

ANNUAL REPORT
31 MAY 2018
covering 2017 calendar year

Society of American Archivists at
University of Missouri student chapter
(SAAMUSC)

2017 Student Officers:

President: Jennifer Walker

Vice President: Alora Bauer

Secretary: Erin Niederberger

Treasurer: Brian Flanagan (Spring) + Dylan Martin (Fall)

LISGSA Liaison: Katie Wibbenmeyer

Communication Chair: Dylan Martin

Members:

Kristin Cento, Kendall Culbertson, Tamara Inge, Michelle Lahiri, Sam Mueller, Julia Peters, Eric Saxon, Judy Schmitt, Emily Wiechmann, Sarah Wohaska.

Faculty Advisor:

Prof. Sarah Buchanan <http://faculty.missouri.edu/buchanans/>

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Summary of Activities (by academic semester):

SPRING 2017:

SAAMUSC hosted its first event on March 16, 2017 with a tour of the University of Missouri Research Reactor (MURR). Tamara Inge, an SAAMUSC member, coordinated the tour and is an atomic archivist there. She and our tour guide Mark Beary led six attendees around the facility, provided a technical overview of the reactor, told history of the facility, and defined some nuclear lingo. In addition to peering into the core of an active nuclear reactor and the control room, we saw some archaeometry lab work in progress and viewed the MURR archives.

SAAMUSC members participated at the LISGSA Spring Conference, “Engaging Your Community,” held on April 8 at the MU Student Center, Leadership Auditorium, by discussing some of the ways in which archiving connects with communities. Dr. Buchanan briefly discussed SAAMUSC and a recent service learning course partnered with the Black Archives of Mid-America, and SAAMUSC members Jennifer, Dylan, and Alora presented a poster, titled “Diving into History: LIS In-Service Experience at the Black Archives of Mid-America,” about the course participants’ contributions including collections processed.

Although not an SAAMUSC-organized activity, several members completed a service-learning course over Spring Break in late March: “ISLT 9410 Archives in Context.” Following an interactive and well-attended class session presented in the SISLT Collaboratory – a prelude to full-length archival courses this Fall – students traveled to the Black Archives of Mid-America (BAMA) located in the historic 18th and Vine district in Kansas City, MO. Under the direction of archivist Geri Sanders and her intern Bridget Haney (UCM, Warrensburg), students worked together to inventory, organize, and re-house three collections of materials related to Kansas City’s African American population. We look forward to continuing this fruitful collaboration; the Kansas City Area Archivists (KCAA) held their Spring Meeting at BAMA on April 14.

View some illustrated tweets: <https://twitter.com/dcadkins/status/847098763382571009>, <https://twitter.com/dcadkins/status/847545177346592768>, and <https://twitter.com/dcadkins/status/847903211000397824>.

Members volunteered at National History Day in Missouri held on campus on April 29.

Steadily this semester we accomplished establishing our student chapter both on campus and within the Society of American Archivists. At the campus level, we attended an info session on January 24, and began drafting our Constitution and questionnaire responses for MU ORG. Students commented on both, and by a vote of 9-0 adopted the Constitution on February 18. Felicia Owens, SAA Governance Program Coordinator, generously shared her knowledge of the process for new student chapters, and discussed these further with Prof. Buchanan who attended the Committee on Education meeting at SAA Headquarters on March 9. Students joined SAA and communicated regularly with Secretary Erin and Prof. Buchanan. We submitted our MU ORG application on February 20 and then collected candidate statements for officer positions. During an online election the week of March 6, 11 members exercised their voting rights, and inaugural officers were seated on March 13. We received word of our recognition by MU ORG on March 23, and attended the required Admin Training (& Finance Training) on April 17. On April 6, we submitted to the SAA office our materials seeking recognition from SAA Council in advance of its spring meeting on May 16-17: <https://www2.archivists.org/groups/saa-council/may-16-17-2017-council-meeting>. As of their May 19 reporting, SAA Council approved establishment of our student chapter.

FALL 2017:

Two members of our new organization were excited to visit Portland, OR for *ARCHIVES 2017: alike/different*. The July 26, Archival Educators Section panel meeting, chaired by LSU Professor Ed Benoit, at SAA 2017 featured SAAMUSC President Jennifer Walker and Dr. Buchanan discussing the experience of launching SAA's newest student chapter (see [MO INFO 48.5](#) (Sept 2017), page 9). On July 25 Dr. Buchanan presented at the 2017 SAA Research Forum on MU's predecessor archival professor Aurora Davis (Jennifer later completed her Fall 2017 research paper on Ms. Davis). Our Aurora Davis studies contribute to the LIS Program 50th Anniversary (July 2016) as well as the MU College of Education 150th Anniversary (January 2018) activities.

A publication appears in the July 2017 issue of *MAC Newsletter*, "[News from the Midwest: Missouri](#)" column, on the launch of SAAMUSC and of three new Archival Studies courses taught in spring 2017 (BAMA service-learning), fall 2017 (Archival Practice), and spring 2018 (Appraisal & Archival Systems), by Dr. Buchanan.

The Archival Practice mini-conference was held on Mon Dec 4, and SAAMUSC member Eric Saxon's original research was featured in the St. Joseph, Michigan newspaper *The Herald-Palladium*: "Searching for a Monuments Man" and "A monument to heroism: Local veteran served in 3 wars, helped restore looted art in WWII" by John Matuszak, 12 November 2017, https://www.heraldpalladium.com/news/local/searching-for-a-monuments-man/article_bdc18e6d-46c6-5d54-9a6c-5186817ee6f9.html & https://www.heraldpalladium.com/news/local/a-monument-to-heroism/article_7e8a5776-ff72-5864-9a6f-3528ecb5017d.html.

Officers met on Sept 11 and on subsequent second Mondays at 5 p.m. Jennifer is attending Finance Training on [Sept 26](#), and Alora attended Admin Training on [Aug 22](#); Dr. Buchanan approved our MU ORG registration request on Aug 10, and attended the RSO Advisor Roundtable on Wed Sept 13. Our SISLT New Student Orientation (August 17, 222 Townsend Hall) featured SAAMUSC President Jennifer Walker introducing our activities. SAAMUSC officers participated in the SISLT student groups Social at Shakespeare's Pizza Downtown on Thu Sept 14.

SAAMUSC hosted a tour of SHSMO led by Laura Jolley on Wed Oct 11 at 3 p.m. The Society is preparing for its 2019 move to the newly constructed Center for Missouri Studies on Lowry Street. Relatedly, the Museum of Anthropology celebrated its Grand Opening on Sept 15 at Mizzou North!

SAAMUSC had a strong presence at the Missouri Association for Museums & Archives (MAMA 2017) conference in Kirksville on October 27-28, with Dr. Buchanan's archives students Zhuzumkan Askhatbekova, Alora Bauer, Alisa Pappas, Jennifer Walker, and Elizabeth Winter attending the events. Check out Zhuzumkan in a local news feature at "Missouri archivists learn from Kirksville's best" by Louis Finley, Friday, 27 October 2017, <https://ktvo.com/news/local/missouri-archivists-learn-from-kirksvilles-best>. Dr. Buchanan joined as Membership Coordinator.

*at right: MAMA 2017 attendees
Dr. Buchanan, Zhuzumkan, Jennifer, and Alora at the
Truman State University Art Gallery.*

A lecture by Dr. Delia C. Gillis (MU PhD alumna and former head of the Black Archives of Mid-America) on "Business, Culture, and Power: Kansas City's Black Professional Class" (Oct 25, Stotler Lounge, Memorial Student Union, University of Missouri at 6:30 p.m.) was attended by SAAMUSC member Tamara Inge. Tamara also attended the KCAA Fall Symposium on "The Lone



Arranger” at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Fri Nov 17, 12-5 p.m.) and joined its Membership Committee.

SISLT Professors Chris LeBeau and Sarah Buchanan coordinated a visit to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library on Friday November 17 (*at right*). Students Bailey Grim, Zhuzumkan Askhatbekova, Christina Proctor, Peggy Bowe, Jill Schmidt, and alumna Kathy Leitle heard about operations from Deputy Director Amy Williams and Supervisory Archivist Sam Rushay – including audiovisual digitization work (though no born-digital!), K-12 programs, and SISLT’s own long-standing Project Whistlestop collaboration.



This fall, Dr. Buchanan and graduate assistant Katie Wibbenmeyer collaborated with the Boone County History & Culture Center (see <https://twitter.com/boonehistory/status/912376167201628161>) to preserve and handle, inventory, establish digitization procedures, batch convert, interpret photographers’ ledgers, describe with metadata, and rehouse a collection of 500,000+ glass-plate negatives dated between 1915-1965. We worked closely with Chris Campbell (Executive Director), Karen Miller, Mary Waters, and Tim Trogon to scan materials using equipment in the Hank Waters III Historic Records and Photography Digital Lab that arrived in April. A goal of the Center is to digitize and provide public access to significant photographs and court records for the County’s bicentennial on November 16, 2020.

Collaborating with Special Collections and Rare Books, Dr. Buchanan advised a MLIS student-instructor in ISLT 1111 for five hours/week. We examined material culture and student life collections at Mizzou, including those of the Museum of Anthropology and the Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection, to support the teaching and learning goals of Archival Practice and the new Honors Tutorial.

General Activities:

Communication: We continued to tweet @SAAMUSC and to share opportunities on our listserv.

Region: Dr. Buchanan met with the Missouri Bicentennial Coordinator, Michael Sweeney on November 20 to discuss archival activities involving MU students across disciplines. This year SAAMUSC members attended AERI 2017 (University of Toronto), SAA 2017 (Portland, OR), MAMA 2017 (Kirksville, MO), SSA 2017 (Society of Southwest Archivists, Fayetteville, AR), and the KCAA Fall Symposium (Kansas City Area Archivists), talking with colleagues about archives. We took note of the ASLAA one-day service project surveying MOAHS aviation archives on Sat Oct 21 (<http://stlarchivists.org/service.html>), a Special Collections & University Archives workshop on Fri Sept 29 (<http://library.missouri.edu/news/workshops/special-collections-archives-workshop>), a Cultural Heritage Workshop by Missouri Humanities Council on Dec 13 in Moberly (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cultural-heritage-workshop-moberly-mo-tickets-39937092920>), and a talk by Dr. Kevin Strait, Museum Curator of the Smithsonian Institution’s NMAAHC, on Sept 28 in 101 Swallow Hall on "Freedom Sounds: Framing the Story of African American Identity, Music, and Culture in a National Museum."

Funds: SAAMUSC officers contributed to the Great Circle holiday gift adoption and to the LISGSA Spring Conference in April, in organizing the event and presenting a poster on the spring service-learning course.