



CoSA
Council of State Archivists

DOCUMENTING GOVERNMENT

PROMOTING HISTORY

SECURING RIGHTS

CoSA Annual Meeting

State/Territorial Archives Birds of a Feather Session

September 28, 2022

Let's share some success stories – thinking ahead to the update of [The Importance of State Archives](#)

- **Utah:** [New public notice website](#), found its home in the archives. Launched last night (9/27), and there haven't been any major issues so far (fingers crossed!). Public meetings require much documentation for each meeting, which is generating a huge number of records. Local governments are using that to fulfill their requirement to "keep an archive"
 - Created a separate site, pipeline directly to the archives to ease the process of accessioning + ingest
- **Alabama:** launched a [new website](#) for the Alabama archive, 10 years in the making. Great partnership with OIT gave a great learning experience
- **Indiana:** Getting a building!! And the budget should be approved. Staff morale has improved so much since pre-pandemic – There will be an expected boost in state employee salaries, which was a major concern. Able to hire a deputy director with an understanding of electronic records and now, just hired a 2nd electronic records archivist.
- **Connecticut:** new electronic records and digital images policies, shifting to all electronic. Moving to an all-digital government, using NARA as a model through the process. Passing forward for review now after a 2-year development process
- **Illinois/Indiana** exchange program: Such a success getting "out of the four walls" of your shop. The benefits filtered out to the whole staff as a learning experience. Allowed 1-on-1 time with similar positions, day to day struggles that are encountered. Opportunity for internal advocacy within the state governments, too (Governor's office, state museum, Supreme

Court...). Met in advance to plan curriculum, lasted 2-3 days following a planned agenda

- This also came up in the CoSA working session, and we'll be exploring how we might coordinate at the association level
- **New York:** Improving access to resources for K-12. Half way through a \$500k grant. <https://www.considerthesourcenyc.org/>. Built in many of the nondisclosure processes. Hosting externally. Looking to embed the resources into teacher training and curriculum performance standards across the state.
 - **Alabama** also shared a similar resource <https://archives.alabama.gov/AlabamaHistoryHub.aspx>
- **Alabama:** partnership with From the Page, with several states contributing. **Virginia** engaged high school students to read cursive and help to support the creation of indexes for the collections
- **Oregon:** Incredible inroads with internal advocacy from senior information architects. They are now reaching out to the archives for guidance for the transition. Result of much work in relationship building and being very helpful in recent years. 2018 Office of Chief Data Officer, first hire with a background in archives – systematic, statewide retention policies within the production suite that everyone uses, policies in place. Looking at M365 webinar end of year
- **Alaska:** Working with Sealaska Heritage for a workshop aimed towards Native communities. Starting with heavy research to try and find Native remains. Participating in the recovery and repatriation efforts. Such a healing win for the communities. Then, Native genealogy training in court records
- **Virginia:** reprocessing of boarding school records, reevaluating access, building the relationships with the communities and living individuals
 - **Alabama** is looking on restrictions of records on burial records. How can CoSA support learning in these areas and draw together the communities of practice, processing, care, healing, and looking ahead to 250?
 - NHPRC + NARA, can we use state military records to fulfill commitments that we have, working with NARA directly? Assemble a CoSA list of all the states that have the records?

- **Virginia:** [Transforming the Future of Libraries and Archives](#) – 6 undergrad paid interns with a central curriculum, field trips, projects, with a presentation at the end. Reaching the next generation of government archivists ([job posting for reference \(pdf\)](#))