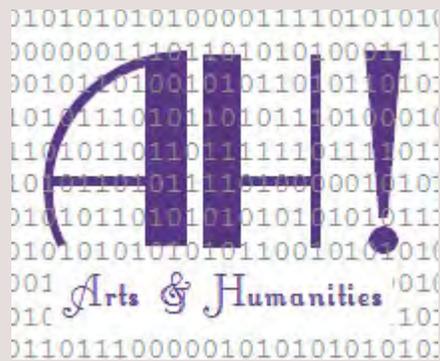


Fall 2018

SIG AH Digital Newsletter

Association for Information Science & Technology: Arts & Humanities Special Interest Group



2018-2019 Officers

Chair: Christian James (Catholic University of America)

Past Chair: Jeremy McLaughlin (San Jose State University)

Social Media: Ann Graf (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)

Community Liaison: Julie Carmen (Central Washington University)

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Notes from the SIG AH Chair

The 2018-19 year has started out great so far. Our SIG AH-sponsored panel at the Annual Meeting was a success. We began working with a new Student Leader. And we look forward to a year of great programming and community engagement.

I am proud to announce the re-election of the following officers to the SIG AH Board:

Christian James, Chair

Ann Graf, Social Media

Arjun Sabharwal, Webmaster

Julie Carmen, Community Liaison

Read on for more news and updates!

Christian James

SIG AH Chair

Report on Washington Library Association Conference

by Julie Carmen

I attended the Washington Library Association Conference in October, at the Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, Washington. Of the nine sessions I attended, I will highlight the sessions that pertain most fittingly to digital initiatives, technology, arts & humanities. The session: “Primarily Washington: Bridging the Gap between Primary Sources & Curriculum” was presented by the Washington State Library and they featured the portal on their website which shares new lesson plans designed by digital collections from the state of Washington. These collections are featured in exhibits and lesson plans and represent primary sources from Washington State Library and Archives and teacher-developed lesson plans. These lesson plans are not just for K-12 ages but can be used for college-entry preparation as well. Some Lesson Plans are inquiry-based, 1-2 day projects, with most plans created for 7th Grade Social Studies and 12th Grade Civic Studies.

- <http://www.primarilywashington.org/>
- <http://www.primarilywashington.org/collections/show/19>
- <http://primarilywashington.org/exhibits>
- <http://leg.wa.gov/CivicEd/Pages/default.aspx>

I found this session fascinating as this appears to be a type of Open Educational Resources (OER) approach. It will be interesting to see which colleges and universities will upload lesson plans in the future using these primary sources. I am also curious if other state libraries are using their primary sources to create freely shared lesson plans as well.

A wonderful online resource I learned about was found in the session: “Cultivating Health: Harvesting beyond the Basics of Health Information”. This presentation was led by Michele Spatz, with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, NNLM. She showcased a free online source for amazing free resources found on medicine. It is a government website, Medline Plus: <https://medlineplus.gov/>

She showed a great feature of this website is that you can toggle between English and Spanish quite easily. You can also browse for scholarly materials on diseases, conditions, drugs, and supplements. Also impressive is that this resource is great for researching lab test information and most lab test results and what they mean.

I attended an inspiring session: “Making Music in the Stacks”, in which professionals go into a classroom and help a group of students or adults create music and art from reading a book. They work with instructors or organizers of the program, who will assign a book to read before the program starts; the book works as a muse for the rest of the program. These professionals, Geoff Larson, Executive Director of The Bushwick Book Seattle Club, and Nate Bogopolsky, Director of STYLE, divide students into groups, where one group will work on art for the cover of their song, then another group works on verse and chorus, and then they switch, so that all students may have the experience of creating art and song. At the session I attended they used a synthesizer in a box, and played three pre-designed tempos. The group at the session voted on the tempo to use, and then we were all asked questions based on a book

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that was read to us. Using the book to write the words of what feelings the book inspired in us, the leader helped us write a song. This is a similar approach used in their program, in which the book is the foundation of the building of a song. The experience within this session left a lasting impression on me. If this type of program effects students in a similar manner it will have quite a powerful impact. From the presenters' reports; they bring in a recording studio a week later, and record the students singing and performing. The art work and recorded songs are also uploaded to their website, so that students can share their creations. Here are their websites:

- <http://thebushwickbookclubseattle.com/>
- <http://learningwithstyle.com/library-program/>

The title of the song our session created is called: *Belong: The Library Song* and it is currently viewable here: <http://learningwithstyle.com/102018-dreamers-wla/>

They create similar programs in K-12 schools, libraries, and for organizational programs for adults. They run this program for a week or more, beginning with the assignment from teachers that all students read a book. This program and process is focused on reading and writing. I kept thinking of the impact this type of program will have on generations of students, many of whom will be writing and creating art and music for years to come, based on this experience. I was impressed with this entire approach as I have never seen anything like it that demonstrated the use of books as muse, and the ability to work together to create a song. It was a powerful experience for me and one I will never forget.

Another creative session I attended was "Cosplay for All: A How-to Programming Guide for Beginners". This program was presented by Siri Hiltz; Youth Services Librarian at Kitsap Regional Library and Bonnie Svitavsky; Young Adult Librarian at Puyallup Public Library.

They described Cosplay as a type of Composites Program and is also known as Fan Culture. Cosplay is the activity or practice to dress up as a character from any work of fiction. The presenters mentioned one of the first mentions of Cosplay was in a Mother Jones Magazine, Nov/Dec issue 2007. One way to incorporate Cosplay in libraries is to create a Cosplay Sewing Lab which can help students focus on design-thinking, find reference images, learning a little about construction, reading patterns, planning and construction stages. There can also include cape creation as a simple start for a Cosplay session. Some libraries start a session by having a group measure themselves to estimate how much material they would need, and then the program or organization would pay for it. They also purchase material and items from Good Will or other used stores and then alter the items for Cosplay outfits. Other ideas were to: Host Cosplay Contests as there is no creating/crafting supplies needed and contestants supply their own costumes. Hosting a contest simply requires categories and time limits be established, and providing prizes. Sometimes a \$25 Amazon gift certificate is the most popular prize, but small figurines, or professional Cosplay makeup are also popular. When hosting a Cosplay event, another tip was to invite guest speakers to talk about cosplay or invite guest professional make-up artists to teach makeup tips. When hosting a Cosplay event, be sure to advertise the prizes being offered. Each event should have rules explained and advertised. They also were clear to point out that Cosplay does not mean consent: as some fight sexual harassment based on the costumes they are wearing.

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<https://mashable.com/2014/10/15/new-york-comic-con-harassment/#VVOm0sIV0GqT>

They offered many tips on how to run successful Cosplay events and the reasons why Cosplay is so popular. Cosplay not only offers artistic and creative outlets to students, it can also teach skills that involve engineering, art, imagination, social outlet, and connecting with like-minded students. In addition to these supportive attributes, Cosplay gives students a way of feeling less isolate, and may even contribute in their ability to persist to graduation. Here are some resources they shared:

Kroski, E. (2015). *Cosplay in libraries : How to embrace costume play in your library*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield.

Quindt, S. (2016). *The costume making guide : Creating armor & props for cosplay* (First ed.). Cincinnati, Ohio: Impact.

This session was eye-opening as I really didn't know what Cosplay was. This hobby has potential to teach STEAM in the library, and also fill a need of a small percentage of our students who may be Cosplayers.

Attending my state's library association annual conference was a blast and helped me network within my state. I look forward to attending again next year.

Report on the SIG-AH-sponsored Panel at the ASIS&T 2018 annual meeting in Vancouver, November 10-14

by Ann Graf

Our SIG-sponsored panel on Everyday Documentation of Arts and Humanities Collections was well attended at the annual meeting earlier this month in Vancouver. Tim Gorichanaz from Drexel led the discussion and I began by reporting on my research into vocabulary used by the graffiti community to describe their practices and products and how this compared to controlled terminology available for the same within the Getty's Art and Architecture Thesaurus (AAT). Two years ago, there was little match between the graffiti community's demonstrated vocabulary and the AAT with only 15% term availability, but within the past year, additions to the AAT brought that representation up to 70%.

We heard next from Crystal Fulton, who described the work of urban explorers and their photography practices that can be seen on social media sites such as Instagram. We learned that their documentary output is far more vast than what can easily be seen online; the greater part of their images are buried deep on the Dark Web. Their activities and resultant documentation provide a fascinating look into a community and the attendant questions that arise regarding subcultural behavior, ethical complexities, and information sharing.

Amy Jackson discussed music data management and the needs of musicians in regard to this data. She challenged us to consider what musicians might regard as data points when they experience a recording and how this impacts, or should impact, how that recorded information is managed to make this information available to such specialized users. This necessitates working with such users to make informed decisions on which data to highlight.

The Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center houses a Library with over 1500 zines. Kathryn La Barre told us about how this unique collection came about and the work that has gone on to recognize the collection, gather it, and preserve it both physically and intellectually. Work is ongoing to sort and catalog the collection, often involving LIS students from the University of Illinois. Everyone in attendance was treated to a selection of zines from the collection to take home and enjoy. Kathryn has also worked on the Comic Book Readership Archive, or COBRA, with Carol Tilley and John Walsh, two other panelists.

John Walsh continued the discussion with an introduction to COBRA, which is a project ongoing between Indiana University and the University of Illinois that is building a digital archive of primary source material and related data documenting American comic book readership and fandom. This data may include letters to the editors of comic books, submissions to contests, publications by comic book fan clubs, fan zines, and programs from comic book conventions.

Shannon Lucky, assistant librarian at the University of Saskatchewan Library, has a background in digital humanities and cultural heritage and shared her work with artist-run center archives in Canada. We learned about the documentation practices and archival needs of these center members, their access to tools and technologies to carry out these tasks, and the challenges faced along each step of the journey to preserve their cultural records.

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We enjoyed an engaged audience and carried on a lively discussion for the 90-minute session. Plans are being discussed among panel members for further presentation and publication opportunities.

Ann Graf, Assistant Professor, Simmons University



SIG AH Panel at the 2018 Annual Meeting. Panelists (left to right): Tim Gorichanaz (Drexel University), Ann Graf, (Simmons University), Crystal Fulton (University College Dublin), Amy Jackson (University of New Mexico), Kathryn La Barre (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), John Walsh (Indiana University), and Shannon Lucky (University of Saskatchewan Library).

Photo contributed by Ann Graf



Panorama of Vancouver, taken from Stanley Park

Photo contributed by Ann Graf

A New Leader's Perspective on ASIS&T 2018

by Ana Roeschley

The 2018 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Vancouver was my first one. As a relatively new member, the in-person exposure to so many interesting sessions was very exciting. The opportunity to exchange ideas with some of the names in the articles I have been reading throughout my PhD coursework was even more exciting. While the idea of networking can seem tedious and inauthentic, I found that the well-rooted ASIS&T members who took their time to speak to me genuinely care about my experience in the organization. This includes the individuals in SIG AH.

ASIS&T New Leaders are expected to work with an group within the larger organization. When I applied for the New Leaders Award, I chose SIG AH as my top choice of assignment and I am so glad to have gotten my wish. The SIG AH panel and business meeting were highlights of the Annual Meeting. The panel highlighted scholars documenting fascinating acts of human expression including graffiti and urban photography. The business meeting provided me with great insight into the SIG and our plans for the future. I was struck by how thoughtful other members were in welcoming my input. I am excited to find my home within ASIS&T with SIG AH and look forward to our programming throughout the year.



Ana Roeschley of SIG AH holding her New Leaders Award
Photo contributed by Ana Roeschley



New Leaders Award Recipients at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Vancouver.
Photo contributed by Ana Roeschley

SIG AH Assigned New Leader for 2018-19 – Welcome Ana!

by Jeremy L. McLaughlin

I am excited to introduce members of SIG AH to Ana Roeschley, who was selected as a winner of the 2018-2020 ASIS&T New Leader Award and will be working with SIG AH as a New Leader for the coming year.

Ana has been an ASIS&T member since the fall of 2016 after she began the PhD program at the University of North Texas (UNT). As we see with so many students, Ana found a community of like-minded colleagues within the UNT Student Chapter and the Association in general. As she notes, “Through our student chapter of ASIS&T, I was able to connect to my fellow students and it was within our student chapter that I was able to find my home at UNT with local collaborators, resources, and workshops. Through the parent ASIS&T organization, I was able to find a larger world of information science and technology thinkers who have inspired me to shape my current and future career in our field.”

After becoming President of the UNT ASIS&T Student Chapter, Ana worked on organizing the Chapter and planning workshops, lectures, and social events for members. Ana was effective at collaborating across the institution including faculty, administration, university staff, doctoral students and candidates, as well as with master’s students to bring UNT Chapter members opportunities and events that benefit their careers in information science and academia. This included Denton’s Big Data Day, Twitter scraping workshops, dissertation research and preparation lectures, coffee and tea socials, lunches with faculty, and semester kick-offs. Ana also helped organize the University of North Texas Multidisciplinary Information Research Symposium, held in April 2018.

Through her efforts, the UNT Student Chapter was named the 2018 ASIS&T Student Chapter of the Year!

Ana will be working with Christian James, Chair of SIG AH, as her Mentor for the coming year.

Please join me in welcoming Ana to the SIG AH team of Officers!