

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

Society of American Archivists (SAA) Student Chapter

<http://wp.comminfo.rutgers.edu/source/>

School of Communication and Information  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
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August 2016 - May 2017 Annual Report

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### **Chapter Activities Summary, Fall 2016 - Spring 2017**

Our chapter executives continued to engage throughout the summer leading into fall of 2016 in order to outline the goals and events of the semester to come. Through the fall and spring, our chapter held monthly student meetings to share opportunities and upcoming events with members within the surrounding community, as well as events which SOURCE was planning. In the fall we organized two tours to local archives, elected new executive board members, and helped to organize a SOURCE 15th anniversary celebration and mingle event with the Rutgers School of Communication and Information (SC&I). Throughout the year we maintained our student chapter website, Facebook and Twitter accounts to promote events to students and alumni while also increasing our chapter members significantly.

More Details regarding events which took place from month to month are included below:

#### **August 2016**

Along with the other student groups from the Rutgers School of Communication and Information (SC&I), our chapter participated in incoming student orientation events, speaking about the chapter, recruiting members, and getting to know new students.

#### **October 2016**

The first student meeting was held on October 6, 2016. At this meeting we welcomed students to a new and exciting semester. We recapped where the organization concluded in May of 2016 and informed members of our official approval as an SAA sponsored student organization. The new archives concentration implemented at Rutgers was discussed by Dr. Marija Dalbello, faculty advisor of SOURCE and head of the Archives and Preservation concentration committee. Events and focuses of SOURCE for the fall semester were discussed and feedback and requests were taken by members.

The second student meeting of the year was held on October 27, 2016. In this meeting more information was shared regarding the Archives and Preservation concentration which was implemented at Rutgers in Fall 2016. Courses, professors, and benefits to “archives students” were discussed at depth. Additionally, recaps of the SOURCE trip to the the Princeton Theological Seminary were discussed and shared with members of the organization who were unable to attend.

The call for leadership roles was made to members of the organization as some executive board members graduated in January 2017. Roles and responsibilities were discussed and formal nominations were sent via email at the conclusion of the meeting.

Opportunities outside of Rutgers and SOURCE were discussed such as events happening in the local area relating to archives, professional organizations such as SAA, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC), and Archivists Being Awesome. Volunteer Opportunities at Trenton Free Public Library and Moravian Archives were also presented to members.

### **November 2016**

Within November, the third meeting of SOURCE was held. At this meeting old news was discussed. The MARAC Fall conference was discussed by a member of the organization who attended. Results of the SOURCE election were shared and new executive board members were notified of the positions. Lauren Bell was elected President and Alexandra Plante as Vice President, while Katrina Schroeder maintained her role as Secretary.

Events which members attend in their free time were discussed at length including the MARAC Fall conference in Annapolis, Maryland and a book preservation workshop offered at Plainfield Public Library.

Upcoming events were discussed including an upcoming trip to the Interference Archive in December and the opportunity to host a 15th anniversary celebration in conjunction with the SC&I Mingle event occurring in December.

### **December 2016**

In December, students took a trip to the Interference Archives in Brooklyn, New York to learn about their volunteer process and activism within the community.

SC&I held a mingle for undergraduate and graduate students with alumni in which we celebrated the 15th anniversary of SOURCE. SOURCE members were in attendance to promote the organization and new archival concentration under the Master of Information degree. Photo boards were made and presented to show the activities and members of the past 15 years.

### **January 2017**

The first meeting of the Spring 2017 semester was held on January 31, 2017. Officers took suggestions for future programming and trips. Members also discussed the possibility of having a Certified Archivist speak to the organization during the semester.

### **February 2017**

SOURCE implemented a new program beginning on February 20, 2017, Virtual Archive Chats. The first chat was hosted with Lauren Bell as the moderator and Michelle Ganz, Archives Director for McDonough Innovations. Michelle discussed various facets about being an archivist, archival certification, and questions about the field from students. The chats are recorded and can be viewed on the SOURCE website: <http://wp.comminfo.rutgers.edu/source/digital-archive/archive-chats/>

The second meeting of the semester was held on February 28, 2017. A call to attend the Spring 2017 MARAC meeting was made as the meeting was held in Newark, NJ and Rutgers iSchool played a

large role in the conference preparation. The SC&I career fair was also discussed, as well as a plan to have a certified archivist speak to the group in March.

### **March 2017**

On March 20 Lauren Bell and Katrina Schroeder attended the SC&I Career Expo where they represented SOURCE among other student organizations and institutions in the field of library and information science. Lauren Bell presented a conceptual archival art activity for students in the form of Open Access Origami: <http://wp.comminfo.rutgers.edu/source/digital-archive/open-access-origami/>

A combined SOURCE meeting and chat with a certified archivist took place on March 28. Adriana Cuervo, Associate Director of the Institute of Jazz Studies - Rutgers Newark, came to speak with students about the benefits and process of becoming a certified archivist (CA), including test prep, test procedure, and maintenance of CA status.

### **April 2017**

On April 4, SOURCE hosted a virtual archives chat with Alison Stankrauff, archivist at Indiana University South Bend. Alison discussed what it was like working with history students in the archive to conduct primary research.

Archives and Preservation students attended the spring MARAC conference April 20-22, 2017 in Newark, New Jersey. SOURCE was represented at the Rutgers iSchool booth with Open Access Origami. Lauren Bell wrote a guest blog post about her experience on the SAA Students and New Archives Professionals (SNAP) Section Roundtable blog: <https://snaproundtable.wordpress.com/2017/05/08/attending-marac-as-a-student-first-time-conference-attendance/>

On April 25, SOURCE hosted the final virtual archives chat of the semester with Graham Patten, Assistant Book Conservator at the Northeast Document Conservation Center. Graham discussed conservation practices and also showed students examples of his own book art. He discussed the convergence of the two in his daily practice, and also talked about the difference between conservation, preservation, and restoration.

The last meeting of the semester was held on April 25. Officers planned for the fall semester and brainstormed trip and programming ideas for the upcoming year. Students discussed their summer internships and gained knowledge for extra-curricular learning opportunities such as Rare Book School and Digital Humanities Summer Institute from Dr. Marija Dalbello. All officers maintained their status and no new officers were elected. Lauren Bell took on the role of webmaster throughout the semester.

### **May 2017**

SOURCE received positive feedback at SC&I Honors Day on May 5, 2017 where Lauren Bell received an award for Outstanding Service to the Master of Information program for her work as SOURCE president and implementation of new programming for the organization.

### **Looking to the future**

Two graduates of the Master of Information (MI)/MLIS program (M. Momeni and D. Floegel) will be presenting their work at the annual SAA meeting this July. We also look to continue to build a network of contacts to hold virtual archive chats in the Fall 2017 semester.