



advancing the
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through education
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A Call to Action ...

September 2008 Meetings in Miami

Summary Report

Steering Committee Meeting

Graig Shaak, Steering Committee Chair, welcomed members of the Steering Committee and reviewed the agenda for the meeting (see Appendix 1). Steering Committee discussion included the following:

- A priority is the creation of an instrument to find out what we have in the state. How deep are collections? How extensive are collections?
 - Historic houses should be included
 - Living collections are probably beyond the scope of initial collections identification
 - If possible, use the same company that did the HHI
 - Ask the Steering Committee to read and edit the HHI Survey to see what parts can be used at the state level
 - Research the cost of a state-wide HHI
- Location of the January Forum: Consider Rollins College and UCF
- Provide legislators with information about why they should care about collections, such as:
 - Economic impact of collections-based institutions. Two such studies have been done by the Department of State – one in 2000 and one in 2002. One was done by Visit Florida. Local studies include Orlando, St. Petersburg, Jacksonville, and Volusia County.
 - The importance of preserving the past to understand today and the future
 - Help legislators understand that collections, even if not in their district, matter to creating a state identity and have statewide significance
 - Reinforce messages about the power of original objects
 - Help people understand the “connecting” of collections
 - The importance of collections is both practical and patriotic
- Consider including a mechanism to gather information about collections in the Department of State grant application.