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The Society of Southwest Archivists is a professional organization established to stimulate and make available research in archival administration and records management; promote sound principles and standards for preserving and administering records; foster opportunities for the education and training of archivists, records managers, and custodians of private papers; strengthen relations with others in allied disciplines; and cooperate with organizations and institutions having mutual interests in the preservation and use of our recorded knowledge.

Annual Membership dues are $25.00 for individuals, with a reduced rate of $15.00 for students and retirees. Institutional newsletter subscriptions are $25.00.

More information about membership can be found at our website southwestarchivists.org

SUBMISSIONS TO THE SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST

Please send all final submissions to one of the state liaisons listed below. The preferred submission format is a Word document attached via e-mail. The document should include a title; the author’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; and captions and citations for images. Please send images as separate JPG attachments.

Submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and available space. Due to space limitations the editors reserve the right to omit submissions or hold them over for a future issue.

The editor gives priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space permits. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome, as are longer Spotlight columns. Please e-mail the editor Amanda Norman or your area liaison if you have any questions about a proposed article.

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<td>Amanda Norman</td>
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SSA RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FROM SAA

By Shelly Kelly and Gerianne Schaad

In the spring of this year, Gerianne Schaad was contacted by the 2018 Society of American Archivists (SAA) Distinguished Service Award Committee and asked to nominate the Society of Southwest Archivists for our outstanding service to the profession through the creation of the National Disaster Recovery Fund. Schaad did so, and accepted the Award on behalf of SSA this past August.

For those members who were not around in 2005, you might ask how SSA created the National Disaster Recovery Fund.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall as a Category 3 storm in southeast Louisiana, causing catastrophic damage along the Gulf Coast from central Florida to Texas. At least 1,245 people died in the hurricane and subsequent floods from storm surge and levee failure. Specifically, 80% of New Orleans and large tracts of neighboring parishes flooded and remained flooded for weeks.

Hearing these reports, and worried about our friends and colleagues, members of the SSA Board grew concerned over the lack of news and asked Board President Brenda Gunn to help create the SSACares.org site to facilitate communication with friends and colleagues living in the affected areas. But it wasn’t only us—on September 2, 2005, as news about the horrendous conditions of both homes and repositories began coming to light, members of COSA, NAGARA, SAA, COSLA, and ACA issued a joint statement expressing concern and offering moral support.

Moral support was fine, but the SSA Executive Board members knew repositories would need money to recover. So over the weekend of September 9-11, Board members discussed what archival repositories would need and how we could support that. Recognizing that SSA, as a volunteer organization, was not properly structured for the efficient and rigorous process of managing financial donations, we decided to approach the Society of American Archivists, who were capable of managing an assistance fund. On Monday, September 12, Gunn and Director of SAA, Nancy Beaumont, agreed to establish the SSA/SAA Emergency Disaster Assistance grant fund with defined responsibilities. SSA would use their infrastructure to receive incoming donations, administer the fund, and issue payments. SSA, led by past President Shelly Kelly, would appoint a review committee to develop the application process and review criteria, receive incoming applications, and review and approve/deny requests.

The SSA board motion to establish the fund passed on Wednesday, September 14 and included an initial donation of $5,000 to start the fund. Two days later the Society of American Archivists board voted to create the fund with a matching donation of $5,000. Money began to pour in from across the country and the SSA/SAA Emergency Disaster Assistance Review Committee, comprised of SSA immediate-past president Shelly Kelly, past treasurer Robert Schaadt, and SSA past presidents Kathlene Ferris, Carol Roark, and Bruce Turner, began their work of creating the criteria for being awarded a grant, the application process, and agreeing on the amount to be awarded. As Hurricane Rita approached the Texas and Louisiana Gulf coasts, the committee turned over their document to the SSA and SAA boards for approval. Committee members Kelly, Schaadt, and Turner then proceeded to board up their own institutions and evacuate their homes.

The SSA/SAA Emergency Disaster Assistance grant fund was announced on September 21, only three weeks after Hurricane Katrina made landfall and as archivists in New Orleans were finally gaining entrance into their repositories to survey the damages. By October 13, the fund received a total of $9,126 in donations above the $10,000 seed monies from SSA and SAA. On October 17,
FROM THE EDITOR

AMANDA NORMAN

Southwestern Archivist has a brand-new look! Thank you to board member Daniel Alonzo’s leadership in preparing a new design for our newsletter. We’d be glad to hear what you think!

What’s remained the same is our commitment to sharing news of awarded grants, completed projects, and other achievements. And of course, we enjoy sharing what the SSA leadership is working on and thinking about. Read on in this issue to consider compensation in archives, SSA’s growing membership, the 2019 Annual Meeting in Tucson, and more!

Please continue to send us your news and personal accomplishments for your newsletter. We hope you enjoy the November issue!

POOR PAY IN ARCHIVES: HOW TOP ARCHIVES DIRECTORS AND OUR NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE FAILING US

MARK LAMBERT

The top Archives directors are failing the profession.

It appears nearly every day brings a new article contrasting national wage stagnation with the ever-climbing stock market. Even before the great recession, archivists, who are highly degreed professionals comparable to lawyers, accountants, and IT professionals, were poorly paid.

The reasons, both before and after the recession are, in large part, a failure of leadership by both those archivists at the head of management and the national organizations that claim to advocate for us.

Most of us have at least one “prestigious” archives in our state, either at the largest public university, the largest private university, a private research library, or a presidential library; they tend to pay well.

That is, they tend to pay one person very well: the director. The person at the top of the organization chart should be a leader, yet sadly these de facto leaders of our profession, who have reaped so much, are failing our profession. These “rock stars” are usually full professors from an academic department and the monkish world of terminal degrees, where individual achievements are rewarded, and not from a profession strongly focused on collaboration, customer service, public service, and outreach like Archives.

Directors often make two to three times more than the management team directly below them, the associate or assistant directors. Those folks keep those prestigious archives operating Monday through Friday, while the director sets the mission and vision, does a lot of public speaking and talks to the press, meets regularly with their dean or board (and their associate or assistant directors), and meets with any potential donors.

Here are two current examples in Austin of pay inequity, from two independent research centers at the largest public university in town, where the directors have

Continued on page 6

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

January 10
April 10
July 10
October 10

ADVERTISE WITH SSA

Please see our rate sheet at southwestarchivists.org or contact Nicholas Wojcik at nwo@ou.edu.

2018 ADVERTISERS

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Archivium
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Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc.
Lucidea
Northern Micrographics
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Southwest Solutions Group

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2019 - Tucson, AZ
2020 - Denton, TX

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

lots of individual discretion over their budgets. The information is obtained from a database of state government salaries maintained by the Texas Tribune, an independent news source based in Austin.

The Director of the Harry Hunt Ransom Humanities Research Center, or for short the HRC, makes $270,300. The four associate director salaries listed make $96,900; $86,595; $79,707; and $71,420. Thus, the director makes more than double the highest paid associate director, and almost four times as much as the lowest paid associate director.

The Director of the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, or the Briscoe Center, makes $220,239. The four assistant director salaries listed are: $88,990; $81,151; $76,404; and $70,411. Thus, the director makes over double what the highest paid assistant director makes, and triple what the lowest paid assistant director makes.

If you look at the pay scale for the rest of the professional positions at both institutions, they generally are stacked between the $40,000s to $90,000s. This is a pathetically narrow range, considering levels of experience probably exist between 0 years and 30+ years, and supervision duties probably range from none to several persons.

To be clear, I don’t begrudge these directors making good pay. I only know them both by reputation, but they both have been in the profession a long time and are highly respected. However, they should think about their staffers more than they do promoting themselves.

Perhaps these directors would say in response, “well there is only so much money to go around (in the budget), and there is so much to do in an Archives.” Personally, speaking as a director of a large archives, I would rather have less staff, but have them better paid, with better morale, than to have more staff that are poorly-paid, with poor morale.

Equitable salaries and higher morale will increase retention, as well, and if there is one thing archives benefit from, it’s institutional knowledge which we lose with high turnover. Some duties will probably never be done that formerly were done; that’s when you ask your boss for another “well-paid” position, not a poorly-paid one. I also realize all of this is relative, since no two archives are exactly alike, and at least partially based on geography; what is considered a good salary in Austin, Texas would probably be considered a poor salary in San Francisco, California. But we must start somewhere in better advocating for our staffs.

Here is a simple back-of-the-napkin example, using Austin-area salary ranges: you have $225,000 in your budget for processing collections by early to mid-career archivists (pay only, leaving aside benefits to make the math the simplest). I would rather have four archivists making $56,250 each than five archivists making $45,000 each. Can we all at least agree on this concept?

I know we are all highly goal oriented, deeply care about great customer service, and hate to look at backlogs and unprocessed collections that could be used by our researchers, but if we don’t start better advocating for ourselves, we will have NO staff, as they leave our profession in droves soon to go do something else that pays better (like UX or records management).

I also ask that if your state has a website that lists public salaries, including Archives, inside the southwest region or anywhere in the U.S., please let me know, and we can start compiling this information on a page on the SSA website, and add salary envy and peer pressure to this vital issue.

Endnotes

1. I am focusing on archives, since that is what I know best, but a lot of what I write could also possibly apply to our allied GLAM professions (Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums.)


4. As we say in the military, “Lead, follow or get out of the way.”

5. I realize not all top archives directors have the large amount of individual discretion over their budgets of the two mentioned here, but many do.

6. https://salaries.texastribune.org/ The salary information was pulled from the database on 10/7/18. There does appear to be a few persons at each institution listed with higher salaries than the persons listed as associate or assistant director, but without inside knowledge of each archives, I will assume they are due to endowed positions which might or might not come with management duties.

7. My goal is not to embarrass individual archivists, so I am leaving individual names out of this article; you can look them up if you want to, using the sources mentioned here.

8. Since I don’t have any inside knowledge about this archives, I will assume the disparity in pay among the associate directors is related to the length of time in their respective positions.

9. And for the record, they are both men—you can look up their Continued on page 7
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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

biographies yourself.

10. This recent Wall Street Journal article writes about
corporations now looking for more bosses with humility (no joke!):
https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-best-bosses-are-humble-bosses-1539092123

11. Currently, the Texas Library Association asks that librarians
with a graduate degree and no professional experience start at a

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AMY ALLEN, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
VICE-CHAIR

Discussions are under way for potential workshops and
partnerships for workshops both associated with and
outside of the annual meeting. The committee is
determining interest in offering the popular workshop
"Introduction to Taro" again this winter, more information
to follow. Also, the committee is coordinating with SAA to
potentially offer a workshop during the pre-conference to
the annual meeting and is currently looking for trainers for
additional pre-conference workshops.

If you are a trainer who would like to share your skills, or if
you are a member who would like to see a workshop on a
particular topic, the committee welcomes your feedback.
Please send questions or comments to Amy Allen,
ala005@uark.edu.

2019 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD

JENNIFER GREEN, DSA CHAIR

The SSA Distinguished Service Award is given to an
individual who has made a significant contribution to the
Society and to the archival profession. Since 1996,
Hollinger Metal Edge Inc. has sponsored this award which
is presented to the honoree at the SSA annual meeting
during the membership business meeting.

To submit a nomination, please provide the following:

* Brief description of the nominee and their contribution
  and impact on SSA and the profession (250-word limit).
* Letter(s) of nomination/support for the nominee.
* Up to three (3) supporting documents (for example,
  publications or websites).

DSA AWARD, CONT.

Submit the nomination package electronically by emailing
it in a PDF format to jennifer.day@okc.gov.
The deadline for nominations is January 13, 2019.

Thank you,
2019 DSA Committee
Jennifer Green, The City of Oklahoma City
Carol Bartels, The Historic New Orleans Collection
Brenda McClurkin, University of Texas at Arlington

SSA CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

REBECCA ELDER, NOMINATIONS CHAIR

Meet other archivists, gain valuable experience, help the
archival community prosper, and earn the admiration of
your colleagues by serving the most dynamic organization
of archivists in the U.S.

The SSA Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for
the following positions in 2019:

* Vice-President/President Elect (three year term—one as
  VP, one as President, and one as Immediate Past President)
* Executive Board (3 positions, two-year term)
* Nominating Committee (1 position, two-year term)
* Scholarship Committee (1 position, three-year term)
* Treasurer (two-year term)

The responsibilities of each position are outlined in the
SSA Officer & Committee Procedures Manual, available
online at: https://societyofsouthwestarchivists.wild
apricot.org/resources/Documents/Manuals-and-Forms/

If you would like to serve, or know an ideal candidate,
please contact a member of the Nominating Committee:

Rebecca Elder, rebecca@elderpreservation.com
Ann Hodges, ann.hodges@tamucc.edu
Molly Hults, molly.hults@austintexas.gov

The deadline for submitted nominations is January 1, 2019.
Remember, if you are a Certified Archivist, or are planning
to become certified, participating in the leadership of a
professional organization such as SSA will earn you
recertification credit.
in the beginning, there was stuff...

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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

ROBERT WEAVER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

At the Annual Meeting in May, the Membership Committee was excited to report that the SSA had 522 total members—our fifth highest total in ten years! Since then that total has risen to 533, a level not seen since 2014. This was the product of a lot of hard work by members who host large events such as the DFW Archives Bazaar and who manned booths at the SAA Annual Meeting and the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries & Museums (ATALM).

The Membership Committee encourages each of you to reach out to your own groups as well, whether large regional organizations, university library schools, or local groups interested in promoting archival practice.

Should you need brochures or membership forms to help spread the word, the Membership Committee would be happy to get those into your hands. And, of course, joining the SSA is simple to do online at https://www.southwestarchivists.org/home/membership/.

Finally, the Membership Committee would like to welcome its new members: Amy Mondt (Vietnam Center and Archive); Kimberly Gianfrancesco (New Mexico State University); Jennifer Mitchell (Hill Memorial Library at Louisiana State University); Lenox Wiese (Center for Creative Photography at University of Arizona); and Brian Robertson (Butler Center for Arkansas Studies). But we have no representative for the great state of Oklahoma! If you know someone who may be interested, please email Robert Weaver at robert.g.weaver@ttu.edu.

STATE PARTNERSHIP AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

MARIAN J. BARBER, SPOC CHAIR

The State Partnership and Outreach Committee (SPOC) held its first meeting as a permanent committee of SSA via conference calls on October 8 and 9.

The Committee’s first actions were to choose Nathania Sawyer of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies as Vice-Chair and to create subcommittees to deal with the range of imperatives the SPOC will address in 2018-2019. Mike Miller of the Austin History Center, Alexis Perego of the Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona, and Sally Sinor of the Notarial Archives Research Center in the Office of the Clerk of Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, Louisiana, agreed to put together a session proposal for the COSA/SAA 2019 meeting, which will be held in Austin. The subcommittee will be looking for others to help plan the session and

individuals who are interested in serving as panelists. Please be in touch with Miller at Mike.Miller@austintexas.gov if you would like to be involved in either role. The deadline for submission of proposals is November 16.

James Williamson of the Norwich Center for Digital Solutions at Southern Methodist University agreed to spearhead an update of the spreadsheet the Committee created for its SSA Boot Camp session in 2016. Cheylen Woods of the Ernest J. Gaines Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and John State of the Dallas Municipal Archives will work with him, and all members of the SPOC will contribute. Abbie Weiser and Claudia Rivers of the C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department at the University of Texas at El Paso are already gathering material from West Texas and New Mexico to add to the spreadsheet.

Weiser also agreed to lead a group working on developing the Committee’s presence on the SSA website, including making it easier for individuals interested in presenting at a conference or contributing an article or book chapter to find outlets. This subcommittee, including Sawyer and Perego, will work closely with the group updating the Boot Camp spreadsheet.

Sawyer will chair a subcommittee charged with encouraging archivists to take advantage of presentation and publication opportunities with deadlines in the late fall, winter, and early spring. Woods, Jennifer Green of the Office of the City Clerk of Oklahoma City, and SPOC Chair Marian J. Barber will join her. A goal of this group will be to promote interdisciplinary panels, involving archivists and individuals from other disciplines, such as history, genealogy, journalism, and oral history.

During its October 9 follow-up call, the group explored ways to connect archivists who have ideas for papers and articles with opportunities to present and publish, especially in an era of limited travel budgets. Katie Salzmann of the Wittliff Collections at Texas State University and Brenda McClurkin of Special Collections at the University of Texas at Arlington discussed the value of presenting one’s creative and scholarly work. Salzmann shared the URL for a University of Pennsylvania website that lists both calls for papers and requests for journal articles and chapters for edited collections. She noted the importance of publications in promotion decisions at many institutions.

Members agreed to have the SPOC’s next conference calls the week of November 5-9 and November 12-16. New members are always welcome. Please email Marian Barber
CALL FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS

JOSHUA YOUNGBLOOD, PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR

The SSA/CIMA joint Annual Meeting will be in Tucson, Arizona, May 15-18, 2019 at the Tucson Marriott University Park Hotel. The 2019 Program Committee invites submissions for 60 or 90-minute sessions.

Proposals are welcome on any subject or skill relevant to the archives profession. Current issues and recently completed projects are also of interest. Proposals will be evaluated on the completeness of the description, diversity of speakers, and topics. All aspects of archives and records management are encouraged. The deadline for submission is November 16, 2018. Submit your ideas using the online form or by email to jcyoungb@uark.edu.

This year’s conference theme is “Crossing Borders, Blazing Trails,” and proposals are encouraged that engage with the ideas of discovery, diversity, inclusion, collaboration, and innovation that characterize the history and spirit of Tucson. Specific areas of member interest include:

- Software specific how-to: Archives Space, Excel, etc.
- Encoded Archival Description in practice
- Fundraising
- Donor Relations
- Outreach
- Community archives
- Government Records
- Legal Issues
- Management and professional concerns
- Skills Training: conservation, digital conversion, basic coding, exhibit design

If you have a single paper around which you’d like to form a session, also use the online form, and the program committee will attempt to create an entire session around your proposal!

Session formats may include, but are not limited to:

**Panel Discussion:** A traditional session with three to five speakers, each giving 10-15 minute presentations on a single theory or perspective on a given topic, followed by time for questions. Prepared papers are not required, the Moderator/Chair is usually one of the speakers.

**Roundtable Discussion:** Less formal than a Panel Discussion, a Roundtable session consists of one to three presentations of 10 minutes each that describe a theory, issue, or initiative followed by small group discussions where participants and speakers share ideas. A session Chair is not required.

**Lightning Talks:** A large panel of eight to ten speakers that deliver 5 minute talks on a common theme or issue, keeping a lively pace and sharing relevant take-away ideas. A session Chair is required to compile presentation materials and maintain the time schedule.

**Hands-on training:** Are you a whiz at making phase boxes? Know how to use Excel like a pro? Have experience building exhibits of paper items? Share your skills with other members in a mini-workshop setting. Focus on one or two skills that can be shared in a 60 or 90-minute session. Skills Training sessions can have one or two speakers, and a moderator to assist with materials. Proposals should include details of the speaker’s relevant experience or training.

**Lunch Meeting/Discussion:**
Are you part of a state or local archival organization that would like to meet up at SSA? Use this form to let us know! Want to start a book club or a study group? Get your special interest on the program to reach more potential members.

**2019 Program Committee:**

- **Diane Bird,** Museum of Indian Arts & Culture
- **Sarah Bost,** University of Arkansas at Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture
- **Lauren Feltner,** Archdiocese of New Orleans
- **Rae Gifford,** Utah Division of Archives and Records Service
- **Paula Mitchell,** Southern Utah University
- **Alexis Barr Peregoy,** University of Arizona
- **Robert Weaver,** Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, Texas Tech University
- **Katrina Winton,** University of Arkansas Libraries
- **Joshua Youngblood,** University of Arkansas Libraries
- **Yelizaveta Zakharov,** Archives of the Big Bend, Sul Ross State University
2019 ANNUAL MEETING

It’s that time of year to start thinking about the 2019 Annual Meeting, happening May 15–18 in Tucson, Arizona. We are especially excited to announce that SSA has teamed up with the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists for a joint meeting this year! The theme, “Crossing Borders, Blazing Trails,” connects to Tucson’s unique Southwest border location and encourages discussions around discovery, diversity and inclusion, collaboration, new initiatives and trends, achievements, experimental projects, and so much more.

The conference will be held at the Marriott University Park Hotel, which is adjacent to the University of Arizona campus. The hotel is within walking distance to many restaurants, shopping, and amenities. For those who enjoy good food and drink, Tucson is one of UNESCO’s Creative Cities, named the first UNESCO City of Gastronomy in 2016. Reflecting the culture of the Sonoran Desert, the food here is diverse and distinct.

Exploring off-campus is easy with the streetcar running a four-mile loop between the UA campus and downtown Tucson. There are several excellent restaurants, breweries, and cafés in Downtown’s Congress Street district, such as Cafe Poca Cosa, Reilly Craft Pizza & Drink, and the Hotel Congress Cup Café. Also along the streetcar loop is the Mercado District and Annex, which offers a unique destination of shopping, eating, and history. Grab a coffee at Presta Coffee Roasters or Hermosa Coffee, a dessert from Sonoran Sno-Cones or Dolce, or even the best donut you’ll ever eat from La Estrella Bakery (trust us). Stop into Why I Love Where I Live for your Tucson-inspired souvenirs. Catch a bite to eat at Beau Burger, serving all plant-based food, or Seis Kitchen for regional Mexican cuisine. At the end of a long day, unwind with Tucson’s own Whiskey Del Bac.

There are also several cultural heritage institutions close to the hotel, including the Arizona Historical Society, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona Museum of Art, Center for Creative Photography, and the University of Arizona Special Collections. Further away from campus, the “Old Pueblo” features an abundance of cultural heritage institutions, including the Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum located in the Saguaro National Park, and the Mission San Xavier del Bac located on the Tohono O’odham San Xavier Indian Reservation. There is also the Jewish History Museum, Postal History Foundation, the Diocese of Tucson Archives, and the Western Archaeological Conservation Center. If you want a change of scenery, Tucson offers great hiking and biking trails with scenic mountain views, the Biosphere 2, Mount Lemmon, and Old Tucson studios.

To stay updated with the latest information, please be sure to visit the meeting website at https://2019cima.southwestarchivists.org/.
the Review Board had received five requests, approved three grants of $2,000 each, and the SSA Board voted to expand the application process to include applications from archival repositories damaged by Hurricane Rita.

Because of the generosity of the archival community, the Emergency Disaster Assistance Fund collected more money than it gave away. In August 2007, the SSA Executive Board and the SAA Foundation Board renamed the fund the National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives and expanded the original scope to provide grants in support of major archival collection disaster recovery efforts, regardless of region or repository type. SSA continues to promote the Fund, through requests for donations and grants.

The Society of American Archivists distinguished service award states that the board members of the Society of Southwest Archivists demonstrated extraordinary ingenuity to serve the archival repositories in their six-state region affected by natural disasters. A team of leaders, going beyond their traditional elected roles, were not only able to identify a need and process to provide relief to others, they also worked in conjunction with the national organization to develop an expanded and sustainable program now known as the National Disaster Recovery Fund that benefits archives across the United States.

The National Disaster Recovery Fund for Archives is the second national award opportunity created by SAA for national recipients; SSA also funds the Sister M. Claude Lane Award. As the SAA Nominee suggested, “SSA members are a generous group and that generosity is reflected in their leadership’s efforts to go above and beyond the call of duty to help each other, while serving as a model for other organizations to follow, with an eye towards long-term sustainability.”

Why Digitization?

Reasons to consider a digital preservation project could range from providing broader access to your collection or to simply reduce the potential damage to the original item.

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TALK OF THE REGION

Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) Updates and Happenings
Sandra Yates, CA, TARO Steering Committee Chair 2018

Vote for the new TARO URL
Part of the TARO Upgrade Project, TARO will have a new server and new permanent web address! Since UT Libraries upgraded their website in January 2018, TARO has had a temporary URL, "legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/". As we look ahead to upgrading the TARO platform, the Steering Committee agreed that a stand-alone organizational (.org) web address would provide TARO with its own identity as well as a stable, permanent URL that member repositories need. All TARO members are invited to vote for the URL that you prefer or suggest another. The change is planned as part of the TARO Upgrade Project pending grant funds from the NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant application that we submitted in July. We will learn in March 2019 if TARO received the award, and the project will start by May 2019. The Steering Committee is aware of the impact that a new URL will have on many repositories and how you link to your finding aids. That is why we are including it with the planned upgrades. Throughout the process we will provide a clear timeline for the change as well as tips to help you prepare for the new URL. The next round of voting will be in December. We’ll send the poll through the TARO email list.

Summerlee New Member Initiative Project
The Summerlee New Member Initiative is a 5-year, grant-funded project that will encode legacy finding aids to help new repositories participate in TARO. The project’s first group of six participating repositories are Lamar University, Harris County Archives, Menil Collection, Catholic Archives of Texas, Fort Worth Jewish Archives, and Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum Research Center. There are two ways to participate in this project:
1. If you have EAD markup experience and want to help new TARO member get their finding aids online, you can join the Summerlee QA Subcommittee.
2. If you would like your repository to participate in the project and join TARO, please contact us. We’ll add you to the list for the next year.

For more information, contact: syates@library.tmc.edu.

Steering Committee Elections
The elections for the 2019 TARO Steering Committee will take place in November. We will be electing a new Vice-Chair and Secretary. Be sure to cast your vote when the ballot reaches your inbox! Carla Alvarez will take over as Chair in January 2019.

TARO public website: https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/
TARO Today news blog: https://blogs.lib.utexas.edu/taro/
TARO working wiki: http://texastaro.pbworks.com/
TALK OF THE REGION

ArchivesSpace and Archives Outreach Event Resources Now Available on the Society of Southwest Archivists Website
Anna M. Reznik and Susan Floyd, Texas State Library and Archives, and Molly Hults, Austin History Center

Two sessions presented at the 2018 Southwest Archivists Annual Meeting resulted in the addition of some practical resources to the SSA new website under the Resources tab.

One of these new Education Resources is the ArchivesSpace Resources page (https://www.southwestarchivists.org/archives-space-resources/), which aims to informally connect users in the SSA region and provide a way to share tips. Implementing ArchivesSpace can be overwhelming, but why not build on the work of other archivists rather than reinventing the wheel? To this end, SSA is providing space for ArchivesSpace users in the region to share documentation and contact information.

This project is only as useful as the content you share, so consider submitting your documentation on:
* Training methods and instructions
* Project management and planning
* Workflows
* Approaches to deal with legacy metadata, location information, containers, digital materials, etc.
* Contact lists tracking ongoing projects and requests for information and guidance

We hope to build a regional knowledge base prior to the 2019 ArchivesSpace Member Annual Forum in Austin. Please share your documentation with Rebecca Romanchuk (rromanchuk@tsl.texas.gov).

The second new resource is the Archives Outreach Event Resources page (https://www.southwestarchivists.org/archives-outreach-event-resources/), which provides materials that can be used to host an archival outreach event. Hosting an event such as an Archives Bazaar is an effective and fun way to collaborate with other repositories in your community. Make planning easier by taking advantage of the work of those who have come before you. Included are examples of materials used by other archival event planning teams for marketing, requesting sponsorships, inviting repositories to participate, tracking money and volunteers, developing programming and much, much more. Use as-is or adapt to your needs. If you have hosted an outreach event and have materials to contribute, contact Molly Hults (molly.hults@austintexas.gov).

If you have any other resources that you think would be helpful to your fellow archivists and would like to share via the SSA website, please contact Hults.
During 2018, the UA Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture (CAHC) marked a busy year with the release of two virtual exhibits. In September, CAHC opened "The Road from Hell is Paved with Little Rocks," telling the history of Arkansas’s endeavors to desegregate its educational system. The next month, "Charlie May Simon: Pushing Against the Stream of Time" launched about an author and native Arkansan, who wrote some 30 books and articles. These exhibits are among 20 produced by CAHC, covering a range of topics about Arkansas History and providing something to satisfy many interests.

"The Road from Hell is Paved with Little Rocks" was born out of a "Digitizing Hidden Collections and Archives" grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources. The exhibit includes collections from CAHC, the Central Arkansas System Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, and the Central High School National Historic Site. With this launch, visitors can explore a wealth of documents, photographs, and audiovisual materials. It features articles with a scholarly perspective about hot spots of progress, from the first case of desegregation in the former Confederate states at Charleston, Arkansas, to the Little Rock Central High School Crisis. The exhibit also includes an interactive timeline and educational resources for the classroom.

"Charlie May Simon: Pushing Against the Stream of Time" examines a prolific author, who had an extraordinary and often challenging life. Simon was born into an impoverished family in the Arkansas delta region and later endured poverty while homesteading in Perry County, Arkansas. She had three marriages; each husband was prominent in his own right. She was widowed twice and was subject to accusations of marrying for convenience. Through it all, she enjoyed literary success with writing children’s books and biographies. Today, the Arkansas Department of Education issues an award for children’s literature that is named after her. The exhibit includes unpublished stories from the Charlie May Simon Papers, a timeline, and articles about her life and career.

To view the virtual exhibits, go to ualre.xhibits.org/desegregation and ualre.xhibits.org/simon. For more information about them, contact Jared Craig, UA Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture, 407 President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72201.
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The 2019 application is available at

For the 2019 application and more information about the Certified Archivist examination, go to the ACA website [certifiedarchivists.org/get-certified](http://certifiedarchivists.org/get-certified) or contact the ACA office at 518-694-8471 or aca@caphill.com.
REPOSITORY NEWS

Adventures in DSpace

Evaliza Fuentes, Public History Graduate Student, Texas State University and Lauren Goodley, Archivist, The Wittliff Collections

It’s never too early to start planning for summer projects! Evaliza Fuentes of Texas State University and Lauren Goodley, Archivist, The Wittliff Collections, spent part of the summer updating and streamlining two audio visual collections: “The Rogers & Hammerhead Show” and the Austin Film Festival Recordings. “The Rogers & Hammerhead Show” aired in 1996–1997 on Austin access television and served as a platform for songwriters who wrote the songs that made country music singers into stars. There were only 16 videos in this collection, so it served as a good pilot project to test out workflows. The Austin Film Festival has begun digitizing its holdings of past festival recordings and depositing them at the Wittliff; at this point we have audio and video files from 1994–1996 and 2003–2007.

Below are some of highlights and takeaways from the data entry and metadata world according to DSpace. The Wittliff Collections uses DSpace as an online platform to connect our finding aids and materials to researchers. Audio visual materials are accessed through a streaming media service called MediaFlo, based on the Ensemble Video tool. Fuentes created consistent metadata across both platforms, and documented the metadata in application profiles.

Goals – The main purpose of the project was to bring the Wittliff Collections into ADA compliance by providing closed captioning for all online materials. Rev.com is a captioning service used by Texas State University, and ordering captions was the first workflow that Fuentes developed. Since Fuentes is a graduate student in the public history program with experience and instruction in archives, Lauren also tasked her with creating metadata for the streaming files in MediaFlo and adapting that metadata for DSpace. This turned into a spreadsheet, or application profile, for each collection, mapping MediaFlo, DSpace, and Dublin Core with the DACS finding aid and previous spreadsheets.

Approach – We began with the metadata spreadsheets that had been previously developed for these collections. This beginning offered some basis for what we saw online, yet failed to deliver on a method going forward. When multiple collections have been handled as distinct projects rather than as part of a digital program, it requires effort to gain intellectual control over them. Slowly, we began to go beyond the original intent of the spreadsheets. The documents were expanded to provide a path for data entry into MediaFlo and DSpace, and to capture information and provide connections to the finding aid or the accession inventory.

Highlights – The short time span of summer only encouraged us to make decisions based on convenience and efficiency. While we are still in process of polishing the finding aids, the end result of each individual online item is a balance of information to the researcher and connection to the archive. We made the choice to go with “less is more” for metadata fields and are very satisfied, especially since the items are linked to the finding aids, which provide further context and description. For DSpace, fields include: Creator, Date, Identifier (filename), Rights Statement and Title. For MediaFlo, fields include: Title, Date, Copyright Statement, Genre, and a description field that includes the filename, creator, and repository.

The development of Application Profiles can be used as templates for future projects. The new spreadsheets now have separate sections that include the process of entering data, editing the item, and capturing the identifier created by DSpace.

Lessons Learned – In hindsight, maybe the first question we should have asked should have been, “how do we want the finding aid to appear on DSpace?” This question happened closer to the end of the project. A discussion regarding the aesthetics of DSpace may be a better starting place than as

Continued on page 19
Research and Scholarship Appreciation Week is celebrated each year in October on the campus of Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. Many events are held across campus to highlight the research and scholarship of both faculty and students. This year the Dick Smith Library held a special event called “Readings & Sharing Collections: Creativity, Scholarship & Brunch.” In addition to a faculty member and several students reading from their own writings, the library announced the opening of the Randall Popken Papers, 1959-2005.

Dr. Randall Popken taught English and writing at Tarleton State University for twenty years. After his death in 2005, his wife donated his papers to the Dick Smith Library Special Collections and Archives. Popken wrote numerous articles and book chapters relating to discourse analysis, genre acquisition, and technical aspects of writing.

Many of the papers Popken wrote were presented at professional conferences on the national, regional, state, and local levels; therefore, the collection contains drafts of papers and correspondence pertaining to the sessions at which he spoke. The files also include correspondence with editors and contracts drawn up with publishers for publication of some of his papers.

Part of Popken’s research consisted of analyzing writing samples of his students and evaluating the Tarleton Freshman Writer Project. The collection contains his findings, which he presented at professional conferences and described in articles published in professional literature.

While working on his doctorate at the University of Kansas, Popken became interested in Edwin Hopkins, a professor of composition at the university in the late 19th century. The collection contains the extensive research he conducted on Hopkins’ teaching and writings.

In 1992, Popken received the Edward P.J. Corbett Award for Best Article in Focuses, and twice he received the best paper in the Composition Section of the Conference of College Teachers of English.

Tarleton State University was founded in 1899 in Stephenville, Texas. In 1917, it became a part of The Texas A&M University System and was a junior college until 1959. Comprised of seven colleges, it currently offers almost one hundred undergraduate and graduate degrees.

For more information contact Phyllis Kinnison, Librarian/Archivist, at pkinnison@tarleton.edu or 254-968-1808.

**Adventures in DSpace, cont. from page 18**

ending point, and perhaps would have avoided the pain points of decision-making throughout the project.

Also, legacy metadata is difficult! Fuentes requested and uploaded captions for 139 files and created DSpace metadata for 96 files. The difference is mainly in the "Ashes of Waco" collection, which was originally digitized and uploaded in 2010. A combination of legacy metadata imported from CONTENTdm and a lack of DACS description for these materials meant that while they are captioned and online, the discovery capability for researchers is limited.

For more information, please visit the online materials on DSpace at https://digital.library.txstate.edu/, and feel free to contact Fuentes at ef03@txstate.edu or Lauren Goodley at lgoodley@txstate.edu.
UNT Libraries Receives 2018 Archival Award of Excellence for NBC5/KXAS Digitization

Eternal Relations, The University of North Texas

UNT Libraries is the 2018 recipient of the Archival Award of Excellence. The Texas Historical Records Advisory Board (THRAB) selected UNT Libraries' work to preserve the NBC5/KXAS Television News Archive.

Over the past few years, UNT Libraries has worked to digitize records from NBC5/KXAS, the oldest television news station in Texas. UNT Libraries has worked to preserve 20,000 individual news segments dating from 1951 and raised over $600,000 to support continued efforts. The THRAB notes these are "significant achievements in safeguarding and promoting our state's rich documentary heritage."

The NBC5/KXAS (WBAP) Television News Archive Project began in 2013 with the transfer of the KXAS physical archive from Fort Worth to Denton. By July 2014, the first digitized content from the collection made its way online. So far, the team has successfully digitized and shared over 10,000 archival news segments and more than 36,000 original broadcast scripts to The Portal to Texas History.

The UNT Libraries Special Collections team members also work closely with filmmakers to identify relevant footage in the archive and perform scan-on-demand requests to make it available for news and documentary programming. Filmmakers and UNT librarians then negotiate licensing agreements for commercial uses of film, creating a stream of revenue to be invested back into the project fund. PBS, Vice News, ESPN, NFL Films, A&E, Investigation Discovery, and the Sundance Channel are just a few of the many outlets to take advantage of the UNT Libraries' NBC5/KXAS project. Some of the footage includes:

* The AIDS crisis as it unfolded in Dallas in the 1980s
* Ann Richard's gubernatorial campaign in 1990
* In-depth coverage of the Branch Davidian standoff in Waco in 1993
* Footage of Liberace, Bob Hope, and John Belushi (among many other celebrities)
* Comprehensive coverage of boxing, golf, and football.

Through the NBC5/KXAS digitization project, UNT Libraries can watch the complete history of television news unfold before our eyes as footage is added to the digital library.

The Archival Award of Excellence was established by the THRAB to "honor a Texas institution for its projects and/or ongoing programs that build collections, enhance access to archives, develop effective digitization programs, or implement preservation strategies."

UNT's efforts with the NBC5/KXAS archives are only possible through the cooperation and coordinated efforts of many UNT Libraries' departments including Administrative Offices, Facilities and Systems, Digital Libraries, Special Libraries, and External Relations and Advancement.

UNT's selection as the 2018 Archival Award of Excellence recipient was formally announced by the THRAB on October 1 to kick off their Texas Archives Month celebration. Members of the NBC5/KXAS digitization project team were present for the award presentation during the DFW Archives Bazaar on October 14 at Dallas Heritage Village.

For more information contact Morgan Gieringer, Head, Special Collections at Morgan.Gieringer@unt.edu or 940-369-8657.
Building Bridges, Optimizing Discovery: Increasing Access to Museum Archives and Cultural Artifacts

By Nicholas Wojcik, MLIS, Native American Languages Collection, Sam Noble Museum

Archives, libraries, and museums share a common goal of providing access to collections. Evidence of this was furthered with the recent partnership between the divisions of Native American Languages and Ethnology at the Sam Noble Museum and the University of Oklahoma (OU) Libraries to make items from the museum’s collections available through the OU Libraries website. Prior to this partnership, museum artifacts were only available by searching the individual divisions’ databases on the museum’s website.

The Native American Languages and Ethnology Collections are amongst twelve social and life science research divisions within the Sam Noble Museum. The museum, located on the campus of the University of Oklahoma in Norman, is one of the world’s largest university-based natural history museums.

The Native American Languages Collection (NALC) consists of more than 8,000 analog and digital objects dating from the 1880s to the present. The Collection includes audio and video recordings, manuscripts, books, journals, ephemera, and teaching curricula, including lesson plans and pedagogical materials, representing more than 175 Native American languages. Collection strengths include the world’s largest collection of original Dhegiha language family materials; bilingual curricula of Navajo and languages of the Southwest United States; recordings of Muskogee Creek stories, hymns, Bible readings, and radio broadcasts; and handwritten letters from pre-statehood. The department functions as a center for preserving and providing access to language resources, conducting research, and educating the community about the importance of Native American languages and cultures.

Meanwhile, the Ethnology department (ETHN) curates more than 10,000 pieces of traditional art and material culture from societies around the world, from Maya textiles to Kiowa drawings to Indonesian puppets. The Collection is fully digitized with strengths in areas of Native North and Central America and East Asia. The department also preserves a vast collection of classical artifacts from the Mediterranean region. ETHN contributes heavily to both temporary and permanent museum exhibits, in addition to conducting research and facilitating collaborative projects and programs with contemporary Native American communities from across the United States. (Continued on page 22)
Increasing Access to Museum Archives and Cultural Artifacts, cont. from page 21

Beaded belt from the Sam Noble Museum’s Ethnology Collection. Catalog number: E/1953/8/016

Talks about optimizing discoverability between the NALC and ETHN began in 2017, after the NALC began pursuing the opportunity to have its holdings made available on OLAC, the Open Language Archive Community – a web-based portal similar to WorldCat exclusive to language archives around the globe. A series of in-person and remote meetings between the NALC and ETHN Curators and Collection Managers, and Collection Development and IT representatives from OU Libraries ensued. With a joint focus on increasing access and utilization of the NALC’s archival collections and the ETHN’s material and photographed objects, the primary goal was to flesh out details for how data would be shared and reconfigured on the back end and displayed on the front end, with a common understanding for how researchers go about finding information within and across the museum’s research divisions.

The NALC follows DACS and Dublin Core rules for cataloging, which made for a fairly straightforward transfer of data to the OU Libraries’ team. This came in the form of an XML file after ensuring the data was clean, consistent, and in accordance with the needs of OU Libraries. However, the bigger challenges for the project involved considerable data manipulation for the Ethnology Collection, as item records were not in a traditional format. In addition, thumbnails of every object in the ETHN display next to brief records, with the ability to view larger images, a feature never done before on the OU Library website.

In October 2018, the project went live. Within days the museum collections witnessed a spike in remote and in-person visitors, thereby representing an example of progress in the collaborative efforts of archives, libraries, and museums to increase access and utilization of collections. Additional access projects are in the works and will be reported on in future editions of the Southwestern Archivist. In the meantime, come discover the Native American Languages and Ethnology Collections, along with the holdings and services of OU Libraries.

For additional information about this and other projects, services, and programs, or to schedule a tour or appointment, contact:

Nicholas Wojcik,
Archivist/Collections Manager of Native American Languages

Raina Heaton, Curator of Native American Languages, Professor of Native American Studies

Christina Naruszewicz, Collections Manager of Ethnology

Dan Swan, Curator of Ethnology
REPOSITORY NEWS

South Texas Archives Awarded TexTreasures Grant

Daniel L. Thacker, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

The South Texas Archives of Texas A&M University-Kingsville is pleased to announce it has been awarded a TexTreasures Grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (funded by the U.S. Institute of Museum & Library Services) for the George O. Coalson Annotated Bibliography of South Texas Historical Resources.

From 1955 to 1995 Dr. George Otis Coalson taught History at Texas A&M University-Kingsville and was an avid researcher. Faculty and Staff of the James C. Jernigan Library who remember him recall that he was in the library researching more than anyone else and was constantly using interlibrary loan and the microfiche reader. His research, all done on note cards, was an effort to create a “Dictionary of South Texas.” Taking him 45 years to create, these note cards were his personal “internet” on South Texas. Unfortunately, Dr. Coalson died in 1995 before seeing his creation breathe life. The grant now funds the finishing of his lifelong dream.

The collection consists of 126 boxes filled with 46,000 index cards representing approximately 21,000 separate articles totaling a staggering 93 linear feet. The boxes are divided into 10 major eras of South Texas history from the pre-Columbian era to 1995 with an additional four subjects: transportation, crime, Baffin Bay and miscellaneous. These 14 subjects turn into the series which are divided into approximately 6,000 smaller topics and organized alphabetically. These smaller topics are then the sub-series. Therefore, each index card will become an individual item record and will belong in its proper sub-series and series. Each index card contains bibliographic information for a resource that pertains to the aforementioned series and sub-series. Sometimes the index card will have just a citation, a citation with part of the article glued to the index card, and/or his notes along with the citation.

The majority of the grant money will be spent on the manpower to input these records into ArchivesSpace to increase the usability of the collection. The information on the index cards is handwritten, and most of the citations are incomplete. A lot of time will be spent interpreting his handwriting and creating a brief annotation for each record. Inputting the records into the database is the main priority. It is the foundation to make the collection accessible and searchable. Getting intellectual control over the collection is the first step, which leads to further enhancements of the collection down the road. In order to obtain intellectual control, the approximate 6,000 sub-series are entered into a spreadsheet and is labeled with its corresponding series, box number, number of articles, and controlled vocabulary.

The controlled vocabulary is the linchpin. Through the preliminary process we quickly realized that many of the topics covered people, places, and events that were so hidden and deep that a Google search could not find these terms. Therefore, adding the controlled vocabulary allows links to be formed between the well-known events and the other more obscure people, places, and events.

Currently, we are beginning to work with our IT department to create technology and research tools that allow connection to be made within the Coalson Collection in a way the current database cannot. This step allows us to do many things. For example, a research tool can be constructed to present our controlled vocabulary to make it easier for Google to read, thus making the unsearchable searchable and creating connections throughout the entire collection to streamline research. It is our goal to create a foundational research tool on South Texas History. This collection will serve as a place to gather new subject terms, research ideas, and aid in literature review.
New Collection Storage for the University of Arkansas
Katrina Windon, University of Arkansas Special Collections Department

On September 10, 2018, the University of Arkansas Libraries’ new Library Annex hosted a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony. The building, which was designed to provide off-site collection space for materials from both the Main Library collections and Special Collections, features environmental controls in line with industry best practices, as well as an innovative building material (cross-laminated timber) known for its fire-resistant properties.

Like all large-scale moves, this one had a lot of work that had to happen behind the scenes, even beyond building construction considerations. For Special Collections, planning began in 2016, with most preparation taking place from summer 2017 to summer 2018. During this time period, we barcoded all containers (all 20,000+ of them!) that would be moving, and associated those containers with accession and resource records in ArchivesSpace. We were then able to import that data into the inventory management system implemented for the storage facility, Caiasoft, in order to facilitate search and retrieval. The project also offered us an opportunity to tighten our inventory control over materials and further consolidate collection records in ArchivesSpace. It also offered an opportunity for department-wide projects, and interdepartmental collaboration, building understanding within our institution of the unique handling and metadata needs of manuscript materials. One of the many metadata clean-up projects was a large-scale project to convert our legacy finding aids into EAD so they could be imported into ArchivesSpace—at one point, we had five volunteers from the Libraries helping us, and in a thirteen month span we converted 516 finding aids.

With this new space, Special Collections will be able to continue its active collection development program, route collections with preservation concerns to a dedicated quarantine and review space, and assure donors that their collections are being stored in a secure, environmentally-controlled facility. Although Special Collections has housed a number of manuscript collections off-site for decades, this large-scale move of materials has required adjustments to our service models, and we’ll continue to adapt as we get used to our new systems.
Remembering Florence Borders, SSA Founding Member

Florence Edwards Borders, a path-breaking archivist, was born on February 24, 1924 in New Iberia, Louisiana, and moved to New Orleans with her family eighteen months later. She graduated from McDonogh #35 High School and went on to earn a BA in English from Southern University in Baton Rouge. She then earned an additional bachelor’s degree and a master’s in Library Science from what is now known as Dominican University in River Forest, IL. In subsequent years, she completed her post-master’s study at Louisiana State University’s Graduate Library Sciences School and further studied at the Library and Archives Institute at the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus, OH; Atlanta University’s School of Library Science; Case Western Reserve University’s School of Library Science; the Ford Foundation Institute at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY; The National Archives in Washington, D.C.; the Library of Congress In-Service Institute in Philadelphia; and the Society of Southwest Archivists Institute in Dallas.

Mrs. Borders began her career as a library assistant at the University of Chicago in the 1940s, where she was the first African-American librarian hired by the school. She then went on to be a librarian at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida, where she met her late husband, James B. Borders, Ill, a musician and educator. She held similar positions at Tennessee State University and Grambling College (now Grambling State University) before training to become an archivist and returning home to New Orleans in 1970 for the remainder of her career. She specialized in preserving the historical artifacts of African Americans and, in particular, Afro-Louisianans.

“Florence was passionate about her family and her work. While family came first, the collection of the Center for African and African-American Studies at Southern University in New Orleans was also like a child to her—one she took great care of and did her best to save for future generations to know and use,” said Carol Bartels, director of technology at the Historic New Orleans Collection. “She was dedicated to the profession and maintaining her status as a certified archivist. She truly enjoyed her work and understood the importance of it.”

Mrs. Borders was a charter member of the Society of Southwest Archivists and served as senior archivist at the Amistad Research Center from 1970-1989 before coming out of retirement a mere five months later to work as an archivist for the Center for African and African-American Studies at Southern University in New Orleans for nearly 20 more years. She was a frequent lecturer, exhibit curator, published bibliographer, and research consultant for several documentary films and oral histories. She also founded the scholarly journal Chicory, which focused on matters related to African-American history and culture.

“Mrs. Borders (and everyone called her Mrs. Borders) was a caring, generous, and dynamic archivist. She was always ready with advice, support, and encouragement,” said Rebecca Hankins, Africana Resources Librarian/Curator at Texas A&M University. “I worked with her my first couple of years at Amistad Research Center at Tulane University and was always impressed with her range of knowledge about history, especially New Orleans history, women’s history, and the Creole communities of Louisiana. What I will always remember about Mrs. Borders was how she flew around the Center, literally this little dynamo of a woman, assisting researchers, processing collections, and speaking her wisdom to all of us mesmerized by her energy!”

Obituary information and photo adapted from https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/new-orleans-la/florence-borders-7984748. Thank you to Carol Bartels and Rebecca Hankins for providing remembrances.
LEADERSHIP LOG

Linda Barrett, MLIS, CA, is the Genealogy, Local History, and Archives Unit Manager at the Fort Worth Public Library (acting October 2016—December 2017, official December 2017). She is a 2014 graduate of University of North Texas. Barrett is the Fort Worth City Archivist and manages the staff, resources, and outreach of the unit.

Jennifer Brancato, MA, CA, DAS is the Archivist at the Fort Worth Public Library (started April 30, 2018). Originally from North Texas, Brancato is glad to be back from Ohio, where she was University Archivist & Special Collections Coordinator at University of Dayton. She is a 2008 graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University. Brancato is responsible for donor relations and physical management, preservation, and processing of collections.

Samantha Dodd is the new curator for the Archives of Women of the Southwest at Southern Methodist University, an endowed, full-time position responsible for collecting, appraising, processing, and making accessible archival collections in women's history. Dodd was most recently the special collections archivist at the University of Texas at Arlington, where she had been working since 2016. From 2011–2015, she was an archivist at the Dallas Historical Society. She holds a BA in history from UTA, an MA in history from UTD, and an MLIS from the University of North Texas. She also is a Certified Archivist and has a certificate in Advanced Management in Libraries from UNT.

University of North Texas Libraries is the recipient of the 2018 Archival Award of Excellence. Morgan Davis Gieringer accepted the award from the Texas Historical Records Advisory Board on behalf of UNT Libraries and UNT Special Collections for their work digitizing and making accessible the NBC DFW Archive.

Amanda Hawk was elected to the Society of American Archivists’ Reference, Access, and Outreach Section Steering Committee for the 2018-2019 term.

Jana Hill, MLS, DAS, is the Digital Archivist at the Fort Worth Public Library (starting in April 2017). She was at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art for 13 years and was most recently the Digital Engagement Manager. She is a 2003 graduate of University of North Texas. Hill is responsible for digital archives, from selection of collections and items to digitize to management of digital archives on the CONTENTdm platform.

Christina Jensen is the new head of public services in the DeGolyer Library at Southern Methodist University (an open position since Katie Dziminski’s retirement). Jensen was the regional history librarian at the Community Library in Ketchum, Idaho, where she served from 2015–2018. Prior to that, she was a graduate assistant in the Iowa Women’s Archives in Iowa City. She holds a BA in history, with a minor in religious studies, from the University of California, Davis. Her graduate work includes an MA in history and an MLIS from the University of Iowa.

Jessica Schneider is the new archivist and volunteer director for the Dallas Jewish Historical Society, a full-time joint position dedicated to making accessible archival collections related to the Dallas Jewish community, as well as generating a variety of assignments, projects, and workshops for volunteers, interns, and the public. Schneider was a registrar at Artemis Fine Arts Services prior to joining DJHS in January 2018. From 2013–2015, Schneider was a graduate assistant at the Museum of Texas University and held an internship at Silent Wings Museum in

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Lubbock, Texas. She holds a BA in Anthropology from CU Boulder and an MA in Museum Science from Texas Tech University.

David Worsham was recently hired as a Library Associate at Lamar University’s Archives and Special Collections, where he works primarily with digital collections. He previously worked at the Tyrrell Historical Library in Beaumont. Worsham graduated from the University of North Texas with a master’s in Library Science.

In June 2018, Robert Weaver was promoted to faculty status (Manuscript Archivist) at the Southwest Collection archives at Texas Tech University.

The University of Houston Libraries Special Collections department is pleased to welcome Joe Lueck as the new Coordinator of Archival Processing. Prior to joining UH in September, Lueck worked at the Bentley Historical Library and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. Lueck holds an MS in Information with specialization in archives from University of Michigan and an MA in History from Bowling Green.

John Slate, City Archivist at the Dallas Municipal Archives received an award of recognition from the Texas Historical Records Advisory Board and State Archivist Jelain Chubb for his years of service to the board.

Jelain Chubb and John Slate