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Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents

The Wisconsin Historical Society, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) sponsor the annual Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents. Fondly called “Camp Edit,” the 2003 Institute will be conducted from June 16 to 21, on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and will provide 15 to 18 interns with classroom instruction and hands-on experience in the techniques of documentary editing.

Over the years, the Institute has been extremely productive. Since its debut in 1972, it has trained more than 485 scholars. Of these, 70 are heading or have headed important documentary publication projects, and many others have worked as full-time historical editors. Institute graduates also include college and university faculty, editors of various historical publications, archivists, manuscript librarians, government historians, and graduate students from many universities. The interns meet every morning and most afternoons for lectures and presentations by experienced editors.

The 2003 faculty and their topics are: Michael Stevens (Wisconsin Historical Society), introduction to documentary editing; Richard Leffler (Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution), transcription; Harriet Furst Simon (The Papers of John Dewey), document selection and annotation; John Y. Simon (The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant), promoting an edition and fundraising; Matthew Gibson (Electronic Text Center, University of Virginia), electronic publishing; John P. Kaminski (Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution), indexing and publishing the edition. Richard Leffler, John Y. Simon, and Harriet Furst Simon will serve as resident advisors and provide one-on-one guidance.

There is no charge for tuition. Single accommodations for 15-18 scholars are provided at the Lowell Center on the University of Wisconsin campus. The Center, which is run much like a hotel, is two blocks from the Wisconsin Historical Society where the Institute is conducted.

Application to the Institute is competitive, with numerous applicants every year from all over the country. The application deadline is March 15, 2003. Application forms may be obtained:

Writing, calling or e-mailing the NHPRC.
NHPRC
Room 111
National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20408-0001
Phone: (202) 501-5610 Fax: (202) 501-5601
e-mail: nhprc@nara.gov

Questions about curriculum can be directed to: Michael Stevens at the Wisconsin Historical Society
Questions about local arrangements for interns can be directed to: Connie Meier at the Wisconsin Historical Society