



Association for Heritage Preservation of the Americas
Asociación para la Preservación del Patrimonio de las Américas
Associação para a Preservação do Patrimônio das Américas



**APOYOnline 30th Anniversary Conference and Workshop
on Heritage Preservation**

***“30 Years Building Bridges & Pathways for the
Preservation of Cultural Heritage in the Americas”***

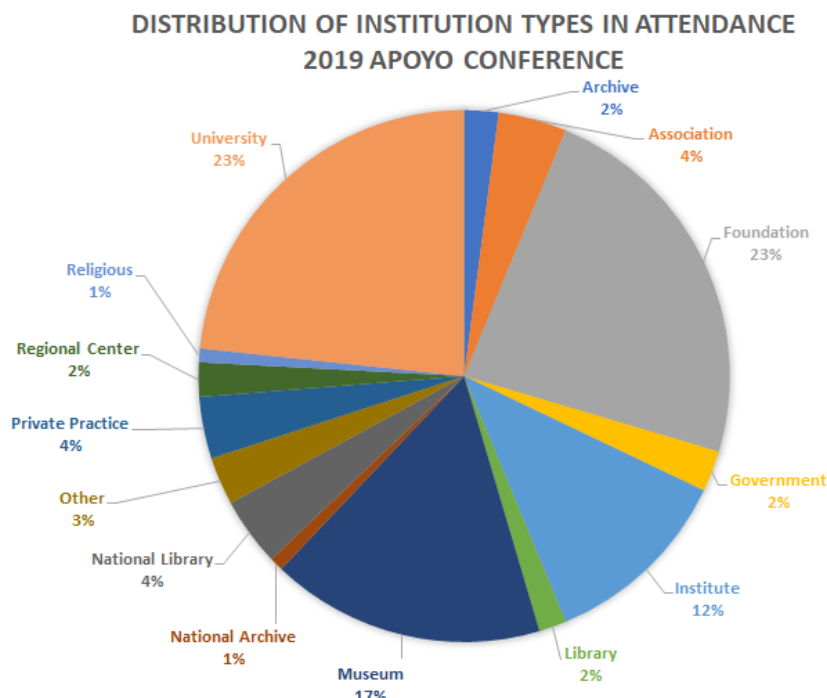
September 23-27, 2019, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

From September 23-27, 2019, 216 heritage professionals from eighteen countries¹ gathered in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil for the APOYOnline 30th Anniversary Conference and Workshop on Heritage Preservation: “30 Years Building Bridges & Pathways for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage in the Americas.” This event was organized in partnership with the Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz (Brazil) and the Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation (Brazil), and in collaboration with the University of Delaware (USA).

For 30 years, APOYOnline (formerly Apoyo) has worked to strengthen networks among cultural heritage professionals in Latin America, the Caribbean, and other Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries, and to promote professional development in the field through improved access to specialized training and updated technical information. The Conference and Workshop brought together three generations of APOYOnline members while welcoming 140 first-time APOYOnline event participants (65% of total participants), emphasizing the impact APOYOnline continues to have in the region.

¹ Countries represented include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay, Venezuela, and the United States.

The following graph illustrates the types of institutions that were represented at the event:



The APOYOnline 30th Anniversary Conference

The APOYOnline 30th Anniversary Conference was held at the Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation, a federal institution that promotes the preservation of Brazilian national memory by providing access to 30,000 books and documents and space for intellectual study. The [Conference Program](#) covered a variety of themes important to the region: networking and communication; digitization and digital preservation; professional development and preservation education; and preventive conservation and risk management.

Throughout the duration of the conference, there was a space available dedicated to the exhibition of conservation materials and preservation service providers, where participants could access supplies, samples, and information about the services offered and establish direct contact with their representatives.

The Conference was conducted in Portuguese, English, and Spanish, depending on the origin of the participants, with simultaneous translation into the other languages. The Workshop was offered in English with APOYOnline translations of lectures, didactic material, and technical notes into Spanish and Portuguese.

The Conference included four discussion panels with 19 international experts in heritage preservation:

Panel 1: Networking and Communication

- Chair: Beatriz Haspo, (USA/Brazil, Executive Director, APOYOnline; Professor, University of Maryland; Collections Officer, Library of Congress)
- Amparo Rueda (Colombia, Founder and Vice-President, APOYOnline)
- António Candeias (Portugal, Vice-President, University of Évora/Laboratory Hercules/Laboratory José de Figueiredo);
- Margarida Lages (Portugal, Director, Network of Diplomatic Archives of the Americas-RADI)

Panel 2: Digitization and Digital Preservation

- Chair: Millard Schisler (Brazil, Adjunct Professor, Johns Hopkins University)
- Alan Haley (USA, Preservation Specialist, Library of Congress)
- Miguel Ángel Márdero Arellano (Mexico, Coordinator of Cariniana Network, Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology, IBICT)
- Aquiles Alencar-Brayner (Brazil, Consultant)
- Howard Besser, (USA, New York University, Professor)

Panel 3: Professional Development and Preservation Education

- Chair: Deborah Hess Norris (USA, Director/Professor, Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation)
- Nora Kennedy (USA, Chair Photograph Conservation Department, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)
- Luiz Souza (Brazil, Professor, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais)
- Griselda Kluppel (Brazil, Professor, Universidade Federal da Bahia)

Panel 4: Preventive Conservation and Risk Management

- Chair: Rob Waller (Canada, Director, Protect Heritage Corp)
- Claudia S. Rodrigues Carvalho (Brazil, Architectural Preservation Specialist, Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation)
- Carla Maria Teixeira Coelho (Brazil, Architect, Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz)
- Alexandre Kellner (Brazil, Director, National Museum of Brazil)
- Gael de Guichen (Italy, Special Advisor to the Director General, ICCROM) video recorded interviewed with José Luis Pedersoli (Brazil, Program Manager, Conservation of Collections, ICCROM)

The Conference began with opening remarks by representatives of APOYOnline, Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz, and Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation, respectively: Amparo Rueda (Founder and Vice-President), Paulo Roberto Elian (Director), and Ana Lúcia Medeiros (Director). They thanked the Organizing Committee Chairs, Beatriz Haspo (APOYOnline), Marcos José de Araujo Pinheiro (Casa de Oswaldo Cruz), and Claudia Rodrigues de Carvalho (Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation), who worked together with a team of 20 people from Brazil and abroad to organize the event. A special acknowledgment was made to the Scientific Commission, which was comprised of 20 experts from Brazil, Colombia, the United States, Canada, and Spain, who evaluated and selected the papers and posters presented during the conference.

The first day continued with panels on networking and communication and digitization and digital preservation. Alan Haley and Howard Besser joined the conference through presentations via Skype that addressed digitization strategies at the Library of Congress and New York University. In the afternoon, 16 papers were presented during concurrent sessions with simultaneous translation and 30 participants had the opportunity to discuss their posters during the first poster session.

Deborah Hess Norris, Chair and Professor of Photograph Conservation and Director of the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation delivered the keynote address *"Just IMAGINE: Lessons Learned in Public Outreach, Partnerships, and Relevance,"* which illustrated the power of photographs to connect people across cultures and the importance of the preservation of photographic materials. The first day concluded with an opening reception at the magnificent gardens of the Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation.

The second day began with the panel concerning professional development and preservation education, and preventive conservation and risk management. Of special note was a moving presentation by Alexander Kellner, Director of the National Museum of Brazil, that focused on the rescue and recovery of the collection devastated by fire one year ago and what is being done now to keep the Museum alive for researchers and the community at large. Another special moment was the viewing of a recorded interview between Gaël de Guichen, ICCROM Special Advisor to the Director General, and Jose Luiz Pedersoli, ICCROM Program Manager, Conservation of Collections, which included an enlightening conversation about the past and future of preventive conservation. This video will be available soon on the APOYOnline website.

In the afternoon, 16 additional papers were presented during concurrent sessions with simultaneous translation, and 23 participants had the opportunity to discuss their work and posters during the second poster session. The abstracts of all 32 papers and 53 posters presented during the Conference will soon be available online as well.

MANOS A LA OBRA

The conference included the second iteration of the APOYOnline special initiative **MANOS A LA OBRA** ("Helping Hands"), a community-focused volunteer initiative created to give back to local communities hosting APOYOnline conferences. This time, at the Public Archive of the State of Rio de Janeiro (APERJ), 40 participants spent the morning of the third day of the conference executing collections care initiatives like surface cleaning and rehousing of historic photographs and archival documents.

Technical Visits

Participants were also able to gain insights into heritage preservation in Brazil through technical visits and tours. Some toured the National Library of Brazil, with special attention to its photographic collections, led by Jayme Spinelli and team. Others visited the extraordinary historical campus of the Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz, the most prominent institution of science and technology in public health in Latin America, where Deborah Hess Norris and Nora Kennedy presented a public lecture *"Preservation of Photographic Material: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow."*

Finally, all were invited to APOYOnline's 30th Anniversary celebration at the Rio Scenarium, which included a delicious birthday cake and live samba band.

Workshop on Photograph Conservation, Fundraising, and Advocacy

Following the conference, from September 26-27, 60 professionals from 13 countries participated in the Workshop on Photograph Conservation, Fundraising, and Advocacy presented by photograph conservators Professor Deborah Hess Norris (Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation), Nora Kennedy (Metropolitan Museum of Art), Sarah Freeman (J. Paul Getty Museum), Ronel Namde (J. Paul Getty Museum), and Amber Kehoe (The Harry Ransom Center). Held at the Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz, the Workshop, consisted of lectures, discussions and hands-on activities to familiarize participants with the identification, degradation processes and conservation basics of common photographic materials on paper, including salted paper, albumin, silver gelatin, and chromogenic color processes. Dry-plate negatives, film-based materials, and the care of photographic albums were also discussed. An emergency salvage drill highlighted some of the vulnerabilities of these materials.

Discussions during the Workshop highlighted the needs of professionals in Brazil and around Latin America to support preservation efforts, particularly of photographic heritage, which include better access to professional development and education, and additional translations of foundational texts and technical articles. A final

workshop session led by APOYOnline addressed next steps to strengthen educational opportunities across the American continent and opportunities to build stronger and sustainable partnerships.

The workshop also included a visit to the Instituto Moreira Salles (IMS), a renowned non-profit and cultural center dedicated to the photographic heritage of Brazil, where participants were privileged to closely view a stunning variety of historic early Brazilian photographs and toured the conservation labs, study center, and galleries with Sergio Burgi and his team.

Scholarships, Sponsors and Grants

Through the generosity of over 28 corporate and private sponsors (see below) and two special APOYOnline scholarship funds, the Toby Raphael Memorial Fund and the Jose Orraca Memorial Fund launched in 2019, APOYOnline was able to give partial stipends to 192 participants, 20% of which received full grants. Nearly 35% of the conference and workshop participants were students of undergraduate, graduate, and PhD programs in heritage preservation in Latin America and Portugal. The participation of so many highly enthusiastic students contributed to stimulating debates throughout the week. The involvement of younger generations and emerging professionals brings APOYOnline enormous pride as we are impacting the development of the future generation of professionals in cultural heritage preservation.

Thank you!

APOYOnline would like to thank the co-organizers Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz, the Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation, the APOYOnline team, the Scientific Commission, and the many dedicated volunteers who made this Conference and Workshop possible.

For more information please contact:

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Sponsors

APOYOnline would like to thank the generous financial support of companies and institutions that enabled this event:

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SPECIAL THANKS



PHOTO GALLERY



The first panel “Networking and Communication” with Master of Ceremonies Francisco Vieira



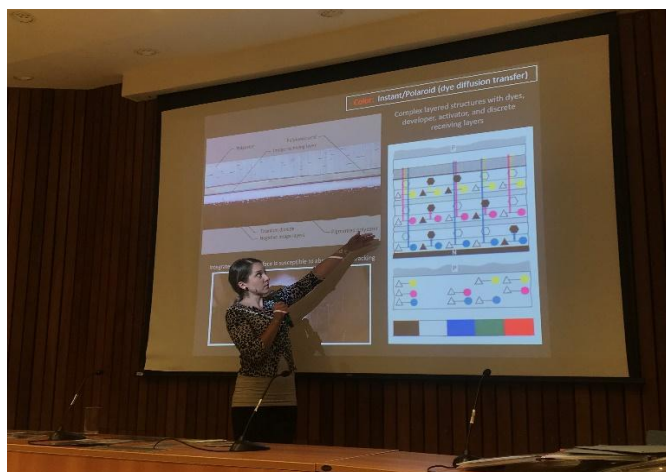
Poster session, some of the 53 posters displayed



One of the concurrent sessions



Amparo Rueda de Torres, Anne Seibert, and Beatriz Haspo cut the 30th anniversary cake!



Amber Kehoe describes digital photographic processes during the Workshop



Sergio Burgi shows participants a daguerreotype at the Instituto Moreira Salles



Connecting with colleagues



Beatriz enjoys the poster session



The final panel included a video interview of Gael de Guichen (Italy, Special Advisor to the Director General, ICCROM) by José Luis Pedersoli



Audience members ask questions during a panel discussion



MANOS A LA OBRA at Public Archive of the State of Rio de Janeiro (APERJ)



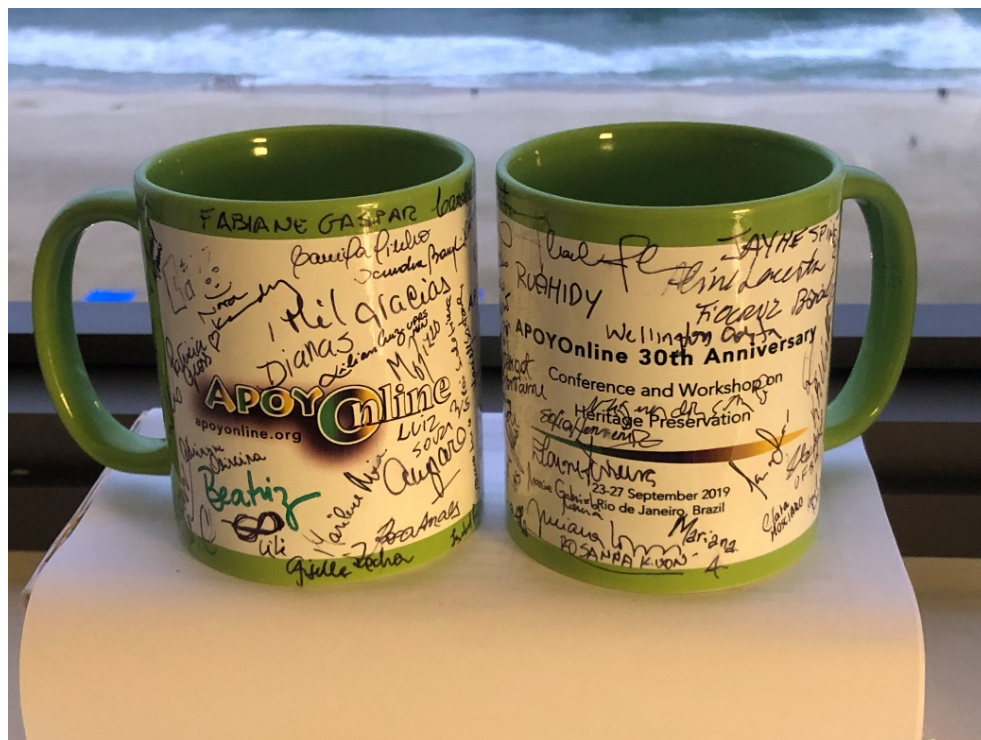
Debbie Hess Norris helping participants with process ID during the Workshop



Participants working on process ID of historic photographs during the Workshop



Many thanks to the dedicated organizers and volunteers from APOYOnline, the Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz, the University of Delaware, and the Casa de Rui Barbosa Foundation who made this Conference and Workshop possible!



Thank you to all our wonderful participants!