

SAA Student Chapter (SAA@OU) – University of Oklahoma
August 2012 – May 2013

by: Magen Bednar and Bailey Schreier

Fall 2012 Officers

President: Alexis Michelle Beaman
Vice President: Sarah Denton
Secretary: Bailey Schreier
Treasurer: Vacant

Spring 2013 Officers

Co-President: Bailey Schreier (baileys@ou.edu)
Co-President: Sarah Denton (sarahdenton@ou.edu)
Vice President: Emily Kolvitz (emily.a.kolvitz-1@ou.edu)
Secretary: Magen Bednar (magen.bednar@ou.edu)
Treasurer: Jessie Hopper (brutice79@ou.edu)

Faculty Liaison

Kelvin White* (kwhite@ou.edu)

Members (9 members of SAA, including the faculty advisor)

Barlow, Rebecca
Bednar, Magen*
Denton, Sarah*
Dorrell, Cara
Edwards, Christine
Hopper, Jessie*
Hull, Deborah
Jasak, Carol
Johnson, Sam
Kalman, Jordan
Kolvitz, Emily*
Merriman, Michelle*
Peters, David
Prince, Lyssa*
Schneider, Ann Marie*
Schreier, Bailey*
Thompson, Vicki
Zimmermann, Briann

*also a member of SAA

Meetings

- October 4, 2012: SAA@OU hosted a fall meeting to discuss future activities and mingling events. Topics included types of archival repositories, beneficial courses (both within SLIS and through SAA), and benefits of student membership in SAA. This meeting generated new interest in SAA@OU activities and provided venues for SLIS students on the Archives track to meet up and network. This led to a much more robust group of interested and active members as well as new student members for SAA.
- March 7, 2013: First spring meeting to discuss new activities for SAA@OU, in which we discussed visiting the Carl Albert Congressional Archives, the potential benefits of Visual Analytics for Archivists, and created two new committees: the Fall Conference Committee and the Display Case Committee (see below). We also invited guest speaker, Jackie Slater, the Reference Archivist from the the Western History Collections at the University of Oklahoma, to talk to the group about working with special collections and reference requests and procedures. The question and answer session provided a great venue for students to discuss searching for jobs and the importance of being flexible when approaching potential job opportunities (whether they are strictly processing positions, reference positions, or Lone Arranger positions).
- March 28, 2013: SAA@OU visited the Carl Albert Center's Congressional Archives located on the University of Oklahoma Norman campus. Students were given a tour and learned about working with congressional archival collections. Robert Lay, Certified Archivist, detailed what being an archivist involves and how he prepared for the certified archivist examination. Outcomes from this meeting were a greater awareness on the part of all participating members of what archivists deal with on a day-to-day basis - from space and environmental issues to reference requests to the politics behind collecting. Students were excited to get to see what processing actually looked like and to explore the archives from an insider's perspective.
- April 18, 2013: SAA@OU organized an end-of-semester meeting and party for club members, in which committees gave progress reports and new officers were announced. There was a clear sense that the excitement for this chapter's activities has only grown and will continue to grow as new students enter the MLIS program.

Projects, Events, and General Progress

- Formation of two committees
 - Fall 2013 Student/New Professionals Conference Committee - This committee was formed after we were inspired by Indiana University's Conference this past March for students and professionals in the region. The Chair for this Committee is Jessie Hopper. We are hopeful that we can put together a ½ day or full day conference sometime in mid-October for all of the Archives-track students in SLIS and for any new and/or interested students and professionals in this region. We hope to provide a venue for networking as well as opportunities to take advantage of sessions and workshops on topics such as preservation and digitization.
 - Display Case Committee - This committee was formed to organize our efforts to publicize the activities of campus archives as well as SAA and SAA@OU to the greater OU community through the creation of engaging displays. The Chair of

this Committee is Christine Edwards. SAA@OU was chosen by the Director of SLIS, Dr. Cecelia Brown, to redesign two display cases belonging to SLIS; 1) to advertise the archives on campus by including materials/documents that are indicative of the archive, if actual archival records cannot be obtained, and 2) to bring awareness to current and future university students of the archival program available at OU as well as SAA and the SAA@OU organizations. This project will be completed during the summer 2013 sessions.

- Website Progress
 - We have completely updated [our website](#) and are prepared to keep it updated during the upcoming semesters.
- Hightened meeting attendance
 - Since the fall 2012 semester, meeting attendance has more than doubled (from 7-16 attendees) and the presence and activities of the organization on campus and in the School of Library and Information Studies have grown immensely.

Awards and Honors

- Christine Edwards - Nannie B. Trammell Scholarship 2013/2014
- Michelle Merriman - Lotsee Patterson American Indian Scholarship 2013/2014
- Bailey Schreier - H.W. Wilson Scholarship, Robert E. and Mary B. Sturgis Scholarship 2013/2014
- Jessie Hopper and Bailey Schreier - SAA Student Poster Presentation "Diving in Head First: Graduate Students as Archivists at the University of Oklahoma." 2013

New Fall 2013 Officers

President: Bailey Hoffner (Schreier) (baileys@ou.edu)

Vice President: Emily Kolvitz (emily.a.kolvitz-1@ou.edu)

Secretary: Lyssa Prince (lprince90@ou.edu)

Treasurer: Rebecca Barlow (rebecca.d.barlow-1@ou.edu)