

University of Washington

SAA Student Chapter

2021-2022 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

During the 2021-2022 school year the Society of American Archivists, University of Washington (SAA-UW) had eight positions filled, which included two first year representatives, two co-chairs, a treasurer, a publicity officer, a social media coordinator, a secretary, and a diversity officer. Our focus for the year was to hold events with EDI in mind. This ranged from different forms of archives to different aspects of being an archivist. It also centered on actions that repositories are taking to be more inclusive and recognize impacts that archives have on minority groups.

We continued the efforts of past members to increase our online presence. Due to COVID, much of our programming is online anyways, but we also have a large online MLIS cohort. We were able to hold in person events such as happy hours and a museum tour (more details below). All of our presentations were held online so we could increase access, allow for safe distancing, and reach other repositories that would not be able to travel to UW to present. We also presented a poster for the Northwest Archivist annual conference detailing our organization and events held this school year.

Programming

October 2021-Happy hours

We had two happy hours this month. The first was a simple meet and greet. It was really important to have a happy hour early in the quarter as this was our first in person event in over a year. We also had a virtual Halloween trivia happy hour. After having an in person event, it was important that we had a virtual event for our online cohort.

November 2021-Burke Museum

We visited the University of Washington's Burke Museum in November of 2021. This event was significant for our organization because it was one of our first open invitation in-person events since before the pandemic. Although the main motive of this outing was to be social, and to enjoy a beautiful museum, we still found time to discuss many of the exhibits through an archival lens.

November 2021-Capstone with Alumni

Capstone is the final project for the MLIS program. We reached out to past students who focused on archives for their projects. This was a great brainstorming session for people just starting their projects. It was also a good way to see what the alumni are doing with their degrees and what they think about working in archive or taxonomy focused jobs.

December 2021-EDI UW special collections talk

Many officers of SAA-UW either work or volunteer with UW Special Collections. We invited staff and librarians from Special Collections to come speak with us about EDI policies currently underway in UW Special Collections. The talk also centered around how archival work can help promote EDI within libraries. Following the presentation by Special Collections staff the panel participated in a Q&A with attendees.

February 2022-Densho Talk

We have talked with Densho before. They are always eager to speak with us and ask about the program. This question and answer session focused on Densho's encyclopedia, how they built their community archive and what it means to function in a post custodial manner, and also their new site of shame interactive map. This connected to our overall mission of EDI focused events because Densho is a community based repository for Japanese American experiences, especially during World War Two.

March 2022-Assisted with GLAM career day

The iSchool career service team reached out to SAA-UW to moderate a talk with archival professionals during the Government, Libraries, Archives, and Museum career fair. This was a very fruitful talk with a lot of questions about how to enter the field without a MLIS degree, what archives are doing to combat institutional racism and acknowledge that archives play a role in upholding some of these qualities, and new trends in digital repositories.

April 2022-Copyright talk

Although we are an archives organization, many of our members expressed interest in our Facebook page polling about future events for talks that are adjacent to archives. We took this into consideration when we hosted an informal copyright talk with UW Librarian Maryam Fakouri. The first 30 minutes of the talk were a basic overview by Maryam of the connections between archives, academic libraries, and copyright, and the final 30 minutes were a open Q&A session.

May 2022-NWA poster

SAA-UW participated in the Northwest Archives annual conference. We presented a poster on our events during this school year.. Half of the officers wrote the content for the poster while the

rest designed and created the graphics/images. Three officers presented the poster at the conference and responded to a Q&A session following the presentation.

May 2022-Museum tour

One of our incoming officers volunteers at the Connections Museum in Seattle. As our last event in the 2021-2022 school year, we got a tour and a behind the scenes of their up and coming archive. This was a fabulous way to connect with local repositories and see how institutions are handling materials when there is no established archive. It reinforced the amazing work that archivists can do.

Elections

Outgoing officers of 2021-2022:

Co-Chairs: Cali Vance and Stella B. Haynes Kiehn

Vice President of Finances: Elysia Houston

Secretary: Oscar McNary

Diversity Officer: Skyler Corbett-Hecocta

Publicity Officer: Caleb Simonds

Social Media Officer: Eleanor Schulz

First Year Representative (Residential): Eve Kausch

First Year Representative (Residential): Emily Klemkow

Incoming officers of 2022-2023:

Chair: Andrew Le

Secretary: Eve Kausch

Diversity Officer: Andrew Le

Distance Liaison: Ron Martin-Dent

Social Media Officer: Ron Martin-Dent

Vice President of Finances: Emily Klemkow

Contact Information

Chief officers

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