

The 21st Century Archival Practitioner

PATRICIA FRANKS

In the United States, the role of the archivist is often viewed as serving the needs of scholars, historians, and posterity while the role of the records manager is seen as serving the interests of the organization so that it can meet its goals. In today's digital environment, these roles are converging. Archivists remain responsible for activities central to the archival process. But they increasingly work as part of a team that may be involved with activities such as cybersecurity, blockchain distributed ledger technology, digital forensics, e-discovery, and information governance. And they must carry out their duties within the prevailing cultural and political environment. Dr. Pat Franks will provide an image of the 21st Century Archival Practitioner based on 111 entries contributed by 105 authors to the 2020 publication of *The Handbook of Archival Practice*.

About the author:

Dr. Patricia Franks, Professor Emerita at San José State University, teaches courses in Enterprise Content Management and Digital Preservation. She is a Certified Archivist, Certified Records Manager, Information Governance Professional, and Certified Information Governance Officer. Dr. Franks is co-editor, along with Dr. Luciana Duranti, of the *Encyclopedia of Archival Science* and the *Encyclopedia of Archival Writers, 1515-2015*. She is co-editor, along with Dr. Anthony Bernier, of the *International Directory of National Archives*. Dr. Franks is also sole author of *Records and Information Management* now in its second edition. Her most recent publication, *The Handbook of Archival Practice*, was released in September 2021. Her research interests lie in emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and blockchain distributed ledger technology, and their impact on archives, records management, and information governance.