The first half of this year was busier than the last two years, for I received 25 communications from the members about qualifying for the 2008 exam (15), moving from Provisionally Certified to Certified Archivist (5), and a wide range of issues regarding ACA in general (5). Of those planning to apply to take the exam, there were 11 female and 4 male candidates covering all of the regions with the majority (6) from the South. Candidates posed the usual questions about the educational and experience requirements needed to be admitted to the exam. The most interesting of these was from an archivist who was educated in Sweden whose archival courses were offered in intensive all-day four week sessions, like our summer school, rather than the usual full semester classes. We had one candidate from England and a Russian archivist who now lives in Texas. There was also a discussion about offering the exam in the Caribbean.

We strengthened the statement of requirements on the application form as follows:

“REQUIRED: Proof that the Masters degree was awarded (either a copy of the diploma or a transcript indicating that the degree was awarded), job descriptions for required work experience, and a copy of graduate transcripts if you are applying under option #1. Send an original and three copies of each of these documents with your application. All course work, the awarding of degrees, and work experience need to be completed by August 31 of the year in which the examination is taken”

This was discussed at the annual meeting of the Board last summer, and it is meant to clarify what candidates need to send in with their application forms. We also posted an FAQ on the website to explain the rationale for the Masters Degree requirement.

ACA Travel Award: This year we will again award two scholarships of $200 each with a waiver of the examination fee to help support travel expenses for taking the exam. The deadline for applications is July 1st. I have been in communication with current Webmaster David Malone about setting up a Discussion page on the ACA website for those planning to take the 2008 exam.

2008 Examination Sites: The established sites are: San Francisco, CA, Buffalo, NY, Nashville, TN, Salt Lake, UT and St. Louis, MO. There will also be from five to ten additional “Pick Your Site” locations that will be determined by those taking the exam. Every year we vary the formal locations, but always provide a rational spread across the country.

Respectfully submitted,

Connell B. Gallagher CA
Regent for Examination Administration