



NEWS RELEASE

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Patrick Ansah and Umi Asma' Mokhtar Receive Holmes Travel Award

CHICAGO—Patrick Ansah, a student enrolled in the second year of the Master of Archival Studies program at the University of British Columbia, and Umi Asma' Mokhtar, a doctoral student at the Department of Information Science, Faculty of Technology and Information Science, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (visiting student at the University of British Columbia), are the recipients of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Travel Award from the Society of American Archivists. The award will be presented on August 26, 2011, at *ARCHIVES 360°*, the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago. The award enables overseas archivists who are already in the United States or Canada for training to build upon their experience by traveling to SAA's Annual Meeting.

Ansah earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in publishing studies from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana. He has worked and volunteered for the Anglican Church Archives in Vancouver, British Columbia, and currently serves as a graduate research assistant for International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems.

One of Ansah's nominators described him as "a solid, substantial, focused student, with a high degree of commitment to his discipline and profession." He is also known to be "a quiet but effective communicator, a motivated and pro-active individual, and a promising researcher," said an Awards Committee member.

Mokhtar received a Bachelor of Science degree from MARA University of Technology and a Master of Science (IT) from the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. She has been enrolled as a doctoral student at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia since 2009, where her research focuses on the preservation of electronic records of the Malaysian Syariah Court. She is a visiting student at the University of British Columbia for 2010–2011.

Mokhtar is "a committed and enthusiastic researcher supported in her endeavors by strong organizational skills and analytical power," noted one nominator. "She has both the theoretical knowledge and the technological experience necessary to develop the new area of inquiry she is researching and to produce results that will have long term impact."

Established in 1979, this award honors SAA Fellow and former President Oliver Wendell Holmes. Elaine Goh (University of British Columbia) was the 2010 recipient.

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Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America's oldest and largest national archives professional association. SAA's mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.

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