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2021 SAA Research Forum
July 21, 2021
Roadmap

- Motivation and need for project
- Historical and current context
- Research components
- Intended results and impact
Why the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

• Previous support of archival education and training
• Opportunity to bring together diverse academics and practitioners
• Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian program
  • National Forum
  • Build Capacity
  • Lifelong learning
  • Master’s level education
• September 1, 2020-August 31, 2022
Historical trajectory

- 1909: Leland
- 1934: NARA
- 1936: SAA
- 1938: Columbia
- 1939: American
- 1977: Guidelines
- 1982: UBC MAS
- 1988: Revised guidelines
- 1989: Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA)
- 1994: MAS recommended
- 2002: SAA GPAS
- 2009: AERI
- 2009: Clayton State MAS
- 2016: Latest GPAS revision
Current State of Archival Education

Generations:
- Pioneers
- Practitioners
- PhDs
- 4th

Need for closer collaboration
- Academics, practitioners, associations (Tanya Z-B)
- Personal experience

Stakeholders
- iSchools and LIS programs
- Society of American Archivists
- Regional archival associations

Curriculum standardization
- 60+ programs

Recruitment and retention
- Underrepresented populations
  - “diverse diversity” (McGovern, 2019, 19)
Literature Review

- Professionalization
- History vs. LIS base
- Theory vs. practice
- Practicums/internships
- Manuscripts vs. records tradition
- Practitioner-faculty versus full-time research faculty

- Appropriate credentials (degree, concentration, certificate)
- Pre- and post-professional training
- ARM and digital curation
Advisor-Participants

**Jeannette Bastian**
Professor Emerita  
School of Library and Information Science,  
Simmons University

**Devan Donaldson**  
Assistant Professor  
Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering  
Indiana University-Bloomington

**Meredith Evans**  
Director  
Jimmy Carter Presidential Library & Museum

**Anne Gilliland**  
Associate Dean and Professor  
Graduate School of Education and Information Studies  
University of California Los Angeles

**Rebecca Hankins**  
Professor and Archivist/Curator/Librarian  
Africana Studies/Women & Gender Studies/Race & Ethnic Studies/Arabic Language  
Texas A&M University

**Petrina Jackson**  
Director  
Special Collections Research Center  
Syracuse University Libraries

**Aisha Johnson-Jones**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Library and Information Sciences  
North Carolina Central University

**Christopher A. (Cal) Lee**  
Professor  
School of Library and Information Science  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Nancy McGovern**  
Director, Digital Preservation  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries  
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**Ricardo L. Punzalan**  
Associate Professor  
School of Information  
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

**Ashley Todd-Diaz**  
Assistant University Librarian for Special Collections and University Archives  
Towson State University

**Kelvin White**  
Associate Professor  
School of Library and Information Studies  
University of Oklahoma

**Tanya Zanish-Belcher**  
Director, Special Collections, and University Archivist  
Z. Smith Reynolds Library  
Wake Forest University
An Environmental Scan

The environmental scan will establish an analytical baseline for the forum event and for research publications.

- An analysis of current course offerings
- A syllabus review
- A literature review
- A content analysis of annual meeting programs
- A survey of early career archival professionals
- Semi-structured interviews of full-time tenure-track archival faculty
A National Forum Event

The forum event to be held in summer 2022

• Seek representation from a wide range of diverse expert stakeholders, including practitioners and archival educators from Library and Information Science, iSchool, and History/Public History programs

• Construct 15 exemplary curriculum modules adaptable to diverse archival education contexts as the core of the final outputs of the project
Archival Curriculum Modules

- Identify archival topical groupings and associated curriculum components:
  - **Essential**: core archival principles, functions, and practices
  - **Advanced**: topics that reflect new professional developments
  - **Flexible**: adaptable as a single weekly topic, multiple weekly topics, or a full-course syllabus
Module Data Sources

• SAA Guidelines for a Graduate Program in Archival Studies (GPAS)
  • Latest professional standards for archival graduate education in terms of mission, curriculum, faculty, and infrastructure

• Graduate archival course offerings and syllabi
  • Information about current course topics as well as how they are related to the GPAS curriculum requirements
Module Data Sources

- Professional annual meeting programs
  - Topics covered in professional education programs
  - Alignment with graduate archival curriculum topics
- Student and early career practitioner surveys and archival faculty interviews
  - How current archival students/new professionals and faculty think about the current and future archival curricula
Deliverables

- Website
- Archival curriculum modules
  - 15 exemplars
- National Forum event
  - 30 practitioners and academics
  - 3.5 days
  - Plenary speakers, panels, breakout sessions, working groups, and open discussions
  - Games, videos, and multimedia
- Peer-reviewed publications
- Conference presentations and papers
- White Paper
- Further funded research collaborations
Thank you!

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