

RCS Mentoring Program

What is it?

The RCS Mentoring Program is a joint collaboration between Collections Stewardship professional network of AAM and ARCS (Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists). In response to a growing community of emerging and mid-career collections professionals needing advice or ways to connect to the field, the Mentoring Program was established. Through mentoring, mentors and mentees initiate a conversation in order to share and dispense knowledge and experience.

Who benefits?

In short, everyone. The RCS Mentoring Program is a two-way relationship where a mentor, an established museum professional, is partnered with an emerging or mid-career professional. Through the relationship, the mentee can solicit advice and ask questions to further their career. The mentor can also benefit by learning about new practices, tools, ideas, and discussions they were not aware of.

What are the commitments?

Participants in the Mentoring Program are asked to commit for a 6-month period. In this time, it is expected that mentors and mentees will communicate and share ideas and knowledge. We will ensure communication is established, and will generate some discussion points, if need be. We will also check in on the relationship during the time period. At the end of the 6-month mentor relationship, the mentor and mentee can certainly continue their relationship, but it will not be considered the official mentor relationship. It is then up to the participants to carry on. Program participants must be a member in either ARCS or Collections Stewardship.

How do I apply?

Fill the application form and send either as a Word document or pdf, along with a copy of your current resume. Alternatively, you can complete the online form at collectionsstewardship.org or arcsinfo.org. Be sure to also mail your resume to rcsmentoringprogram@gmail.com. Once received, we will enter your information into our files, and use this to find a suitable mentor or mentee for you.

What is the schedule of events?

The RCS Mentoring Program plans to match mentors to mentees twice a year, in the spring shortly after the AAM conference and again, in the fall after the ARCS conference (if held in that year). Mentors will be asked to mentor another mentee. Unless agreed to beforehand and mentors are available, mentees will not be partnered again.



Form

I am looking for a mentor!

I want to be a mentor!

1. Contact Information:

Name:

Business Title:

Organization:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone Number(s):

Email(s):

Professional Online Profile (LinkedIn, Web site):

Membership ID # (ARCS or AAM):

2. Background:

I have attached my current résumé (or indicate education and previous experience below)
Brief statement of my background (200 words or less):

Type of collection with which you work or hope to work (science, historical, art, general, etc.):

3. Mentoring Relationship:

Indicate specific areas where you need assistance, or areas in which you specialize and can offer (career help, networking, databases, shipping, loans, etc.)

Please return this form, via email to:
Matt Seaman (Collections Stewardship) and Erin McKeen (ARCS)
Mentoring Co-Chairs
rcsmentoringprogram@gmail.com

Mentors and mentees will be matched according to need, discipline, and geographic location.

