

Eric C. Alstrom
Collections Conservator
Curriculum Vitae
June 2010

Michigan State University Libraries
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East Lansing, MI 48824-1048

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EDUCATION

University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies Ann Arbor, MI

December 1989: Master of Information and Library Studies, Concentration in Archival Management

Course work focused on preservation of library materials, including four-month internship at the Bentley Historical Library Conservation Lab

Kalamazoo College Kalamazoo, MI

June 1988: Bachelor of Arts - History, Concentration in American Studies

Senior Thesis: Clement of Alexandria and the early Christian reaction to pagan mythology

Six month study abroad in Hannover, West Germany; three months study at the Newberry Library, Chicago concentrating on the early cartography of Michigan; three month internship in the Local History Room at the Kalamazoo Public Library; editor of *The Cauldron*, the student literary and arts magazine

EMPLOYMENT

Michigan State University Libraries East Lansing, MI

April 2004 – present: Collections Conservator; Head of the Florence G. Wallace Conservation Laboratory; Book Arts Instructor in MSU's Residential College of the Arts and Humanities

Conservator: Manage the Florence G. Wallace conservation lab and supervise lab staff; train staff in new treatments; oversee conservation operations for general collections, including both repair and pamphlet binding; perform advanced treatments on both general and special collections materials; prepare and document volumes sent to outside conservation vendors; manage preservation grants and other special projects; answer conservation questions from library staff and the public; work with development officer in fund raising efforts; staff Special Collections reading room desk when needed.

Book Arts Instructor: Teach bookbinding to undergraduate students in the Residential College for the Arts and Humanities. Work with the letterpress printing instructors on collaborative student projects. Advise students on their printing and binding projects. Supervise the printing and binding studio.

Dartmouth College Libraries Hanover, NH

October 1998 – March 2004: Collections Conservator; Book Arts Program Instructor; History of Books and Printing Bibliographer

Conservator: Oversaw operations of conservation lab, including book and paper conservation of circulating collections and in-house binding of new materials; supervised conservation technicians, interns and student assistants; trained all employees in proper conservation and binding techniques; performed advanced conservation treatments for Special Collections materials and other complex projects; answered conservation questions from members of the public.

Book Arts Program: Instructor and workshop coordinator for extra-curricular binding and printing program.

Bibliographer: History of books and printing.

Ohio University Libraries Athens, OH

February 1994 – September 1998: Collections Conservator; Latin American Studies Bibliographer

Conservator: Directed activities of conservation lab including work flow and purchasing; staff training in basic and advanced conservation skills; performed advanced repair techniques on Special Collections materials and other rare or complex items from the 16th through 20th centuries.

Bibliographer: Latin American Studies; library liaison for Guatemalan Government Documents depository; taught bibliographic instruction and library use to graduate students.

University of Michigan Libraries Ann Arbor, MI

January 1993 – January 1994: Technical Library Assistant, Special Collection Library

Monitored reading room and answered reference questions; handled interlibrary loan requests and reference correspondence; planned and mounted exhibits including a retrospective of Leonard Bahr and the Adagio Press; performed minor conservation treatments for special collections materials.

James Craven and Associates Ann Arbor, MI

January 1990 – January 1994: Conservator – Book and Paper

Restoration and conservation of books and works of art on paper chosen for their unique qualities; this continued my apprenticeship with Mr. Craven.

Bessenberg Bindery Ann Arbor, MI

October 1990 – December 1992: Book conservator and hand binder

Head of conservation repair (managed work flow and performed majority of treatments); worked in production area on custom case-bound books in both cloth and leather; performed special custom projects.

Bentley Historical Library Ann Arbor, MI

January 1990 – October 1990: Conservation Assistant

Assisted Head Conservator James Craven by performing a variety of treatments for the Michigan Historical Collections, including books, paper, and photographs; this was the beginning of my apprenticeship.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE**American Institute of Conservation** (1993 – present)

Professional Associate status awarded January 2008

Member: Book and Paper Group, Library Collections Conservation Discussion Group

Presenter: 1997 and 2001 LCCDG Panel Discussions; 2005 Annual Conference Poster Session

Guild of Book Workers (1993 – present)

Member: Midwest Chapter and New England Chapter

Committee Work: Chair, Communications (formerly Publicity) Committee: 2002 – present; National GBW

Webmaster: 1998 – present; Midwest Chapter Newsletter Editor: 1997 – 1999; Midwest Chapter Webmaster: 1997 – present; listserv manager 2002 – 2006; listserv owner 2006 – present

Michigan Alliance for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage (2006 – present)

Committee Work: Board member and web editor: 2006 – 2009; Treasurer: 2009 – present

Michigan Archival Association (2007)

Presenter: 2007 Annual Conference

ACRL/New England Chapter: Preservation and Conservation Interest Group (1999 – 2004)**New England Conservation Association** (2002 – 2004)**Ohio Preservation Council** (1994 – 1998)

Committee Work: Education Committee, Web Page Task Force; Secretary: 1996-1997

UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEES**Michigan State University**

Academic Council/Faculty Council (term begins August 2010)

Disaster Committee (2004 – present)

Exhibits Committee (2005 – present)

University Collections Council (2005 – present)

Steering Committee (2007 – 2009)

Chair: 2008 – 2009

Faculty Affairs Committee (2006 – 2007)

Library Faculty Search Committee: Agriculture Librarian (2007)

Bylaws Committee (2004 – 2005)

Front Door Group (2004 – 2005)

Library Faculty Search Committee: Head of Reference (2005)

Web Presence Workgroup (2004)

Dartmouth College

Preservation Committee (1998 – 2002)

Book Arts Workshop Advisory Committee (1999 – 2004)

Collections Conservation Round Table (1998 – 2002)

Collection Management and Development Committee (1998 – 2002)

Disaster Committee (1998 – 2002)

Library Staff Association

President: 2001-2002

Vice President: 2000-2001

Ohio University

Exhibits Committee (1994 – 1998)

Allocation Formula Committee (1996 – 1997)

Bibliographer's Steering Committee (1994 – 1996)

Staff Development Committee (1994 – 1996)

Community Organizations

Edgewood Cooperative Nursery School (2006 – 2007)

Board Member and Newsletter Editor

United Way Library Department Coordinator (2002-2003)

Upper Valley Humane Society (1999 – 2000)

Board Member and Webpage Editor

Summer Youth Employment Training Program (1995 – 1998)

Supervisor and On-site Mentor

Athens Area Macintosh Users Group (1994 – 1998)

Newsletter Editor (1997 – 1998)

HONORS & CERTIFICATES

AIC Professional Associate

January 2008: American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works

Staff Recognition Award

June 2006: Michigan State University Libraries

Included in Marquis' *Who's Who In America*

2006 edition

Hazardous Materials Handling Certificate

June 2002: Dartmouth College

Certificate of Hazardous Communication and 1910.120 Awareness

January 1996: Ohio University

WORKSHOPS, LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

Book Doctors: How the MSU Libraries' Conservation Lab Heals Books

June 2010: part of the Spring 2010 Lifelong Library Emeriti Program; Michigan State University Libraries (Lecture and Demonstration)

Introduction to the Book Arts: RCAH 291

2010, 2009 and 2008: MSU Residential College in the Arts and Humanities; East Lansing, MI (College credit course co-taught with Anita Skeen, Arie Koelewyn and Peter Berg taught during Spring Semester)

Expanding Expression: The Integration of Visual and Written Images

January – May 2010: MSU Residential College in the Arts and Humanities; East Lansing, MI (Bookbinding instructor for college credit course taught by Anita Skeen and Laura DeLind)

Japanese Bookbinding and Box Making

April 2010 and February 2007: Hollander's School for Book and Paper Arts; Ann Arbor, MI (One-day Workshop)

Drum Leaf Binding

December 2009: Hollander's School for Book and Paper Arts; Ann Arbor, MI (One-day Workshop)

Kerrytown Bookfest Mass Hands-On Workshops

September 2009 (Blizzard Book) and September 2008 (Three Basic Book Structures): Kerrytown Bookfest; Ann Arbor, MI (Outdoor Mini Workshop for 50+ people)

Working with a Conservation Vendor: A Top 10 List (or How a Small Vendor Helped Save a Big Grant)

June 2009: Library Preservation Vendor Conference, Michigan State University available online
<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/presentations/top_10_list_vendor.html> (Lecture)

Interlocking Concertina Structures

February 2009: Hollander's School for Book and Paper Arts; Ann Arbor, MI (One-day Workshop)

Advanced Book Repair

November 2008, November 2007 and November 2006: Michigan Library Consortium; Lansing, MI (One-day Workshop)

Four and Six Needle Coptic Books

February 2008: Hollander's School for Book and Paper Arts; Ann Arbor, MI (One-day Workshop)

Family History Scrapbook Workshop

January 2008: part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Diversity Celebration; Michigan State University Libraries; East Lansing, MI

Writing for Publication

October 2007: MSU Library Staff Development Program (Panel Discussion)

First Do No Harm: Conservation in the Archival Setting

June 2007: Michigan Archival Association Annual Meeting; Bentley Historical Library, Ann Arbor, MI (Lecture)

Your Gonna Do What!?: The Conservation of Archival Materials

September 2005: ICA/SUV International Archives Conference; Michigan State University; available online <http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/presentations/archives_conservation.html> (Lecture)

Disaster Recovery Workshop

August 2005: Michigan State University Libraries; hands-on workshop for members of the Disaster Committee; (One-day Workshop)

A Query for Investigation: The Mystery of the Wire Loop

June 2005: AIC Annual Conference; Minneapolis, MN; poster presentation; with accompanying webpage <<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/wireloop/wireloop.html>> (Poster Presentation)

A Short History of Bookbinding and Introduction to Conservation

June 2005 and June 2004: Wallace Conservation Lab, Michigan State University; PowerPoint presentation and hands-on demonstration for Wayne State University Library School students; available online <<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/presentations/bindinghistory.html>> (Lecture)

Ethiopian Sewn Boards Binding

April 2005: Hollander's School for Book and Paper Arts; Ann Arbor, MI (One-day Workshop)

Conservation Treatment Options for Reference Books

July 2004: Michigan State University Libraries; presentation for reference staff with accompanying webpage <<http://www.lib.msu.edu/apd/conservation/refconrep/index.html>> (Lecture)

19th Century Publisher's Cloth Bindings: Principles and Treatments for Conservation in University Libraries

November 2003: Michigan State University Libraries; interview presentation; available online <http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/presentations/webpages/publishers_cloth_bindings.html> (Lecture)

Board Reattachment Using Japanese Paper Hinges

September 2003: Garage Annex School for Book Arts; Easthampton, MA; with accompanying webpage <<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/presentations/gasworkshop/boardreattachworkshop.html>> (Weekend Workshop)

The Art of the Book

October 2001: Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth; lecture and workshop about conservation, bookbinding and the history of the book; taught with Barb Sagraves (Workshop/Lecture)

Board Reattachment Roundtable: Japanese Paper Hinges for Hollowbacks

June 2001: AIC Annual Conference; Dallas, TX; Library Collection Conservation Discussion Group (Lecture)

Collections Conservation Round Table Workshops

May 2001: Dartmouth College Library; a workshop on how to photocopy replacement pages for library staff; other topics included pamphlet binding, tipping-in loose pages and encapsulation. These workshops were taught between 1999 and 2001.

Training and Educational Opportunities for Bookbinders

January 2001: Dartmouth College; panel discussion sponsored by the New England Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers where I represented the apprenticeship model (Panel Discussion)

Leather Volume Board Reattachment Alternatives: Japanese Paper Hinges

March 2000: University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT; ACRL/NEC Conservation/Preservation Interest Group (Lecture)

Disaster Recovery Workshop

Spring 1999: Dartmouth College; hands-on workshops for staff of the library (Workshop Series)

Books Etc: The Battle to Gain Control of Non-Print Media

March 1999: Library and Archives of the New Hampshire Political Tradition, Concord, NH; ACRL/NEC Conservation/Preservation Interest Group (Panel Discussion)

Book Arts Program Open Bindery

1999 – 2004: Dartmouth College; evening workshop series for students and staff (Workshop Series)
Topics included: Coptic binding; two-signature pamphlets; paste paper decoration; Gocco printing; group edition binding; and many other book structures

Community Book Arts Workshops

1999 – 2004: AVA Gallery, Lebanon, NH; selected workshop descriptions and sample handouts available online <<http://bookworks.webalstrom.ftml.net/workshops/samples/samples.html>> (Workshops)
Topics included: week-long edition binding intensive; sewnboards binding; non-adhesive structures; Japanese stab-sewn bindings and boxes; and flexagons

Seven Single Sheet Structures

October 2001: Leyden Community Arts Program, Leyden, MA; sample handout available online <<http://bookworks.webalstrom.ftml.net/workshops/samples/assets/7single.pdf>> (One-day Workshop)

Eight Books in a Box

July 1999: League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, Hanover, NH; sample handout available online <<http://bookworks.webalstrom.ftml.net/workshops/samples/assets/8books.pdf>> (One-day Workshop)

Basic Bookbinding and Boxmaking

January 1998: Ohio University Graphic Arts Department; taught for Arlyn Simon, art professor. I also taught this class in October 1997 and January 1996. (Weekend Workshop)

Library Use and Bibliographic Instruction for International Students: Resources for International Studies

1995-1998: Ohio University Libraries (Multiple Workshop Series)

New Student Employee Orientation – Preservation of Library Materials

September 1997: Ohio University Libraries; this evening lecture was designed to make new student employees in the library aware of preservation and conservation concerns. I also gave this lecture in 1996 and 1995. (Lecture)

Cloth Reback and Spiral Bound Materials Forum

June 1997: Library Collection Conservation Discussion Group, AIC Annual Conference; San Diego, CA (Poster Presentation)

Household Preservation for Family Heirlooms

May 1997: Athens Kiwanis; Athens, OH (Lecture)

Ohio Historical Society's Family Heirloom Preservation Awareness Symposium

April 1997: Athens Historical Society, Athens, OH; created an informational table which included books and samples on preservation.

Southeastern Ohio Regional Conservation Workshop

June – July 1996: Ohio University, Athens, OH; funded through a grant from LSCA (Workshop Series)

Three Simple Book Structures

October 1994: Ohio University Libraries (Workshop)

PUBLICATIONS

The Planning and Construction of Book and Paper Conservation Laboratories: A Guidebook

Chapter on *Design and Layout*
(Book to be published in 2010)

Celebrating the Art of the Book

Michigan State University Libraries' Special Collections Newsletter, Winter 2008 (Vol. 5, No. 1)

"You're Gonna Do What?!": The Conservation of Paper-based Archival Materials

ICA Section on University and Research Institution Archives: 2005 Seminar Proceedings, 2006

A Query for Investigation: The Mystery of the Wire Loop

The Book and Paper Group Annual, 2005 (Vol. 24)
(This issue will be published in mid-2007)

The Origins of the *Livres des Origines*: A Case Study in Bookbinding

Michigan State University Libraries' Special Collections Newsletter, January 2006 (Vol. 4, No. 1); available online
<specialcollections.lib.msu.edu/pdf/SPCNewsV4No1.pdf>

The Mystery of the Wire Loop: A Query for Investigation

The Bonefolder: An E-Journal for the Bookbinder and Book Artist, Fall 2005 (Vol. 2, No. 1); available online
<www.philobiblon.com/bonefolder>

Conservation Treatments Ensure Future Access

Insight, Newsletter of the Friends of the Michigan State University Libraries, Spring 2005 (Vol. 2, No. 2)

Workshop Report: Molded Paper Spine Conservation Binding with Donia Conn

New England Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers Newsletter, September 2004 (Vol. 24, No. 2); available online
<palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/chapters/newengland/html/paper_spine.html>

Review: Michael Twyman: The British Library Guide to Printing History and Techniques

Guild of Book Workers Newsletter, February 2001 (No. 134)

Review: Bernard C. Middleton: The Restoration of Leather Bindings (1998 Edition)

Guild of Book Workers Newsletter, August 2000 (No. 131); available online
<palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/news/gbw133.pdf>

Review: Marianne Tidcombe: Twenty-five Gold-Tooled Bookbindings

Guild of Book Workers Newsletter, October 1999 (No. 126); available online
<palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/news/gbw126.html#reviews>

“P-Circ” Box / Tyvek Temporary Storage Enclosure

Guild of Book Workers Newsletter, June 1998 (No. 118); available online
<palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/news/gbw118.html#tips>

Conservation Instruction Manual

This manual is used by the Ohio University Libraries' Preservation Department staff when training new employees in the Conservation Lab. All aspects of conservation are covered, including basic skills, pertinent background information, and detailed instructions for over 15 different types of conservation repairs performed in the Lab. Distributed freely by the Ohio Preservation Council, 1997.

Conservation Training In Ohio: A Report From Three Regional Workshops

Preservation Issues: State Library of Ohio Newsletter, September 1996 (No. 21)

Co-authored with Patricia Smith-Hunt, head of Ohio University Libraries' Preservation Department

Adagio: A Checklist

1993: Edited with Wesley B. Tanner; a listing of the books, pamphlets and ephemera printed by the private press of Leonard F. Bahr. This was published in conjunction with an exhibit at the Special Collections Library, University of Michigan.

Homage to Audubon: The Illustrated Bird Book 1300-1860

1993: Edited with Karla Vandersypen; an exhibit catalog produced in conjunction with the exhibit of the same name at the Special Collections Library, University of Michigan.

PROJECTS, CONSULTATIONS & GRANTS**The Planning and Construction of Book and Paper Conservation Laboratories: A Guidebook**

2009-present: Co-editor of book; volunteered to help Jennifer Hain-Tepper finish this project when original co-editor stepped down. As of June 2010, a potential publisher has been found and the book should be published within the year.

Library Open House Exhibit Table

2009, 2008, 2007, 2006: Michigan State University Libraries. Organized an informational table with hand outs, a hands-on project and demonstration of conservation techniques aimed at informing students about the conservation lab. Annual event during Fall Semester.

Friends of the Library Annual Event

August 2009: Michigan State University Libraries. Organized an exhibit of conservation treatments and silent auction for the conservation of 19th century publisher's cloth bindings.

Preserving Michigan History: An Assessment and Plan for the Kalamazoo College Archives

July 2009: Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI. Performed a preservation consultation funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities' Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions. (Consultation)

Library Preservation Vendor Conference

June 2009: Michigan State University. Worked with librarians from Michigan Library Consortium and Library of Michigan to plan a 2-day conference with both speakers and vendors. Attended by over 40 people from Michigan and the Midwest.

How to Judge a Book by Its Cover: The History Of Binding

April 2009: Special Collections, Michigan State University Libraries. Researched and curated an exhibit on the history of binding structures from the 15th through 20th centuries featuring bindings from the Special Collections.

Save America's Treasures Grant – "Teaching Young Americans: The Early American Schoolbook Collection"

2005 – 2008: Co-principal investigator, along with Peter Berg, on a two year, \$254,500 project to conserve 1,500 books from the Early American Schoolbook collection. The project included oversight on the creation of a major database to record the treatments and photographic documentation of the books. (Grant Writing and Administration)

Friends of the Library Annual Dinner

October 2007: English Inn, Eaton Rapids, MI. Organized a demonstration and exhibit of conservation procedures, including a silent auction for the conservation of books from books from Special Collections.

Library Open House Exhibit Table

2009, 2008, 2007, 2006: Michigan State University Libraries. Organized an informational table with hand outs, a hands-on project and demonstration of conservation techniques aimed at informing students about the conservation lab. Annual event during Fall Semester.

Guild of Book Workers Midwest Chapter Annual Meeting

March 2007: Held in East Lansing, MI; organized local arrangements, such as housing and meals and hosted the workshop at the conservation lab.

Book of Origins: A Survey of American Fine Binding

March – June 2007: Michigan State University Libraries. Organized local arrangements to host this traveling exhibit, mounted exhibit in Special Collections Reading Room, responsible for care and handling and packing the exhibit for shipping and helped coordinate publicity, including being interviewed by the local media

Guild of Book Workers 100th Anniversary Exhibition

December 2006 – January 2007: Michigan State University Libraries. Organized local arrangements to host this traveling exhibit, mounted exhibit in Special Collections Reading Room, responsible for care and handling and packing the exhibit for shipping, helped coordinate publicity, including being interviewed by the local media, and helped organize a reception

Conservation Lab Design and Renovation

On three separate occasions, I have planned the design and layout of conservation labs and coordinated the renovation and moving into the new lab spaces: Michigan State University (2006); Dartmouth College (2000); Ohio University (1997).

Chicago Tribune Historical Collection

May – August 2006: Consulted on the best means to preserve this historic collection of early color-printed newspapers. Work included a condition survey and cost estimate for preserving the collection. (Consultation)

Capital Area District Library – Local History Division

July 2006: Prepared condition and treatment proposal report regarding an 1859 Ingham County map housed at the Mason Public Library. (Consultation)

Lansing Community College – Lansing Central High School Time Capsule

July 2006: During renovations of the old Central High School, LCC discovered a time capsule from 1909. The capsule had been water-damaged and was infested with mold. Opened the capsule, provided photo documentation and information on handling moldy materials. (Consultation)

Partnership for a Nation of Learners Community Collaboration Grant - History's Keeper Television Series

March 2005: Sponsored by Institute of Museum Library Services and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; our grant proposal was written in conjunction with the WKAR-TV and the Detroit Institute of Arts to produce a series of television programs about preserving family heirlooms; the grant was not funded, although a very similar proposal from another institution was accepted. (Grant Writing)

Library of Michigan Conservation Program

September 2004: Toured conservation operations at the Library of Michigan and offered suggestions on how to improve their program. (Consultation)

In Flight Online Exhibit Catalog

2003: Created online exhibit catalog for the Guild of Book Workers national exhibit.
<palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/gallery/inflight/index.shtml>

Guild of Book Workers New England Chapter Workshop

November 2002: Organized local arrangements and hosted workshop on tape removal with Elizabeth Morse.

ACRL/New England Chapter: Preservation and Conservation Interest Group Annual Meeting

April 2002: Dartmouth College. Helped with local organizing and hosting tours for the ACRL/NEC:P/CIG annual meeting. The presentation was a forum on moving collections.

Guild of Book Worker's Best of the Best Exhibition

September – October 2001: Dartmouth College Libraries. Organized local arrangements to host this traveling exhibit, mounted exhibit in the Book Arts Corridor, responsible for care and handling and packing the exhibit for shipping, coordinated all publicity.

Guild of Book Workers New England Chapter Forum Presentation

January 2001: Dartmouth College Libraries. Organized local arrangements and gave tour of the conservation lab for members of the New England Chapter; also participated in the forum presentation.

Celebrate the Arts Day

September 2001: Dartmouth College. Small exhibit of my book bindings and several demonstration of book arts techniques for the Upper Valley community.

Best of the Best Online Exhibit Catalog

2000: Created online exhibit catalog for the Guild of Book Workers national exhibit.
<palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/gallery/bestofbest/index.html>

Disaster Workshop Series

Spring 1999: Dartmouth College Libraries. Helped organize and teach this four-part series of lectures and hands-on workshops for library staff.

Preservation at Dartmouth College

December 1998 – January 1999: Dartmouth College Libraries; wrote and collected materials for the conservation and electronic media cases; helped mount exhibit and create graphics and signage.

Nikolais/Murray Dance Collection

June 1998: Helped to bring this valuable archive of dance materials to Ohio University by traveling to New York City to assess the collection and then help write a grant to organize and preserve it.

Preservation Awareness Week

May 1998: Helped mount an exhibit about recent vandalism in the library and the consequences for the conservation lab; other events included an essay writing contest, a conservation consultation session for the general public and an orientation for library staff. This event was also held in 1997, 1996 and 1995.

African-American History Month Exhibit

February 1998: Created signage, graphics and other display materials; helped mount the exhibit in the exhibit space. I also helped with different exhibits celebrating African-American History Month in 1997, 1996 and 1995.

PaperBound: An Exhibition of the Guild of Book Workers

July – September 1997: Ohio University Libraries. Organized local arrangements to host this traveling exhibit, mounted exhibit in the Special Collections Exhibits Room, responsible for care and handling and packing the exhibit for shipping.

The Poetical Vagaries Exhibition

September – October 1996: Ohio University Libraries. Organized local arrangements to host this traveling exhibit, mounted exhibit in the Special Collections Exhibits Room, responsible for care and handling and packing the exhibit for shipping.

Library Services and Construction Act Grant – “Ohio Preservation Training Workshops”

November – December 1995: Helped write a grant to fund conservation workshops in southeastern Ohio. I participated in the grant administration and taught the hands-on portion of the workshops. (Grant Writing)

Preserving Family Heirlooms Community Event

December 1995: I helped organize an event at Alden Library, Ohio University, where we invited the public to bring in family books and treasures and we gave preservation assessments.

Ohio University Library’s Two Millionth Volume

October 1995: I bound the two millionth volume which entered the OU Library’s collections, *John C. Baker: An Oral History*. In addition, I bound several presentation volumes for Mr. Baker and other dignitaries.

Athens Public Library

October 1995: Athens, OH; discussed preservation options and feasible conservation treatments for a small public library (Consultation)

Pike County Commissioners

March 1994: Examined and made suggestions regarding the conservation of a Pike County, Ohio, map housed at the county courthouse. (Consultation)

Fine Printers Finely Bound, Too

October – November 1993: Special Collections Library, University of Michigan. Coordinated with the Guild of Book Workers to mount this exhibit; created graphic content for exhibit space and helped with publicity.

Leonard F. Bahr and the Adagio Press

1993: Special Collections Library, University of Michigan. Exhibition of works from the Adagio Press, from major books to printed ephemera. I processed the archival collection of Mr. Bahr’s printed works, selected the items for display and organized the exhibit. The exhibit also included a checklist of the Adagio Press which I helped edit.

Homage to Audubon: The Illustrated Bird Book 1300-1860

1993: Special Collections Library, University of Michigan. Exhibition of books and engravings from the Special Collections holdings; coordinated with exhibit curator to pull books and mount exhibit and create graphic content for exhibit space.

Performance Network Theater

1992 – 1994: Volunteered to help with lighting set up; ran light board for live productions; stage manager for *Julianus* (October – November 1992); assistant director for *Waiting for Godot* (May 1992).

EXHIBITIONS

Details of most books available online <<http://bookworks.webalstrom.ftml.net>>

Marking Time: Guild of Book Workers National Exhibition

2009 – 2011: Juried, national traveling exhibit. Available online
<<http://www.guildofbookworkers.org/gallery/markingtime/index.html>>
Book exhibited: *Time (2009)*

2009 Bind-O-Rama

Fall 2009: An open themed online exhibit. <<http://www.philobiblon.com/bindorama09>>
Book exhibited: *Map Ref 41°N 93°W (2009)*

20 Year Retrospective

Spring 2009: Residential College for the Arts and Humanities, Michigan State University. An exhibition featuring all of my major design bindings and artist books I have bound over my 20 year career in conservation.

Inspired Design: The Mentoring Stamp

August – December 2008: Smith College, Northampton, MA. A set book exhibit sponsored by the New England Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers.
Book exhibited: *Designing the Mentoring Stamp (2008)*

2008 Bind-O-Rama

Fall 2008: An online exhibit featuring the techniques introduced in the first 8 issues of *The Bonefolder*.
<<http://www.philobiblon.com/bindorama08.pdf>>

Book exhibited: *Rhyme of the Edited Mariner* (2008)

Arts and Culture at MSU Libraries: Staff Exhibit

April – May 2008: MSU Libraries, East Lansing, MI. Exhibit featuring arts and crafts of library staff members. Books exhibited: *A Box Containing Dreams* (1998), *Three Flights* (2003) and *The Rhyme of the Edited Mariner* (2008)

Between the Covers: Michigan Book Artists

March – April 2008: Padzieski Art Gallery, Dearborn, MI. An invitational exhibit featuring Michigan book artists and fine binders.

Books exhibited: *GBW 100th Anniversary Exhibition Catalog* (2007), *Josephine the Singer* (2006) and *Springtime in England, or Maps of England* (2004)

GBW 100th Anniversary Exhibition Catalog Bind-O-Rama

Fall 2007: An online exhibit featuring the Guild of Book Workers 100th Anniversary Exhibition catalog.

<<http://www.philobiblon.com/bindorama07>>

Book exhibited: *GBW 100th Anniversary Exhibition Catalog* (2007)

Unfolding Thought: Contemporary Book Art

April 2007: SHAPE Gallery, Shippensburg, PA. An invitational exhibit featuring 14 book artists.

Books exhibited: *motion* (2000) and *A Box Containing Dreams* (1998)

The Book of Origins: A Survey of American Fine Binding

January 2007 – February 2008: National traveling exhibit, including Michigan State University Libraries. An invitational exhibit featuring 10 American fine binders. Available online

<<http://library.syr.edu/digital/exhibits/b/bookoforigins>>

Books exhibited: *Three Flights* (2003) and *The Book of Origins* (2005)

Livres des Origines

September 2005 - March 2006: La Bibliothèque Gabrielle-Roy, Quebec City, Quebec; La Grande Bibliothèque, Montreal, Quebec; Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France. An international set book design binding exhibition organized by Les Amis de la Reliure d'Art Canada.

Book exhibited: *The Book of Origins* (2005) Binding is now in the collection of MSU Libraries' Special Collections.

Spring[binding] Hath Sprung: An Online Exhibit

Fall 2004: An online exhibit featuring the creative use of the traditional springback ledger binding.

<<http://www.philobiblon.com/springbackbindorama.shtml>>

Book exhibited: *Springtime in England, or Maps of England: Illuminated, Enhanced and Generally Made More Useful... for the Purpose of Finding Ones Way about the English Countryside... during the Most Glorious of Seasons* (2004)

Michigan Book Arts Exhibition

Fall 2004: Library of Michigan Rare Books Room, Lansing, MI. An exhibition featuring binders from Michigan.

Books exhibited: *Il Cantico delle Creature di Francesco di Assisi* (2001) and *A Box Containing Dreams* (1998)

In Flight: Guild of Book Workers National Exhibition

2003 – 2005: Juried, national traveling exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of manned flight. Available online

<<http://www.guildofbookworkers.org/gallery/inflight/index.shtml>>

Book exhibited: *Three Flights* (2003)

Upper Valley Book Arts Exhibit

September – December 2003: Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH. Invitational exhibit featuring New Hampshire and Vermont book artists and binders.

Books exhibited: *The Futility of Circular Motion* (1999), *motion* (2000) and *Il Cantico delle Creature di Francesco di Assisi* (2001)

Seconda Mostra Internazionale de Rilegatura d'Arte in Italia

2002: Ancona, Italy. An international exhibit of a set piece featuring the writings of St. Francis of Assisi.

Book exhibited: *Il Cantico delle Creature di Francesco di Assisi* (2001)

Stone Eye: Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers Traveling Exhibit

March 2002 – January 2003: Exhibition traveled around the Midwest region. Available online

<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/exhibits/stone_eye/index.html>

Set piece featuring poems by Richard Taylor and printed by the Larkspur Press.

Book exhibited: *Stone Eye* (2001) Binding now in private collection.

International Society of Copier Artists Annual Box of Books

June 2001: Invitational exhibit which featured a box of 125 original artists books all done on the photocopier. The boxes were then sold by the ISCA.

Book exhibited: *The Bathing Beauty's Lament (2001)*

Bindings and Unbindings: An Invitational Book Arts Exhibition

April – July 2001: Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw, MI. Featured 25 book artists from around the country.

Books exhibited: *A Box Containing Dreams (1998)* and *motion (2000)*

Book Explorations 2001

March – April 2001: New Art Forum, Kingston, MA. Juried national exhibit of book artists.

Book exhibited: *Garamond: A Typographic Celebration (2001)*

Book Explorations 2000

March – April 2000: New Art Forum, Kingston, MA. Juried national exhibit of book artists.

Book exhibited: *motion (2000)*

ABeCeDariums: An Exhibit of Alphabet Books

Guild of Book Workers National Exhibit

1998-1999: Juried exhibit which traveled around the United States. Available online

<<http://www.guildofbookworkers.org/gallery/abecedarium/contents.htm>>

Book exhibited: *A Box Containing Dreams (1998)*

Mostra Internazionale de Rilegatura d'Arte in Italia

1998: Ancona, Italy. An international exhibit of a set piece featuring the poem “Il’Infinto” by Giacomo Leopardi.

Book exhibited: *Il’Infinito (1997)*

Paper Bound: Guild of Book Workers National Exhibit

1996-1997: A juried set-piece exhibit which traveled around the United States. Available online

<<http://www.guildofbookworkers.org/gallery/paperbound/index.htm>>

Book exhibited: *A Collection of Paper Samples from the Hand Papermills in the United States of America (1996)*

The Poetical Vagaries: Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers Exhibit

1996: Exhibition traveled around the Midwest region. A set piece exhibit featuring a reprint of an 1815 book about binders in New York city.

Book exhibited: *The Poetical Vagaries of a Knight of the Folding-Stick of Paste Castle (1995)*

INTERVIEWS & CITATIONS**Interviewed in “To Bind A Book”**

April 1, 2008: State News, East Lansing, MI; an article about the MSU Residential College for Arts and Humanities’ book arts program and the MSU Libraries’ conservation lab.

<http://www.statenews.com/index.php/article/2008/03/to_bind_a_book>

Interviewed in “Artists Cover Creation in Traveling Book Binding Show”

March 21, 2007: City Pulse, Lansing, MI; the article features my design binding for *The Book of Origins*.

<<http://www.lansingcitypulse.com>>

Interviewed on Fox 47 about the Guild of Book Workers’ 100th Anniversary Exhibition

January 6, 2007: Short interview during the reception for the exhibition; aired on the WYSM Lansing evening newscast. I do not have a copy of this.

Interviewed in “Centennial of Creative Covers”

December 20, 2006: City Pulse, Lansing, MI; the article features a picture of me presenting one of the bindings in the Guild of Book Workers’ 100th Anniversary Exhibition <<http://www.lansingcitypulse.com>>

Cited in “Clean, Dry, Repair and Disinfect Books”

February 2006: RestorationSOS.com; article on salvaging books after a water disaster

<<http://www.restorationsos.com/education/water-damage/recovering-from-water-damage/cleaning-repairing-and-disinfecting/clean-dry-repair-and-disinfect-paper/books.asp>>

Cited in *The Essential Guide to Making Handmade Books*

2000: by Gabrielle Fox; published by North Light Books, Cincinnati, OH. I was asked to submit a photo of one of my book bindings for this publication.

Interviewed for "Library Matters" local access TV program

1995: Interview about conservation and preserving family heirlooms; aired on the Athens local cable access channel

Selected Links on the Web

- Book Arts Web: Bindery and Book Artist Pages <www.philobiblon.com/binder.shtml>
- Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild: Other Sites of Book Arts Interest <www.cbbag.ca/links.html>
- Arts Library @ Yale: Book Arts Links <www.library.yale.edu/aob/booklinks.html>
- Print Australia: The Book Arts, Artists Books & Publishers <www.acay.com.au/~severn/bookarts.htm#board>
- Cynscribe Calligraphy Directory: Book Arts Links <www.cynscribe.com/bookarts.html>
- University of Alabama, School of Library and Information Studies' MFA in the Book Arts Program: Book Artists' Links: Bookbinders <www.bookarts.ua.edu/artistlinks.html>
- Artes Del Libro (Spanish language links page) <freshlinks.net/lang.aspx/es/odp.aspx/Arts/Crafts/Book_Arts/>
- Excite UK: Arts & Crafts: 80 Sites in Book Arts <www.excite.co.uk/directory/Arts/Crafts/Book_Arts>
- Open Directory Project: Arts: Crafts: Book Arts <dmoz.org/Arts/Crafts/Book_Arts/>
- Google Directory: Arts: Crafts: Book Arts <www.google.com/Top/Arts/Crafts/Book_Arts/>

SELECTED CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS ATTENDED**American Institute for Conservation**

2005 (Minneapolis, MN)

2003 (Washington, D.C.)

2001 (Dallas, TX): Presented slide lecture on Japanese paper hollowback board reattachment treatments for the Library Collections Conservation Discussion Group.

1998 (Washington, D.C.)

1997 (San Diego, CA): Presented samples for the Library Collections Conservation Discussion Group's forum on treatments for spiral bound materials and cloth rebacks.

Guild of Book Workers' Annual Standards of Excellence Seminars

1994 – 2009 (attended all except for 2000 and 2005)

Summer Book Arts Printing Workshop

August 2001 (Dartmouth College Libraries)

Bookbinding 2000 Conference

May 2000 (Rochester, NY)

Mass Deacidification Conference

March 2000 (National Archives, Washington, D.C.)

Paper and Book Intensive

May 1999 (Haystack, ME): Courses included Ethiopian edition binding with Cecilia Frost; paper-casting with Tom Balboa; and papermaking and pulp-painting with Bernie Vinzani

June 2000 (Oxbow, MI): Courses included tool making and knife sharpening with Jim Croft; how historic bindings influence future book structures with Gary Frost; and innovative book arts structures with Hedi Kyle

Ohio Preservation Council Symposium

September 1997 (Dublin, OH): *Preservation Strategies for Library & Archival Collections*. Speakers included: Cathleen Baker, paper conservator; Karen Senkule, preservation officer at National Library of Medicine; and Wes Boomgaarden, preservation officer at Ohio State University

September 1996 (Columbus, OH): *Treating Scrapbooks, Rare Books, and Adhesive Bindings*. Speakers included: William Minter, conservator in private practice; Sheryl Ogden, Northeast Documents Center; Peter Jermann, preservation officer at Bonaventure University; and Nancy Birk, archivist, Kent State University

*Selected Conservation/Book Arts Workshops***American Academy of Bookbinding**

October 2008 – May 2010 (Ann Arbor, MI): four one or two week workshops with Don Etherington, including Treatment of Textblocks and Sewing, Forwarding and Covering for Conservation, Finishing for Conservation, and Rebacking of Leather Bindings.

The Curious Art of Secret Fore Edge Painting

March 2007 (East Lansing, MI): with Martin Frost, painter and bookbinder, Worthing, West Sussex, UK

Incorporating 3D Objects in Book Bindings

September 2004 (Ann Arbor, MI): with Barb Korbel, book artist and conservator, Chicago Art Institute, Chicago, IL

Photographing Your Artwork

November 2004 (Providence, RI): with P.J. Saine, professional photographer, Lebanon, NH

Molded Paper Spine

August 2004 (Hanover, NH): with Donia Conn, conservator, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Chemistry for Conservators

July 2003 (New Haven, CT): with David Dorning, instructor, West Dean College, U.K.

Tape Removal

November 2002 (Hanover, NH): with Elizabeth Morse, paper conservator, Cohasset, MA

Emergency Response for Cultural Institutions (Northeast Region)

May 2001 (Andover, MA): sponsored by the American Institute for Conservation; Instructors: Mary Jo Davis and Barbara Moore; Mentor: Barbara Roberts

Wire Edged Bindings

May 2001 (Easthampton, MA): with Daniel Kelm, bookbinder and owner, Wide Awake Garage and Garage Annex School for Book Arts

Treatments for Spiral Bound Books and Publisher's Cloth Bindings

May 1997 (Cleveland, OH): with William Minter, conservator in private practice, Woodbury, PA

Leather Onlays for Decorated Bindings

November 1996 (Columbus, OH): with Sid Neff, Jr, book binder, Sedwickley, PA

Conservation of Leather Bindings Using Japanese Papers

May 1996 (Cleveland, OH): with Don Etherington, owner, Etherington Conservation Center, Greensboro, NC

Knife Sharpening on Japanese Water Stones

April 1995 (Ann Arbor, MI): with Tom Conroy, bookbinding and conservator in private practice, Berkeley, CA

Box Making

November 1993 (Ann Arbor, MI): with Daniel Kelm, bookbinder and owner, Wide Awake Garage and Garage Annex School for Book Arts

Identification of Historical Bindings

April 1993 (Ann Arbor, MI): with Olivia Primanis, senior conservator, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas, Austin, TX

Limp Leather Design Bindings

August 1992 (Ann Arbor, MI): with Sylvie Rennie, private bookbinder

*Other Workshops***Firedoodle for Firefox**

June 2007 (Michigan State University Libraries Technology Brown Bag Lunch)

Purchasing Card Orientation

August 2006 (Michigan State University)

Basic JavaScript Programming

May 2005 (Michigan State University LCCTP Faculty Seminar Series Workshop)

Be A Tourist In Your Own Library Series

2004 – 2005 (Michigan State University Libraries)

Attended tours for most of the library units and branches.

Coaching Skills for Supervisors

October 2004 (Dartmouth College Human Resources Workshop)

Procurement Card Training

March 2003 (Dartmouth College)

Motivation Skills

December 2002 (Dartmouth College Human Resources Workshop)

Blackboard Online Classroom Training

August 2002 (Dartmouth College Libraries Workshop)

Management, Minimization and Disposal of Hazardous Chemicals Training Course

June 2002 (Dartmouth College Environmental Health and Safety Workshop)

Delegation Skills

May 2002 (Dartmouth College Human Resources Workshop)

Understanding MARC Records

March 2001 (Dartmouth College Libraries Workshop)

Time Management

September 2000 (Dartmouth College Human Resources Workshop)

Supervising Students

March 2000 (Dartmouth College Human Resources Workshop)

Repetitive Motion Injury Workshop

August 1997 (Ohio University Human Resources Workshop)

Handling Hazardous Materials Workshop

January 1996 (Ohio University Health and Safety Workshop). This workshop resulted in a Certificate of Hazardous Communication and 1910.120 Awareness.

HTML for Beginners

December 1995 (Ohio University Libraries)

CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE**Book Treatments**

- Expertise in a variety of binding methods, including: tightback and hollowback leather bindings; cloth and leather case-bindings; springback bindings, lay-flat adhesive bindings; Japanese stab bindings; and encapsulated postbindings
- Experience in conservation treatments for bindings from all periods, including: resewing whole and partial textblocks; cloth and leather rebacking; Japanese paper hinge repair; and board tacketing and other conservation board reattachments
- Developed innovative binding solutions for new library materials, including: durable, lay-flat double-fan adhesive binding for paperbacks; sidesewn pamphlet which leave spine visible so title can be read while on the shelf

Paper Treatments

- Lamination with heatset tissues and Japanese papers
- Encapsulation of fragile documents and textblocks both by hand and ultrasonic welder
- Bathing, washing and resizing of paper
- Deacidification using both aqueous and non-aqueous methods

Box Making

- Drop-spine boxes, slip cases and phase boxes
- Custom made protective containers, including a reusable temporary four-flap enclosure designed for housing damaged books placed on reserve or sent through interlibrary loan

Innovative Structures

- Millennial Adhesive Coptic Paperback Binding: developed a way to easily and quickly rebind perfect-bound books to give the volumes strength and longevity. This turned into a major operation at Dartmouth College Libraries.,
- Exposed Spine Side Sewn Pamphlet: A method of sewing paperbound pamphlets or thin paperback books which leaves the spine visible when browsing on the shelf. This is especially useful to identify books when there are large runs of thin volumes since the items are too thin to have the call number label on the spine.
- Created a custom table for the Minter Ultrasonic Encapsulator which features collapsible extensions to save space and a metal back to store the magnetic blankets when not in use. This design is now being used in three major academic library conservation labs.

Online portfolio is available at: <<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/alstrom/portfolio.html>>