Exploring New Frontiers in 21st Century Archival Education

ALEX H. POOLE AND JANE ZHANG

Drexel University's College of Computing and Informatics (Alex H. Poole) in partnership with the Catholic University of America's Department of Library and Information Science (Jane Zhang) has been awarded an IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program National Forum Grant (2020-2022). The research project, “Exploring New Frontiers in 21st Century Archival Education,” consists of two major components: an environmental scan and a national forum event. First, the environmental scan will establish an analytical baseline for the forum event. It will include an analysis of current course offerings, a syllabus review, a literature review, a content analysis of annual meeting programs, a survey of early career archival professionals, and semi-structured interviews of full-time tenure-track archives faculty listed in the Directory of Archival Education. Second, the forum event, to be held in summer 2022, will seek representation from a wide range of diverse expert stakeholders, including practitioners and archival educators from Library and Information Science, iSchool, and History/Public History programs. Participants of the forum will construct 15 exemplary curriculum modules adaptable to diverse archival education contexts as the core of the final outputs of the project. We will discuss the motivation and need for the project, historical and current archival education contexts, research progress, and intended results and impact.

About the authors:

Alex H. Poole is an assistant professor at the College of Computing and Informatics, Drexel University. He holds a PhD and an MS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, an MA from Brown University, and a BA from Williams College.

Jane Zhang is an associate professor at the Department of Library and Information Science of the Catholic University of America. She holds a PhD in LIS with Archives Concentration from Simmons College and a joint MAS and MLIS from the University of British Columbia.