

Provenance, Journal of the Society of Georgia Archivists

Volume 33
Number 1 *SNAP*

Article 4

2015

Guest Editor's Note

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Recommended Citation

Dunn, Roxanne, "Guest Editor's Note," *Provenance, Journal of the Society of Georgia Archivists* 33 no. 1 (2015) .
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/provenance/vol33/iss1/4>

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Guest Editor's Note

Roxanne Dunn

Southeast Missouri State University

Currently, I am the Special Collections and Archives Librarian at Southeast Missouri State University. I started in this position in April of 2014 after graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a master's degree in library and information science in 2013. From 2014-2015, I was fortunate to serve as a steering committee member of the Students and New Archives Professionals (SNAP) roundtable within SAA.

Academic publishing had always had a bit of a stigma around it for me, like a necessary evil of sorts. As a new professional, it was something I knew I needed (and wanted) to participate in to have a balanced and productive career, but it was intimidating at the same time. During one of our SNAP steering committee meetings in 2014, the idea of a special issue of *Provenance* being published solely by SNAP authors, editors, and reviewers was brought up to us by Cheryl Oestreicher, Editor of *Provenance* from Boise State University. *Provenance* had tried a similar idea with an advocacy issue in the recent past and she was keen to try it with SNAP. Her idea was well received by the committee members present and it certainly interested me. Having earned a master's degree in journalism several years before my library degree, I saw it as an opportunity to get back into a comfortable zone and see what academic publishing was all about from the inside. My rationale was to see how it works, understand it better and then pursue some potential publishing opportunities myself.

What I learned was not surprising, but at least reassuring. Creating a high-quality journal like *Provenance* is a lot of work! My initial assumption was that I would work with authors and peer reviewers and coordinate that portion of the issue. Indeed, I was able to work closely with authors and peer reviewers, but editors wear several hats throughout the publishing process. From indexing, creating "front matter," and selecting cover images are all often the responsibility of the editor in academic publishing. Cheryl was so gracious in helping us wrap up our issue as guest editors, and it wouldn't have been completed without her generous assistance.

There has been much discussion over the last several years about "eating our young" in terms of new archivists and their search for employment. One way that new archivists can make themselves more marketable is to seek out these publishing opportunities. They do exist. In many ways, I feel as though our profession does seek out new or unpublished authors and encourages them to consider submitting their works. While presenting at conferences as an MLIS graduate student, I was approached at poster sessions about turning my work into an article by several representatives from peer reviewed publications. There are also emails that frequently make the rounds on listservs about journals posting CFPs, which often do highlight opportunities for new authors.

Taking on the role of a co-guest editor has led to a new found appreciation of authors, reviewers, and editors for me. I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to serve as a guest co-editor. I am also very appreciative of Cheryl's guidance and endless patience with my many questions. I hope you enjoy this special SNAP issue of *Provenance*.

Roxanne Dunn, Special Collections and Archives Librarian at Kent Library, joined Southeast Missouri State University in July of 2013 after graduating from the University

of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a master's degree in library and information science. She also earned a master's degree in journalism from the University of Illinois in 2005. About to begin her third year as a professional archivist in an academic library setting, Dunn has also served on the SNAP Roundtable Steering Committee during 2014-2015. Dunn has presented original research on hoarding and its effect on acquisitions and appraisal in archives at two professional conferences. She also has previously volunteered for a books-to-prisoners program and considers library services to prisoners amongst her professional interests.