Friday, March 31, 2023

Society of Indiana Archivists

2023 Annual Meeting

In Partnership with the IUPUI

Department of Library and Information Science

Communities Building Archives

Thank you to the Department of Library and Information Science at the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering, IUPUI for hosting SIA's 2023 Annual Meeting and for their generous support.
Welcome to the 2023 Society of Indiana Archivists Annual Meeting. This year’s annual meeting is put on in partnership with the Department of Library and Information Science, School of Informatics and Computing, Indiana University-Indianapolis (IUPUI) and will be held on the IUPUI campus on Friday, March 31. The meeting’s theme is Communities Building Archives with the goal of bringing together emerging and established professionals to share experiences and outcomes of building collections and networks within local communities, cultural heritage specialists, and the profession. Although we hope you will join us in person, this year’s meeting will also have the option to attend virtually.

I would like to acknowledge members of the Program and Local Arrangements Committees for organizing the meeting. Thank you, Evan Miller, Stephen Lane, Jessica Layman, Kisha Tandy, Amy Telezyn, and Wesley Wilson. I would also like to thank the Department of Library and Information Science, School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI for the use of their facility and technical support. This financial support and technical assistance helps us provide a quality event. I would like to specifically thank two of our members Lydia Spotts and Denise Rayman—our “inside connection” to IUPUI—who were pivotal to making it happen.

I am thrilled to announce our plenary speaker this year is Dr. Jazma Sutton, Assistant Professor of History at Miami University. Her research focuses on the histories of slavery and freedom in the U.S. with a particular interest in African American women’s history and the Midwest. The difficulties that she faced doing traditional archival research on recovering the lives and experiences of Black women in antebellum Indiana and the alternative method she termed Descendant Archival Practices is sure to challenge the traditional thought processes of those working in the archival profession. You will not want to miss this talk.

This year’s annual Spring Workshop will be held virtually and will be a 90-minute webinar on descriptive metadata. It will take place earlier in the week of the Annual Meeting. I would like to thank the Education Committee for organizing this educational opportunity, including Sarah Allison, Jennifer Greene, Nolan Eller, and Melanie Hughes.

I want to close by acknowledging several board members whose current terms are coming to an end. Thank you to Denise Rayman, treasurer, Jennifer Greene, board member, Stephen Lane, board member, and Alan Rowe, board member. They served during the challenging times of the pandemic and because of their efforts, SIA has thrived and continued to provide valuable educational and professional opportunities for Indiana archivists.

Can’t wait to see you there,

Rich Bernier
SIA President
We are delighted to host SIA’s 2023 Annual Meeting in our classrooms and lecture halls. It was advantageous to host previous fall workshops in 2017 and 2018 and we are excited to welcome you back for two full days and a hybrid schedule.

It is important for our department to stay connected to the practitioner community, even more so as both our MLIS Archives Management specialization and the post-graduate Archives Management Certificate enrollment grows. Our fully online and asynchronous programs attract students from across the U.S., and even abroad, but we still have strong representation from Indiana. We appreciate SIA welcoming our students to attend in-person or virtual sessions during the meeting and for providing an opportunity for our students to network with engaged professionals. We are thankful for the members who have hosted or will host our students for internships. Several members teach or advise in our program or have served as speakers for our LIS Industry Speaker Series. Frankly, we would not have been able to develop or grow our archives coursework without the support of SIA members. Therefore, it is fitting that we rekindle our relationship at an organizational level with the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Andrea Copeland, Ph.D.
Chair and Program Director, Library and Information Science
Associate Professor, Library and Information Science
IU Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering

Tweeting SIA 2023
Use #SIASP23 to tag your tweets.
Annual Meeting Information

Call for Proposals

Communities Building Archives

The Society of Indiana Archivists (SIA)—in partnership with the Department of Library and Information Science, IU Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering, Indianapolis—invites proposals for its 2023 Annual Meeting to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana on Friday, March 31.

SIA hopes that the 2023 theme Communities Building Archives brings together emerging and established professionals to share experiences and outcomes of building collections and networks with and within local communities, institutions, and the profession. While our titles may vary—from archivist to historian, librarian, museum curator, cultural heritage specialist, professor, or student—we can help each other grow as professionals and build and preserve our respective collections for future researchers, communities, and archivists by sharing the lessons that we’ve learned and the practices and procedures that we’ve developed. Topics of potential interest include:

- Access
- Advocacy
- Collaboratively documenting historically-excluded communities
- Collecting initiatives and donor relations
- Digital collections
- Lone-arranger methods
- Management of departments, volunteer and student workers and projects, or special initiatives
- Outreach and public engagement
- Project- or grant-based work
- Shared authority
- Technology (born-digital materials, digital preservation, etc.)

Proposals can be for individual speakers, co-presenters, panels, and lighting rounds. Building community requires conversation and dialogue, and sessions that involve multiple speakers, group panels, or forums are encouraged. Poster presentations will also be accepted. Speakers and presenters do not need to be SIA members. Students and new professionals are encouraged to submit proposals.
General Information

"Early Bird" Registration (In-Person or Virtual) due by February 17
$27.00 SIA Member | $17 Student, Volunteers, Retirees

Registration (In-Person and Virtual) due by March 22 (1.5 weeks prior)
$37.00 SIA Member In-Person | $32 Virtual
$27 Student, Volunteers, Retirees, In-Person | $22 Virtual
$57.00 Non-Member, In-Person | $52.00 Non-Member, Virtual

Information:
• Registration will close on Wednesday, March 22, 2023
• There will be no on-site registration the day of the Annual Meeting
• All payments are due prior to the start of the annual meeting on Friday, March 31, 2023
• Cancellations with refund must be made by emailing Denise Rayman at denise.rayman@gmail.com before Thursday, March 30, 2023
• All registrants will receive an acknowledgment of their registration and a receipt for their payment
• Attendees attending virtually will receive links for the Annual Meeting via email after registering
• All times listed in the program are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

LEUs / ARCs

SIA is on the Indiana State Library's (ISL) list of approved training providers for continuing education for library professionals and earning LEUs (Library Education Units). Please visit the ISL website for more information on reporting LEUs: continuinged.isl.in.gov.

For information on earning ARCs (Archival Recertification Credits) for the Academy of Certified Archivists recertification, please visit the ACA website: www.certifiedarchivists.org/.

Please contact Evan Miller at millere@wabash.edu with any questions.
Parking & Travel

The Annual Meeting will be held at the ICTC Building on the IUPUI campus, which is the home of the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering. The ICTC Building is located at the corner of Michigan Street and West Street, and the main entrance is off of Michigan Street.

Address: 535 West Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Parking is available at the Gateway Parking Garage for $7. The entrance to the parking garage is located at the corner of Blackford Street and North Street.

Parking Address: 525 North Blackford Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Hotel Options

The Society of Indiana Archivists did not reserve a block of hotel rooms for the 2023 Annual Meeting. Two nearby accommodations are:

Homewood Suites by Hilton Indianapolis Canal IUPUI
414 West Vermont Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-677-7001
0.2 miles away (5-minute walk)

Residence Inn by Marriott Indianapolis Downtown on the Canal
350 West New York Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-822-0840
.5 miles away (9-minute walk)

Virtual Attendance

For the first time, SIA is offering a virtual attendance option for the Annual Meeting. Virtual attendees will be able to livestream all sessions, the plenary, and the business meeting, and the intention is to offer recordings of the sessions to membership after the event. No matter your attendance, SIA looks forward to seeing you on March 31!
SIA Scholarships

In 2023, two scholarships will be awarded for the Society of Indiana Archivists Annual Meeting, held on March 31, 2023. Both scholarships will receive a complimentary registration to the Annual Meeting and $75 to cover the expenses associated with attending. The two scholarships are the Thomas Krasean Student Scholarship and the John Newman Professional Development Scholarship.

**Thomas Krasean Student Scholarship**

Graduate students enrolled in a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program, Master of Arts (MA) in History or Museum Studies program, or a related graduate program, and new professionals (up to five years of post-graduate work experience) are encouraged to apply.

**John Newman Professional Development Scholarship**

Anyone in the field of special collections and archives in the state of Indiana is eligible to apply for this scholarship. New employees and volunteers are especially encouraged to apply as well as applicants with limited professional development opportunities available through their institution.

**Application Information**

**Deadline:** March 17, 2023 (2 weeks prior)

**Submission:** Submit a statement of interest stating why you want to attend the annual meeting and how it will benefit you. Include in your statement a brief outline of your archival education and any work history, along with a description of your long-term professional goals. Please include your contact information (name, mailing address, phone, and e-mail) as well as contact information for your institution or employer. Statements should be no more than 200-400 words.

Please submit the information stated above via email to Sean Eisele at seisele@vigo.lib.in.us. The award recipients will be shared with all applicants via email and announced through the SIA listserv prior to the meeting. Upon accepting the award, the recipient must submit a headshot along with a reflection of the annual meeting for SIA publication.
Pre-Annual Meeting Events

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Indiana State Museum Tour

4:00 PM, Meet in Lobby

Since 1869, the Indiana State Museum has collected, preserved and presented Indiana’s history, arts and natural sciences. But only a fraction of the more than 500,000 objects are on display at any one time. In this tour, you’ll get to see something most people never get to see: backstage at the museum. (Spoiler alert: Nothing comes to life. Sorry.)

There are 15 spots available. Please email Evan Miller at millere@wabash.edu to RSVP.

DLIS Career and Networking Event

5:00–7:00 PM, IT 414

The Department of Library and Information Science will be hosting a career networking event for its current students and alumni, and Society of Indiana Archivists members are invited to attend! The event will be held at the ICTC Building on the IUPUI campus from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Refreshments will be served.
Annual Meeting

Schedule at a Glance

Friday, March 31, 2023

Sessions listed as category A will be located in IT 155
Sessions listed as category B will be located in IT 157

8:30-9:00 a.m. Check-In
Lobby outside IT 152 (Auditorium)
Breakfast items available

9:00-9:50 a.m. Concurrent Sessions
1A: Uncomfortable History and Challenging Collective Memory in Community Archives
1B: Digital Preservation, Access, Outreach and Engagement within Indiana’s Historical Agencies

10:00-11:00 a.m. Plenary
IT 152 (Auditorium)
Dr. Jazma Sutton, Assistant Professor of History, Miami University

11:00-11:45 a.m. SIA Business Meeting
IT 152 (Auditorium)
All members are welcome to attend

11:45-1:00 p.m. Lunch
Food served in Lobby outside IT 152 (Auditorium)
Seating available in IT 109 and the Lobby outside IT 152 (Auditorium)

1:00-1:50 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
2A: Stories of Collaboration from IndyPL’s Digital Indy
2B: Managing a Digital Media Backlog: Lessons Learned on Zipping Through Disks

2:00-2:50 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
3A: Collection Showcase: IU East Campus Library’s Mary Fell Collection and the Indiana State Library’s Northeast Indiana Diversity Library Collection
3B: Essential Elements: Weeding

2:50-3:15 p.m. Afternoon Break
Snacks and drinks in the Lobby outside of IT 152 (Auditorium)

3:15-4:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
4A: Finding Hoosier Jewish History: The Indiana Jewish Preservation Corps
4B: Professional Development: Indiana Archives and Records Administration (IARA) and Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board (SHRAB)
Program Schedule

8:30-9:00  Check-In

   Lobby outside IT 152 (Auditorium), Breakfast items available

9:00-9:50  Concurrent Sessions

Session 1A (IT 155)

Uncomfortable History and Challenging Collective Memory in Community Archives

Jessica Layman, Hamilton East Public Library - Indiana Room

In 1995, a local history buff in Hamilton County, Indiana discovered a trunk full of records from the local 1920s Ku Klux Klan chapter in a barn he had recently purchased. The Hamilton County Historical Society made a controversial and internationally-followed decision about what to do with those records: they only made them available to serious researchers and genealogists. Local History and Genealogy Librarian Jessica Layman will speak on how in 2018 she was involved in a reconsideration of that decision, based on community feedback and a renewed look at the context of Hamilton County’s uncomfortable history. Participants will learn about developing community-based partnerships for reconciliation with the past, how to fit uncomfortable history into the archival profession, handling the “what ifs” of a controversial collection, and the difficulties of maintaining objectivity in hyper-local history.

Session 1B (IT 157)

Digital Preservation, Access, Outreach and Engagement within Indiana’s Historical Agencies

Vicki Casteel, Indiana Archives and Records Administration

Justin Clark, Indiana State Library

Join presenters from the Indiana Archives and Records Administration as they discuss their agencies’ respective digital preservation, access, and outreach and engagement initiatives. Justin Clark, Digital Initiatives Director for the Indiana State Library and representative of Indiana Digital Preservation (InDiPres), will share how Hoosier State Chronicles, Indiana’s statewide historical digital newspaper program, and Indiana Memory, a digital library containing materials from institutions across the state, are driven by outreach and engagement with outside digitization partners. Additionally, Clark will cover what digital preservation entails, including the processes that InDiPres uses to prepare and include content into its preservation network, and how this practice is essential to any library’s digital initiatives plan. Vicki Casteel, Director of Patron and Outreach Services for the Indiana State Archives and Records Administration, will discuss the Research Indiana Index and Research Indiana Catalog projects as well as other collaborative efforts, as part of the agency’s overall goals for ensuring accessibility to patrons and sharing the vast historical and genealogical collections of the State of Indiana with researchers.
10:00-11:00  **Plenary Session**  
*IT 152 (Auditorium)*

**Dr. Jazma Sutton**, Assistant Professor of History, Miami University

Dr. Jazma Sutton’s research examines the lived experiences of enslaved, free, and self-liberated Black women who escaped the South and came to and through the rural Black settlements of East Central Indiana before the Civil War. Methodologically, she raises concerns with archives in the rural Midwest and how they make it almost impossible to write traditional histories of 19th century Black women. Her research seeks to ask: what do we do once we’ve read against the grain and the biased grain and we’re still unable to piece together a story of 19th century Black women in the rural Midwest? What histories are we able to write when we move beyond “the archive” and “official record” to descendant communities, their historical knowledge, and their home-based collections and archives? And, finally, once we realize that these women have not been erased, forgotten or hidden, but instead preserved in plain sight, how do we acknowledge the labor of Black women, past and present, that made this possible?

This talk will discuss the archival challenges Dr. Sutton encountered recovering the lives and experiences of Black women in antebellum Indiana. It will also explore the method she termed Descendant Archival Practices— a method that reveals new ways of writing histories of Black women and acknowledges the preservation and memory work of Black women descendants as an alternative to mainstream archives.

Dr. Jazma Sutton’s research focuses on the histories of slavery and freedom in the U.S. with a particular interest in African American women’s history and the Midwest. She is currently working on a book project that chronicles Black women’s transition from slavery to freedom in antebellum Indiana and Ohio and the ways in which they expressed their ideas of citizenship through anti-slavery activism, intergenerational memory-keeping, and material culture.
11:00-11:45  **SIA Business Meeting**  
*IT 152 (Auditorium)*  
All members and attendees are welcome to attend. There will be prize drawings during the meeting, and winners must be present to win.

11:45-1:00  **Lunch**  
*Food served in Lobby outside IT 152 (Auditorium)*  
*Seating available in IT 109 and the Lobby outside IT 152 (Auditorium)*

1:00-1:50  **Concurrent Sessions**

*Session 2A (IT 155)*

**Stories of Collaboration from IndyPL's Digital Indy**

**Natasha Hollenbach and Ruth Rankin,** Indianapolis Public Library

For almost 20 years, Indianapolis Public Library Staff have developed Digital Indy, their digital collections website. They have collaborated with partners (both institutions and individuals) across the city. Come hear stories of collaboration to get you thinking about the following goals: Being persistent without being annoying; Identifying the difference between long-term and short-term partnerships; Getting partners to give you enough information about their stuff that you can actually write decent metadata; Ensuring all the paperwork gets completed. All this plus more!

*Session 2B (IT 157)*

**Managing a Digital Media Backlog: Lessons Learned on Zipping Through Disks**

**Denise Rayman,** Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Ruth Lilly Special Collections and Archives at IUPUI is working on a 2-year project, funded by the Indianapolis Foundation Library Fund, to transfer all records off of a 30-plus year backlog of floppy disks, optical discs, zip disks, flash drives, and all other sorts of obsolete digital media hiding in paper collections. Like many archives, we have known for years that our window to preserve this material was rapidly closing as media readers disappeared, and the media itself succumbed to inherent vice. Denise Rayman will present how they created a plan to save this material, including inventorying material, estimating labor hours needed, developing a budget, and managing the logistics of multiple student workers processing media simultaneously. These hard-won lessons in project management are applicable to other archivists working on similar backlog projects.
2:00-2:50 Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A (IT 155)

Collection Showcase: IU East Campus Library’s Mary Fell Collection and the Indiana State Library’s Northeast Indiana Diversity Library Collection

KT Lowe, IU East Campus Library

Lauren Patton and Brittany Kropf, Indiana State Library

IU East

Indiana University East—a regional campus of the Indiana University system of around 3500 students in Richmond, IN—was home to award-winning poet Mary Fell, who taught there for 32 years. In July 2021, the library received Fell’s papers, correspondence and books. The collection includes a significant amount of ephemera, including handmade promotional materials, autographed books, partial runs of publications Fell edited, handwritten letters from poets such as Christopher Gilbert and Etheridge Knight, personal journals and two entire drafts of her book The Persistence of Memory (Random House 1985).

The presentation will cover the scope of the Mary Fell collection while discussing the benefits and challenges of maintaining such a collection. The collection also includes research and course materials that she used for structuring her classes, which may be useful for students in education. Other ethical questions exist, such as access to personal journals that may include sensitive information. These and other questions need to be addressed, even in a collection that is not physically large.

Indiana State Library

In 2021, the Indiana State Library acquired the Northeast Indiana Diversity Library (NIDL) collection. NIDL was a library, archive, and resource center located in Fort Wayne, Indiana from the late 1970s until 2020. Its mission was “to serve the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and its allies in the Fort Wayne and surrounding area by acquiring, preserving and providing access to materials that embody the culture and history of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, with a focus on items of local and regional interest whenever possible...” The Northeast Indiana Diversity Library had also accessioned a collection of its own, the papers of Joan Uebelhoer Papers, a local women’s studies professor, feminist, activist, and public servant who devoted years of her life to achieving social equality for women and minority groups.

At the beginning of 2022, Lauren Patton began processing the NIDL collection, which contained evidence of a working library with over 30 years of community engagement. Brittany Kropf processed the Joan Uebelhoer papers as its own collection within the NIDL collection. This presentation will discuss the challenges of processing the collection of a recently defunct organization that went through several incarnations and future plans for the collection.
2:00-2:50 Concurrent Sessions
Session 3B (IT 157)
Essential Elements: Weeding
Tricia Gilson and Amber Passen, Columbus Indiana Architectural Archives
We all have been there – a folder containing 89 copies of a meeting agenda. You know you do not need to keep 89 copies, but how many do you keep? What if a copy has notes on it? Do you keep the annotated copy? How do you decide? Your questions might pile up in your mind when you suddenly remember MPLP and ask yourself yet another question: “What am I doing?”
This session offers an overview of the essential concerns and decision points about weeding a range of material types. A portion of the session will be a discussion driven by questions and concerns from those attending. We will offer a resource guide with best practices and a list of our favorite tricks.

2:50-3:15 Afternoon Break
Snacks and drinks in the Lobby outside of IT 152 (Auditorium)

3:15-4:15 Concurrent Sessions
Session 4A (IT 155)
Finding Hoosier Jewish History: The Indiana Jewish Preservation Corps
Michael Brown, Melanie Hughes, and Michelle Rundquist, Indiana Jewish Historical Society
Some recent estimates point in the dreary direction that nearly half of the state of Indiana’s Jewish institutions may close or consolidate in the next ten years. This creates an urgent need for the Indiana Jewish Historical Society (IJHS) to make a concerted effort to reach out to these communities to access, stabilize, digitize, and collect materials. The panelists will discuss how they created the Indiana Jewish Preservation Corps (IJPC), a non-sectarian internship program, to work with communities and individuals to generate new archival collections and help stay ahead of the mounting changes to document the sometimes historically marginalized Jewish communities in Indiana. This program was funded by the Indiana Historical Society’s statewide Heritage Support grant program, with funding from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. During the panel, there will be discussion of the challenges and successes with the internship program and how it could be used as a template for future Ethnic History Preservation Projects.
Concurrent Sessions

Session 4B (IT 157)

Professional Development: Indiana Archives and Records Administration (IARA) and Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board (SHRAB)

Claire Alderfer and Chandler Lighty, Indiana Archives and Records Administration

Nolan Eller, Wabash College

Bethany Fiechter, DePauw University

Dina Kellams, Indiana University

In the first part of this program, participants will hear how in 2022, the Indiana and Illinois State Archives participated in a staff exchange. Deputy Director Claire Alderfer spent several days in Springfield and Claire’s counterpart at the Illinois State Archives, Cathy Popovitch, visited Indiana. The swap was a low-budget substitute for other professional development opportunities that have been more difficult to access in recent years. Claire will share the logistics, goals, and lessons learned from the Indiana-Illinois exchange, and offer suggestions for recreating a similar exchange program.

The second part of the program will be a listening session featuring several Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) appointees. One of the objectives for the NHPRC grant that the SHRAB recently received is to develop a strategic plan for future grant-funded activities. The SHRAB is interested in hearing feedback from SIA attendees about needs in the field, whether that be subsidized professional development opportunities, records management planning, guidance on born-digital records, conservation training, grant options, etc. Please come with your ideas and share what Indiana's archival community needs and how the Indiana SHRAB with NHPRC grant funding could help address some of these community needs.
Campus Map

Gateway Parking Garage

Indiana Avenue

Blackford Street

Michigan Street

ICTC Building

Entrance off of Michigan

Google Maps, 2023
Building Map

Entrance (Michigan Street)

Lobby

IT 109

IT 155

IT 157

Auditorium

IT 152

Courtesy of the Department of Library and Information Science, Luddy School of Informatics, Computing & Engineering, IUPUI
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Webmaster (ex officio, non-voting)
Katey Watson (2021-2023)
Women's Archivist
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Annual Meeting Committees

Local Arrangements Committee:
Amy Telezyn (Chair), Children's Museum of Indianapolis
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