

Society of American Archivists, University of Washington Chapter 2019-2020 Annual Report

Mission

It shall be the purpose of this organization to explore and promote archives and archival preservation under the guidelines put forth by the Society of American Archivists.

Summary of Chapter Activities

This year, the Society of American Archivists, University of Washington (SAA-UW) Chapter focused on events to educate students about digital and local archives and highlight the experiences of UW archival students and staff. After our yearly happy hour during orientation week, the newly elected officers in 2019 began the year with "meet the officers" blog and Facebook posts to facilitate engagement with the student body. Over fall and winter quarter, we had a series of blog posts with new faculty members at the iSchool to highlight their work with archives.

In Fall, we held an election for two positions for the First Year Representatives (one online and one residential). These officers helped us to better meet the needs of first year students. Additionally, we clarified the specific duties of Publicity Officer and Social Media Officer roles to improve our digital outreach. At the beginning of Winter quarter, we had an archival storytelling contest to highlight how students were engaging with archives during their time at the iSchool. Toward the end of Winter quarter and through spring quarter, we focused on digital events, beginning with an informal virtual chat with an archivist during winter quarter. In Spring 2020 we hosted an online chat with MIPoPS - Moving Image Preservation of Puget Sound and a digital version of our annual service and learning event with the Labor Archives of Washington (details below).

Programming

September 2019 - All iSchool Fair & Happy Hour

SAA-UW staffed a table at the All iSchool Fair during orientation week to welcome new students and provide them with information about our student organization. We also worked with other MLIS student organizations to put together a happy hour at a local bar that was well attended by current and incoming MLIS students.

January-February 2020 - Archives Storytelling Contest

SAA-UW held an archives storytelling contest to encourage students to write an archives experience that made an impression on them. The story could cover different types of experiences including using and visiting archives, working for an archival institution, or a new scholarship that changed their perspective. Our student winner wrote about his experience working in UW Special Collections and coming across a scrapbook of a soccer player, Konrad

Korsnes, from Norway who emigrated to Seattle. He wrote about finding out, after going through some of his biographies included in the collection, that Korsnes had been imprisoned by the gestapo and then in a concentration camp during WWII. This reminded the student the importance of caring for collections no matter how small.

February 2020 - Informal Chat with Nancy Godoy, Arizona State University

SAA-UW hosted an informal, virtual chat with Nancy Godoy, Associate Archivist at Arizona State University. Godoy talked about her experience with community archives and working with marginalized communities. She discussed her community-driven archiving program that holds events to empower community members to appraise, arrange, describe, and preserve their own materials.

March 2020 - MIPoPS - Moving Image Preservation of Puget Sound Livestream

SAA-UW co-hosted a live streaming edition of “Moving History” with MIPoPS - Moving Image Preservation of Puget Sound. “Moving History” is a quarterly archival screening night presented by MIPoPS and is usually held at the Northwest Film Forum in Seattle. MIPoPS supports heritage organizations with neither the resources nor expertise to address these at-risk materials. This livestream version featured moving image material of rare feature films, historic Seattle, oral history interviews, dance performances by Pacific Northwest artists, and more.

May 2020 - Virtual Archives Service & Learning Event with the Labor Archives of Washington

Working with UW Labor Archives of Washington (LAW), students learned about the LAW’s collection of archival materials, common preservation concerns and interventions, how to gain archival experience, and what it is like working directly with materials. This event was hosted virtually through Zoom.

Elections

Outgoing officers of 2019-2020:

Co-Chairs: Kelli Yakabu and Kylie Snyder

Vice President of Finances: Erika Wigren

Secretary: Amanda Robb

Diversity Officer: Kay Cadena

Distance Liaison: Gisela Parker

Publicity Officer: Bekah Leidenfrost

Social Media Officer: Sierra Jorgensen

First Year Representative (Residential): Sarah Meidl

First Year Representative (Online): Sarah Nguyen

Incoming officers of 2020-2021

Co-Chairs: Addy Ascencio and Sarah Meidl

Secretary: Alexis Mulvaney
Vice President of Finances: Marie Peeples
Diversity Officer: Karen Wang
Distance Liaison: Gisela Parker
Publicity Officer: Challen Wright
Social Media Officer: Micah Love

Contact Information

Chief officers

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