

**Student Organization for Unique and Rare Collections Everywhere (SOURCE)**

Society of American Archivists (SAA) Student Chapter

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

School of Communication and Information  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
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August 2024-May 2025 Annual Report  
Prepared by Hilde Creager and Kelan Amme

**Executive Board Members 2024-2025:**

Fall 2024	Spring 2025
Hilde Creager - President jmc943@scarletmail.rutgers.edu	Hilde Creager - President jmc943@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
Gail Lordi - Vice President gml140@scarletmail.rutgers.edu	Kelan Amme - Vice President kca66@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
Christian Ryder - Secretary ccr79@scarletmail.rutgers.edu	Christian Ryder - Secretary ccr79@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
Jayashree - Web Master jayashree.vangala@rutgers.edu	Jillie Fisch - Web Master jfl267@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
<b>Faculty Advisor:</b> Dr. Marija Dalbello - Professor, <a href="mailto:dalbello@comminfo.rutgers.edu">dalbello@comminfo.rutgers.edu</a>	

**Active Members/Participants:**

First Name	Last Name
Christian	Ryder
Mitale	Tase
Jillie	Fisch
Connor	Mignano
Hilde	Creager
Kelan	Amme
Amaobi	Otji
Shelby	Mainiero
Sydni	Palmer
J	Quinn
Gail	Lordi
Laura	Melbourne
Mikaela	Meza
Tom	Acs
Emma	Balkoski
Gabrielle	Ignotis
Edward	Robinson
Michael	Tashbrook
Katie	Leffer
Amy	Reich
Adrianna	Bugliarello-Wondrich

Maura	Kelly
Ashli	Aaron
Shayna	Vozniak
Tiff	Fang
Hannah	Lee
Kayla	Ponturo
Mariam	Ata
Layla	Louque
Alexa	Parkinson

### **Announcement Structure and Communication**

SOURCE primarily announces programming via PaperPeople and LISSA listservs. Rutgers community members subscribe to the listservs, mostly those in the MI program and in the archives or library science concentration. We frequently use Twitter and Facebook for announcements through social media, and information is provided on our website. MI students have become increasingly active on a student-led Rutgers Discord server, and we have begun to informally announce and communicate through Discord when appropriate. Videos created by SOURCE are posted to our website and YouTube account.

- SOURCE website
  - <https://sites.comminfo.rutgers.edu/source/>
- PaperPeople (SOURCE) listserv:
  - [https://email.rutgers.edu/mailman/listinfo/comminfo\\_paperpeople](https://email.rutgers.edu/mailman/listinfo/comminfo_paperpeople)
- LISSA (Rutgers Library and Information Science Student Association) listserv:
  - [https://email.rutgers.edu/mailman/listinfo/comminfo\\_lissa](https://email.rutgers.edu/mailman/listinfo/comminfo_lissa)
- SOURCE Twitter
  - [https://twitter.com/Rutgers\\_SOURCE](https://twitter.com/Rutgers_SOURCE)
- SOURCE YouTube page:
  - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyd-A6tr65uS\\_fjh-2uT6tA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyd-A6tr65uS_fjh-2uT6tA)
- SOURCE Facebook page:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/157111021017849/>

### **Chapter Activities Summary, Fall 2024-Spring 2025**

#### **Fall 2024**

During the fall semester, we welcomed Hilde Creager as our new President, Gail Lordi as Vice President and Jayashree Vangala as Webmaster. We continued virtual monthly meetings on second Tuesdays. Details regarding events which took place from month to month are included below.

#### **September 2024**

13 September (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): Our first event of the fall semester was a discussion with John Zarillo who serves on the Mentoring Subcommittee of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (he is also Head of Archival Processing at Georgetown University). John joined us to discuss MARAC's Mentoring Program, which connects cohorts of mentor and mentee archivists to develop their archival careers and participate in monthly discussions.

## **October 2024**

08 October (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): Our second event was a discussion on local history departments within public libraries. Our guest speakers were:

John Beekman, Chief Librarian of Jersey City Free Public Library and Reference Librarian of the New Jersey Room.

Vanessa Castaldo, Archivist at the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at Newark Public Library.

Jacqueline Silver-Morillo at the Atlantic City Heritage Collections at Atlantic City Free Public Library.

## **November 2024**

12 November (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): We welcomed back Alisa Kraut, former SOURCE President and current Artifact Registrar of the Atwater Kent Collection at Drexel University, to teach a workshop titled "Crash Course in Historic Handwriting (for archival transcription)." The presentation included tips on how to decipher handwriting, using image editing to make digitized images more readable, and resources on how to participate in crowd transcription and build script reading comprehension.

## **December 2024**

10 December (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): SOURCE held our final monthly meeting of the semester. We conducted elections. Hilde Creager was elected President. Kelan Amme elected VP. Christian Ryder re-elected Secretary. Jillie Fisch elected Webmaster.

## **Spring 2025**

### **January 2025**

The newly elected board met privately on January 14 to review our responsibilities and beginning planning this semester's events. To resolve scheduling conflicts, we moved monthly meetings to Tuesdays at 7 pm.

### **February 2025**

February 11 (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): We held a conversation with librarians and archivists at visual art museums. Our first speaker was Jared Ash, Florence and Herbert Irving Museum Librarian at the Thomas J. Watson Library at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. We were also joined by William A.

Peniston, Emeritus Librarian and Archivist at the Newark Museum of Art. Our guests spoke about how the special collections at their museum serve the research needs of their staff and the general public and present images from their collections.

## **March 2025**

11 March (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): Kelan organized this event featuring presenters from his alma mater. Faculty and students of Messiah University reflected on the processes of creating a series of collaborative historical projects about the Pennsylvania Capital Region over the last fifteen years. The session highlighted how digital public projects can bring together students, scholars, and community members to cocreate collections that preserve local knowledge.

The presenters explored digital mapping, metadata creation, public exhibitions, intercultural histories, and mobile apps that bridge academic research and community engagement while fostering meaningful learning experiences.

25 March (Virtual -Monthly Meeting): Our second event of the month was a SAA orientation event with Lexy de Graffenreid, Co-Chair of the Society of American Archivists Membership Committee. This was a great opportunity for potential SAA new members to learn about the benefits, which include participation in SAA Sections and in the Mentorship Program. Lexy also spoke about the governance structure of SAA and how members can get involved. To organize this event we reached out to the SAA Membership Committee.

## **April 2025**

8 April (Virtual - Monthly Meeting): Continuing this semester's theme of intersections of GLAM professions, we were joined by two speakers who are librarians working with visual art collections. Our first speaker was Molly Dotson, Graphics Arts Librarian at Firestone Library, Department of Special Collections at Princeton University. We were also joined by Nilda Lopez, Head of Reader Services at the Morgan Library and Museum. We also held elections. Kelan Amme was elected President. Hilde Creager was elected this time as Vice President. Jillie Fisch was re-elected as Webmaster. Tallulah Pentecost was elected Secretary, replacing Christian Ryder.

## **Conclusions**

Our main challenges from 2024-2025:

- Maintaining consistent attendance due to the primary student audience being online/virtual within our program.
- We have channels that receive regular traffic from current and former students, but do not yield the same results.
- We receive better results when we communicate using some form of visual media and share information with other email listservs or contacts.