



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES
SECTION FOR PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

NEWSLETTER
September 2007

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the ICA Section for Professional Associations (SPA). The SPA Steering Committee plans to publish this e-newsletter bi-annually to keep members up-to-date with projects and other activities.

International Congress for Archivists and Professional Associations

The State Archives Office of the Spanish Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the SPA and the Coordinating Agency for Spanish Archival Associations will be holding an International Congress for Professional Associations entitled 'Archivists in Associations: Challenges and Opportunities'. The Congress will take place in Madrid from 18-20 October 2007 and will focus on 4 themes – The Role of the Archival Association in Society; Outreach and Archival Associations; Associations and Competencies: Training and Certification and The Future of the Professional Association.

For further information and details on how to register see
http://www.mcu.es/archivos/CE/Congreso_Int_Asofia_Profesion.html

Registration closes on 8 October.

Archival Solidarity Project

The Archival Solidarity is a SPA project, led by Nancy Marrelli from Concordia University, which aims to coordinating efforts of the international community to carry out foreign assistance projects to help developing archival communities in crisis. Its objectives are to:

- Share information about international projects for development and cooperation.
- Facilitate international projects for development and cooperation by –
 - working with partners to share professional information
 - sending experts to provide training and education
 - providing expertise and/or materials to carry out archival projects.

A website for the project was launched on 14 December 2006, hosted by Concordia University. The site is located at <http://archives3.concordia.ca/Solidarity/default.html>

The Project is currently working on developing a database on funding sources available throughout the world.

Review of ICA Code of Ethics

The ICA Code of Ethics, developed by SPA, was adopted at the Beijing Congress in 1996. It has been translated into twenty languages and is available on the ICA website at <http://www.ica.org/en/node/37328>.

In 2004 SPA established a Working Group to gather and disseminate information on problems and questions relating to the ethical concerns of the profession and about the adoption and use of the ICA Code of Ethics. Members of the Working Group are Margaret Turner, Karen Benedict and Yvonne Bos-Rops.

Work was carried out last year by the Working Group to develop and distribute a questionnaire seeking information about cases involving ethical dilemmas; about the use of the ICA Code of Ethics, and details of local legislation covering freedom of information, protection of data privacy and the treatment of whistleblowers and the effect of these issues on the archival/records management profession.

The Group met in Paris in July and decided to simplify the questionnaire which will be distributed shortly. It would be appreciated if associations could encourage their members to respond to this important survey. Results will be presented at the Kuala Lumpur Congress next year.

New publications

The following new publications have been developed by the Steering Committee that will be available shortly on the SPA/ICA website:

- A summary of competencies, certification and accreditation programs currently operating throughout the world.
- Guidelines on developing an Advocacy and Promotion Strategy for Professional Associations. This paper compliments the strategies presented in the paper Lobbying and Public Campaigns for Professional Archival Associations released by SPA in 2000.

CITRA – Quebec 2007

The next CITRA will take place in Quebec City from the 9-17 November.

The SPA Delegates meeting will take place on Friday the 16th from 2 to 4 pm. The organizers are also arranging a meeting for Section Presidents on Wednesday the 14th from 2 to 5.30 pm. Further information will be available soon. Delegates are welcome to attend both events.

SPA webpages

<http://www.ica.org/en/node/50#>

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