new immigrant groups in Missouri [MCOH] – especially Asians and Hispanics. David Richards (MHRAB member & Head, Special Collections & Archives, Missouri State University) noted there may be some local initiatives, but asked whether there should be a statewide effort to coordinate/collaborate in documentation.
  - various occupations – e.g., how people made a living in the Ozarks: farming, lumber companies, railroads [Springfield]
  - niche occupations – e.g., slumlords [Jeff City]
  - business records – mentioned at several sessions, acknowledging that current businesses will be loathe to retain (much less share) records due to litigation concerns
  - capturing blog content from or about Missouri [Springfield, MCOH]
  - church records – especially of small, non-mainstream churches [Springfield]
  - African American churches, funeral homes, cemeteries [Jeff City]
  - history of Scouting (Boy Scouts) in Missouri [Springfield]
  - Missouri newspapers. Participant expressed concern about the deterioration of early microfilm done by SHS. [Springfield]
  - SEMO museum reports they get many queries about African American history but nothing seems available [Cape]
  - born-digital records [St. Louis]
  - small college records – especially start-ups [St. Louis]
  - records of private social-service agencies (e.g., private orphanages), charities, philanthropic organizations [St. Louis]
  - professional and voluntary associations [St. Louis]
  - sports and recreation [St. Louis]
  - political activism of all types [St. Louis]

- building permits –to facilitate research on local buildings. They may be the only way to identify the architect. Society of Architectural Historians concerned about the short retentions on these [5 years in Missouri], and Dougan said LR Board can look into this. [St. Louis]
- architectural records of firms that have gone out of business [St. Louis]
- Some repositories have collections that are “out of scope” but high profile. They expressed willingness to share copies, but not transfer the originals.
- Can the state maintain a register of who’s collecting what? [MCOH]
- Has the MHRAB spoken with historians and other researchers to determine what subjects and kinds of records need to be collected? [St. Louis] Dougan replied yes, and that business and ethnic records are the priority.
- SAA has a program to promote the preservation of architectural records, and Missouri should partner with them. Minnesota Historical Society collects business records; might be a useful model for Missouri. Partnering with ARMA could also help with business records. [St. Louis]
- Gary Kremer (Executive Director, State Historical Society): There’s now a strategy for preserving public records (via LRPP), but no mechanism/structure for preserving private records. As a result, we all compete for those private records. Now there’s an exponential growth of new repositories – people starting little archives, historical societies, and museums without training or information. We need a new paradigm for funding and cooperation. Would like SHS to serve local historical societies in same way as LRPP does for local government. But how to fund that? [MCOH]
- Need to increase attention to oral history. Kentucky has a program, with grants to oral historians. Kremer responded that SHS hopes to do some workshops to teach local organizations how to do oral histories. [MCOH]
- How to get access to MODOT collections? [Cape]
- Kremer: Wishes there were a sustained, ongoing grant program for private collections, using same paradigm as LRPP funding. [MCOH]
- Lynn Morrow (Director, Local Records Preservation Program): Because LRPP has had such success with public records, the records most at risk in Missouri are the private records. [MCOH]

**3. Clarify, refine and promulgate a joint statement of the acquisition policies of the Missouri State Archives, the State Historical Society/Western Historical Manuscripts Collection (WHMC) and, if possible, the State Parks and the State Museum.**

- Clarifying these policies will help others know to which repository users should be directed. [Jeff City]
- The question generally used to launch this discussion was a version of “Is there competition among repositories here?”
- Springfield should be a model for cooperation among repositories, as they know each others’ collections well and freely refer donors to an appropriate institution. [Springfield]
- If repositories would put their finding aids online, it would be easier to locate an appropriate repository when looking to deaccession parts of a collection and to refer donors to a more appropriate repository. [Springfield]
- Challenge: Some donors want their materials kept in the locale, whether or not a local repository is the most appropriate. [Springfield]
- Many potential donors don’t know where to donate their items. [St. Louis]

- Smaller repositories may not know where to make an appropriate referral for out-of-scope donations. [St. Louis]
- Seems problematic that we have two “state” historical societies – MSA and SHS. Creates confusion for researchers. [MCOH]
- Morrow: Obstacle to coordination is who does what. Need to provide a central portal, led by MSA & SHS – especially to the large institutions that have professional staff and stable budget. [MCOH]
- The State Museum wants to work more closely with local historical societies and recognizes they need to thrive. [Columbia]

**4. Inform, encourage and advise private organizations, e.g. corporate, non-profit, and religious, regarding the benefits of identifying and maintaining, or making other provision for their own archival records.**

- With corporate archives, the challenge may be to help them understand they have a collection that is of value and worthy of preservation [e.g., Silver Dollar City]. [Kirksville]
- Public library coordinating with local Mormon church [Kirksville]
- Some academic institutions have vaults of 100-year-old records, but no idea about whether these can be shared. Another rep echoed that question regarding psychiatric records. Morrow explained there’s scant legislation, and legislation may be needed. [Kirksville]
- need to teach people and organizations about the value of their records [St. Louis]

**5. Investigate ways to expand the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection system to include other colleges and universities to better cover the state.**

- Wouldn’t this create *more* problems of duplication, and increase costs of staff, space, etc.? Would prefer centralization. [Independence]
- Few participants seem to care about this.
- Kremer at MCOH: Hopes to fill another slot at MSU. Would like to do same thing at SEMO, Truman, NWMoSU. Strong proponent of regional archives, as outlined in the 1988 strategic plan.
- MOBIUS system suggests a model for inter-institutional delivery.
- One historical society member said she doesn’t want to travel; WHMC should just put all its collections online. [Jeff City]
- MSA should investigate using interlibrary loan to provide broader access to the public records on our 60,000 rolls of microfilm. [Jeff City]
- SHS microfilm is now available via ILL. [Jeff City]

**GOAL II: Develop Better Performance in Missouri’s Historical Records Repositories**

**1. Promulgate recommended “best practices” to all Missouri repositories.**

- The question generally used to launch this discussion was a version of “What information sources do you use when you have a question you can’t answer or need information on archival practices?”
- “Portal” for archival information: At every forum, there was strong support for a central portal via MSA to reliable information sources (technical information, organizations/associations, grant opportunities (with link, deadline, contact info), etc.).

One rep expressed appreciation that MSA/SHS would take the “onus” of directing people to the information/resources they need. [Cape]

- Online repository directories are already available for Kansas City area, Association of St. Louis Area Archivists, and St. Louis Area Religious Archivists. Need to take those into account in MHRAB plans. [St. Louis]
- Some also suggested a blog or “wiki,” where people could ask “dumb questions.” [Independence, Kirksville]
- Organizations without professional staff need templates for indexes and finding aids, with instruction on how to use them
- Several suggested creating a listserv for Missouri history/archival groups. Virtually no one had heard of MHRAB’s DocLine.
- Potential of MSA sending out a regular [monthly?] paper newsletter to every repository. [Independence]
- Information sources cited:
  - NEDCC & Lisa [Independence, Springfield]
  - LRPP Field Archivists [Springfield]
  - NARA website [Springfield & Columbia]
  - Mo. Museums Assn. [Kirksville]
  - State Library [Kirksville]
  - Kim Dillon/DNR [Cape]
  - Google [Columbia, St. Louis]
  - AASLH – which is developing a “best practices” project [Columbia]
  - SAA “Fundamentals” series [Columbia]
- Many participants acknowledged they have no network, no idea where to go for information.

## **2. Establish guidelines and minimum standards for repositories and develop incentives for repositories to meet them.**

- Some small historical societies see this as beneficial because most of their members don’t even know what an archive is. [Independence]
- This objective and II.6 might be less scary if there were a “tiered system,” such as that used in Utah’s “bootstrap program” for public libraries: “Premiere” status for top-tier programs, “Promising” status for those with high energy who needed more guidance, and “Potential” for those that seemed credible but needed much guidance. [Springfield]
- Earlier MHRGP was a great benefit. Helped institution “professionalize.” If the state wants to use this system, the state needs to support efforts to move “up the ladder.” [Springfield]
- Representative is “all for standards,” but they need to be reasonable and achievable, (unlike the AAM standards). [Kirksville, St. Louis]
- It would help if small repositories could have visiting consultants at no cost. [Kirksville]
- Need a mechanism to help repositories raise their standards – partly via training [Columbia]
- Partnering with stronger, more “professional” repositories is a huge help for those that rely on volunteers or untrained staff. [St. Louis]
- Such standards can help those who work with Boards, as they provide an incentive for the Board and can give the Board confidence in the institution. [St. Louis]
- MHRAB could help by publicizing organizations that meet the minimum standards, then recognizing when they advance to the next “level.” [Jeff City]

3. **Create a certificate and recognition program to recognize positive program development.**
  - Uniformly, participants said they would pursue this only if it provided a tangible benefit such as access to funding. State historic site administrators observed there's no point to current museum accreditation because it provides no benefit.
  - MSA should provide press coverage as repositories "advance." [Springfield]
  - In later sessions, Dougan asked, "Should we certify the people or the organization?" One rep said it should be the organization and there should be "tiers" so they can press to achieve a higher level. Another organization asked about the impact of personnel turnover, and observed that knowledgeable people leaving may significantly alter the organization's standing. [Columbia]
  
4. **Provide basic training on all aspects of archival administration and practice.**
  - 4A. **Provide a statewide archives institute, on a regular basis, for professional "credentialing."**
  
  - 4B. **Regularly offer regional workshops geared to persons with part-time or volunteer responsibility for historical records.**
    - General consensus is that most would prefer one-day workshops within easy driving distance.
    - Missouri Library Association has a special interest group on local history and would like to do regional workshops; these would be especially effective if MLA could partner with an organization like MSA or the SHS. [Independence]
    - Need training in different ways to organize collections, in arrangement and description, creation of finding aids. [Independence]
    - A "tiered system" (as envisioned in II.2 and II.6) is o.k. *if* repositories are given education/training, funding, and other resources to enable them to move up the ladder. [Springfield]
    - It would be helpful if MSA or other mentors would provide onsite consultation after people attend the training programs. Richards reported that MSU has and would mentor smaller repositories. [Springfield]
    - Include session on fundraising, PR, outreach, etc. Use local people who have been successful (e.g., Polk, Gasconade, & Perry counties) as faculty. [Springfield]
    - College museum needs a way to provide some basic training to new staff and student workers, so the institution doesn't have to spend the entire semester training them. [Kirksville]
    - Need mini training/how-to – e.g., how to wrap a book, clean a photo, uncurl a photo." [Kirksville]
    - Training should provide the basics of handling, organization, accession, and scanning. [Kirksville]
    - Lisa Fox (Senior Conservator, Local Records Preservation Program) asked what's the best way to provide training for college students [Kirksville]
      - central/regional areas for ongoing training in modules ... with defined competencies ... and a "certificate" upon completion
      - certify students in specific areas, such as "archival student assistants" or in specialties like scanning photos
      - establish regional centers that offer the training. Academic institutions would pay for 3- to 5-day training

- [Greene Co. concurred they train students to digitize sound recordings]
  - establish BBS [bulletin board system] for information-sharing
  - Morrow wondered whether Mo. State Library regional system could support this with meeting space and logistics (e.g., publicity), since they have the infrastructure.
  - St. Louis archivist noted that AASLH has a course on CD that's good for students and volunteers.
- Could the Mo. State Library host an "Archives 101 for Librarians" institute for those with archives/manuscripts collections? [Kirksville]
  - Need training on repository development and collaboration [Cape]
  - Need training in how to do research in local public records [Cape]
  - Discussion of "webinars," interactive videoconference, and other online training was contentious. Agreed that it can save costs. But many people lack access to high-speed Internet. And that mode doesn't meet the "learning styles" of some people, nor is it appropriate for some topics (e.g., conservation). [Columbia & St. Louis]
  - ASLAA has enough expertise to teach basic and advanced sessions; doesn't need to wait for "The State" to provide solutions. [St. Louis]
  - Need some programs targeted at volunteers. These should be short – perhaps half-day segments. [St. Louis]
  - It would be helpful to have workshops in a repository that's "doing it right," so tours and the venue itself would be part of the educational experience. [Jeff City]
  - WHMC staff announced SHS is thinking about doing some basic workshops. Larry Hackman (Project Consultant) noted that MSA and SHS need to agree on what will be taught, particularly what will be taught as "best practices." [Jeff City]
5. **Advocate the development of a master's level education program in archives and records at a Missouri institution of higher learning.**
- Little interest in this among forum attendees. Most aren't going to leave their jobs to get an M.A., and they are too small and poor ever to expect to afford a professional archivist.
  - Concerned about the "graying" of the Folklore Society. Need to get young people involved through outreach, internships, etc., to whet their appetites for a career in history/archives. [Kirksville]
  - UMKC will begin offering archival classes this fall, taught by NARA staff. Emporia State has also been teaching archival classes in Kansas City for several years. [Jeff City]
6. **Encourage institutions that cannot meet minimum Missouri standards to find qualified alternate stewards to administer their collections.**
- In most sessions, participants wanted clarification on what constitutes "minimum standards."
  - MHRAB member in Springfield explained that MHRAB strongly supports local history organizations, but some lack the resources, facilities, personnel, and expertise to care for their records.
  - Transferring records doesn't necessarily mean ceding ownership. [Springfield]
  - Perhaps the state could provide regional repositories – either in existing organizations or in some of the underground climate-controlled facilities – that could house at-risk collections without owning them. [Springfield]
  - Be sure they have access to it after donation. Provide big donor plaque. [Columbia]
  - UMSL has collections of some small historical societies that realized they couldn't care for them appropriately. [St. Louis]

- In response to Dougan’s question, “How do we get them to do that?,” responses included:
  - assure donor organization the receiving repository is solid and stable [St. Louis]
  - assure the donating organization that the provenance of the records will be maintained, won’t be scattered or deaccessioned [St. Louis]
  - provide a behind-the-scenes tour to indicate the quality of care the records will receive [St. Louis]
- Extensive discussion of whether digitization can solve this problem; Dougan suggested we can digitize at-risk records and produce microfilm to preserve them. [St. Louis]
- Hackman pointed out that we behave as if all records/collections are important. For example, we need to consider which church records are important, whether there is adequate documentation on the state and/or local level. Which is why we need to pay attention to Goal I.2 (re: analyzing the adequacy of documentation in various subject areas). [Jeff City]

### **GOAL III: Develop Better Access to Missouri’s Historical Records**

#### **1. Refine and develop the Missouri Digital Heritage Initiative in a way that can serve as a template for digital access to collections.**

- Especially among smaller, private organizations there is a sense that they want everyone else to put collections online, but not their own – i.e., “You show me yours, but I won’t show you mine.” They believe putting records online will reduce visitors and seriously reduce their income. There was some discussion of encouraging organizations to put their finding aids online, as this might increase visitors and revenue. A.T. Still Museum and Fife Folklore Archives talked about benefits of putting finding aids online. One historical society that has held this view is beginning to change, but recognizes this will require another funding model if users aren’t forced to pay for the publications. One participant wondered about local historical societies putting a “tip jar” on their websites.
- By contrast, some historical societies expressed a desire to digitize their collections and willingness to have them online, but lack funds, expertise, and Web capability. They would like someone else to digitize the materials and maintain them online. [*Note: This points to a lack of information dissemination, as the organization is unaware of MDHI and the State Library’s LSTA grants.*]
- MU Art & Archaeology Museum expressed concern about CDs researchers are providing for deposit. [Columbia]

#### **2. Develop a template and recommendations for the digitization policies of historical records repositories statewide.**

- No consensus on scanning standards – depends on whether it’s for preservation or online access. [Springfield]

#### **3. Develop programs to better educate the users and potential users of historical records.**

- In each meeting, Dougan asked what repositories are doing for outreach/education. Predictable responses: tours, presentations to community groups and in the repository, conference booths, newsletters.



- Participants reported the following problems with their users:
    - Why can't they just browse through the collection? [Springfield]
    - People who want us to appraise their collection [Springfield]
    - Users need to realize the wider sources of information – not just the old genealogical approach, but seeing the value in circuit court and other records. The challenge is to turn genealogists into family/local historians. [Springfield]
    - Need in-house programs to explain what the repository is and why it does what it does. [Springfield]
  - MSA host a 1-2 day workshop for teachers, to teach about research methods and show what kinds of resources are available. Work with TAH grants. [MCOH]
  - Nominee for “Best Line of the Year-Long MHRAB Project” goes to Monroe Co. Historical Society: “We need to educate the community about the difference between a local history repository and Grandma’s attic.” [Jeff City]
  - In the Jefferson City forum, Dougan focused on educating users of MDHI. Suggestions included:
    - cross-walking websites
    - improving the federated search engine on the MDHI site
    - focusing in education of youth through activities like National History Day
    - educating teachers about what is available
4. **Encourage organizations to collaborate with the State Archives and State Historical Society to expand access via processing, digitization, publication, etc.**
- John Bradbury (Interim Director, WHMC-Rolla) reported that SHS processes selected collections free of charge and (after duplication for SHS access) returns the collection to the owner in archival-quality housing. [Springfield]
  - Need better/affordable signage on Missouri highways to direct people to museums, archives, historic sites. One respondent wondered whether the state could provide a list of historic/cultural sites, perhaps linked from the Missouri state website and/or with a link to tourism. [Springfield]
  - MSA e-volunteer program as potential model for others [Kirksville]
  - potential use of university alumni as e-volunteers: Need to approach Alumni Affairs & Development Offices, because the best way to get funds from a person is to get them more involved with the institution. [Kirksville]
  - Another potential labor source: All deans are looking for ways to make student workers’ work more meaningful. This is an active topic on deans’ listservs. [Kirksville]
    - MSA/MHRAB should meet with Chief Academic Officers to discuss natural alliances on this topic.
    - Also discuss this as a partial problem to the “trailing spouse” problem that deans are discussing.
  - Kirksville teacher: Uses MDHI, especially the dueling curriculum. Tells about guy donating box of tintypes and documents purportedly from the Dalton gang to his grandchildren’s teacher. [MCOH]
5. **Other Comments** – not specifically related to the draft objectives
- Concerned about preserving “born digital” records. Devices such as the ArchiveWriter will help with some records, but there remain problems with dynamic electronic records such as databases, GIS systems, etc. [Independence]

- MSA has done much more than other states to support general research via online resources. [Springfield]
- In response to Dougan's "How can we improve access?" a Springfield teacher urged MSA to keep Saturday hours. [MCOH]
- In the St. Louis forum, objectives under this goal were subsumed in a discussion of digitization and MDHI. Dougan asked what factors are keeping organizations from offering more digital collections. Responses included:
  - lack of space and time to prep collections for digitization
  - lack of equipment and technical skills. Could there be a central scanning facility?
  - legal/bureaucratic issues at university level
  - perception that no one will visit the smaller institutions if their collections are online
  - some online material has been used inappropriately [This comment came from one of the women religious orders]

#### **GOAL IV: Develop Better Preservation for Historical Records in Missouri**

*[Note: The MHRAB "Draft Recommendations" document had no specific recommendations for this goal.]*

- Institutions need funding to purchase appropriate materials (boxes, folders, etc.) [Independence]
- Organize a purchasing co-op. Perhaps quarterly, let everyone know to send in their orders. That would let small repositories get the advantage of volume discounts. But who would manage/coordinate this? [Springfield]
- Publicize the potential of using statewide contracts [Springfield]
- Need more topics in MSA's ConNotes to share when receive public queries. [Kirksville]
- State Museum & SHS both need a new building [Columbia]. The State Museum no longer actively collects artifacts or records, because they do not have adequate and appropriate space to care for them. [Jeff City]
- MRRL: persuading people that irreplaceable items warrant preservation [Columbia]
- educate the Board about why/how to do preservation [Columbia]

#### **GOAL V: Develop Better Advocacy for Historical Records in Missouri (Cross Cutting Issues)**

- infrastructure: Problem in Missouri is there is no infrastructure/leadership at the state level. No reliable information coming from MSA to hammer home key points, advocate for policy, etc. [Independence]
- Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation was mentioned as a potential partner in V.1-V.3, but few had heard of this group
- Must "get it local." Move around to the regions. Do something like the Humanities Council's charettes. [Kirksville]
- Fox described the AIC "Angels" projects and asked whether it might work on a local level in Missouri. Strong support for this. One participant suggested "Extreme Museum Makeover – The TV Version." Another suggested focusing on one small, manageable repository; get it right, provide incentive to expand. [Kirksville]

- Work with AAH grants and history teachers as an advocacy group to help lobby for funding. [MCOH]
  - Advocacy: Missouri should have a venue to do legislative alerts like the ALA Washington Office & National Trust for Historic Preservation do. Kansas has something like this. [Cape]
1. **Hold a statewide conference of historical records organizations to review key issues and consider forming a continuing organization for discussion of and advocacy on archival issues.**
    - Reactions were mixed in all meetings. Some people were supportive, particularly those with professional staff. Many people do not want yet another conference to attend, especially with tight budgets and in volunteer organizations whose members are resistant to overnight travel. Some supported the idea of holding an archival meeting in conjunction with another conference; only the St. Louis group strongly supported meeting in conjunction with the Missouri Conference on History.
  2. **Promote creation of a statewide historical records advocacy organization to articulate the benefits of historical records and to provide a unified agenda and voice.**
    - Need people who can lobby the legislature to fund grant programs, increase regional services, etc. They must be both interested *and* influential, must have connections with the legislature. And there must be a consistent apparatus to communicate with the grassroots record keepers who will approach their legislators. [Independence]
    - Need “one voice” to convince legislature and governor that history matters. [St. Louis]
    - Adapt ALA’s national legislative day to Missouri. [St. Louis]
  3. **Expand the role of the Missouri Historical Records Advisory Board to include more active advocacy on behalf of statewide historical records issues, perhaps in conjunction with a statewide membership body.**
    - Need more grassroots contact with local legislators [Kirksville]
    - Work with Mo. Assn. of CVBs – They actively work on behalf of local legislation. [Kirksville]
    - Need to adopt the model of the state historic preservation people, who regularly send e-mail updates and “calls for action” during the legislative session. [Jeff City]
  4. **Establish effective ongoing coordination on archives and historical records matters among the State Archives, State Historical Society/Western Historical Manuscripts Collection, the State Parks, the State Museum, and the State Historic Preservation Office.**
    - Morrow asked where folks call for help. Both respondents say they call MSA. One added that he doesn’t perceive SHS as having a statewide outreach mission. [Kirksville]
    - Endersby [State Museum] advocated State Archivist to join State Museum in partnership for IMLS preservation planning grant. Dougan said it is being explored. [Columbia]
    - Dougan recommended striking the SHPO from this list, since they are not a records repository. [Jeff City]
  5. **Provide increased resources and more reliable revenue streams to the State Archives and the State Historical Society to fulfill their statewide roles.**

**6. Expand funding for non-government historical records programs.**

- MSA should publicize the basic grants (NEH Preservation Assistance Grants, IMLS CAPs, MHRGP) for small historical organizations. [Kirksville]
- One historical society was able to fund a monthly newsletter by getting local businesses to underwrite the cost. [Jeff City]

**7. Identify potential new funding sources for archival programs.**

**OTHER COMMENTS**

- Dougan began his meetings by explaining the strategic planning project, and asking (by show of hands) how many people had heard of MSA, SHS, WHMC, and MHRAB and knew what they did. In all cases, most knew about MSA and SHS (mostly for its newspaper work). Significantly fewer knew about the WHMC or the extent of its collections. Virtually no one had heard of the MHRAB before receiving the survey and meeting announcement. There is also confusion between the SHS and Missouri History Museum (previously Missouri Historical Society).
- Academic affairs officer remarked there is a great need for some organization to serve as clearinghouse for internships, service learning, and hands-on training. Archives could be a good venue. But academic officers don't know where to go. This is especially true for any college/university with a local/public history program. The field is wide open. [Kirksville]
- "Service learning" is big in DESE and CBHE. One of them might provide funding to develop this training. [Kirksville]
- Archival repositories should welcome history students' tours to explain what archives do and expose them to the archival profession as another career path for history majors. [MCOH]
- One thing Missouri lacks is an organization with a mandate to provide field services to private organizations. [Columbia]

*Report prepared by Lisa Fox -July 31, 2009*