

**Drexel University Society of American Archivists (DUSAA) Student Chapter
2015 Annual Report**

Prepared and submitted by Anita Lai, DUSAA President

July 2015

Introduction

The Drexel University Society of American Archivists (DUSAA) student chapter submits to the Society of American Archivists (SAA) Executive Council an Annual Report of its 2014-2015 accomplishments, developments, and future goals. This past academic year has included new Officers, Members, and events promoting the archival profession through networking opportunities for students and alumni from Drexel University's College of Computing & Informatics (formerly known as the iSchool).

Throughout the academic year, DUSAA partnered with the archival community, ranging from regional repositories and local archives organizations, such as Archives Being Awesome (ABA) and Delaware Valley Archivists Group (DVAG). DUSAA recognizes the importance of exploring effective ways to reach out to the on-campus as well as the online student demographics within the Archival Studies Concentration of the Master of Science in Library and Information Science (MS/LIS) degree program of the College of Computing & Informatics at Drexel University.

The following report presents a summary account of DUSAA's Faculty Advisor, Officers, and Members as well as various events and activities of 2014-2015. Given the steady enrollment of MS/LIS students at Drexel University, the report concludes with potential goals and challenges for future Officer's to consider for the next academic year.

DUSAA Faculty Advisor and Officers

The following is a list of the current DUSAA Faculty Advisor and Officers:

Faculty Advisor

Susan Davis, sedavis@drexel.edu

President

Anita Lai, anita@drexel.edu, anita.a.lai@gmail.com

Vice-President

Jessica Hoffman, jnh65@drexel.edu, jn.thorn@gmail.com

Treasurer

Kevin Davey, kjd82@drexel.edu

DUSAA Members

The following is a list of DUSAA Members and non-Member “Friends of DUSAA” (including both CCI and iSchool Alumni and colleagues from the archival field), as integrated with the DUSAA Google Group for news, events, and employment postings:

Amber Lawrence	Timothy Siftar
Anita Lai	Timothy Bostic
Ashley Jones	Travis Reams
Cara Cloninger	Vincent Fraley
Christina Landis	Stacy Hill
Deborah Gayle	Christine Levitt
Erin Deford	Molly Igo
Jessica Hoffman	Bader Salmeen
Kevin Davey	Sandy Baroo
Marissa Bartow	Lauren Connolly
Michelle Klaw	Victoria Russo
Rachel Ferrero	Adam Mizelle
Rebecca Roth	Brian Kantorek
Rodney Smith	Christiana Dobrzynski Grippe
Samantha Winn	Caitlin Tingo
Sandra Glascock	Stephanie Sendaula
Sarah Denison	Erica Harman
Shawn Woodson	Sarah Newhouse
Steven Duckworth	James Gross
Susan Davis	Rob Sieczkiewicz

Development and Activities Summary

- Throughout the year, DUSAA Officers worked closely and communicated with the Faculty Advisor, Susan Davis, to promote the organization's efforts to share relevant archival news and host archival events as well as to recruit new Officers and Members.
- On June 30, 2014, Jessica Hoffman (Treasurer) and Anita Lai (President) met with current DUSAA Members to discuss and strategize DUSAA outreach strategies to both on-campus and online students in CCI's MS/LIS program during the calendar year.
- On August 8, 2014, DUSAA created a new WordPress blog, <https://drexeldusaa.wordpress.com/>. The launch of the new blog is an attempt to gather information into a centralized location, for easy online access. It serves to share the latest news relating to special libraries/archives events, conferences, employment opportunities, and social gatherings. The blog pools information and resources to inform MS/LIS students of DUSAA events and those of the archival community.
- DUSAA Officers also utilized social networking tools like Blackboard, Google Groups, Facebook, and Twitter to better broadcast information about DUSAA events, meetings, and professional archival opportunities. To create greater online accessibility for Members, the DUSAA/DVAG Career Panel was recorded and is available online.
- Due to the high turnover of graduating students in CCI's MS/LIS program (approximately one year for full-time students), DUSAA again elected new Officers in August 2014. Anita Lai assumed the role of President; Jessica Hoffman once again assumed the role of Vice President; and Kevin Davey assumed the role of Secretary.
- On Wednesday, October 8, 2014, Anita Lai submitted the required application forms needed for renewed recognition as an official Drexel University student organization. DUSAA Officers attended mandatory SOOT training session also required for official recognition as a student chapter at Drexel for academic year, 2014-2015. The SOOT training detailed how DUSAA must pursue funding through the University as well as the proper protocol for hosting events.
- On Friday, October 17, 2014, DUSAA's budget was approved by Drexel's Graduate Student Association (GSA) Board. DUSAA Treasurer, Kevin Davey, prepared a written summary of 2014-2015 events with detailed funding allocations.
- On Friday, October 24, 2014, DUSAA's DragonLink account was updated to reflect our new Officers and Members on our official page as a registered student organization at Drexel.
- At DUSAA's General Meetings, Members discussed new developments in the archival field as well as shared information about course curricula, workshops, and conferences.
- Doodle was used as an effective tool to coordinate meeting times among fellow Officers for events such as the DUSAA/DVAG Career Panel and PAFA Alumni Gallery Exhibit Opening and Archives Tour.
- DUSAA Officers planned archives tours, a career panel, and social gatherings throughout the academic year. Officers receive ongoing support from the staff at the Drexel University Archives, CCI, Archivist's Being Awesome (ABA), and DVAG's leadership.
- Over the course of the year, DUSAA Officers joined with Officers from the Drexel University Special Libraries Association (DUSLA) and the Student Chapter of the American Library Association (SCALA) for social events at nearby venues throughout Philadelphia. This helped to build rapport and community as well as provide opportunities to strategize and discuss future partnerships for co-sponsoring events.

Events

- On Thursday, November 13, 2014, DUSAA members attended Archivist's Being Awesome (ABA) event with three guest speakers discussing several topics: building a volunteer program in a small repository, connecting high school audiences with primary sources, and exploring the use of Google Glass to promote archival collections.
- On Friday, January 30, 2015, DUSAA co-sponsored an event, DUSAA/DUSCALA/DUSLA Winter Social, to celebrate the end of the first Fall quarter and kick-off the next Spring quarter. This event strengthened the bonds between fellow MS/LIS students at Drexel.
- On March, 20, 2015, DUSAA members attended Mutter Museum Library and Archives Tour.
- On Friday, March 27, 2015, DUSAA trip to Washington, D.C. for Archives of American Art Symposium, "The Multi-Media Archive: Stewardship and Use of Audiovisual Media Documenting Contemporary Art History."
- On Wednesday, April 24, 2015, DUSAA members attended PAFA Alumni Gallery Exhibit Opening and Archives Tour.
- On Wednesday, May 20, 2015, DUSAA co-sponsored an event, DUSAA/DVAG Career Panel, where 5 professional archivists shared their experience through Q&A session. This provided DUSAA Members and fellow MS/LIS students an opportunity to network with professional archivists, emerging professionals, and other students in an informal and casual setting.

Future Goals and Objectives

- On Wednesday, July 8, 2015, Officers of DUSAA, DUSLA, and SCALA met and considered possible next steps for the following academic year. Given the ever-growing Drexel online student population, comprising a large percentage of MS/LIS students, it is difficult to find sufficient student Officers to maintain three individual MS/LIS student organizations. All Officers discussed the possibility of creating a single MS/LIS student group called Drexel University Library & Archives Student Association (DULASA).
- Continue to recruit and conduct outreach to new Officers and Members to fill vacant Officer positions. Evaluate the level of interest of MS/LIS students to serve as Officers, in order to determine the outcome of whether or not DUSAA, DUSLA, and SCALA will continue as three separate student organizations in the next academic year.
- Explore the possibility of creating a new Officer position exclusively focused on Alumni relations. Work to retain the support of CCI and former iSchool alumni, highlighting the importance of networking and remaining connected and to DUSAA at the local level and SAA at the national level.
- Expand DUSAA's online presence through the WordPress blog, by creating short video clips and recordings of oral history interviews with archivists as well as more links to events, meeting minutes, commentary, and news stories about archives.