

## Overview of activities

The inaugural year for the UA Student Chapter of the Society of American archivists was very successful. The chapter hosted a number of events and meetings throughout the year as well as completed a number of archival projects within the community.

The chapter met on a regular basis to discuss projects and events as well as to brainstorm ideas for fundraising activities and to attract new members. The chapter was effective in securing new members through list serves, open houses, class announcements, and publicity. Invitations to meetings were sent out to a number of UA departments including Anthropology, History, and other targeted areas. Two open houses were held at UA Special Collections which included a meet and greet, a tour and a potluck. Members of the chapter attended School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) orientation sessions and made announcements in archival related courses. SIRLS also included the chapter in electronic newsletters. Publicity included a feature story on a Homecoming exhibition curated by the chapter, <http://www.library.arizona.edu/news/entries/view/2533>.

A number of events were planned and accomplished throughout the 2010-2011 year. Events included; open houses, a homecoming exhibition and event, and work with the January 8 2011 archiving of memorial/vigil sites, and an oral history project. Including the open houses the chapter curated an exhibit in the UA Main Library with Special Collections' archival materials entitled: *One for the Ages: A Homecoming* exhibition in conjunction with the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University of Arizona. The exhibition included an event in conjunction with the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences which included a temporary exhibit of archival materials at their SBS Homecoming Bash. Work for the exhibition and homecoming event including the identification and selection of archival materials, the creation of text labels, and the mounting and displaying of items. Six members of the chapter worked throughout the September and October 2010 to complete the project.

The student chapter also worked closely with faculty advisor Chrystal Carpenter to assist her with the archiving of the January 8, 2011 memorial/vigil sites. The memorial/vigil sites sprang up at three locations after the events on January 8 took place; in which 18 people were shot, including Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, tragically six individuals were killed. For more information please see [http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/CPRSpring2011\\_0.pdf](http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/CPRSpring2011_0.pdf). Over a two week period in February members of the chapter assisted in the collecting, cleaning and preservation, and packing of materials left at the three sites. Materials included cards, posters, ceramic tiles, candles, artwork, and various other types of materials.

The student chapter also worked in conjunction with the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) on an oral history digitization project. Ten students were trained and did at least one oral history. 20 oral histories were completed (composed of 39 cassette tapes) using Audacity software. The completed oral histories focused on the urbanization of Tucson. Notable interviews digitized included John Wayne and well known Tucson historical figures. An inventory of all AHS oral histories was completed during this project, which totaled over 1300. The students worked throughout the 2010-2011 school year. There is a very high probability that the chapter will continue with this project throughout the 2011-2012 school year.