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A Win - Win Situation: Finding Interns and Volunteers for Your Archives

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A Win-Win Situation: Finding Interns and Volunteers for Your Archives

Society of Florida Archivists
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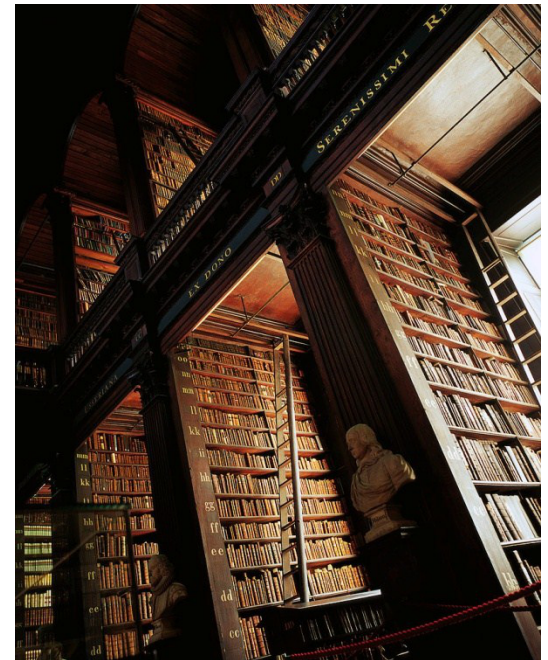
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Outline


- ▶ Society of American Archivists: History and Development
 - ▶ The Internship Process
 - ▶ Strategies for Recruiting Interns and Volunteers
 - ▶ Wrap Up and Questions
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Historical Background


- ▶ Society of American Archivist's (SAA) inception in 1936
- ▶ Development of History Departments in Universities



Historical Background

- ▶ 1945– SAA's Joint Committee on Internships
 - ▶ 1970s– SAA's Survey of Education by Committee on Education and Training, later refined by its Committee on Education and Professional Development
 - ▶ 1980s through 2002– Guidelines for Graduate Archival Studies programs
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Historical Background

- ▶ Emergence of archival tracks within Library and Information Science and History Programs as well as the development of Doctoral programs
 - ▶ Diminishing resources
 - ▶ Trends towards volunteers
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The Internship Process: Site Supervisors and Students



The Internship Process: Libraries

- ▶ Florida State University Library/University of South Florida Libraries
 - Types of Projects
 - Advertising
 - Applications
 - Learning Objectives
 - Evaluations



The Internship Process: Museums

- ▶ Museum Studies
 - Anthropology
 - Africana Studies
 - American Studies
 - Environmental Studies
 - Library Science



The Internship Process: Museums



The Internship Process: Museums



Strategies for Recruiting Interns and Volunteers



Recruiting Interns and Volunteers

▶ Interns

- History
- Public History
- Library Science
- Museum Studies
- Technology

Recruiting Interns and Volunteers

▶ Volunteers

- Library Science and Archival graduates
- Alumni and retirees of the university
- Former interns who have graduated and are deciding on grad school
- Former researchers
- Former teachers

Recruiting Interns and Volunteers

► Volunteers


- Your Career Services Department
- Serving as an SAA Key Contact
- Speaking to history/public history classes
- Friends groups
- Contacting local colleges and universities



Volunteers Karlene Messer (left) and Betty Winn work on indexing and preparing delayed birth records for the Oregon Historical Records Index.

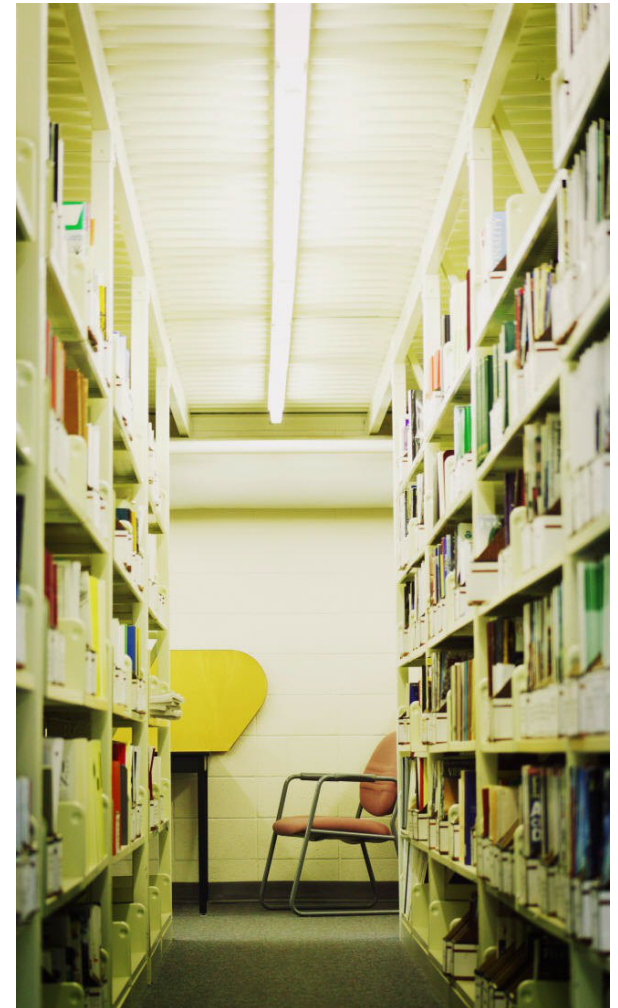
Recruiting Interns and Volunteers

► Benefits

- Gets needed work done
 - Provides hands-on work experience to potential archivists
 - Way of publicizing the uses of archives
 - Encourages younger generations to support the activities museums, archives, historical societies, etc.
 - Supports the profession as a whole
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Recruiting Interns and Volunteers

- ▶ University of South Florida
 - Graduate Assistants
 - Volunteers
 - Classroom recruiting
 - Word-of-mouth
 - Email lists



Recruiting Interns and Volunteers: Museums



Suggested Resources

Bastian, J. & Webber, D. (2008). Archival internships: A guide for faculty, supervisors, and students. Chicago: Society of American Archivists.

Using Volunteers for Special–Project Staffing at the National Air and Space Museum Archives" American Archivist, Volume 54, Number 2, Spring 1991, pp.176–183.



Conclusion

Questions?



Thank you!

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