



NEWS RELEASE

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Julia Marks Young Inducted as a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists

CHICAGO—Julia Marks Young, director of the Archives and Records Services Division at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, will be inducted as a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) during a ceremony on August 26, 2011, at *ARCHIVES 360°*, the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago. The distinction of Fellow is the highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the archives profession.

Young has made her mark as a leader in the profession through a variety of positions. She currently is president of the Council of State Archivists as well as on its Intergovernmental Preparedness for Essential Records (IPER) Project, a member of the steering committee of a three-state (Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama) Archival Training Collaborative, the Mississippi Digital Library Advisory Committee, and the Mississippi Cultural Alliance. Young is an acknowledged expert on disaster preparedness and recovery and on coordinating stewardship and use of cultural patrimony. "Julia is extraordinary for the energy she brings to our work," said one nominator.

Young is widely recognized for co-authoring with Frank Boles the game-changing article, "Exploring the Black Box: The Appraisal of University Administrative Records" (*American Archivist*, Spring 1985). It laid out the particulars and nuances of what would later be called microappraisal. The article acknowledged the potential role of politics and the inevitable role of resources in appraisal decisions—daring arguments in their day. But most importantly, the "Black Box" insisted that selection was properly an intellectual process, not one based on intuition.

"She has been a leader of archival organizations in the South, but also has an international reputation," said one SAA Fellow selection member. In 2009 she was invited to give the keynote address to the East Asian Regional Branch of the International Council of Archives, on "State and Local Records in Crisis Management and Recovery." For SAA she has served as Editor of *The American Archivist*, chair of the Acquisition and Appraisal Section, member of the Trusted Archival Repository Program Task Force, and a frequent conference presenter and workshop instructor.

Young is one of eight new Fellows named in 2011. There are currently 170 Fellows of the Society of American Archivists.

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Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association. SAA's mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.

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