CERP team members presented their poster about the Collaborative Electronic Records Project (CERP) at the Society of American Archivists (SAA) annual conference in August in Chicago. Attendees heard about the challenges of proprietary formats, confidential material, inaccurate rendering of attachments, and inconsistent file naming. Handouts of brochures and transfer guidelines also were available. Thanks to all who stopped by to talk to the team.

* Lynda Schmitz Fuhrig of SIA also talked about the project to institution staff and area archivists at the Smithsonian Institution in September.

* Check out the redesigned CERP website at http://siarchives.si.edu/cerp/cerpindex.htm. It includes project background, project presentations, a draft system model, resources, and downloadable publications.

* CERP has been working with the Preservation of Electronic Mail Collaboration Initiative (EMCAP) on an e-mail preservation XML schema. This North Carolina, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania project is focused on acquiring and testing e-mail records created today.

* CERP is exploring DSpace for the CERP digital repository. RAC is in the process of installing the appropriate hardware and software for testing with e-mail records. SIA will do so later in the year.

* Lawry Persaud joined the CERP team as a technical adviser. Mr. Persaud has more than 18 years of IT experience, innovating, designing and developing state-of-the-art technologies. He is a domain expert in enterprise IT architecture, IT governance, and business to technology realignment. Mr. Persaud has a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering and computer engineering from The Polytechnic University, New York. He has done some innovative work with DSpace at Rockefeller University.

* Margaret Hedstrom, from the University of Michigan, joined the CERP steering committee. Dr. Hedstrom has been conducting research on the management and preservation of electronic records since 1979. She was chief of state records advisory services and director of the Center for Electronic Records at the New York State Archives and Records Administration before joining U-M, where she is an associate professor in the School of Information and coordinator of the Archives and Records Management specialization of the Master of Science in Information program. She has a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin in history.