

**PRATT INSTITUTE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS
STUDENT CHAPTER
2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

Prepared by:

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PRATT INSTITUTE
2013-2014 Annual Report

Officers

Deidre Dinnigan, *Chief Coordinating Officer, Fall 2013*

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Diana Bowers, *Chief Coordinating Officer, Spring 2014*

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Anna Rybakov, *Secretary, Fall 2013*

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Amy Belotti, *Public Relations Coordinator, Fall 2013*

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Alexa Hagen, *Public Relations Coordinator, Spring 2014*

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CHAPTER ACTIVITIES, FALL 2013

With the success of our first fully completed academic year as a revived student chapter under our belts, 2013 began with fervor. Three new officers came on board and in an effort to keep our initial momentum going as well as acclimate our new team

members to their roles and our procedures, officer meetings were held throughout the summer months. This semester was largely about refining our mission to bring enrichment to the student body. Having been a recognized organization for a year, we were now eligible to secure funding from our Student Government Association (SGA) and so we aimed to bring instructional workshops and networking events to the archives community at Pratt.

August 2013

- *Submitted budget plan*
- *Social Media*

Amy created an SAA|Pratt Twitter handle and started our Wordpress blog which featured posts from attendees of the SAA New Orleans annual conference

- *Orientation*

Amy and Rossy, two of our new officers, represented and introduced our chapter to the incoming students at the Pratt SILS orientation.

September 2013

- *First Student Meeting*

We had a great turnout for our first student meeting of the semester. We introduced ourselves, our story, mission/goals, and SAA to those assembled. We discussed SAA annual which had just recently taken place and outlined some of the major trends and topics of the conference. We discussed upcoming events as well as a sampling of our past events. Finally, as we were left without a treasurer last semester, we put out a call for applicants.

October 2013

- *Treasurer election*

We composed an online election survey and Diana Bowers was elected our treasurer.

- *FileMaker Workshop*

With funding from SGA we hired Andrew Beccone of the Reanimation Library to teach an instructional workshop on using FileMaker Pro. Fifteen students attended in addition to the officers.

- *Student Meeting*

In our second student meeting of the semester, we introduced our new treasurer, outlined our upcoming tour, highlighted upcoming archives events and conferences, and put out a call for election applicants for the roles of Secretary and PR Coordinator.

November 2013

- *Election*

With the upcoming graduation of our Chief Coordinating Officer, we felt it was important for a veteran officer to fill that vital role so Amy elected to leave her position as PR Coordinator and become the new Chief Coordinating Officer. Alexa Hagen was elected as our new PR Coordinator but unfortunately, no candidates applied for the position of Secretary. Our current treasurer, Diana, volunteered to take on the secretarial duties until Spring 2014 when a new election could be held.

- *Tour*

A tentative plan to tour the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) archives fell through at the last minute. Taking into account the time needed to plan another event and nearing Thanksgiving break, we decided to forgo a November event.

December 2013

- *Film Night*

In celebration of end of term, we hosted a movie night at Anthology Film Archive. Using SGA funding, we purchased six movie tickets for an evening show. This event proved popular, casual, and a great bonding opportunity as the group followed the theater with dinner and drinks.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES, SPRING 2014

This semester found us somewhat in flux as our newly appointed Chief Coordinating Officer (Amy Belotti) had to step down when she decided to leave school to take a full-time job. Again, we wanted someone with experience in the group to take on the role, as well as someone who would not be graduating immediately. The group agreed upon Diana Bowers, who then functioned as Chief Coordinating Officer, Treasurer, and Interim Secretary for a period until elections were held and two new officers were appointed. Despite this, we had several well-attended and -received events through the semester and are excited to continue building this revived student chapter.

January 2014

- *Officer meeting*

We discussed our plans for the upcoming semester, including several event ideas, and set a tentative date for our student meeting. Event coordinator Rossy Mendez proposed creating a list of job search resources for the benefit of our members.

February 2014

- *SILS all-club meeting*

Representatives from Pratt|SAA joined representatives from other student clubs at Pratt SILS to meet students and introduce the variety of student groups available to them.

- *Student meeting*

We discussed our upcoming events and made new connections with members.

March 2014

- *Archives and Activism Panel*

Our PR Coordinator Alexa Hagen worked with her archivist mentor to put together this exciting panel discussion just before spring break, hosted in conjunction with Pratt's chapter of the Progressive Librarians' Guild (PLG). The speakers were Yvonne Ng of WITNESS, Molly Fair of the Interference Archive, Marie Lascu of Crowing Rooster Arts, Brendan Allen of Democracy Now, and Kristin McDonough of XFR Collective. With funding from SGA, we provided some light snacks and beverages for the event. Ten students attended this panel and the response from the community was overwhelmingly positive.

- *Election*

An election was held and Alex Provo and Bill Levay were elected Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

April 2014

- *Officer meeting*

- *Sound Archiving Symposium*

Our Event Coordinator Rossy Mendez orchestrated this event in partnership with Nick Pavlik, Director of the Programming Committee of the Archivists' Round Table (A.R.T.). The event was well-attended and included a mix of archives professionals and students, with opportunity both before and after for networking. Speakers were:

- Jonathan Hiam, curator of American Music and the Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
- Marcos Suiero Bal, Senior Archivist at New York Public Radio
- Talya Cooper, Archive Manager, StoryCorps
- David Gerlach, Founder of Blank on Blank

Topics discussed included curatorial decisions relating to accession policies (Hiam), technical issues in the preservation of sound materials (Suiero Bal), collaboration and the educational impacts of sound recordings (Cooper), and the use and remix of archival sound material (Gerlach). Given the success of the event, we hope to continue our partnership with A.R.T. in organizing future events next semester.

- *Job Search Resources*

Rossy completed her list of job search resources and we published it on our Wordpress and social media accounts.

- *Student meeting*

Our April meeting had a good turnout and a lot of enthusiasm from our chapter members for the work we had done so far this year and upcoming events.

- *Tour*

We planned a visit to the New York Academy of Medicine, where we toured the Rare Book Room with the Acting Curator and Reference Librarian, Arlene Shaner. Seven students attended and we spent two hours learning about rare books, medical history, and the Academy's collections.

- *Election*

With our PR Coordinator and Events Coordinator departing Pratt, we decided to amend our constitution and combine the two positions, then run an election for the new officer.

May 2014

- *End-of-term happy hour*

In partnership with SLA@Pratt, another student organization, we will host an informal happy hour to provide a social atmosphere for our members to mingle and get to know each other.

LIST OF MEMBERS

The following are members of our chapter who identified themselves as official SAA members:

Carolyn Li-Madeo

Conrad Lochner

Heather Lember

Liesel Vink

Richard J. Lee

Theo Roth

Carlos Acevedo

Emily Dunne

Julie Robbins

Katie Hessler

J.E. Molly Seegers