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Strong foundations for the future:
Audiovisual archives education
programs in the Pacific and Southeast
Asia

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Supporting the professionalisation of
audiovisual archiving through education

Is AV Archiving a profession? - 1995

‘What all audiovisual archivists have in common is that we learned AV archiving on the job. There was no other way. There still isn't’ (Edmondson 1995).

Is AV Archiving a profession yet? - 2018

‘It is probably true by now that no one who really wants to gain training in the field is without some options. [...] Nevertheless, the lack of a mechanism for formally accrediting individual professionals through CCAAA or its member associations remains an unresolved issue.’
(Edmondson 2018)

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Audiovisual archival education programs

The challenges

- The digital utopia vs the analogue reality.
- All tape-based formats created in the 20th century are now obsolete. Tape that is not digitised by 2025, we risk losing forever. This creates a deadline, and a dilemma, for those entrusted with the care of these precious memories. (NFSA 2015)

The role of education

A new generation of "emerging archivists," notably but not exclusively trained in new professional moving image archival training programs, is infusing the field with **new perspectives** and is often **unafraid to look to the periphery** for ideas. (Prelinger 2007)

What makes a qualification ‘professional’?

When considering education and training for occupations which have traditionally delivered the skills and knowledge via a ‘apprenticeship’ or ‘on the job’ training it is important to:

- Consider what is hoped to be achieved through professional level education,
- Define educational aspirations for such qualifications, and
- Identify professional and industry expectations of the required outcomes from such qualifications.

Technical training

- Summer/Winter Schools, workshops, short courses
- Professional bodies (face to face and online)
- Conference workshops
- ‘On the job’ training

Higher education

Europe and North America

- Masters level qualifications
- Film studies with archiving
- Archival with AV

Educational capacity in the SEAP region

- **Taiwan**
 - Graduate Institute of Studies in Documentary and Film Archiving, Tainan National University of the Arts
- **Australia**
 - Graduate Certificate in AV Archiving, Charles Sturt University
- **Single subject offerings**

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Case study: CSU GCAVA



CSU Graduate Certificate - History

- Started in early 1990s in partnership with the University of NSW
- Response to workshop-based training series run by the NFSA in South East Asia and the Pacific
- Delivered by distance since it began – initially print & CD learning material, now all online
- Transferred to CSU in 2001 after the closure of the UNSW LIS course
- Unique teaching model of academic staff and NFSA tutors – ensure practical experience in the teaching model alongside academics.

CSU Graduate Certificate - current

- A unique, formal university level qualification for those working in this sector of the archival industry
- Developed in collaboration with the National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA) under a contractual agreement. NFSA owns the IP for 3 of the subjects
- All subjects in the GCAVA are offered concurrently as electives in the Bachelor of Information Studies and Master of Information Studies
- Delivered online through Blackboard LMS



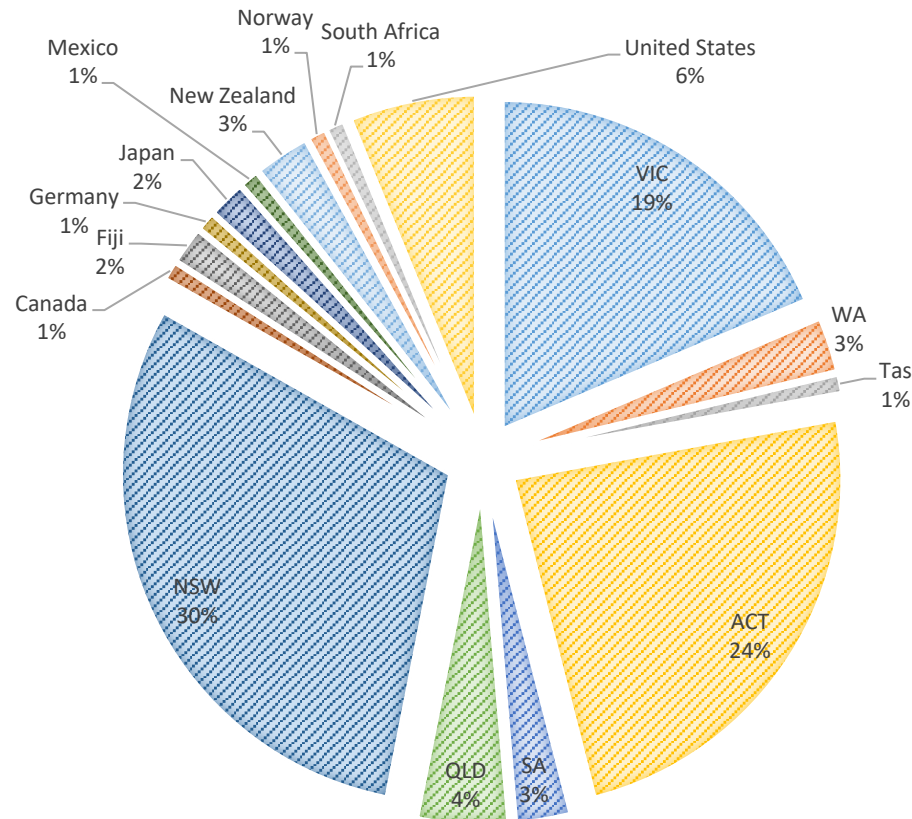
Course structure

4 subjects over 1 year:

- INF430 – AV Archiving 1
- INF431 – Preservation of Audiovisual Materials
- INF432 – AV Archiving 2
- INF443 – Digital preservation

Student location

ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE STUDENT LOCATIONS 2004-2017



18% International
82% Domestic

Australian Qualification Framework

Australian Qualification Framework Level	Secondary Sector	Vocational Education and Training (VET) Sector	Higher Education Sector
			Doctoral Degree
			Masters Degree
			Graduate Diploma
			Graduate Certificate
			Bachelor Degree
		Advanced Diploma	Associate Degree
		Diploma	
		Certificate IV	
		Certificate III	
	Certificate II	Certificate II	
	Certificate I	Certificate I	
	School Certificate		

AQF Level 8

Graduates at this level will have advanced knowledge and skills for professional/highly skilled work and/or further learning.

Graduates at this level will have advanced theoretical and technical knowledge in one or more disciplines or areas of practice.

Graduates at this level will have advanced cognitive, technical and communication skills to select and apply methods and technologies to:

- analyse critically, evaluate and transform information to complete a range of activities
- analyse, generate and transmit solutions to complex problems
- transmit knowledge, skills and ideas to others.

Graduates at this level will apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, well developed judgement, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner or learner.

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Conclusion

Strong foundations for the future

- Higher education courses to be agile and respond to immediate and long term challenges
- Future curricula
 - Development of a strong theory base to inform practice
 - Equip students with skills to think through future challenges
- Collaborations
 - Industry/professional & Cross-sector, ie archivists
- Accreditation

References

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