

Event Name: SAA-UTK Academy of Certified Archivists event (PPQ598027)

Start Time:11/19/10 6:30 pm

File Saved by: Jennifer Randles

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[This session had severe audio difficulties from the presenter's side. It was decided that she would type into text chat, and participants could ask questions that way as well. This transcript starts around slide 25/26. ]

Michelle Ganz: Let's try scrolling through the slides and then you can ask questions on the chat

Jennifer Randles: sounds good to me

Michelle Ganz: the aca handbook is the #1 tool

Troy Valos: So if I have a MA in History and worked for 6 years in the Local History/Special Collections I can sit for the test??

Michelle Ganz: yes you probably can

Amanda Carter: How expensive is it to take and how much effort is it to keep updated?

Michelle Ganz: how expensive? it's about \$50

Amanda Carter: That's not even half of the GRE. That's great.

Troy Valos: I have a fellow worker who just sat and passed his recertification test

Jessica Liening: oh that's much less than I would have expected

Michelle Ganz: attending meetings, publishing and attending professional development

Michelle Ganz: you need 100 points

Michelle Ganz: 5 points for attending a meeting

Amanda Carter: annually?

Michelle Ganz: 10-15 for workshops, etc

Michelle Ganz: every 5 years

Amanda Carter: 100 points every 5 years? That's not so bad, either.

Jessica Liening: it's really not

Jessica Liening: that's encouraging :)

Amanda Carter: Is the MLIS/MIS/LIS degree required along with the exam?

Michelle Ganz: it is for options 1 and 2

Michelle Ganz: but can sit without (options 4 and 5)

Troy Valos: Is there technology component to the test? Like digitizing photos or Dublin Core....etc

Jennifer Randles: How has it contributed to your work in other ways besides being beneficial for job applications? Or is it mainly for proving that you know what you are doing?

Michelle Ganz: anything you do to recertify goes on your cv

Michelle Ganz: you should be addign things to your cvs now.

Michelle Ganz: you take your certifcation to administration to advocate for your archive once you enter the field

Michelle Ganz: technology is a componet

Jennifer Randles: another good reason to take it

Troy Valos: ok the basic stuff on tech?

Michelle Ganz: in terms of how tech effects archives

Troy Valos: oooo

Michelle Ganz: dublin core or marc is not usaaully part of the exam

Troy Valos: ooo that's good...!

Michelle Ganz: you don't need to be an 'expert'

Amanda Carter: I'm guessing DACS and EAD is, though?

Michelle Ganz: these not a lot of problem quesiton

Jennifer Randles: I have heard it is pretty hard, though.

Michelle Ganz: not a lot of problem a has solution b

Michelle Ganz: honestly it is difficult but only if your not prepared

Michelle Ganz: most people pass the 1st time

Jessica Liening: Are old exams ever made available? Or are there any sources for examples?

Michelle Ganz: some do have to take it more than once

Michelle Ganz: you need 76% to pass 91 believe)

Amanda Carter: I have been told by an archivist that it may not be necessary to take this exam if you have 2 graduate degrees (e.g. History & LIS). How do you see this?

Michelle Ganz: I've never heard that 2 degrees will get you the certification

Amanda Carter: Not necessarily the certification, but the job.

Jennifer Randles: I've been told that if you are far enough in your career, then you don't need it. so securely in a position, you don't need it.

Michelle Ganz: It will help you get the job, but not the aca certification

Amanda Carter: The certification certainly sounds cheaper and less work than a second graduate degree!

Jennifer Randles: yes

Troy Valos: Is the field pushing for a dual masters? MA History and LIS???

Michelle Ganz: in terms of keeping a job it may or may not make a difference, but more and more employers are asking you to get the certification after you get the job

Jessica Lienen: I really hope not :S

Jennifer Randles: I see some postings asking for dual degrees, not always history

Amanda Carter: Aren't all fields pushing for as many qualifications they can get?

Michelle Ganz: some jobs want multiple degrees, but not all

Michelle Ganz: dual degree in place of certification (in some cases\_

Jessica Lienen: I have been able to find plenty that do not, but it seems many of the more advanced positions want the dual masters'

Jennifer Randles: yes, esp in high prestige institutions

Jessica Lienen: right

Michelle Ganz: multiple degrees will help separate you from the rest of the applicants, but not always

Amanda Carter: Well, this certification certainly doesn't sound as frightening as I originally thought.

Michelle Ganz: if you want to teach you usually need multiple degrees

Jennifer Randles: no, even from the people I heard at SAA who have written questions for it. lol

Michelle Ganz: certificaion sounds worse than it is.

Amanda Carter: So I can get a job in a museum archives with an MIS and Archival certification?

Troy Valos: You should I think....

Michelle Ganz: you aboslutely can get a museum job with the MIS and cerificaion

Amanda Carter: Super awesome!

Michelle Ganz: the MIS and certificaion will get you in to most jobs including the corporate ones

Jennifer Randles: we like jobs

Michelle Ganz: indeed! :-)

Jessica Liening: we love jobs

Michelle Ganz: anythign that you can do to prove your qualifications in this job market is a big bonus

Amanda Carter: So our UTK program does not have a concentration in archives. We are only getting one class. But with experience in archives and maybe a practicum, would that count as option 1?

Jennifer Randles: and especially if you get a job where you are up for tenure, having to renew certification with publications and such will be good for tenure as well

Michelle Ganz: I can alwas come to you and we can discuss this face-to-face!

Jennifer Randles: that would be nice!

Troy Valos: Road trip!

Jennifer Randles: and we can broadcast from centra via school if we need to

Amanda Carter: Road trips are always fun.

Michelle Ganz: most library schools dont' have an archival track, so option 2 is your best bet

Jennifer Randles: can we please look at the options again?

Amanda Carter: So my experience in archives while I'm in school counts towards that 2 years, right?

Michelle Ganz: practicums, volunteering, internships, etc

Troy Valos: very nice....

Amanda Carter: You can download the agenda in a PDF. That's what I did.

Michelle Ganz: papers you write, presentations you give

Michelle Ganz: poster presentations are a great way to get experience

Amanda Carter: I don't know what a poster presentation is. I've heard of them but don't guess I understand the purpose.

Jennifer Randles: and the saa deadline is in January: still time to propose

Jennifer Randles: I'm putting in a poster proposal this year

Michelle Ganz: option 2 is the most common for those of us without archival tracks

Jennifer Randles: thank you!

Michelle Ganz: poster presentation is visual representation of work that you have done or a paper you wrote

Amanda Carter: Oh, okay. Thanks.

Jennifer Randles: you can definitely do it!

Michelle Ganz: you should check out MAC (midwestern archives conference) it's smaller and less expensive than the big saa meeting

Jennifer Randles: or our own STA society of tn archivists, we just had our annual meeting last week

Jennifer Randles: no posters, but attend

Jessica Liening: it's definitely the less stressful way of presenting- less focus on you individually

Michelle Ganz: even just attending is a great way to network and find opportunities

Amanda Carter: Cool. I hate that I missed that meeting last week, but this semester is about to be the death of me. Thank God it's about over.

Jennifer Randles: people stop by and ask you questions, it's relaxed

Michelle Ganz: saa roundtables will actually endorse posters and presentations which can help get you in

Jennifer Randles: here are the posters that got into SAA last year:

[http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/eventdetail.html?Action=Events\\_Detail&InvID\\_W=1524](http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/eventdetail.html?Action=Events_Detail&InvID_W=1524)

Michelle Ganz: thanks for the link. you should definitely take a look

Troy Valos: lol im a poor poor archivist....we have hard time buying the packets for negatives... hard getting to conferences

Michelle Ganz: students can get scholoships to most conferences

Amanda Carter: I saw one for the SAA conference but now I can't find the email.

Michelle Ganz: you also get discounts that th proffessionals don't.

Jennifer Randles: I just emailed one to saa members, the peterson one. you can find it on the saa website

Jennifer Randles: <http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-peterson>

Michelle Ganz: again, I apologize for the technical difficulties...

Amanda Carter: No problem!

Jennifer Randles: that's ok, this is very informative!

Michelle Ganz: does anyone else have any queisotns?

Jennifer Randles: none here

Amanda Carter: I think you have answered most of them.

Michelle Ganz: please email me with any queisotns and I will be happy to answer then or find soemone who can

Amanda Carter: Thank you SO MUCH for your time.

Jennifer Randles: yes, thank you!

Michelle Ganz: not a problem

Jessica Liening: Yes, thank you for pushing through the tech problems

Troy Valos: Yes Thank you very much!!

Michelle Ganz: let's try again after the new year!

Jennifer Randles: yes, plus I have some SAA swag (pencils, stickers, brochures) if you all want some. [Some of these will be in Dewey's Den in CCI.]

Amanda Carter: That would be awesome!

Jennifer Randles: let's do it!

Troy Valos: Cool!!

Jessica Liening: thank you thank you!

Michelle Ganz: great! I'm glad I can help!

Amanda Carter: You really did clear up so much!

Amanda Carter: It was great to meet you!

[end of session. powerpoint is available at SAA-UTK webpage: <http://www.sis.utk.edu/organizations/saa>