



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Tanya Zanish-Belcher Inducted as a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists**

CHICAGO—Tanya Zanish-Belcher, associate professor and special collections department head at Iowa State University, will be inducted as a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) during a ceremony on August 26, 2011, at *ARCHIVES 360°*, the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago. The distinction of Fellow is the highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the archives profession.

For more than two decades Zanish-Belcher has served the archival profession in numerous capacities. She has assisted the State Historical Society of Iowa as a gubernatorial appointed member of the Iowa Historical Records Advisory Board. As a consultant with the Technical Assistance Network for one of its grant programs, her advice helped organizations design projects that met standards, received funding, and were successfully implemented.

Zanish-Belcher has made more than 30 professional presentations at a variety of venues. Within SAA she has chaired the Nominating Committee and chaired or co-chaired the Membership Committee, the Women's Collection Roundtable, Reference and Access Section, Committee, the Oral History Section, and the Science, Technology, and Healthcare Roundtable. She was instrumental in establishing the Navigator Program at the Annual Meeting, which grew out of her commitment to helping people meet and share ideas.

"Tanya's service to SAA has been dedicated and able, has been continuous over a dozen years, and has taken place at all levels along the leadership chain," noted one of her nominators.

Zanish-Belcher has contributed articles to a variety of professional periodicals and is currently under contract with SAA to co-edit the *Women's Archives Reader*. She is active in other professional organizations and currently serves as president of the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC), where she has a long history of serving in many leadership roles.

"Tanya exemplifies an archival professional—a mentor to new archivists, a dedicated professional who is active in expanding our profession, a diligent defender of the craft and practice of archival theory, and an advocate for the profession to those outside it," said another nominator.

Zanish-Belcher is one of eight new Fellows named in 2011. There are currently 170 Fellows of the Society of American Archivists.

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*Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association. SAA's mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org).*

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