

**SOURCE: Student Organization for Unique and Rare Collections Everywhere**

Society of American Archivists Student Chapter

Agenda for September 10, 2024, 6 pm Meeting

Contacts: [rutgers.source@gmail.com](mailto:rutgers.source@gmail.com)

Hilde Creager, President

Gail Lordi, Vice President

Jayashree Vangala, Secretary

Advisor: Marija Dalbello ([dalbello@comminfo.rutgers.edu](mailto:dalbello@comminfo.rutgers.edu))

*Attendance: 12 approx.*

*Christian Ryder*

*Mitali Tase*

*Jillie Fisch*

*Connor Mignano*

*Amaobi Otiji*

*Shelby Mainiero*

*Sydni Palmer*

*Jquinn*

Hilde Creager

Gail Lordi

Marija Dalbello

John Zarrillo

Website: <https://sites.comminfo.rutgers.edu/source/>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/94605619305?pwd=cBslz4eJwJqTonLpupzzs00uDZwbT9.1>

Meeting ID: 946 0561 9305

Password: 302258

**SOURCE Fall 2024 Calendar:**

- October 8th, Local History Archives in Municipal Libraries with John Beekman (Jersey City Free Public Library) and Jacqueline Silver-Morillo (Atlantic City Free Public Library AC Heritage Collections)
- November 12th, Event #3 TBD
- December 10th, Elections + Semester Wrap-up

**Introduction**

- Today, we have the pleasure of speaking with John Zarrillo, the Head of Archival Processing at Georgetown University. A proud Rutgers University alumnus, John

holds both an MLIS in Library and Information Studies and a BA in History from Rutgers. With over a decade of experience in archival and library settings, John has held key roles at prestigious institutions, including New York University, the Brooklyn Historical Society, and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. He brings a wealth of knowledge in managing archival processes, overseeing large-scale projects, and mentoring the next generation of professionals.

- John's active involvement in professional organizations such as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) and the Society of American Archivists, along with his work as a mentor for the ARL/SAA Mosaic Fellowship, reflects his deep commitment to supporting and developing archival professionals. We are excited to dive into his insights on mentoring, leadership, and the evolution of the MARAC Mentoring Program.
- <https://www.marac.info/mentoring-program>
- *(provided by John in chat)*

## Discussion

- Can you explain how the team-based mentoring and peer cohort models work within the MARAC Mentoring Program? What are the benefits of aligning cohorts by subject, technical area, or professional status?
  - *modeled after program that new england archivist society created*
  - *group model is an opportunity for archivists at the same state of career to have a forum/open discussion adds more perspectives and ideas, formal time and place to discuss shared challenges and commonalities*
- How has your experience, both as a mentor and a mentee, influenced your approach to leading this program?
  - *was never a mentee, wishes that the program had existed in grad school and as a recent graduate*
  - *"lone ranger" term for an archivist who works alone in their organization, common in smaller institutions and often is a difficult experience (especially as a new archivist learning to advocate for themselves and their collection)*
- The program has evolved to include both mentor-mentee and peer cohorts. How did this evolution come about, and what improvements have you observed?
  - *mentors often saw more value in the peer cohorts rather than singling out relationships in a traditional 1:1 dynamic*
  - *more benefits in grouping by career stages, and by self-identification*
- What role do liaisons play in helping cohorts meet their goals, and how do they support the groups throughout the mentoring cycle?
  - *liaisons get the group started, review guidelines, set goals in initial meeting, helps to schedule meeting times*
  - *as program goes on, checks in every two months*
  - *surveys at midpoint and endpoint*
  - *serve as a neutral party in case of conflicts*
- What strategies do you use to match mentors with cohorts or peer groups, ensuring relevance and support for career development and confidence-building?
  - *early career, mid career, late career*
- What unique considerations go into forming BIPOC cohorts, and how have these groups impacted participants within the program?
  - *outreach, issue inherent to the profession, want to work to make it a bigger part of the program but is a challenge*

- *MARAC is a smaller community, may not be “best equipped”, SAA may be a better option*
- What challenges have you encountered in managing these mentoring and peer cohort models, and how have you adapted the program to address them?
- *creation of mentoring group itself into a peer mentoring program, addressed need of members*
- *commitment at first meeting, creating a clear unified goal for the cycle*
- *limited size of groups to 5 approx, dependant on amount of mentor/mentees*
- Looking ahead, how do you see the mentor-mentee and peer cohort structures evolving further to meet the changing needs of professionals?
- *finding more diversity in specialties and identities*

## **MARAC Event Announcements**

Fall 2024 Virtual Conference (<https://www.marac.info/fall-2024-conference>)  
 Renaissance & Renewal  
 November 13-15, 2024  
<https://www.marac.info/fall-2024-conference>

Upcoming Events (<https://www.marac.info/webinars-and-workshops>)

Title: Caucus Conversations: Moving Your Collections  
 Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2024  
 Time: 12-1 PM EDT  
 Cost: Free (maximum attendance is 100)  
 Venue: MARAC Zoom

Title: Conscious Communication within the LGBTQ plus Community  
 Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024  
 Time: 1:00-2:30 pm EDT  
 Where: Virtual (MARAC Zoom)  
 Instructor: Professor Kiki Wilson, Fortis Institute online  
 Cost: \$10  
 Registration Limit: 50