

# **Establishing a Solid Framework for Audiovisual Archiving Education: Current Developments and Future Prospects for the Development of AV Competencies**

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**Abstract:** Archives that hold A/V materials are at a critical point, with many cultural heritage institutions needing to take immediate action to safeguard at-risk media formats before the content they contain is lost forever. Yet, many in the cultural heritage communities do not have sufficient education and training in how to handle the special needs that A/V archive materials present. Recently, a handful of archive educators and students formed a pan-institutional group to help foster “educational opportunities in audiovisual archiving for those engaged in the cultural heritage sector.” The AV Competency Framework Working Group is developing a set of competencies for audiovisual archive training of students in graduate level education programs and in continuing education settings. The chair of the Working Group, Karen F. Gracy, will provide background for the competency project and share results of her recent research analyzing high-level competencies in allied fields and how they may contribute to the creation of competencies for audiovisual archiving. Finally, she will also summarize contributions of fellow group members to date, and provide a roadmap for the next steps in the project.

## **About the Author:**

**Dr. Karen F. Gracy** is an associate professor in the School of Information at Kent State University. She possesses an MLIS and PhD in Library and Information Science from the University of California, Los Angeles and an MA in critical studies of Film and Television from UCLA. Recent publications have appeared in *Library and Information History*, *Archival Science*, *The American Archivist*, and *Information and Culture*. Dr. Gracy’s scholarly interests are found within the domain of cultural heritage stewardship. She is currently investigating the importance of psychomotor skills development in the education of audiovisual archivists; this research is part of a larger project to develop competencies for the AV archiving field. Her next publication will appear in a special issue on nontextual pedagogies in information studies, to be published in Fall 2018 in *Education for Information*.