



# ACA News

The Newsletter of the Academy of Certified Archivists Issue 94 Fall 2016

## President's Message

Louis E. Jones, Ph.D., CA  
Wayne State University  
Walter P. Reuther Library  
Detroit, Michigan



The Academy welcomes 85 new members into the fold, making this one of the largest groups to successfully pass the certification exam. 29 others passed the exam and now occupy a provisional status until they gain one year of experience within the next three years. For those of you who passed the exam, ACA congratulates you for the hard work we know was responsible for your success. With these new members, the Academy now has a membership of 1,284, larger than at any time in its history, demonstrating that certification remains a viable way for archivists to demonstrate their commitment to the field. The numbers bode well for the strength of the Academy and say something about the professionalization of the field. Indeed, the third of three points in the ACA bylaws states that our purpose is to “[p]romote among archivists the attainment of a high level of professional knowledge.” The new members of the Academy now join others in a commitment toward this end.

As the Academy enters its 28th year, it is working to further reinforce its standing within the archival community. Efforts are underway to promote the Academy within archival education programs by pre-approving classes that qualify as a prerequisite for taking the certification exam, provide leadership within the International Council of Archives' Section of Professional Associations, determine ways to generate revenue without raising dues, document the Academy through an oral history project, review requirements, definitions and credits for recertifying by petition, and renew our reciprocal agreement with NAGARA.

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## President's Message

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And then, of course, the Academy will continue to do much of what it has done in the past by administering and developing the certification exam, recertifying members, conducting outreach with SAA student chapters, during regional meetings at vendor tables, and through advertisements in leading archival newsletters, among other efforts. Most importantly, our members continue to remain actively engaged in the profession, thereby strengthening the archival field.

New members to the Academy will now join those already within the fold as the organization seeks to build upon past practices while improving others requiring a review. With the ACA board and others working in leadership positions within the Academy, I look forward to advancing these objectives and

others that will invariably surface in the year to come.

As a postscript, I must pen a note here about a transition taking place within the Academy's family. More specifically, the Academy is bidding a farewell to long-time ACA Secretariat Steve Grandin and welcomes Abby Curro as his replacement. With his institutional knowledge, sense of diplomacy, and professionalism, Steve will be missed and the Academy wishes him the best in a retirement well deserved. We are, however, fortunate that the very able Abby Curro will be replacing him and we look forward to working with her in the months and years ahead, as the Academy continues to grow and develop.



## Steve Grandin Gets Regents' Award

ACA's Board of Regents has given the Regents' Award to Steve Grandin for his decades of dedicated work. The Regents' Award "recognizes a special contribution to ACA" and is awarded irregularly. While the Distinguished Service Award must go to a Certified Archivist, the Regents' Award does not. Our previous Regents' Award recipients are Trudy Peterson (2012) and Mike Bullington (2014).

Mott Linn represented ACA at Steve's retirement party. Mott read a long list of "thank you" notes that former ACA Presidents wrote for the occasion and presented Steve with the Regents' Award.

Steve has served as ACA's Secretariat since 1995. In addition to answering your requests, he oversaw our bookkeeping, sent out our mail and email, and coordinated our meetings and exams. Steve was always of great assistance to the ACA Board by giving us sage advice and reminding us of precedents. We will greatly miss his institutional memory of ACA.



While serving ACA, Steve also helped other organizations, including NAGARA and ICRM. Steve also uses his knowledge of how non-profit organizations should function by being a member of his local school board.

Before working with professional organizations, Steve was the sports editor for a newspaper. Earlier, he graduated from Cornell University.

We wish Steve a long and happy retirement!

## International Council on Archives (ICA)

Submitted by Becky Haglund Tousey, CA - ACA's representative to ICA/SPA

How much do you know about the International Council on Archives (ICA)? You may have heard the name, but you may not be aware of some of its activities. I have the honor of serving as ACA's representative to one of ICA's Sections, the Section of Professional Associations (SPA). And I recently attended its quadrennial Congress in Seoul, Korea.

ICA is a truly global archival organization which has over 1400 members across several categories of membership. The largest category is comprised of National Archivists from over 180 countries. The next category of membership is for archival institutions and associations. Over 75 professional associations are members of ICA, including two from the US - ACA and the Society of American Archivists. And there is also a category for individual members.

ICA is a large and sometimes complex organization to navigate. But if you are at all interested in how the rest of the world practices archives, or how they deal with the same issues we deal with here in the US, it is an organization you will want to get to know. ICA launched a new website in September. Spend some time looking at the site and the resources it offers. Just a few of the programs that may be of interest are the New Professionals program, International Archives Day, and the Africa Programme which helps to build capacity in countries where archives are severely under resourced.

ICA has Expert Groups that address some of the profession's key issues and functional activities.

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## ACA Officers

President (2016-17)	Louis E. Jones, Ph.D., CA Wayne State University Walter P. Reuther Library Detroit, Michigan
Vice President/ President-Elect (2016-17)	Todd Welch, CA Cline Library Northern Arizona University Flagstaff, Arizona
Treasurer (2016-18)	Gerrienne Schaad, CA Florida Southern College Lakeland, FL
Secretary (2015-2017)	Emily Dominick, CA University of Washington Libraries Special Collections, Allen Library Seattle, Washington
Regent for Examination Administration (2015-2017)	Marcus Robyns, CA Northern Michigan University Marquette, Michigan
Regent for Examination Development (2016-18)	Rebecca Hankins, CA Texas A&M University Libraries Bryan, TX
Regent for Certification Maintenance (2015-17)	Tara Laver, CA Louisiana State University Special Collections Hill Memorial Library Baton Rouge, LA
Regent for Outreach (2016-18)	Elizabeth Scott, CA Project Archivist/ Consultant Easton, PA
Immediate Past President & Re- gent for Nominations (2015-16)	Mott R. Linn, DA, CA Clark University Worcester, Massachusetts

Contact information for the Officers and Regents is available on the ACA website:  
[www.certifiedarchivists.org/about-us/officers.html](http://www.certifiedarchivists.org/about-us/officers.html)

### From the Secretary

Emily Dominick, CA  
University of Washington  
Libraries  
Special Collections, Allen  
Library  
Seattle, Washington



### Board of Regents Update

At the August 3, 2016 meeting in Atlanta, GA the Board of Regents:

- Discussed the memorandum of agreement between NAGARA and ACA
- Welcomed new board members Rebecca Hankins, CA and Gerrienne Schaad, CA
- Thanked outgoing board members Tomaro Taylor, CA and Daphne DeLeon, CA for their years of service
- Recognized Steve Grandin for his many years of work for ACA in his role as Secretariat and congratulated him on his retirement; welcomed Abby Curro who has been hired to fill his position
- Heard an update on the Recertification Petition Review Taskforce, charged with reviewing the requirements, definitions, and credits for the process of recertifying by petition
- Commissioned the Boundaries of the Profession Taskforce

At the August 4, 2016 Business meeting:

- Maygene Daniels, CA and Jane Kenamore, CA were awarded the Distinguished Service Award
- The gavel was passed from outgoing president Mott Linn, CA, to incoming president Louis Jones, CA
- Fellow ACA members Rebecca Hankins

and Helen Wong Smith were congratulated on their being named as SAA Distinguished Fellows



Archivists in Atlanta preparing to begin the certification exam. Congratulations to our newest members!



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## Academy Profile

By Ruth E. Bryan, CA

### Jessica Moran, CA, Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand

Jessica's first exposure to archives was through working as an intern (then as a research assistant and then as an editor for a historical document editing project) at the Emma Goldman Papers at UC Berkeley. Although she had worked as an undergraduate in other library departments, it was the experience of working with primary sources and conducting detailed archival research that captured her interest and led her to an archival career.

"I found I really enjoyed not only the research, but understanding how to read and use finding aids and figuring out where I might find relevant information, as well as how it might have ended up there. All of that made me think more critically about working in archives. Plus, probably like a few other archivists out there, I'm a bit noseey and always enjoy reading other people's mail!"

After earning her MLIS with an emphasis in archives, Jessica worked as an archivist for a couple of years, then as a librarian in a special library, and then she returned to an archival position. It was at that time that she decided to become a certified archivist.

"Partly, I wanted to prove to myself that I still had a firm grasp of the core body of knowledge necessary to be an archivist. It was also a good excuse to go back and review some of the material I might have missed the first time around, as well as anything that might have changed during the five years I was focused mostly on working as a librarian. I also thought becoming certified would be helpful in a very competitive job market. I do think that it is a valuable proc-

ess for new archivists to go through, but probably only after they've been on the job for a few years and have enough practical experience to apply the theory to."



Her experience of taking the exam is that the questions spanned a variety of areas and that they were "challenging but doable."

Jessica's current position is Digital Archivist in the Alexander Turnbull Library—the special collections library—at the National Library of New Zealand (<https://natlib.govt.nz/collections/a-z/alexander-turnbull-library-collections>). The Library collects New Zealand's documentary heritage in all formats and contains one of the most significant research collections in the country. Jessica is one of two digital archivists on a Digital Collection Strategy team. In addition to digital archives, the team is also responsible for web archiving; collecting electronic publications, including e-books and music that falls outside the scope of Legal Deposit; and contributing to the development of library policy and infrastructure.

In her role as Digital Archivist, Jessica performs digital transfer and ingest, technical appraisal, and preservation, functions for born-digital, unpublished collections acquired by the Library. These collections range from manuscripts, personal papers, and organizational archives, to photographic archives, oral histories, digital cartoons, and ephemera. She works with curators and donors and liaises with the Library's arrangement and descrip-

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## Academy Profile *(Continued from Previous Page)*

tion and digital preservation teams to ingest the collections into their preservation repository.

Jessica finds the position both challenging but also stimulating.

“Working with born digital collections is always an adventure: You often don’t know what you’re going to get until you start digging into the files, and once you figure out what you’ve got, you also have to figure out how to manage it. This is a field where we are only starting to understand the problem in terms of how process and manage born digital collections in the real world. There are always plenty of opportunities for problem solving and learning new things, which keeps things interesting. I think I’m particularly lucky to work with a group of people with lots of experience and curiosity around both digital preservation and collecting born digital cultural heritage. Having a group of knowledgeable colleagues to work with definitely makes the challenges more doable.

One of the biggest changes I’ve seen and continue to see is the growth of the community of digital archivists and the corresponding growth in the body of knowledge around caring for born digital archives. As all our experience develops, there is a much greater pool of knowledge to draw from and it’s exciting to think about how the field will evolve in the coming decades.”

*Ruth E. Bryan, C.A., is Director of Technical Services & University Archivist at the University of Kentucky Special Collections Research Center, Lexington, KY, USA*

## From the Regent for Nominations

Mott R. Linn, DA, CA  
Clark University  
Worcester, Massachusetts



I am writing this article to wrap up my year as ACA President. As these highlights demonstrate, it was a busy year of advancing ACA’s mission.

- Foremost, we instituted the new early bird deadline for exam applications. This was a great success that helped bring about a record number of exam candidates (233) and exam sites (20). Having an early bird deadline contributed to these records, as did our improved outreach efforts.
- The ACA Board held two teleconferences that allowed us to take care of some business, enabling us to conduct even more work during our regular meetings. For the second one, we ran a trial of GoToMeeting software to find out if using it might assist ACA in advancing our mission.
- I negotiated a memorandum of understanding with NAGARA, which should assist our outreach efforts to government archivists.
- A question that Morgan Davis Gieringer asked me has resulted in the creation of a process to pre-approve archival management classes. This will 1) allow ACA to quickly determine if a given class qualifies when somebody applies for the exam; 2) assure prospective students that the classes that they will take will qualify for the exam; and 3) enable archives education programs to market the fact that their classes meet ACA’s standards. For decades, ACA has determined which classes qualify for the exam application. This new procedure will allow us to qualify

*(continued on page 9)*

**ICA, (continued from page 3)**

- Advocacy
- Digital Records
- Appraisal
- Buildings & Environments
- Archival Description
- Emergency Management & Disaster Preparedness
- Archives & Human Rights
- Photographic & Audiovisual
- Records Management
- Legal Matters
- Shared Archival Heritage
- Archives Services: Research & Outreach

And ICA has Sections that reflects the institutional and collection types ACA members represent.

- Section for Education & Training
- Section for Archives of Faith Traditions
- Section on Notarial Archives
- Section on Architectural Archives
- Section on Business Archives
- Section on Literary & Artistic Archives
- Section of Local, Municipal & Territorial Archives
- Section on Professional Associations
- Section on Sports Archives
- Section for Archives of Parliaments & Political Parties
- Section on University Archives

The Section on Professional Associations (SPA) has several focus areas. Our goal is to strengthen and unite the archival profession globally and to help its member associations develop their organizations and increase their influence. To advance this goal, SPA introduced an advocacy “film festival.” In January we sent out a call to archives and records management professionals across the globe, in search of short videos that communicated the

importance of records and archives. SPA received 70 entries, 66 of which met the required qualifications. The majority of the entries came from European countries (which is reflected in the list of finalists). There were only a handful of entries from the US.

The jury – comprised of SPA’s steering committee– viewed all the entries after the entry deadline this spring. Nine finalists were chosen, three finalists in each of these three categories:

- Best Film portraying the relevance and importance of Archives
- Best Film portraying the relevance and Importance of Records Management
- Best Film using Humor to Communicate about Archives and/or Records Management

In addition to choosing a winner in each category, the jury decided there should be a People’s Award that anyone could vote for. So online voting amongst the nine finalists was open to ICA members and non-members alike, from August 16 through September 8, the last day of the ICA 2016 Congress in Seoul, Korea. The winners were announced at the closing ceremonies of the Congress. Click on this link to see the winners!

<http://www.ica.org/en/spa-film-festival-awards-ceremony-seoul-congress>

All nine finalist films are available at this website: [The SPA Film Festival - The films](#)

Go online and view these great films, get ideas and be inspired! SPA will hold the next Film Festival in 2018. We hope there will be more entries from the USA next time around! Maybe ACA can create a video about certification for the next SPA Film Festival?



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## **Distinguished Service Award**

### **Submitted by Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, CA**

In 2002 ACA's Board of Regents created the Distinguished Service Award to acknowledge extraordinary service rendered to the Academy by its members. Each year, one or two members are selected for this honor. This year two members who have kept a low profile, but who have been instrumental to the success of ACA have been selected. Last year acknowledged two founding members, This year, we honor early members who have helped ACA over many years in significant ways and who were always ready to help out without fanfare. They have also distinguished themselves as archivists, exemplifying the kind of archivists needed in the profession.

**Maygene Daniels** has had a meaningful archives career, first at the National Archives in Presidential Libraries, then at the National Gallery of Art. In addition to creating a professional archives at the national Gallery of Art, she has been active in educating the public about archives, for example with the National Gallery's exhibit and lectures in connection with the film *Monument Men*. She became involved with ACA in the 1980's and was a supporter of its creation. As a member of SAA council from 1988 through 1990, she was instrumental in ensuring the funding of the new organization. She was then elected President of ACA from 1990 to 1992 a challenging time because of the implementation of the examination and the establishment of effective operating procedures. She then chaired a task force on organizational structure which developed specific responsibilities for each Regent. She went on to become President of SAA in 1994 and was elected a fellow of SAA in 1989 and has remained active on many professional committees and task forces. Her book *Modern Archives Reader* is currently the first book listed on the ACA bibliography and she has authored ACA newsletter articles in 1992 and 1999.

**Jane Kenamore** was active as an archivist in Texas when she was head of special collections at the Rosenberg Library in Galveston and a leader in the Society of Southwest Archivists. She then became Education Director for the Society of American Archivists from 1989 to 1995 and was a strong supporter of the Academy of Certified Archivists during that time. After leaving SAA (to become archivist at the American Medical Association), she then became Regent for Exam Development from 1996 to 1998. Somehow in 1997 she found time to found the archives consulting firm Kenamore & Klinkow. She was elected to Council for the Society of American Archivists in 1999 and remained active in the Society of American Archivists; she was selected as a fellow in 2007. She is still sponsoring an SAA workshop on *Becoming an Archives Consultant*. Meanwhile she maintained her interest in ACA, presenting an ACA session at New Orleans in 2005 and volunteering to be a member of the Exam Development Committee from 2008-2010. Jane was also an ex-officio member of the Role Delineation Committee when it was revised in 2014.

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## Nominations, *(continued from page 6)*

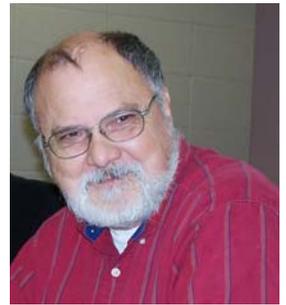
classes ahead of time instead of waiting until a person applies to take the exam.

- I spent time speaking with the COSA Board and with various state archivists about the importance of ACA and how ACA can improve the quality of their archivists.
- I advanced ACA's Role Delineation Statement through SAA's standards process. SAA's Standards Committee is currently reviewing the proposal. If approved, SAA would recognize the RDS as an archival standard.
- We created a taskforce to consider areas that are on the boundaries of the profession and if ACA should accept work or education in these areas for certification. For example, how much credit should one get for taking a class in metadata? Does a job working as a "Digital Humanities Librarian" count for recertification? These are the kinds of questions that the taskforce will consider.

I think that ACA has accomplished a considerable amount in the last year. I thank you for my term as ACA President.

## In Memoriam Dr. Ian Bruce Turner

Submitted by Lee Miller, CA



Dr. Ian Bruce Turner, CA, age 70, passed away August 9, 2016. Dr. Turner was a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists' Class of 1989, the initial group of archivists to be certified by the association.

Since 1983, Dr. Turner had been Associate Professor of Library Sciences and Head of Archives and Special Collections at the Edith Garland Dupré Library, University of Louisiana at Lafayette. During his 33 years at ULL, he obtained to the rank of Professor, published over 26 articles in six different journals, curated 30 exhibits, wrote multiple grants, and participated in numerous committees. From 1998-2001, he was the recipient of the Friends of the Edith Garland Dupré Library Board of Regents Support Fund Professorship.

Besides being a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists for over 25 years, Dr. Turner was an active member of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association and the Society of Southwest Archivists, serving over the years as president, president-elect, vice president, and board and committee member for both organizations. He also chaired multiple committees for the Society of American Archivists and the Louisiana Historical Association.

Please send any comments, ideas, or suggestions about *ACA News* to:

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