



NEWS RELEASE

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Mary Jo Pugh Receives Council Exemplary Service Award from Society of American Archivists

CHICAGO—Mary Jo Pugh, editor of *The American Archivist*, received the Council Exemplary Service Award from the Society of American Archivists on August 26, 2011, during *ARCHIVES 360*^o, the 75th Annual Meeting of SAA in Chicago.

The award recognizes a special contribution to the archives profession, and especially to SAA. Pugh was cited for her ambitious vision for the semi-annual journal, in which she embraced both its scholarly richness and its role in documenting the work of best professional practices. Pugh adhered passionately to her vision of an enhanced and expanded professional journal throughout her six-year tenure. She embraced challenging goals for *The American Archivist* and dramatically increased the number of manuscript submissions, producing “big juicy” issues.

Since becoming editor in 2005, Pugh has exhibited outstanding attention to the editorial review process, ensuring the highest quality content for the journal. Among her many accomplishments, she succeeded in getting *The American Archivist* published online. She oversaw the digitization of the entire back file of 242 issues of the journal, leading the Editorial Board in developing a process, issuing RFPs, and recommending a vendor to make the entire body of scholarship available to members, subscribers, and the public. In Spring 2010, the first comprehensive survey of *The American Archivist* readership was conducted and published.

“Mary Jo has worked in an extraordinarily collaborative manner with the Editorial Board, prospective authors, and the SAA staff to accomplish this remarkable breadth and depth of goals,” said SAA President Helen Tibbo, who surprised Pugh with the award at the ceremony.

Pugh’s tenure as Editor of *The American Archivist* ends on December 31, 2011. A Fellow of SAA, Pugh is also a distinguished author who won the 2006 Waldo Gifford Leland Award for writing of superior excellence for her book *Providing Reference Services for Archives and Manuscripts* and the 1983 Fellows’ Ernst Posner Award for her seminal article, “The Illusion of Omniscience: Subject Access and the Reference Archivist.”

Previous recipients of the Council Exemplary Service Award include U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), David Carmicheal (Georgia Archives), and Kathleen Roe (New York State Archives).

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Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America's oldest and largest national archives professional association. SAA's mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.

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