2009-2010 Annual Report

Society of American Archivists, Dominican University Student Chapter

2009-2010 Student Officers and Faculty Advisors:
Merle Branner, President
John Roberts, Vice President
Kerri Price, Information Officer

Dr. Cecilia Salvatore, Faculty Advisor
Mr. Edward Valauskas, Faculty Advisor

During the first half of the 2009-2010 academic year, we directed a great amount of effort towards becoming an official student group of Dominican University. We gathered the proper number of signatures, wrote the group by-laws, and filled out the required paperwork. In February of 2010, we received the news that we had been approved as an official student group. As a result, we now have support from the Dominican University Office of Student Involvement, which includes, among other benefits, officer training, access to meeting rooms and equipment, and technology assistance.

The remainder of our time was spent organizing trips to repositories and speaker events that were of interest to our membership. The following is a list of activities organized by the group during the 2009-2010 academic year:

September 16, 2009
Open Meeting, Dominican University Main Campus. This was the first meeting of the 2009-2010 school year. We discussed possible events and tours. We also discussed the holding of officer elections.

October 23, 2009
Trip to the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, Skokie, IL. The Illinois Holocaust Museum is dedicated to preserving the memories of those lost in the Holocaust and teaching current generations about the need to fight hatred, indifference and genocide in today’s world. We toured the library, collections storage, and offices. Following the tour there was a question and answer session with the archivist.

November 23, 2009
Open Meeting, Dominican University Main Campus. Q & A Session with Grant Gerlich and Janet Kerschner, representatives from the Academy of Certified Archivists. In addition, we reviewed and voted on the new SAA Dominican constitution, an important step in becoming an official student group at Dominican University.
December 7, 2009

Videoconference field trip to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. We hosted a videoconference field trip to Cooperstown, New York to take a behind the scenes tour of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. We met the head librarian of the A. Bartlett Giamatti Research Center, Tim Wiles, along with other Hall representatives who care for baseball’s finest treasures.

December 19 & 20, 2009

Volunteer trip to the Highland Park Historical Society, Highland Park, IL. Three SAA Dominican members volunteered at the Highland Park Historical Society. Among other tasks, we inventoried and stored local newspapers, began to sort through and inventory old exhibit materials, photographed all paintings, organized the artifact room, and completed a reorganization of the museum office.

January 26, 2010

Lecture by Donna Lindgren, the archivist of Walgreens, Dominican University Main Campus. Ms. Lindgren gave a lecture on corporate archives and her own experience as the archivist of a large corporation. A question and answer session followed.

February 6, 2010

SAA Dominican Social Event and Discussion with Patrick Quinn at Fadó Pub, Chicago, IL. Patrick Quinn, retired archivist of Northwestern University, spoke about his career as an archivist and his many experiences in the field. A question and answer session followed.

February 22, 2010

Trip to the Kraft Archive, Morton Grove, IL. We toured the facility. Following the tour there was a question and answer session with the archivist.

March 6, 2010

Trip to the Motorola Heritage Services & Archives, Schaumburg, IL. The Motorola Heritage Services & Archives identifies, collects, preserves and makes available selected records and artifacts that have enduring value in documenting the history and evolution of Motorola. Our group toured the facility and attended a presentation/Q & A session with the archivist.

March 20, 2010

Trip to the Robert M. Myers Archives, Society of the Divine Word, Techny, IL. The Robert M. Myers Archives department collects, preserves, and makes available the historical record of the Society of the Divine Word in North America. We toured the facility and attended a presentation/Q & A session with the archivist, Marcia Stein.

April 12, 2010

Trip to the Pampered Chef Archive, Addison, IL. The Pampered Chef Archives collects materials that have enduring value in documenting the global history and evolution of
The Pampered Chef. Series document the founding of The Pampered Chef by Doris K. Christopher, evolution of the party plan and Kitchen Consultant sales force and the company's acquisition by Berkshire Hathaway. We toured the facility and attended a presentation/Q & A session with the archivist.

July 23, 2010

Trip to the Polish Museum of America Archives. Established 75 years ago, the Polish Museum of America has preserved and exhibited the history and culture of the Polish American community and their ancestral homeland – Poland. We toured the library, archives, and museum and attended a Q & A session with the archivist.