

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION LIB University Libraries
POLICY NUMBER LIB 1.03
POLICY TITLE Archives and Record Management
SCOPE OF POLICY USC Columbia
DATE OF REVISION September 30, 2022
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER Dean of University Libraries
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE University Libraries

PURPOSE

The University has established the Department of Archives and Records Management, a division of University Libraries, to ensure the preservation of those University records of permanent value and to further provide for the proper disposition of all University official records, which are public records as defined by the Public Records Act of 1973 (S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Title 30, Chapter 1, Section 30-1-10 through 30-1-140, as amended).

DEFINITIONS

Definition of keywords and acronyms used in the policy. Note that these keywords may also be searchable. Additional searchable key words can also be identified.

POLICY STATEMENT

The active management and administration of the archives and records management program is vested in the University Archivist.

A. Archival Functions

1. The University Archivist shall perform all duties in connection with the administration and development of the archives so as to achieve the purpose of its creation.
2. The holdings of the University archives shall include but not be limited to:
 - a. inactive records of permanent historical value for which control has been transferred to the University archivist by the originating department or the System officer to whom the department reports
 - b. published materials including student newspapers, yearbooks and departmental publications
 - c. photographs and drawings
3. Authorization for any and all persons for access to the archives' holdings or information contained therein shall be at the discretion of the University Archivist in consultation with the Director of the South Caroliniana Library. Requests for such authorization may be made by appointment with the University Archivist or other members of the archives' staff as designated by the Archivist.

4. In consultation with the Director of the South Caroliniana Library, the University Archivist shall collect, arrange, and make available to authorized persons at reasonable times, all obtainable archive materials relating to the operation and the history of the University. The Archivist shall carefully protect and preserve this material from deterioration, mutilation, loss or destruction. The Archivist shall keep the official archives in his or her custody in such arrangement and condition as to make them accessible for convenient use and shall permit them to be inspected, examined, abstracted or copied by any authorized person at reasonable times under supervision.
5. The University Archivist, in consultation with the Director of the South Caroliniana Library, is authorized on behalf of the University to negotiate for the transfer of and to receive University archival materials from the custody of any other agencies, repositories or individuals.
6. All university records of any division shall, upon termination of the existence and function of that office, be transferred to the custody of the University Archivist.

B. Records Management Function

1. Any actions taken that affect the disposition of official university records must conform to the provisions of the Public Records Act of 1973.
 - a. The University Records Manager, or other members of the archives and records management staff as designated by the Archivist in consultation with the Director of the South Caroliniana Library, shall have the right of reasonable access to and examination of all current University records. Such access shall be for the application or preparation of retention schedules for each series of records in accordance with the provisions of the Public Records Act of 1973.
 - b. Each schedule will stipulate all factors relating to the disposition of that record series—such as microfilming, transfer of inactive records to an off-site storage area and the timetable for destruction or transfer to the University Archives for permanent preservation.
 - c. In preparing records retention schedules for the various University departments, the Records Manager will in each case consult with the department head, the University Archivist, the Director of the South Caroliniana Library, other appropriate University officials, and staff of the records management program at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.
 - d. The University Archivist, in consultation with the Director of the South Caroliniana Library and the Dean of Libraries, shall have the final authority over the disposition of any and all records and shall serve, for matters relating to records management, as the University's authorizing official where such a designation is required.

2. Current Records Administration

- a. The University Records Manager may take such action as is necessary to protect current records from misplacement, loss, or destruction.
- b. The Records Manager shall advise University departments regarding adoption of sound practices relative to the creation and maintenance of current University records.

PROCEDURES

A. Transfer of Inactive Records

- 1. The office from which the records are being transferred prepares a document for the University Archivist in which such records are described in terms sufficient to identify them.
- 2. This document is filed in the files of the University Archivist, and a copy is retained in the originating office.

RELATED UNIVERSITY, STATE AND FEDERAL POLICIES

[Digital Media Storage – Facilities and Procedures](#)

[SC Department of Archives and History: Public Records Stored As Digital Images: Policy Statement](#)

[SC Department of Archives and History – General Records Retention Schedules for State Colleges and Universities](#)

HISTORY OF REVISIONS

DATE OF REVISION	REASON FOR REVISION
February 1, 1995	New policy approval
October 4, 2005	Updated policy
December 16, 2009	Non-substantive revision
April 19, 2016	Policy revised to reflect current organization.
September 30, 2022	Policy updated to standard template