



**Society of California Archivists
Candidate's Statement for 2021 Election**

Candidate for: Member-at-Large

Years: 2021-2023 (2-year term)

Name: Kate Dundon

Institution: University of California, Santa Cruz Special Collections & Archives

Professional Background (begin with current position and areas of responsibility, and briefly summarize experience): I am Supervisory Archivist for Special Collections & Archives at UC Santa Cruz (2016-present). I oversee our archival processing, collection management, and born-digital stewardship programs. Prior to my current position, I was Archivist at UC Santa Cruz (2013-2015), and held several positions at Occidental College, including Project Manager for a Northeast Los Angeles newspaper preservation project, Instruction and Research Consultant, and Project Archivist (2012-2013). Prior to completion of my MLIS, I held staff positions at New York University Law Library (2008-2011) and the New York Public Library (2006-2008).

Educational Background (degrees and other applicable training):

MA, Archives and Public History, New York University

MLIS, Long Island University

BA in Literature, New York University

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

SCA Co-Chair, SCA Development Committee (2018-2020)
Ad-hoc Member, Local Arrangements Committee (2018-2020)
SCA Member (2012-)

SAA Chair, SAA Membership Committee (2016-2017)
Chair, SAA Navigator Subcommittee (2015-2016)
Co-Chair, SAA Mentoring Program Subcommittee (2013-2015)
Member, SAA Membership Committee (2012-2017)
SAA Member (2010-)

Member, Digital Library Federation Born-Digital Access Working Group (2018-)

This position represents the membership at large on the SCA Board. What are your immediate concerns about the Society, and what projects would you like to see accomplished during your term?

My most immediate concern is how SCA can support archival workers in weathering budget cuts and employment precarity that have and will continue to emerge as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important that our organization remain informed of economic and labor issues resulting from our current public health crisis, and bolster our community members who may find themselves in need. I am inspired by grassroots efforts like the Archival Workers Emergency Fund that offer practical and necessary support during this unprecedented time.

Another major project for SCA is maintaining a sense of connectedness while our membership remains physically apart. I commend the strides made by the Board and SCA Committees to find ways to stay connected during the uncertainty of 2020. I am excited to participate in the 2021 Virtual Annual General Meeting, and I hope we can continue to creatively network and exchange ideas while protecting ourselves from Zoom fatigue.

Please detail your efforts to integrate equity and inclusion practices into your work and any plans you may have for this as Member-at-Large.

The archival profession has made progress in cultivating a more self-critical understanding of its biases and the colonial white supremacist origins of its identity and systems. But the work is not done. I seek to educate myself on the racist and classist origins of archival systems, standards, and ideologies, and how I as a practitioner perpetuate power dynamics that maintain boundaries of who is welcome in our profession and who can access and use the collections we steward. I hope that by serving on the SCA Board, I can foster dialogue about these issues in consort with the SCA Core Values.