

**Society of American Archivists  
Council Meeting  
August 13, 2018  
Washington, DC**

**Staff Report: Education  
(Prepared by Rana Hutchinson Salzmann)**

**FY18 Statistics**

- Scheduled 103 in-person courses (Budgeted for 100 in FY18 and 80 in FY19).
  - Cancelled 20 in-person courses.
- 1634 total in-person attendees in 83 courses.
- Held 7 live webcasts with 217 registrants.
  - 42 participants to date in Helen Wong Smith's *Cultural Diversity Competency* free online course.
- A total of 81 test takers took the DAS Comprehensive Exam, with 70 (86%) earning their DAS Certificate.
  - First *online* DAS Comprehensive exam offered April 2018. August exam administration period underway.
    - April: 15 took the exam; 11 passed; 4 failed. (73% pass rate).
    - August: As of 7/25/18, 27 people have been approved to take the Comprehensive Exam.

**Course Development**

Webcasts Completed

- *Assessment and Certification of Digital Repositories* (new); Sibyl Schaefer; DAS.
- *Encoding Standards Overview* (new); Cory Nimer; A&D. Developed in FY18; Live event scheduled in FY19.

New In-Person Courses Launched at 2018 Annual Meeting

- *Crosswalking Metadata*; (new) Russey Roke; A&D/DAS.
- *Managing Physical and Digital Architecture, Design, Construction Records*; (revised) Walsh and Leventhal; A&D.
- *Archives Connect*; (new) Hoyer.
- *Cultural Diversity Competency*; Wong Smith (promoted with special \$49 rate to encourage enrollment).

## Courses in Development for FY19

- *Appraisal for A&D*; Huggard and Bryan; webcast (A&D)
- *Long-Term Digital Content Management*; JA Pryse; webcast (DAS)
- *Introduction to PREMIS*; Lori Lindberg; in-person (DAS, A&D)
- *Data Analytics/Collections as Data*; Russey Roke; format TBD (DAS, A&D)
- *Bootcamps for DAS and A&D*: The first DAS “Bootcamp” offering in Seattle in June 2018 was a success! Hosts and students alike have latched onto this idea which is generating some excitement for both certificate programs. We will repeat DAS in Salt Lake City in October and try A&D Bootcamp in Syracuse that same month. We are now looking for hosts in different geographical areas for Spring 2019.

## “Pop-Up” Development

(Topics outside the main curriculum for SAA Education, in various stages of development)

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - De-centering Whiteness in the Archives (pilot offering of Samantha Winn’s course, scheduled for Chicago in May 2019)
  - It’s My Job: Managers and the Ethics of Inclusion (Courtney Chartier, possible webcast)
  - Trans\* Competency for Managers (TBD, needs discussion with Diverse Sexuality and Gender Section leadership)
  - Best Practices in Accessibility (early 2019, after Task Force completes its work)
- Management Track
  - Nancy Lenoil, Rosemary Pleva Flynn, and I remain in conversation about how best to launch this program. I hope to put a Management 101 webcast on the schedule for FY19 as a first step.
- GDPR
  - Webcast panel discussion with Sarit Hand, Lori Ashley, other invited guests to help archivists make sense of this new EU guideline.
- Career Development
  - Potential partnership with MAC to repurpose their workshop on Career Planning for Archivists (Zanish-Belcher and Myers) as an online program.
  - Salary Negotiation (Meredith Evans)
  - Getting a Job Like a Boss (Collette McDonough)

## **Consultant Engagements**

- **Ed Pramuk** completed the feasibility study for the MMCARP program and proposed a workplan and budget for next steps to update the content of the program (to ensure applicability nationwide) and launch a pilot project in 3 to 4 states. Staff will determine how to proceed with MMCARP once the related AssociaDirect/John Chrastka project comes to a close.

- **AssociaDirect/John Chrastka** is midway through his Marketing study, evaluating the current state of and potential growth opportunities for SAA Education's certificate programs and other offerings. We received a preliminary report of recommendations in June. He is conducting focus groups with members at the 2018 Annual Meeting (with special attention paid to hiring managers and students/new professionals) and will administer an online survey in September. His final report is expected in November. We will discuss and prioritize next steps for shaping the Education program after his findings are delivered.

## Current Challenges

- **Exam Quality Control.** It has become clear that we need to address the issue of exam quality in all our A&D and DAS courses, and for the DAS Comprehensive Exam. This issue is a regular topic of complaint in course evaluations and threatens to undermine the perceived value of SAA Education programs. I will call upon CoE and DAS liaisons to assist with a comprehensive review of all exams (confirming question relevance and accuracy, validating question format, eliminating typos and duplicate questions, etc.) in FY19. Ensuring quality in our existing courses may take precedence over new course development and we may re-allocate some budgeted resources to this effort.
- **DAS Curriculum Requirements.** In the coming year, the DAS Subcommittee will: consider the quality and appropriateness of the online Comprehensive Exam (launched in April 2018 and offered again in August); address concerns about the requirement for two in-person courses; and look for a successor to Veronica Martzhal, who is stepping away from her role as Exam Question Manager.
- **A&D Curriculum Gaps.** We lack online options to help students earn credits in the Tactical and Strategic and Transformational tiers. I am looking far and wide for possible courses and instructors to satisfy this need.

## Partnerships in Progress

- The Hong Kong Government Records Service
  - I will meet in-person with Jessica Lau and Stacy Belcher Lee this week, taking a first step to explore options and solidify joint interest so we can eventually offer DAS courses to HK archivists.
- Regional Archives groups
  - MAC: possible collaboration on Zanish-Belcher and Myers's Career Planning course-turned-webcast.
  - SSA/CIMA Joint Meeting in 2019: potential host for SAA pre-conference course.
  - NWA/Montana members: DAS course to be held in Bozeman in September, with possible follow up course co-hosted by NWA in May, which will give Montana folks two in-person DAS courses!
- Library of Congress
  - We continue to provide SAA Education courses to groups of LOC employees. This year, we offered three in-person courses plus a series of webcasts on a contract basis.

- Section Leadership
  - I am reaching out to leadership in the Diverse Sexuality and Gender, Archives and Archivists of Color, and Archives Management sections to get ideas and expert feedback on potential courses in diversity, equity, inclusion, and management.

## **Reports and Activity from Education-Related Appointed Groups**

**The Committee on Education** will meet in February 2019 in Chicago.

**The DAS Subcommittee** will meet in Chicago in October 2018 to continue its work on content development, course revisions, and exam improvements.

**The GAE Subcommittee** has met periodically by phone under the leadership of Martin Olliff. The group's initial mandate is to review and revise—and prepare for member comment and Council approval—the Guidelines for a Graduate Program in Archival Studies (GPAS). The GAES will acquire new leadership under Alex Poole in August. Olliff suggests that GPAS will be ready to go to members for comment in Winter of 2020 or possibly Fall 2019.