



**Society of California Archivists
Candidate's Statement for 2020 Election**

Candidate for: Director-at-Large

Years: 2020-2022 (2-year term)

Name: Kira Dres

Institution: California State Archives

Professional Background (begin with current position and areas of responsibility, and briefly summarize experience):

I am the Managing Archivist over the Collections Management Unit at the California State Archives, where I supervise a team of archivists, document preservation staff, and interns in the accessioning, processing, and preservation of state records in all formats. For the last three and a half years, I have also served as the Administrator for the Western Archives Institute, an annual two-week program co-sponsored by SCA and the California State Archives (though this role will soon pass to another State Archives staff member). Prior to my current position, I was an archivist at the State Archives and my duties included reference services, outreach and exhibit work, and the appraisal, accessioning, arrangement, and description of archival records. Other experience includes serving as a manuscript processing intern at the California State Library's California History Section, and as the Archival Project Coordinator at U.C. Berkeley's Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, where I processed historic materials, assisted with the development of exhibits and outreach efforts, and coordinated the digitization activities of undergraduate volunteers.

Educational Background (degrees and other applicable training):

- Bachelor of Arts in American Studies from the University of California, Berkeley
- Master of Arts in Public History from California State University, Sacramento
- Certified Archivist through the Academy of Certified Archivists

Professional Affiliations (list organizations, dates and extent of your involvement, e.g., SCA activities, memberships, committee work):

- Member, Society of American Archivists, 2013 – Present
- Member, Society of California Archivists, 2015 – Present
- Member, National Association of Government Archives & Records Administrators, 2019 – Present
- Chair, Western Archives Institute Joint Management Committee, Society of California Archivists, October 2016 – Present
- Committee Member, Finance and Investment Committee, Society of California Archivists, October 2016 – Present
- Committee Member, Annual General Meeting Program Committee, Society of California Archivists, June 2017 – May 2018
- Vice President, Society of American Archivists Student Chapter at California State University, Sacramento, Fall 2013 – Summer 2014

This position represents the membership at large on the SCA Board. What kinds of strategies or approaches will you take to represent and communicate membership needs to the Board and Committee chairs, and also facilitate communications between the Board and Committees? [300 words or less]

During the course of my work with the Western Archives Institute, I have witnessed firsthand how beneficial it is for archival professionals to be a part of an active and supportive community of colleagues with a variety of backgrounds and experiences. After two weeks at the Institute, WAI participants discover that although some challenges may be unique to their repository, their new network of peers are grappling with many of the same professional quandaries. The Society of California Archivists affords its membership this same opportunity to learn from both shared experiences and diverse challenges, and I would welcome the opportunity to represent this community as a Director-at-Large. In this position, I would work collaboratively with the members of the SCA Board and Committees, actively engaging as a liaison between the two and using my participation in both to communicate the needs of the SCA membership in a clear, respectful, and transparent manner. I would also contribute to the smooth operation of the organization by communicating all SCA Board and Committee needs in a timely fashion and promptly responding to member inquiries. I would strive to identify and recognize the commonalities and differences in professional goals and perspectives amongst the SCA

membership, and would serve as an objective representative that advocates for the membership's needs in order to develop and strengthen the organization as a whole. SCA's activities must reflect and stay relevant to its community's needs, and as Director-at-Large I would ensure that those needs are clearly communicated between SCA's leadership, its committees, and its membership.