

INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2004 - June 2005

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear IQSC Supporters,

Visitors travel in ever-increasing numbers to the International Quilt Study Center (IQSC) from across the United States and around the world. Soon visitors will be able to see and learn more about quilts and quilting in a new facility because the dream of a separate building devoted entirely to the study and exhibition of quilts will soon be realized. Slated for completion in 2007, the freestanding museum and center for scholarship designed by the New York firm Robert A.M. Stern Architects, in partnership with Alley Poyner Architecture of Omaha, will significantly expand IQSC capacity for exhibition, education, collections and research.

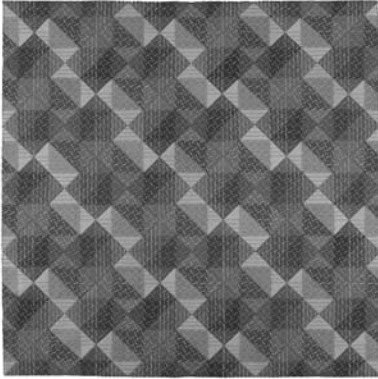
Whether quiltmaker, quilt collector, quilt scholar or quilt enthusiast, there is always much more to learn—from the quilts themselves and from the people who share a passion for them. Two exhibitions in the past year prove the point. *Design Dynamics: Log Cabin Quilts from the Jonathan Holstein Collection*, curated by masters student Judy Schwender, explored factors contributing to the dynamic quality of Log Cabin quilts and showcased the abundance of fabric choices available during the latter half of the 19th century as a result of the Industrial Revolution. Some quilts in the exhibition featured more than 100 different cotton prints!

The Collector's Eye: Amish Quilts from the IQSC Collections provided visitors a rare opportunity to explore the diversity of styles among Amish quiltmakers and offered a glimpse into the culture that shapes their artistic tradition. The exhibition featured three outstanding groups of Amish quilts: Midwestern Amish quilts from the James Collection; Lancaster, Pennsylvania quilts from the Holstein Collection; and Mifflin County, Pennsylvania quilts from the Barber Collection. Curator Carolyn Ducey encouraged visitors to note the distinctive colors, patterns and aesthetics representative of each regional group--classic Lancaster, Pennsylvania Amish quilts with large flat planes of deep rich colors; Mifflin County,



IQSC Highlights, 2004-2005:

- Robert A.M. Stern Architects of New York were chosen to design the new IQSC facility
- Acquired the Linda Giesler Carlson and Dr. John V. Carlson Collection of four-block quilts
- Held second biennial symposium: "Collectors, Collecting, and Collections"
- Received \$175,000 from the Getty Grant Program to fund a new cataloging initiative



An IQSC new acquisition: Ellen Oppenheimer's *PW Bock* #5.

Pennsylvania quilts composed of more intricate piecing, with startling pink, yellow and green accents; and the pieced block-style quilts of the Midwestern Amish often in indigo, black and burgundy fabrics.

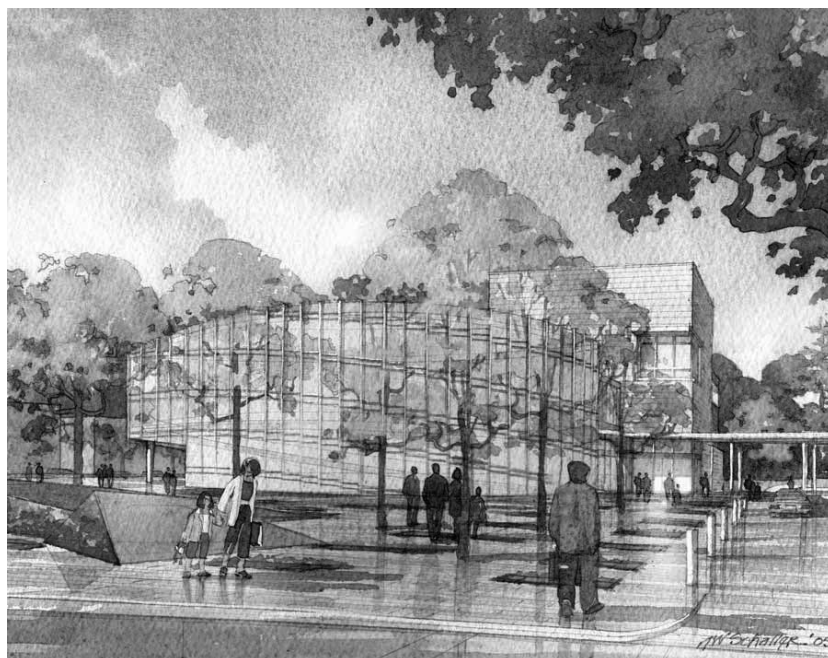
And speaking of the desire to learn—the first group of seven graduate students in the textile history/quilt studies distance delivery masters program arrived on the UNL campus in January to immerse themselves in the study of textiles. Hailing from Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin, the group examined textiles from multiple perspectives including science, history and conservation during their semester of residency. They challenged themselves and their instructors as they pursued their interest in quilt studies. It was a rich and rewarding educational experience for all.

The IQSC also seeks to further quilt scholarship by sponsoring a biennial symposium that brings together a diverse group of individuals for dialogue and scholarly presentations. In February the IQSC welcomed 153 participants to its second biennial symposium *Collectors, Collecting & Collections*. It was a truly international forum with attendees from seven foreign countries (Australia, Canada, England, France, Japan, Korea, and the Netherlands) and 23 states.

You, our supporters, whether you live nearby or in a far corner of the globe, have been very generous with your time and your resources. Your sustained interest in the IQSC is of vital importance as the IQSC moves forward with planning for a new facility. I thank you for your continued loyalty to the IQSC and its mission.

Sincerely,

Patricia Cox Crews
Director and Willa Cather Professor of Textiles



Artist's rendering of what the new International Quilt Study Center facility will look like (Thomas Schaller Illustration)

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) has chosen Robert A.M. Stern Architects of New York to design the world's first museum and international center dedicated to the study, preservation and display of quilts.

Internationally renowned architect Robert A.M. Stern revealed his firm's winning design for the museum and academic home for the International Quilt Study Center at an unveiling event April 13, 2005. The university hopes to break ground next spring on the privately funded \$10.5 million project on the northwest corner of North 33rd and Holdrege streets in Lincoln with a projected completion date of fall 2007.

"This is a definite plus for the university and for Lincoln," said Harvey Perlman, UNL chancellor. "The decision to hire an architect of international prominence reinforces the importance we place on the International Quilt Study Center. The opportunity to add a building by Robert A.M. Stern to our campus is exciting news for the campus and for the city and state."

At the design unveiling, Stern displayed a three dimensional model and artist's renderings of the three-story, 30,000 square-foot building. Faced with limestone, the building features a bowed façade of glass panels "stitched together" to create a large-scale pattern. The new facility will contain public galleries and meeting spaces, work areas dedicated to research, and climate controlled storage areas for the center's world-class collection.

"It has been a great honor and pleasure to prepare the design for the new International Quilt Study Center," said Stern. "We worked hard to meet the functional requirements to create a building that will enhance the center's mission and advance the purposes of the university. Our design provides a dramatic setting for the study

Three-dimensional model of the new building (photography by Jack Pottle/Esto)

Naming Opportunities

In addition to a reading room honoring Lincoln Quilters Guild founding member Mary Ghormley, there will be many naming opportunities in the new IQSC building, including:

- Quilt garden plaza
- Collections storage room
- Gallery spaces (3)
- Reception hall
- Digital gallery
- ... and more!

To learn more about naming opportunities and about donating to the IQSC building fund, contact:

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Lincoln, NE 68508
402-416-6530 or 800-432-3216
or
gjensen@foundation.nebraska.edu



and display of quilts and a signature gateway to the university's east campus."

As in a quilt, explained Stern, the building is organized in three layers. The outer layers, comprising the public spaces on the east and office spaces on the west, work together to wrap and protect the innermost layer, the quilt storage and gallery areas.

Stern's group was one of three companies asked to submit designs for the project. The design competition was conducted under the auspices of the University of Nebraska Foundation and was made possible by a gift from the Robert and Ardis James Foundation of Chappaqua, N.Y., which is also a major contributor to the building fund.

Terry Fairfield, NU Foundation president and chief executive officer, said gifts and commitments have been received for half the project. "We are extremely appreciative of the support from the James Foundation and for their direct role in making this a renowned program," he said. "Because of interest in this project from around the world, we are confident others will lend support at all levels for the building."

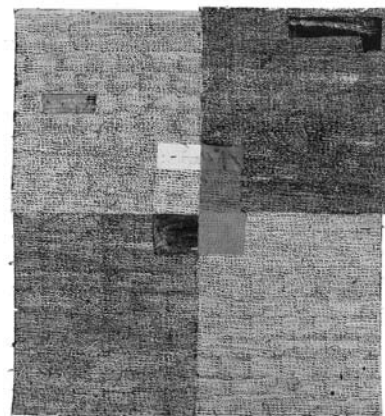
Robert A.M. Stern Architects selected Alley Poyner Architecture of Omaha as its associate architect. The university will begin accepting construction bids this fall and plans construction in 2006.

New Acquisitions

IQSC collections now total more than 1,700 quilts, with several significant collections and pieces acquired during the past year.

New IQSC acquisitions include:

- The Linda Giesler Carlson and Dr. John V. Carlson Collection of Four-Block Quilts. Linda Carlson of Mexico, Missouri, has collected, researched, and written about four-block quilts for the last twenty years. The collection, numbering 34 quilts, focuses solely on this unique style of quilt and includes early nineteenth-century appliqué examples as well as pieced examples from the twentieth century. They come from Iowa, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, among other locales. An exhibition of the collection is under discussion at the IQSC, tentatively scheduled as among the first to take place in the new IQSC building.
- The Catherine Anthony Collection of crib and doll quilts
- "Four Fields Meet," by Dorothy Caldwell
- "PW Block #5," by Ellen Oppenheimer
- "Wind over Water," by Pauline Burbidge
- "Solstice Moon," by Chris Wolf Edmonds
- "Ophelia's Dream," by Jan Myers-Newbury
- "Black Pineapple," by Carol Shaffer Dunklau



Four Fields Meet, by Canadian artist Dorothy Caldwell



Two quilts from the newly-acquired Carlson Collection

IQSC Volunteers and Collections Care

Volunteers contributed more than 2,100 hours last year — sewing sleeves on quilts for exhibition, and refolding and vacuuming after exhibition, among myriad other tasks.

New Exhibitions



Visitors at the opening reception for *The Collector's Eye: Amish Quilts from the International Quilt Study Center Collections* at the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, UNL

Each year the IQSC develops exhibitions that travel to local, national and international venues. Each exhibition features quilts that have not been previously shown, ensuring that visitors will see a new selection of quilts each time they return. During 2004-2005 the IQSC organized the following exhibitions in Lincoln:

- *Patchwork Lives*, hosted by the Museum of Nebraska History. Exhibition curators: Carolyn Ducey and Stephanie Whitson.
- *Design Dynamics of Log Cabin Quilts: Selections from the Jonathan Holstein Collection*, hosted by the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curator: Judy Schwender.
- *The Collector's Eye: Amish Quilts from the International Quilt Study Center Collections*, hosted by the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curators: Carolyn Ducey, Michael James and Jonathan Holstein.
- *Partisan Pieces: Quilts of Political and Patriotic Persuasion*, hosted by the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curator: Kathy Moore.

Visitor Figures

Over 800 people visited the IQSC storage facility and more than 40,000 people visited IQSC exhibitions.

Tours and Special Programs

IQSC staff and docents gave tours of the IQSC storage facility and exhibitions to approximately 50 groups this year.

Lectures and Programs Sponsored by the IQSC

A number of exciting lectures and programs took place at the IQSC this year. They included:

- Second Annual IQSC Quilt Identification Day, July 10, 2004. Quilt ID Day 2004 had 25 participants who brought a total of 37 quilts for identification.
- "Nebraska Quilts," a lecture by Carolyn Ducey, IQSC Curator, November 18, 2004.
- "'The First Art Quilts:' The Aesthetic Movement and Late-Victorian Fancy Quilts," a lecture by Virginia Gunn, IQSC 2004-2005 Visiting Faculty Fellow, March 31, 2005.

2005 Symposium: “Collectors, Collecting, and Collections”

Advocating feminism and confronting stereotypes and inequity in the art world, The Guerrilla Girls, an outspoken group of anonymous female artists, opened the 2005 International Quilt Study Center biennial symposium, “Collectors, Collecting, and Collections” at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, February 24-26, 2005. Their presentation was held in conjunction with the opening of *The Collector’s Eye: Amish Quilts from the International Quilt Study Center Collections*, an exhibition of one of the top Amish collections in the world.

Symposium paper presentations on Friday included topics such as the context of collecting, cross-cultural collecting and institutional collecting. The keynote speaker, Dr. Russell Belk, Eldon Tanner Professor of Business at the University of Utah, defined collecting and explained how collecting can cause the meaning of an object to change.

On Friday evening, a panel discussion looked at collecting art quilts from the perspectives of the collector and the artist. Terrie Mangat, a renowned American textile artist, talked about the memories that she virtually stitches in place on her quilts. Collectors John Walsh III and Robert Duncan discussed their collections and the responsibilities that come with acquiring art.

Saturday’s sessions focused on quilting as a form of collecting. Presenters considered issues that affect quilters, including the collecting of fabric, patterns and ideas. An insightful panel including collector and dealer Shelly Zegart, collector Jonathan Holstein, curator Linda Eaton and moderator Carolyn Ducey discussed today’s collecting trends and how they have changed over time, the current market, and concerns when trying to find a permanent home for collections.

A highlight of the symposium was a tour of the International Quilt Study Center. Visitors saw the state-of-the-art storage facility, watched demonstrations of the scientific analysis of quilts, including microscopic fiber identification that serve to corroborate dates, and a demonstration of the IQSC’s collection database.



Jonathan Holstein, Linda Eaton, and Shelly Zegart with moderator and IQSC Curator Carolyn Ducey at one of the symposium’s informative panel discussions.



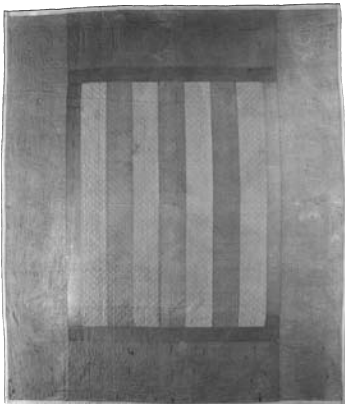
Henry Barber gives a special collector’s talk to symposium participants at the *Collector’s Eye* exhibition.

Quilt of the Month

The IQSC Quilt of the Month e-mail newsletter currently has more than 2,500 subscribers.

Hot off the Press

- "Quilting," Marin Hanson and Patricia Crews, in *Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion* (Charles Scribners Sons, 2005), pp. 74-75.
- "The Effect of Light and Heat Ageing on Selected Quilting Products Containing Adhesives," Janet Evenson and Patricia Cox Crews, in *Journal of American Institute for Conservation* (Spring, 2005), 23-31.
- "Quilting," Patricia Cox Crews, in *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* (University of Nebraska Press, 2004), pp. 311-312.
- "The Effects of Accelerated Heat and Light Ageing on Textiles Marked with Fabric Marking Pens," Janet Evenson and Patricia Cox Crews, in *2004 AIC Textile Specialty Group Postprints* (Vol. 14), pp. 1-9.



A Bars quilt from the Holstein Collection that was part of the 1971 Whitney Exhibition. All of the Whitney quilts can now be seen on the IQSC online database.

Holstein Collection Added to Online Image Database

In September 2004, nearly four hundred quilts from the Jonathan Holstein Collection were added to the IQSC's on-line image database bringing the total to more than 1600 quilts. The Holstein Collection, one of the most historically important collections in existence, includes the most exhibited, reproduced and seen of any American quilts. It includes the historically important Whitney group, more than 100 Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and Midwestern Amish quilts, and a wide range of additional pieced and appliqué quilts and related quilt material. Now, with a few clicks of the computer mouse, a visitor can view the entire Holstein Collection, including the 58 quilts that were featured in the 1971 exhibition "Abstract Design in American Quilts" at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, long considered by quilt scholars as pivotal in igniting the quilt renaissance of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Summer Seminars and Workshops

The IQSC's Summer Institute offers exciting classes each summer that provide opportunities to study with nationally known experts. The classes may be taken for credit towards a master's degree program in textile history and quilt studies, or for personal edification. The IQSC graduate program is the only program of its kind in the world.

2004 Summer Classes

- "Quilts in Context" taught by Xenia Cord, visiting instructor, folklorist, collector, dealer.
- "Design Issues and Perspectives," a Distance Delivery class taught by Michael James, professor, UNL.
- "Historical Research Methods," a Distance Delivery class taught by Linda Welters, professor, University of Rhode Island.

Upcoming 2005 Summer Classes

- "A Century of Quilts in Women's Lives," taught by Virginia Gunn, professor, University of Akron.



Xenia Cord (far right) examines a quilt in the IQSC storage facility with "Quilts in Context" class participants (Summer 2004)

Research Presented at National Meetings

- "Effects of Accelerated Heat and Light Ageing on Textiles Marked with Fabric Marking Pens," Janet Evenson and Patricia Crews, June 13, 2004, American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.
- "Quilt Studies, Quilt Collections and Quilt Scholarship at the International Quilt Study Center," Patricia Crews, November 6, 2004, invited presentation for Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA.

Honors



- *Wild by Design: Two Hundred Years of Innovation and Artistry in American Quilts*, edited by Dr. Patricia Crews and Dr. Janet Berlo, was awarded the Textile Society of America's 2004 Shep Award for Best Book in the Field.

Grants

- The Nebraska Humanities Council awarded \$1500 to support *Partisan Pieces: Quilts of Political and Patriotic Persuasion*.
- The Nebraska Arts Council awarded \$1,900 to support *The Collector's Eye*.
- The Lincoln Arts Council supported *Design Dynamics of Log Cabin Quilts* with a \$900 grant.
- The Institute for Museum and Library Service awarded a grant to the Quilt Index National Leadership Project, of which the University of Nebraska Libraries and the IQSC are a part (\$499,996 entire project, \$30,000 UNL).
- The Craft Research Fund awarded Alice V. Kinsler, UNL graduate student in the distance delivery masters program, \$5000 to support research for the exhibition *From Dust Bowl to Salad Bowl: The Quilts & Quilt-makers of the 1930s Migration to Salinas Valley, CA*, at the National Steinbeck Center, Salinas, CA.



Marin Hanson, IQSC Assistant Curator, and Nao Nomura, IQSC Collections Manager, examine a quilt for the Getty Grant Program-funded cataloguing project.

Getty Grant Program Project Update

In 2004, the Getty Grant Program awarded the IQSC a three-year grant (\$175,000) to research and prepare the manuscript for the inaugural volume of an eventual four-volume catalogue of the IQSC collections. To date, we have completed data collection on over 300 quilts, more than half of the total number in the volume. Data collection has included fiber analysis as well as extensive digital detail photography. In addition, four of the five guest scholars involved in the project have completed their research visits to the IQSC: Barbara Brackman, Beverly Gordon, Deborah Rake, and Merikay Waldvogel.

Benefactor Level (\$1,000 and above)

Linda Claussen
Robert & Ardis James
Ralph James
Joan Laughlin
Judith Ragir

Patron Level (\$500-\$999)

Patricia Heaton
Mary McElvain Stephenson
John M. Walsh, III
Tucson Quilters Guild

Sponsor Level (\$250-\$499)

Hazel M. Anthony
David & Jo Baxter
Carroll Dischner
Patricia Layman Short
Donna Wilder

Associate Level (\$100-\$249)

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Cynthia Brammeier
Mrs Katherine S Carsky
Katy Christopherson
David & Patricia Crews
Linda Daiker
Jean C Davie
Lauren Davis
Jonda Fredell
Roger & Mary Ghormley
Martha Aitken Greer
Michelle Heng
Michael & Judy James
Karen Janovy
Betty Ann Johnson
Alice Kinsler
Janet K Kugler
Sarah M Lahr
Jean Lopez
James & Elaine Martin
Martin & Ruth Massengale
Penny McMorris
Lillian Mesner
Jane Munson
Paulette Peters
Deborah Rake
Carl & Jane Rohman
Diane Halas Routt
Ruthanna Russel
Roxana B. Shepherd
Gladys Sorensen
Odette Goodman Teel
Steve & Jessie Waller
Lynn White
Shelly Zegart

Guild/Organization (\$125)

Blue Valley Quilters Guild (KS)
Calico Quilt Club
Camellia Quilters
Hastings Quilters Guild
Lakeview Quilters Guild
Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild
Quilters Guild of Greater Kansas City
Rock Creek Quilters
Wahoo Krazy Quilters
York Area Quilt Guild

Individual/Family Level (\$40)

Diane Ajuria
Janet E Ambrosek
Dick & Judy Augustine
Linda Barnes
LuAnn Barres
Mary Barrow
Ken & Maxine Bergen
Margaret S & James M. Bresel
Jan Hise Butler
Dorothy Caldwell
Jannett Caldwell
Joan Ciolino
Judith Clark
Pat Cole
Michele Eakins
Kent & Janice Eakins
Dika & Richard Eckersley
Laura Edwards
Kenneth Erdman
Janet & Carl Eskridge
Lois Eubank
Jeannine Evans
V. R. Fike
Marilyn Forke
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Charlie & Julie Gall
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Leo & Joyce Harvill
DeLynn & Esther Hay
Wanda Hein
Carol Hoffman
Nancy Hornback
Otto & Nancy Karst
Jean Keenan
Brenda Kincaid
Nancy Knuth
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Dr & Mrs Jeffery MacDonald
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Ellen Mayer
Margaret M McAllaster
Janet M Meyer
Shirley Neary
Darrell & Nan Nelson
L.J. & LaVern Newman
Dennis & Joanne Nilges
Margaret Norton
Deborah Origer
Lulubel E Pansing
Harold & Delores Partridge
Curtis & Gladys Phillips
Larry & Mary Richling
Louie & Kathi Rotella
Kathleen Rutledge & Ted Kooser
Stella Schaffert
Stacie Seeger
Janniece Stanley-MacDonald
Brian Stephan
Rebecca Stevens
Janice Tauer Wass
Linda Walters
Wayne & Joan White
Virginia White
Lois Wilson
Tracy Zentner
Judie Zinn

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Betty Allen
Iva Baker
Norma Bliss
Jim & Phyllis Bock
Hazel Carter
Mona Jeanne Easter
Deetta Edgar
Elaine Finke
Joyce Fisher
Belle L Graves
Judy Hess
Marilyn Hitz
Ellan Hove
Yvonne Junge
Kathryn E. Lohr
Lyle Mayer
Wilma Nieveen
Margaret Ordonez
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LaVonne Rohlfs
Be Silverman
Charlotte E Smith
Virginia Stevens
Robert & Sally Stoddard
Rose Marie Tondl

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Peggy Derrick

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 Peter Bleed, Anthropology
 Mary Cassner, UNL Libraries
 Patricia Crews, IQSC; Textiles, Clothing & Design
 Jan Driesbach, Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery
 Carolyn Ducey, IQSC
 Mary Ellen Ducey, Special Collections/Archives
 Marin Hanson, IQSC
 Michael James, Textiles, Clothing & Design
 Karen Janovy, Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery
 Wendy Katz, Art and Art History
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 Marshall Olds, Modern Languages & Literature
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 Diane Vigna, Textiles, Clothing & Design
 Wendy Weiss, Textiles, Clothing & Design
 Lynn White, Sociology
 Kenneth Winkle, History

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 Jacqueline Atkins, Allentown Art Museum
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 Jonathan Holstein, Cazenovia, NY
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 Jane Przybysz, San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles
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 Maude Wahlman, Univ. of Missouri - Kansas City
 Merikay Waldvogel, Knoxville, TN
 Janice Wass, Illinois State Museum
 Linda Welters, University of Rhode Island
 Jenny Yearous, North Dakota State Historical Society
 Shelly Zegart, Alliance for American Quilts

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IQSC International Advisory Board members Gita Khandelwal, Donna Wilder, and Annette Gero study a silk mosaic quilt

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Jonathan Holstein examines a piece of antique fabric with fellow International Advisory Board members Soon-Hee Kim and Donna Wilder

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