

SPA ica

section of professional associations
international council on archives

section des associations professionnelles
conseil International des archives

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Welcome to this edition of the *SPA Newsletter*. The purpose of the *Newsletter* is to keep SPA members up-to-date with news on Section activities and projects and to strengthen international cooperation and collaboration between professional records management and archival associations.

Word of the SPA President

A Changing profession

In the beginning of the nineties the job of an archivist or records manager was well defined. She or he worked with paper documents stored in a repository. In those days books and documents, especially parchment deeds, radiated peace and tranquility to me. So it would remain, it seemed. I did not worry too much about documents produced by computers.

But the world changed rapidly. By 2000 at conferences I listened to lectures about digital records, and I was impressed by experts like Charles Dollar. Although: in the archives at home I only worked with paper records and everything was business as usual. Fifteen years later the business we are in has completely changed. In 1956 Theodore Schellenberg could write in *Appraisal of modern public records* that punch cards don't have enduring value, because to use them "expensive mechanical and electronic equipment" was needed and all colleagues agreed with him. Today our world depends on electronic equipment and we are part of it. Many governments don't produce paper records anymore, they ask our guidance for the sustainable management of digital records and the first digital governmental records are transferred to our repositories. Knowledge of the OAIS reference model is becoming a must for records managers and archivists, we discuss big data and we get used to work in teams with information technologists. On the other hand, still many archivists among us are working (exclusively) with paper records. So what we see is not only a change but also a diversification of our profession and that is a challenge!

It is important and necessary to discuss among ourselves this changing nature of the profession. A good opportunity to exchange views is the ICA Quadrennial Conference in Seoul, which will take place from 5 to 10 September 2016. One of the themes is: "the changing nature of recordkeeping in the digital age." I hope to meet many of you in Korea.

Fred van Kan
President of ICA SPA

SPA meetings

Warsaw

The SPA Bureau met in Warsaw, Poland on May 19-20, 2015 to plan the 2015 -2016 SPA activities. We thank the Association of Polish Archivists (Stowarzyszenie Archiwistów Polskich also known as SAP) and Piotr Zawilski, the SAP delegate on the SPA Bureau, for the invitation to hold this SPA Bureau meeting in Warsaw.

SAP is Poland's largest archival association with 1,800 members and offers archives services, similar to those offered by commercial operators. The first visit was to the newest SAP building located in the Polish countryside. The building holds 60 linear kilometers of records and has space for 40 additional kilometers. SAP manages three similar repositories scattered throughout Poland, as well as a Secretariat in the center of Warsaw. The organization was, until a few years ago, the main expert on archives. Now SAP is challenged by a market of new vendors within the archival field, offering training, consulting and depository services.

The SPA Bureau also visited the State Archives in Radom, a few hours outside the capital. The General Director in Radom is Kazimierz Jaroszek who is also the chairman of SAP. The State Archives in Radom is the first Polish facility intended from the beginning of its construction to become an archival repository. It opened in 2013. The National Archives in Poland consists of three central offices and the SPA Bureau was invited to visit in Warsaw two of them, the Modern Archives and the Digital Archives, where analog material was digitized. The SPA Bureau was also invited to visit the Department of Archival studies at the University of Warsaw. We were greeted by Professor Alicja Kulecka and three of her master's degree students and we had an interesting conversation on archival experiences and practices in various countries.

Archives in the Social Environment of the 21st Century

The SPA Bureau was also invited to attend in Warsaw the Polish conference entitled *Archives in the Social Environment of the 21th century*. It was the 15th annual conference for archivists from Eastern and Central Europe. The highlights included the presentation by Jussi Nuorteva, National Archivist of Finland, on minorities in the archives, and the presentation by Dagmar Hovestadt from the Stasi Archives in Germany who explained how the Stasi Archives are the result of the people's desire to reclaim control the state had over their lives and data.

Reykjavik

The SPA held a Bureau meeting as well as an Annual Meeting in Reykjavik on September 27, 2015 during the ICA Annual Conference. Plans were made to host a movie festival on archives and records management during the ICA Congress in Seoul 2016. Vilde Ronge, Bernhard Post and Joan Soler Jiménez defined criteria for the awards as well as rules for submission.



Bureau of the Section of Professional Associations, Reykjavik meeting, September 27, 2015

SPA 2016 Film Festival

The International Council on Archives (ICA), Section of Professional Associations (SPA) is proud to announce that during the 2016 ICA Congress in Seoul, Korea next September, it will host a *Film Festival on Archives and Records Management*.

SPA appreciates the help from Norwegian Society of Records Managers and Archivists (Norsk Arkivråd) with all practical issues regarding the entry of films. Films in a language other than English or French must be submitted with English or French subtitles. It is possible to add subtitles by yourself on YouTube. Just enter the *YouTube Help Center* and you will be guided on how.

In order to have a film festival, we are of course in need of good content, the best in fact! And that is up to all you wonderful people out there in all the corners of the world. Send us your films on archives and/or records management! We're aiming for a festival filled with inspiration, enthusiasm and love for our profession!

Has your employer produced a film to communicate the value of records and archives? We all know what an important role archivists and records managers play in our society, but we need to tell the rest of the world. SPA has advocacy high up on our 'to do' list and film is a powerful way to reach stakeholders, gain attention and bring understanding. Let's take part in each other's successes, learn and be inspired!

We will show the best films during the festival and of course there will be awards!

Rules for participation

Content: Any short film made to promote archives and/or records management, either as a whole or specific parts of the discipline qualifies for this festival. The films can portray archives and records management as the asset they are to society, to citizens, researchers or internal to one particular organization, to mention some examples. They can show what role archives play in a democracy. They can demonstrate the importance of managing the life cycle of records in our digital age. They can describe technical challenges or promote usage of records. All in all: anything that successfully tells the story of how important and relevant archives and records management are to all countries, organizations and citizens!

Running time: Not more than 10 minutes

Who can enter: Anyone can enter, but you need to be the maker of the film or have permission to enter the film on behalf of the maker.

Submission deadline: March 1, 2016

How to enter: You need to fill out the entry form available on the link (see below). Please note that all films have to be uploaded and available to all on YouTube or other internet-accessible site. The URL link to your film has to be included in the entry form. Unfortunately we are unable to accept entries via email or regular mail due to capacity and voting procedures.

Selection: The jury will select the best three films in each category (shown below). The awards will be announced and all nine nominated films shown at the festival. The winning films will be posted on the ICA/SPA website after the ICA Congress.

Award 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 or Records Management.

People's Award. The selection of films to vote on will be all films that are chosen to be part of the festival. Details on how to vote will follow.

Language: Films in a language other than English or French must be submitted with English or French subtitles. It is possible to add subtitles by yourself on YouTube. Just enter the *YouTube Help Center* and you will be guided on how (for example : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ml1VJs5MmoY>).

Judging: The SPA bureau is the jury.

The entry form is available from this link:

<http://www.arkivrad.no/the-spa-film-festival-on-archives-and-records-management>

News from SPA members

Association des archivistes du Québec (AAQ)

The launch of "Canada's archives – A new Blueprint" / "Les archives au Canada – Un nouveau plan directeur" was held in Ottawa on November 13, 2015. The event, which welcomed over 90 participants in Ottawa, yielded a series of priorities and examples of projects that could be leveraged to help advance a strategy for the Canadian archival community. This strategy will span a period of 10 years, from 2016–2026. For more information:

http://archivists.ca/sites/default/files/Attachments/Communications_attachments/Bulletin/en_canadas-archives.pdf

The AAQ will hold on June 13-15, 2016 its 45th Congress in Quebec City. The theme is "Consommer l'information; de la gestion à la médiation documentaire". For more information:

<http://www.archivistes.qc.ca/congres/congres-2016>

Association des archivistes français

The 2016 Tri-annual Forum will take place in Troyes from March 30 to April 1, 2016. The theme is "*Méta/morphoses. Les archives, bouillons de culture numérique*". The association will host the SPA Bureau during the Forum. For more information: <http://forum2016.archivistes.org/>

Association of Chilean Archivists

The 7th Latin American Meeting of Librarians, Archivists and Curators took place in Valparaiso, Chile, from 28 to 30 September 2015. It was co-organized by the Association of Chilean Archivists and the University of Playa Ancha and attended by about 350 attendees from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay in addition to Chile. The central theme was "*Libraries, Archives and Museums in Latin America: Intercultural Communication and Social Inclusion*".

The 11th archival congress of MERCOSUR took place in Sao Paulo, Brazil, from 19 to 22 October 2015,

organized by the Association of Archivists of Sao Paulo. The central theme of the congress was "*Files, between tradition and modernity*". The inaugural lecture was given by Manuel Romero Tallafigo (Spain).

Association of Polish Archivists

The Congress of the Delegates of the Association of Polish Archivists in Warsaw took place on September 17-18, 2015 and was dedicated to its golden jubilee. It is both the oldest and the largest organization of archivists in Poland. On the first day of the Congress several members of the Association were awarded state, departmental and local decorations. On the second day a special conference took place with, inter alia, the participation of the General Director of State Archives in Poland - Władysław Stępnik.

Royal association of Dutch archivists

The Dutch association KVAN will celebrate its 125th anniversary with a conference from 15 to 17 June 2016 in Haarlem, The Netherlands. The theme is: *The Future of our profession*. Speakers from The Netherlands and the international archival community will discuss our changing profession based on the core values of the code of ethics for archivists. Languages will include English and Dutch.

Haarlem is the city where the Royal Society of Archivists in the Netherlands was founded in 1891.



Conference venue in Haarlem

At the conference, renowned and inspiring speakers from the Netherlands and abroad will share their views on the profession. Using the core values stated in the code of ethics, they will discuss how professional practice is changing, and what the future may look like for the field and its professionals. They will address themes such as integrity, authenticity, accessibility, accountability, service, privacy, selection & assessment, professionalism, and cooperation.

Please submit your proposal by 15 February 2016 by sending it to bureau@kvan.nl, mentioning "Call for papers Jubilee Conference". More information available on this website: <http://www.kvandagen.nl> and via the Twitter stream of @KVANDagen.

Society of American Archivists

In 2011 the Council of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) approved the formation of a subcommittee to create a Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) certificate program. This decision was in response to the recommendations of SAA's Digital Archives Continuing Education task force, a task force convened to examine the issue of how to best support the needs of the profession with respect to digital archives education. The DAS curriculum is structured in the following four tiers of study that help archivists choose courses based on their specific knowledge, training and needs: Foundational courses, tactical and strategic courses, tools and services courses and transformational courses.

The demand for this certificate program has far exceeded expectations. In just three years there have been more than one thousand participants in the DAS program. Nearly two hundred of them have already earned their certificates. Preliminary participant data reveal that more than 70 percent feel the DAS program has had an impact on their career and they feel more confident in their knowledge of digital archives issues and management. For more information on DAS: <http://archivists.org/prof-education/das>

Next SPA meetings

The SPA Bureau will meet at the end of March-early April 2016 in Troyes, France, to plan activities taking place in 2016-2017. The SPA Bureau has been invited by the Association des archivistes français to attend the French national Forum in Troyes from March 30 to April 1, 2016.

The SPA 2016 Annual Meeting will take place in September 2016 during the ICA 2016 Congress to take place in Seoul, Korea. The Congress theme is *Archives, Harmony and Friendship*. For more information: <http://www.ica2016.com/eng/index.do>

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