Creating Future Archivists...or Not! Lessons Learned from our Archival Internships

SCA 2019 AGM
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CCEPS: Where students engage with primary sources

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Special Collections
The Claremont Colleges Library
SCA 2019 AGM
Claremont Center for Engagement with Primary Sources

- 2013/2014
- In-depth learning experience
- Strategic projects for Special Collections
- UCLA’s Center for Primary Research and Training
- Vanderbilt University’s Jean and Alexander Heard Library Dean’s Fellows
Potential projects

- Work with rare print and digital collections
- Arrange and describe a collection
- Enhance accessibility
- Library and/or online exhibitions
- Digital projects
Students will develop proficiency in . . .

- Primary source research
- Outreach within and beyond TCC
- Metadata creation
- Archival standards and procedures
- Preservation techniques
- Web design
- Digitization standards and procedures
- Online curation of digital and print materials
Expectations of student

- Approximately 12-15 hours per week
- Collaborate on learning agreement
  - Project specifications
  - Learning outcomes
- Weekly written progress report
- Weekly blog entry
- Culminating activity
- Project completion
Program Challenges

- Collaboration / Partnerships!!!
- Funding
- Sustainability
- Assessment
For more information:

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Special Collections
The Claremont Colleges Library
https://library.claremont.edu/scl/

Claremont Center for Engagement with Primary Sources
https://library.claremont.edu/scl/cceps/

Out of the Box: Discoveries of CCEPS
http://blogs.libraries.claremont.edu/cceps/
Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT)

UCLA Library Special Collections

Courtney Dean
SCA AGM, S12
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Brazilian Literatura de Cordel, flier design by Jessica Tai
KryoFlux, the circuit board used to connect legacy floppy drives to workstations

UCLA University Archives films
The Basics
(aka FAQs)

- Pay is $19.54/hr.
- Students expected to work at least 12-15 hrs./wk. Cap is 19 hrs./wk.
- Projects range from 1 quarter to multiple quarters
- Between 6-14 students a quarter
- Required to submit weekly progress reports
- Projects are bounded and have concrete deliverables
- Expectation of engagement in outreach
The Future

- Outreach and engagement
- Experimentation
ACTIVATING THE ARCHIVE

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF CRAFTING USING MATERIALS REPRODUCED FROM UCLA LIBRARY’S COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES. COLLECTIONS THAT FOCUS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES, ACTIVIST GROUPS AND HUMAN RIGHTS WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED. CHANNEL YOUR CREATIVITY TO TELL THE WORLD WHAT’S IMPORTANT TO YOU!

Flier design by Jessica Tai
Challenges
(and opportunities)
Impact

Angela Davis, portrait, 1970, Los Angeles Times Photographic Archive (Collection 1429)
Questions?

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Center for Archival Research and Training (CART)

Alix Norton
CART Archivist

UC SANTA CRUZ
CART Fellowship - The basics

- Hire graduate students from various disciplines to assist in processing archival collections
  - Survey, rehouse/preserve, arrange, describe
- 4 or 5 students each year
- Each fellow works 100 paid hours in one academic quarter
  - (10 hours/week)
- Pay $18.11 per hour
- Fellows return to curate a physical exhibit of the collection, and create a digital project
Goals of CART

Fellows:
- Get paid work experience
- Learn archival procedures and standards
- Gain and improve archival research skills
- Improve writing skills for public audiences
- Curate an exhibit
- Explore digital humanities tools
- See alternative academic career options
- Meet and collaborate with fellows from other disciplines
Program Successes - What’s working?

- Competitive fellowship program; learn through word of mouth
- Increase familiarity with archives; gain and improve archival research skills
- Making partnerships on campus
- Shrinking backlog
- Getting more students involved (CART Commons)
- Fellows often return to department…
CART as an entry point

After CART, fellows have often returned to work on

- Oral history projects
- Helping us write grant applications
- Curating exhibits
- Processing
Challenges

Balance: number of fellows, number of hours

- Want to get more people involved
- Want to hire them for longer
- Want to pay more, as well as tuition/fees

Almost all CART fellows have a concurrent TAship
CART Commons

Open to all UCSC graduate students

Semi-monthly meetings

- Guest speakers (faculty, staff)
- Group discussions, informal presentations
- Hands-on time with collections

Mailing list, online discussions

Shared resources in Google Drive

“CART Commons aims to foster a sense of community for graduate students embarking on or already immersed in archival research to engage with one another and with archivists and special collections librarians in considering questions related to primary source research practices. Each gathering provides hands-on archival explorations and informal presentations alongside opportunities to discuss practical approaches, questions, challenges, and anxieties about archival research.”
Future plans

- Born digital materials in a hybrid collection
- Be more involved with collection development
- More partnerships on campus
- Reaching out to other departments
- More structured forms of assessment, feedback

5 years!
Learn more

bit.ly/cart-fellowship

bit.ly/cart-commons

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Thanks!
A GOOD PAIR OF SHOES

Mattie Taormina
Director, Sutro Library
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Student Learning Outcomes

- By the end of the semester, students will be able to:
  - handle rare and fragile books carefully
  - master each unique housing structure for limp vellum bound books
  - apply their expertise in making book structures to other parts of the collection as needed
  - list their valuable, hands on experience on their resumes and apply that expertise at other repositories in the future
Institutional Program Goals

- Stabilization of Sutro Library’s limp vellum books
- Sutro Library furthers the educational goals of SFSU’s academic departments
- Students gain real world experience working with rare collections
- Students witness and become familiar with the different types of damage that can occur to rare materials
For more information:

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415-469-6102
Discussion and Brainstorm!

- Divide into 2 or 3 groups
- Each group will have a facilitator and recorder
- From list pick 2 or 3 topics for your group
- Spend 10 to 15 minutes on each topic
- Report out
Interested in getting results of discussion?

Put name and email on sign-in sheet

Thank you for participating!