

NMLA Archives and Archivists SIG

February 15, 2022

Since receiving formal recognition in March 2021 as a Special Interest Group (SIG) within NMLA, the group began meeting through Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. Starting with the December 11, 2021 meeting the group decided to transition to meetings every other month. During this reporting period the group has accomplished the following tasks:

- Confirmed Dylan McDonald (NMSU-Archives and Special Collections) and Jonathan Pringle (UNM-Health Sciences Library) as co-chairs.
- Instituted the group as a “Community of Practice,” as exemplified in the following statement: The New Mexico Archives and Archivists SIG aspires to be a Community of Practice: one that “grows out of a need for connecting with other people who share the same issues, learning environment, and/or passion.” Our community is built on a foundation of trust, respect, optimism, and intentionality. Please exercise these core tenets with other members in all interactions, whether virtual or in real life. [see Loa, Berlin, and Kruger, Pamela Nett (2021) “Community of Practice at the California State University Special Collections and University Archives,” *Journal of Western Archives* 12: Iss.1, Article 1.]
- Established a University of New Mexico listserv for anyone engaged in archival work who wishes to subscribe. The New Mexico Archivists’ list, ARCHIVES-L@LIST.UNM.EDU, has over 60 subscribers to date. The listserv allows members to seek advice; post announcements and job listings; solicit reviews of products and vendors; develop collaborative projects; support planning for American Archives Month events; COVID-19 best practices; discuss trends in archival/library/museum work; and update members on SIG meetings, minutes, and activities.
- During the NMLA Conference in October, the SIG:
 - Sponsored the session “Demystifying Archives: A Guide for Non-Archivists,” which was presented by five members of the SIG.
 - Worked with Sarah Kostelecky and Jennifer Laws, co-chairs of the Digital Collections SIG, to hold a joint SIG meeting and discuss the status of New Mexico digital projects. Invited Pamela Vadakan, director of California Revealed, to discuss building statewide digital projects.
- Begun work on the following projects:
 - Development of a land acknowledgement statement for the SIG and guidelines for using the statement.
 - Updating and expanding [HINTS](#), the Directory of Historical Records Repositories, a listing of statewide institutions that hold archival records. The list, created through grant-funding by the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board, is in need of review and being brought up-to-date.
 - Supported dissemination of information regarding the transition of New Mexico digital finding aids from the Rocky Mountain Online Archive (RMOA) to New Mexico Archives Online (NMAO), and requisite ArchivesSpace training.

Respectfully submitted,

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