## ARCHIVES and MANUSCRIPTS

The Journal of the Australian Society of Archivists

## The Archivist's Mission

Archivists ensure that records which have value as authentic evidence of administrative, corporate, cultural and intellectual activity are made, kept and used. The work of archivists is vital for ensuring organisational efficiency and accountability and for supporting understandings of Australian life through the management and retention of its personal, corporate and social memory.

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The first part of this paper provides background information on the Pluralizing the Archival Paradigm through Education project, including its positioning in relation to advocating pluralism. The rest of the paper reports on the two workshops, which focused on the educational needs of marginalised communities in Australia and the US, and the Action Agenda proposed by workshop participants. The workshop outcomes support the development and delivery of archival education that is culturally sensitive, inclusive of the community knowledge and experience of Indigenous, ethnic and other marginalised communities in Australia and the US, and responsive to community needs.

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This paper is an exploratory dig through some contemporary issues in archival science. Rather than seeing archival practice as the 'lone shag on the rock', this paper will look at ways in which archival thought can be placed at the centre of interdisciplinary thinking, and ways in which archival thought has drawn on other disciplines. This paper argues that by expanding our own archival minds, and embedding our expanding archival world view in places which matter, there is still hope for our own profession, and our planet's future.

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