

## State Archives receives \$70,000 in federal grant funds

The Illinois State Archives has been awarded a \$70,000 State and National Archival Partnership Grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The Archives sought the grant on behalf of the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) to support board operations, programs and activities.

"We are very pleased to receive this grant, which will benefit all archival repositories in Illinois," said Secretary of State Jesse White. "We are particularly excited that the lion's share of the grant will be used to fund a re-grant program, where public and private archival institutions in Illinois may apply for funding to help preserve and provide access to their collections."

The "re-grant" program will provide at least 10 grants of up to \$5,000 each, with special consideration given

to institutions with archival holdings of 500 cubic feet or less. All re-grant recipients must provide at least 50 percent in matching or in-kind funds.

Other activities being funded by the grant include the 2010 IRAD Training Program, production costs for the 2010 Illinois Archives Month poster, and facilitating working relationships between ISHRAB and other state historical records advisory boards and the Council of State Archivists. Grant funds also will be used to co-sponsor up to three Society of American Archivists continuing education programs and offer competitive scholarships to Illinois archivists to attend one of these workshops.

Details and grant applications will be available November 15 at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click Departments, State Archives, ISHRAB).

Newsletter  
of the  
Illinois  
State  
Archives  
&  
The Illinois  
State Historical  
Records  
Advisory Board

**Jesse White**  
Secretary of State  
&  
State Archivist

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## Second-generation IRAD intern

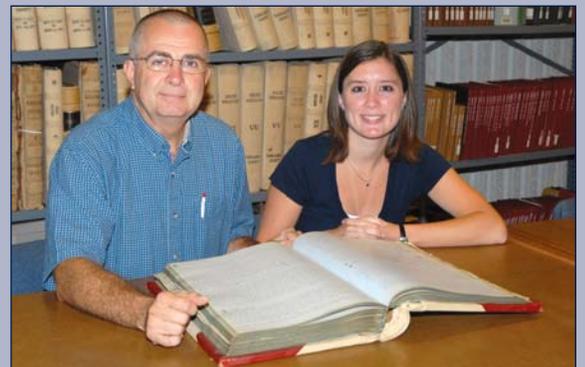
When Dennis Suttles began his IRAD internship in 1977, the program was in its infancy. The IRAD system was established in 1976. This year's group of IRAD interns includes a second-generation intern, Dennis's daughter, Anne.

"Little did I know some 30 years ago that my daughter would be an IRAD intern at UIS in the same office I received my IRAD training while a graduate student at Sangamon State University," said Dennis. "My IRAD internship fostered my interest in Illinois and local history that eventually led to a career as an editor with the Lincoln Legal Papers and a reference librarian for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library."

"My dad has been a huge influence in my life," said Anne. "His interest in family history and Abraham Lincoln has drawn me into the study of history. When I was little my dad would take me to the different Lincoln sites and some days take me to work with

him at the Lincoln Legal Papers. I feel blessed to share the love of history with my father and am honored to be a second-generation IRAD intern."

See page 2 for more information on the 2009-2010 IRAD interns.



Dennis and Anne Suttles consult a Sangamon County Deed Record at the IRAD at the University of Illinois-Springfield. The IRAD at UIS consists of government records from 14 central Illinois counties.

## DATES & REMINDERS

### Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

2009 Conference on Illinois History  
October 1-2, Springfield  
[www.illinoishistory.gov/conference.htm](http://www.illinoishistory.gov/conference.htm)  
[donna.lawrence@illinois.gov](mailto:donna.lawrence@illinois.gov)  
217-785-7933

### Midwest Archives Conference

Fall Symposium 2009  
"The Appraisal of Electronic Records  
and Personal Papers"  
October 23-24, Madison, WI  
[www.midwestarchives.org](http://www.midwestarchives.org)

### Illinois State Genealogical Society

Fall Conference  
"Piecing Together the Puzzle of Our Past!"  
October 24, Elgin  
[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs)

### Downstate Local Records Commission Meeting

1st Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m.  
(unless otherwise noted)  
State Archives Conference Room  
[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

### Cook County Local Records Commission Meeting

2nd Tuesday of every month, 11 a.m.  
Video Conference Room, 9th floor  
Thompson Center, Chicago  
or  
Capital City Center, Springfield  
130 W. Mason St.  
[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

### State Records Commission Meeting

3rd Wednesday of every month, 9:30 a.m.  
State Archives Conference Room  
[www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

### ILLINOIS STATE ARCHIVES HOURS:

Monday-Friday  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

1st Saturday of each Month  
8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Closed all state holidays and  
holiday weekends.

## 2009-2010 IRAD interns

Eighteen graduate students have been selected to serve as Illinois Regional Archives Depository interns for the 2009-2010 academic year. The depositories, located at seven universities throughout the state, preserve official local government records that have permanent legal, administrative, historical or other research values. These records are maintained as a resource for governmental authorities, scholars and the general public.

The IRAD internship program introduces graduate students to the functions of an archival institution and allows them to develop basic archival and research skills. Duties include arranging and processing records, preparing descriptive inventories, and providing reference service to the public. The interns began the year by attending an intensive two-day training session at the State Archives in Springfield. A (State and National Archival Partnership) SNAP Grant awarded by the National Historical Records and Publications Commission provided funding for the training.



IRAD interns for the 2009-2010 academic year are: (front row, left to right) *Stephanie Martin*-Eastern Illinois University; *Sally Adams*-Western Illinois University; *Anne Suttles*-University of Illinois Springfield; *Amanda Reyna*-Northeastern Illinois University; *Rochelle Joseph*-UIS; *Kayleigh DePriest*-Southern Illinois University-Carbondale; *Joanne Cartalino*-NEIU; (middle row) *Kyle Hensley*-Illinois State University; *David Long*-ISU; *Megan Ditzler*-SIUC, *Eric Willey*-WIU; *Tyler King*-Northern Illinois University; *Roberto Rincon*-NEIU; (back row) *Christopher Kernc*-EIU; *John Duerk*-NIU; *Dennis McDonald*-SIUC, *Paul Skonberg*-SIUC; and *Ion Nimerencu*-NEIU.

## IRAD records holdings database updated

The Illinois State Archives recently added 400 new records series to its IRAD online database. The database provides a listing of more than 5,800 local governmental records. The following information is included for each records series: depository designation, accession number, title, county, beginning date and ending date. The database is searchable by county name, title of the records series or depository designation, or any combination of these fields. A listing of local governmental records held by IRAD also is provided in PDF form.

Local governments that have transferred records to the regional depositories include counties, townships, municipalities and school districts. Records include:

## New ISAAB/ISHRAB members appointed

Secretary of State Jesse White recently appointed three new board members to the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board/Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board. Matthew Rutherford of the Newberry Library replaced Jack Simpson for the 2007-2010 term. For the 2009-2012 term, Beatrice Julian of the DuSable Museum of African American History and Stanley Brown of the state Comptroller's office replaced Antoinette Wright and James Kramp, respectively. Michael C. Batinski of SIU-Carbondale and Jamie Nelson of Augustana College were reappointed to the 2009-2012 term.

ISAAB members advise the State Archives on general operations. The ISHRAB is the state-level arm of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration. Members of the board review grant proposals submitted by Illinois institutions to the NHPRC. The ISAAB serves concurrently as the ISHRAB.

For a complete listing of ISAAB/ISHRAB members and their contact information, please visit [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click Departments, State Archives, ISHRAB).

## Attention Illinois Teachers!

### Free teaching packets available on Illinois history

For many years the State Archives has provided teaching packets to Illinois schools to encourage the use of primary archival documents in Illinois classrooms. The teaching packets introduce students to state and local history in a meaningful way and promote the appreciation of and interest in history in general.

Teaching packets consist of a teacher's manual and a set of photographic document reproductions from State Archives document holdings. The teacher's manual outlines the objectives of each packet, discusses the nature of the documents, provides a brief historical background of the period, and includes a bibliography and chronological listing of the documents.

The following teaching packets are available free to Illinois educational institutions:

- *Abraham Lincoln in Illinois* (2008) — Provides a glimpse of events surrounding the life of Lincoln when he lived in Illinois from 1830-1861.
- *Hard Times in Illinois, 1930-1940* (2002) — Explores Illinois during the Great Depression.
- *The Illinois and Michigan Canal, 1827-1911* (1998) — Examines the making, operation and demise of the canal.
- *Illinois at War, 1941-1945* (1994) — Examines the home front during World War II.
- *From the Ashes, 1872-1900* (1990) — Covers Chicago's development after the Great Chicago Fire up to the turn of the century.
- *Early Chicago, 1833-1871* (1986, 1999) — Focuses on the city's development from the time of its incorporation as a town through the Great Chicago Fire.

Please submit your request on school letterhead to: Illinois State Archives, Publications Unit, M.C. Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62756 or call 217-782-2226.

## Micrographics receives new equipment

The State Archives acquired its first microfilm camera in 1939, making it a pioneer in the field of micrographics. Seventy years later, with the acquisition of the MekeL Mach V microfilm scanner and the MekeL M665 microfiche scanner, the Archives' Micrographics Division continues to implement strategies and upgrade equipment to meet the needs of state government in the rapidly changing world of technology.

The MekeL Mach V microfilm scanner produces high-quality digital images from microfilm. It handles both 16mm and 35mm film formats and can scan a roll of microfilm at 200 dpi in 6 minutes or 300 dpi in 12 minutes. Image output options include TIFF, JPEG and PDF. The Mach V scans a roll of microfilm as one long strip then allows the operator to make adjustments to individual documents if needed. After scanning, the digital images can be burned to CDs or DVDs or moved to the user's network.

The MekeL M665 microfiche scanner can scan 40 to 120 images per minute depending on the type of microfiche being scanned. The scanner allows the operator to place a stack of 75 microfiche into the hopper, which is automatically loaded and scanned into digital images.

Documents in a digital format are easier to access and retrieve than paper and microfilmed documents. The new microfilm and microfiche scanners make digital access and retrieval possible while still maintaining the microfilm's archival storage capability.



Jim Randle prepares to convert 16mm microfilmed images to digital images using the new Mach V microfilm scanner. Jim is a 19-year veteran of the Archives' Micrographics Division.

# October is Illinois Archives Month

Secretary of State Jesse White, the Illinois State Archives, the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board and the Chicago Area Archivists are joining together again to celebrate Illinois Archives Month in October. Illinois Archives Month is the state-sponsored arm of the national Archives Month celebration designed to promote the rich documentary heritage found in archival institutions.

Illinois archives, museums, historical societies, libraries and other groups are encouraged to participate in Illinois Archives Month by hosting local events, exhibits and activities that highlight the management and preservation of Illinois' documentary heritage. For information on how to showcase your institution's collections and activities, post an event on the Events Calendar or download a poster, please visit [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click Departments, State Archives, ISHRAB).

## IRAD records holdings

(continued from page 2)

board/council/commission proceedings files and meeting minutes, vital records, deeds, tax books, election records, naturalization records, probate records, court case files, coroner's records, school records and jail records.

To access the IRAD database, visit [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) (click Departments then State Archives).

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Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Archivist  
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Office of the Secretary of State  
Margaret Cross Norton Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62756