

# National Forum Grant Project: Exploring New Frontiers in 21st Century Archival Education

Alex H. Poole

Jane Zhang

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# 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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
- 4<sup>th</sup>

## 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  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

***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!

Alex H. Poole (Drexel University)

[ahp56@drexel.edu](mailto:ahp56@drexel.edu)

Jane Zhang (Catholic University of America)

[zhangj@cua.edu](mailto:zhangj@cua.edu)

