

## **FOREWARD**

This is the 11th publication of *Postprints* published by the Objects Specialty Group (OSG) of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC). The OSG Session during the 2004 AIC Annual Meeting offered a series of 14 papers and one poster dealing with *Cleaning* that served to reinforce the General Session theme. The morning session and first half of the afternoon session consisted of lectures. The second half of the afternoon consisted of laser cleaning demonstrations and a series of presentations regarding various aspects of laser cleaning.

The papers are mentioned here grouped according to topic. Tarnowski's lecture introduced the theme of cleaning with her investigation of dust and the microbiological influence on the bonding of dust to surfaces. Various surface cleaning techniques were presented: Little and Wolbers illustrated the formulation of poultices for the cleaning of plaster statues; the contaminating influences of Groomstick in dry cleaning practices were examined by Moy; Calderaro presented an overview of the use of ultrasonic devices in cleaning. Various aspects of laser cleaning were presented by three speakers: Abraham illustrated the basic principles involved in laser cleaning; Dignard discussed the laser cleaning of feathers and presented a summary of the LACONA V conference (2003); Moreno examined the application of laser cleaning to wax objects. Roundhill and Hanna presented challenges involved with the cleaning of wooden Egyptian objects. Koob covered the cleaning of glass objects and Chang presented the cleaning of architectural reliefs associated with mural paintings. A DVD prepared by Arenstein from the Conservation Move Team of the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) was shown. Minderop, Podniki and Norton discussed cleaning involved in the storage and moving of collections in The Field Museum. Edquist discussed the removal of hazardous materials from objects resulting from the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster. Of these 14 papers 10 are included in this publication in the order in which they were presented at the conference: Edquist; Tarnowski; Moy; Chang; Koob; Hanna and Meleka; Roundhill; Minderop, Podniki and Norton; Calderaro; Little and Wolbers. The poster by Whyte, Muros and Barack presented a project on a brick facade from Iraq.

First of all I wish to thank my predecessor, David Harvey (OSG Chair 2003-2004), for his invaluable assistance with the development of the 2004 OSG session and *Postprints*. Special thanks to all those who gave a paper, presented a poster or participated during the afternoon presentations. The 2004 OSG session was a great success! Many thanks to those who submitted their contribution for publication in this *Postprints* volume. Without you this publication would not have been possible! And finally, OSG and AIC are indebted to Virginia Greene for her invaluable service as OSG *Postprints* editor.

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