Digital Archivists in Demand: Who Are They & What Do They Do?

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Abstract: In response to the increasing demand for digital archivists in job trends, the author completed a study in 2012. The study collected and analyzed data from job postings and professional profiles that describe job responsibilities and professional background of digital archivists and related job titles. This presentation reports a summary of the findings of the 2012 study and a further analysis of job postings of digital archivists whose work directly involves born-digital/digitized archival materials. The findings of the analysis are expected to help define the curatorial roles of digital archivists working in archives and understand their career development.

About the author:

Jane Zhang is an assistant professor at the Department of Library and Information Science, the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. She holds a PhD in Library and Information Studies with archival concentration from Simmons College, Boston, and a joint Master of Archival Studies (MAS) and Library and Information Studies (MLIS) from University of British Columbia, Canada. Her teaching and research areas cover records and recordkeeping, archival theory and practice, electronic records and digital archives, information organization theory and application. Jane worked at Harvard University Archives and University of Calgary Archives before joining the faculty at Catholic University.