

Training and Education in Paper Conservation: An International Team

ABSTRACT

Jean Brown and John Krill have organized annual meetings for educators who teach paper conservation in master's level programs. Meetings have been held in Newcastle, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, and Cologne; the 2008 meeting is planned for Vienna. Participants have presented the goals and curriculum used in their programs, teaching strategies, new theories and practices, and helpful books, Websites, and computer programs. There have been conservation presentations on the use of chitosan adhesive from Thailand, the use of direct textile dyes for toning papers, and the conservation of inkjet printing. Teaching effectiveness topics have included competency-based learning, student self-appraisals, and learning-style inventories. Among the teaching tips have been the use of a "journal club" for discussing conservation literature, the use of the color meter for assessing the stability of treatments on objects as a semester progresses, and simple basics—such as sources for "dirt" for making surface-cleaning projects.

The group has developed a dynamic that is very positive. The world of training in paper conservation is now more closely knit. Internship possibilities, science projects, and curriculum changes are shared. Notes from each meeting are sent to all the training programs, not just to those who were able to send participants. A Website for Training and Education in Paper Conservation is under construction at www.paperconservationtraining.org.

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