

Butlletí 100

Informatiu de l'Associació d'Arxivers-Gestors de Documents de Catalunya

The Bulletin's journey to its 100th issue

The informative Bulletin of the Archivists-Records Managers Association of Catalonia (AAC) reaches its 100th issue and as is customary when one reaches a round number, it's time to look back on its development over the years, which in many cases has been parallel to that of the AAC.

When the AAC first came into existence, the means of communication between the Board of Management and the professional collective was a few circulars that were sent to keep them informed of news related to the Association. It was not until the first quarter of 1989 that the AAC chose to implement a more stable means of communication. Therefore, in March of that year the first issue of the Bulletin was put into circulation, with an editorial on the launch and the announcement, among other news, of the creation of the first master's degree in Archival Science and the association reaching a membership of 200.

Since then, 99 bulletins have been published with highly pertinent information for the professional collective, from issue 3's editorial on the Salamanca documents, to issue number 7, dedicated to the Archive of the Crown of Aragon, issue number 13 on the university programmes in Archival Science or issue number 21, which focused on the documents of politicians who leave office. We could almost say that some of these themes are, in essence, recurring themes for the profession, since still today they remain questions pending development and, in some cases, resolution.

There are those fondly remembered bulletins, such as number 20, published in 1993 and offering a very amusing satire on the current situation of archival science; number 40 (1997), which detailed the brilliant appearance of the then president of the ACC, our colleague Josep Mata, before the Cultural Policy Committee of the Catalan Parliament; number 62 (2001), which outlined the hopes resulting from parliamentary approval of the Law on archives and documents; or number 93 (2009), which described the presentation of the *Archival Science and Records Management Manual*.

Other interesting or curious news that has also had a place in the bulletins has been, for example, the end-of-year trip to Paris of the second group of graduates of the Master's in Archival Science (Bulletin 16/17), the visit by some twenty Catalan archivists to the Espeyran Digitalisation Centre in Northern Catalonia (Bulletin 30), the article on clinical histories (Bulletin 52), the article on the NODAC project (Bulletin 62) or the editorial by the president of the Archivists Association of France (Bulletin 72) in honour of the association's 100th anniversary.

Over twenty years of information, and in that time the Bulletin has echoed the legal measures taken by the Association, such as sentence 210/2001 of the High Court of Justice of Catalonia (Bulletin 65), in favour of the AAC, which stated that those working as part of the archivist collective could participate in the employment process involving jobs with archival or records management

functions. Or the administrative appeal against the Directorate-General for the Civil Service of the Government of Catalonia (Bulletin 81) for recognition of the vocational training qualification *Mestratge d'Arxivística* as valid in the competition phase for job openings. And, more recently, the information on the appeal against the University of Lleida (Bulletin 86) for the requalification of the archivist course place.

But beyond these examples, up to issue number 60, the Bulletin featured the news from the archivist world that appeared in the press, and news appearing in official publications up to issue number 78. It has also served as a source of information on continuous training and other AAC publications, a way of publicising Board of Management agreements, and as a tool to inform archivists of the numerous services and activities offered to them.

The appearance of issue number 80 represented a leap forward with a change of design and format, which is still used to this day; with an additional 8 pages, which facilitated the inclusion of new sections, such as 'From archivist to archivist', 'Conservation guidelines', 'Archivists abroad', etc.

In addition, over the course of these years, the AAC has implemented other tools directed at the exchange of information in order to complete the offer of communication channels. Two of them are of particular importance: in February 1997, the ACC website was born, which has been constituted as a fundamental channel through which to offer information and services to associates; Later, in October 1998, the Internet and Archives working group implemented the *Arxiforum* distribution list, a tool for sharing information that has proven to be a highly transited channel and which currently has more than two thousand subscribers.

In closing, from the Board of Management of the AAC we would like to highlight and show our appreciation for the work carried out by the different editorial boards and contributors, who, with commendable dedication, have committed their efforts to maintaining and projecting these channels of communication.

