iSchool Statement on Graduate Competencies

Master of Archival Studies

This statement extends the more general competencies outlined in the iSchool Statement on Graduate Competencies to account for the specific needs of the archival profession. It is aligned with the 2014 ACA Competencies for Archivists & Records Managers.

- 1. Graduates are able to apply the foundational knowledge and skills of the profession. Specifically, graduates have the ability to:
- 1.1 identify, analyze and assess the information needs of diverse individuals, communities and organizations, and respond to those needs through the design, provision and assessment of information resources, services and systems.
- 1.2 appraise, organize and manage information for effective preservation, discovery, access and use; specifically:
 - o Manage current records (creation, organization and description)
 - o Select records and archives (appraisal, selection and disposition)
 - o Arrange and describe archives
 - o Preserve archives
- 1.3 apply knowledge of information technologies and resources to real world situations, taking into account the perspectives of institutional and community stakeholders; specifically:
 - o Establish requirements for and evaluate information technology systems for the management of records and archives.
- 1.4 reflect in a critical and informed manner on individual and institutional practices and on the role of the information professions in society.
- 2. Graduates are able to communicate effectively. Specifically, graduates have the ability to:
- 2.1 articulate ideas and concepts fluently and thoughtfully in a variety of communication modes;
- 2.2 assess, select and employ communication and instructional tools based on an understanding of diverse communicative goals and audiences.
- 3. Graduates are able to work effectively in team and institutional settings. Specifically, graduates have the ability to:
- 3.1 demonstrate leadership, initiative and effective collaboration within team and small group settings;

3.2 apply principles of effective management and decision-making to organizational issues and challenges; specifically those associated with the development and administration of records and/or archives services and programs.

4. Graduates are able to conduct original research and assessment. Specifically, graduates have the ability to:

- 4.1 synthesize and apply existing scholarship from their field of knowledge and from related fields to identify and analyze significant theoretical and practical questions;
- 4.2 design and execute programs of inquiry and assessment informed by relevant theory and method.

5. Graduates are able to represent their chosen profession. Specifically, graduates have the ability to:

- 5.1 conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the philosophy, principles and ethics of the profession, while maintaining a critical perspective on the role of the professional in society; specifically:
 - o apply legislative and policy frameworks governing records and archives systems.
- 5.2 advocate on behalf of the profession and the diverse constituencies that the profession serves; specifically:
 - o Promote awareness and knowledge of archives in society
- 5.3 contribute to the advancement of the field through participation in professional development, teaching, research or community service.