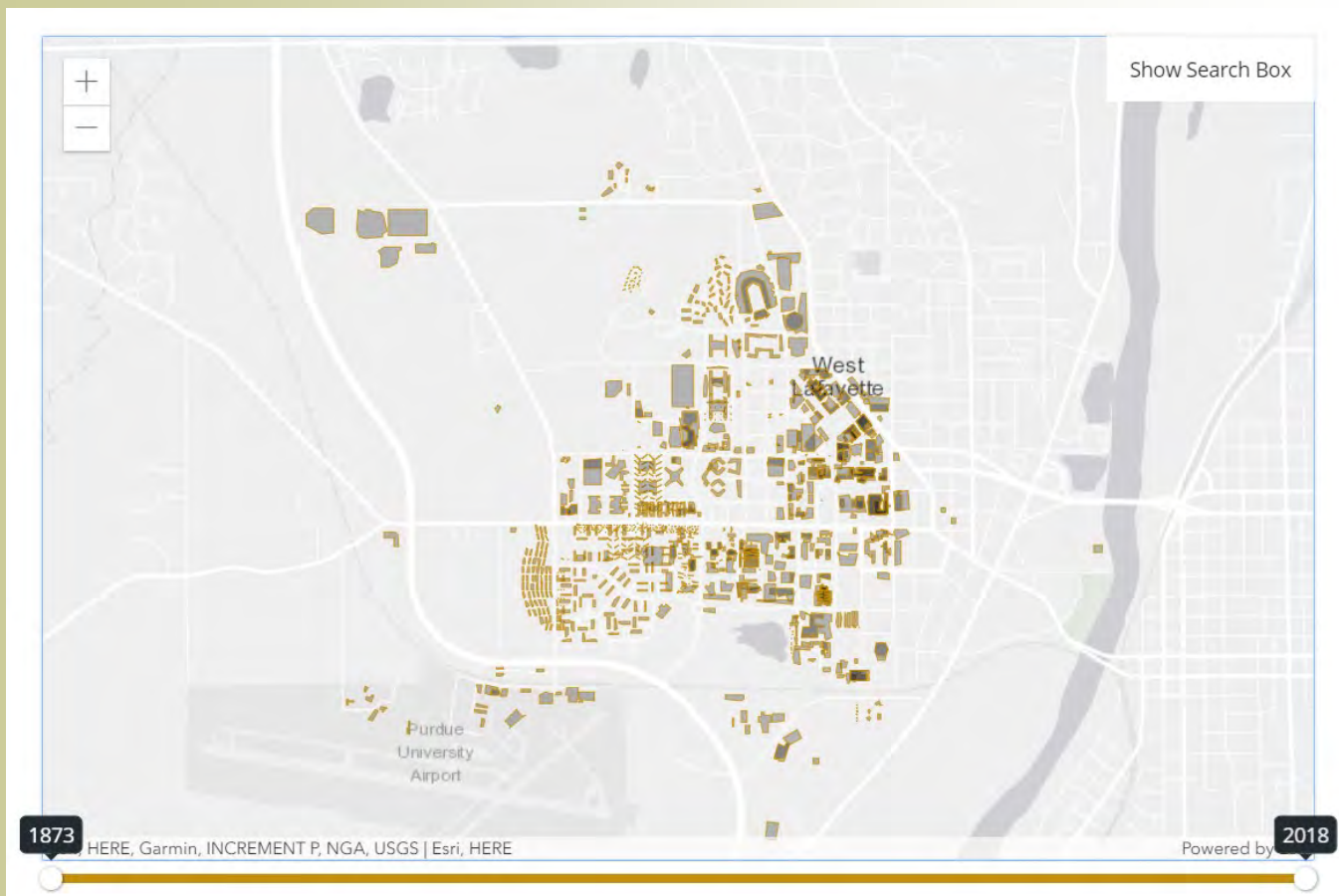




Fall/Winter 2018



Purdue Archives Launches Online Buildings Database

Learn more on page 7

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Claire Horton is the Deputy State Archivist at the Indiana Archives and Records Administration. She can be reached by phone at 317-522-9056 or email at chorton@iara.in.gov.



Fellow SIA members,

Happy Holidays! Thank you for another successful year.

Annual Meeting and Pre-Conference Workshop

Our Local Arrangements Committee, Program Committee, and Education Committee are busy putting together an action-packed 2019 Annual Meeting and Pre-Conference Workshop, to be held on April 25th and 26th in Terre Haute. We are fortunate to be able to host the event at the Clabber Girl Museum, a historic location in downtown Terre Haute. It promises to be a unique experience.

I hope many of you submitted proposals to share your knowledge and experience at the annual meeting. Learning from each other, including our successes and failures, is one of the benefits of this organization. I'm excited to announce our plenary speaker, who also happens to be my boss. This year's plenary speaker is Chandler Lighty, the Executive Director of the Indiana Archives and Records Administration. Chandler has brought new energy and ideas to the State Archives, and I think the rest of SIA will enjoy hearing his take on some of the challenges and opportunities our profession currently faces.

Renew your Membership – and Donate to SIA

There is still time to renew your membership. If you haven't yet, visit inarchivists.org and renew

your membership. This year, you can renew your membership without digging up a stamp or finding an envelope. We are thrilled to offer the option to pay the renewal fee online. This is also a great opportunity to make a donation to SIA. You can donate to our general fund or our scholarship fund, which supports the Thomas Krasean Student Scholarship and the John Newman Professional Development Scholarship. Our most recent scholarship winner is Catherine Walsh, an archival volunteer at the Stout Reference Library at Newfields and processing assistant at IUPUI's Ruth Lilly Special Collections & Archives. Catherine received the John Newman Scholarship, which funded her attendance at the 2018 Fall Workshop. You can find Catherine's reflection on the workshop, as well as a workshop recap, later in the newsletter.

Nominate a Board Member

We are approaching the end of a few board terms, and the nominating committee is putting together a slate for the upcoming board. If you know of someone who would be a great fit, or you are looking to serve SIA in a larger capacity, please send an email to siaarchivists@gmail.com.

Best,

Claire Horton

SIA President

SIA ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, April 26, 2019

Clabber Girl Museum | Terre Haute

ON THE BANKS OF ARCHIVAL SUCCESS AND FAILURE

Image: Paul Dresser "On the Banks of the Wabash Far Away" Sheet Music, Indiana State Library

The Annual Meeting Planning Committee is excited to announce the pre-conference workshop and meeting will be held at the historic Clabber Girl Museum in downtown Terre Haute. The city is home to many famous musicians, authors, poets, artists, athletes and quirky facts. Did you know Paul Dresser, a Terre Haute native, wrote and composed "On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away"? Legislature passed a law dubbing it Indiana's official state song in 1913. Other prominent individuals who were born or lived in Terre Haute include Theodore Dreiser, Ida Husted Harper, Eugene V. Debs, Max Ehrmann, Saint Mother Theodore Guerin, Virginia E. Jenckes, the Hulman family, and Eva Mozes Kor. Fun fact: the Root Glass Company was granted the patent for the [iconic Coca-Cola bottle design in](#)



[1915](#). Also, ever heard of [Clabber Girl](#)? You probably have their baking powder or soda sitting on your shelf! The company's original headquarters is located on the corner of 9th and Wabash, in the area where the [nation's first major highways intersected](#), also known as the Crossroads of America. Today, the Romanesque Revival building serves as a museum, bake shop and culinary classroom.

The Clabber Girl Museum will provide free admission to their [large-scale exhibit spaces](#) and art gallery during the workshop and meeting. Attendees will be able to peruse the gift shop and purchase freshly baked desserts from the Bake



Shop Café – cue the cheesecake and macaroons! Complimentary WIFI and parking is also available. Be sure to look for the entrance sign welcoming the Society of Indiana Archivists.

An informal gathering will take place at M. Mogger's Restaurant & Pub after the meeting. This historic venue was once occupied by Matthias Mogger, a German immigrant and pioneer of early brewing. It later became the [Terre Haute Brewing Company where Champagne Velvet](#) was created.

The Committee is working round-the-clock to provide a unique experience for everyone. A special thanks goes to Local Arrangement Committee members: Amy Christensen, Lisa Lobdell, Lauren Patton and Jackie Shalberg; Program Committee members: Kelley Brenneman, Lori Lindberg, Chris Marshall and Stephanie Schmitz. We hope you will join us on Friday, April 26th in the Wabash Valley!

2018 John Newman Scholarship Winner Catherine Walsh Reflects on her Experience at the Fall Workshop

Professional development is both a personal and a collaborative endeavor, a fact that hit close to home for me when I attended this year's Society of Indiana Archivists (SIA) Fall Workshop.

The day started with a humbling lecture by Paul Mullins about the displacement that occurred when IU-PUI began building its campus within the African-American community of the near Westside of Indianapolis. Humbling because, while I've lived much of my life in the city, I had never stopped to question the long archaeological history of a site that had always meant sweeping public spaces for me. The lecture presented both a reconstruction of some of the voices silenced by history, and a lens on some of the ways professional historians and archivists can work to investigate those absences.

If the day began with looking at things unseen, it continued with talking about things often left unsaid. In her workshop, "Deconstructing Whiteness," Samantha Winn challenged us to think about our own personal experiences with race and normativity, then articulate our opinions about a topic that many of us are sometimes too scared to discuss openly. She introduced us to the notion of the comfort zone, then nudged us firmly into the discomfort zone, a place where lots of learning can occur through interesting,

challenging, and scary conversations. To me, this workshop was remarkable not because of the panache with which Winn led things, but because it transformed our professional environment, asking us to think about it in terms of very personal feelings.

This highlighted some of the biases we bring to our archival work. For instance, she offered "wicked questions" and asked us to consider a time when we saw our own community, whatever it may be, represented in a cultural narrative, and to think about how having it told by those people in that way--accurately or inaccurately--made us feel. This personal effort and the collaborative discussions that followed made it clear very quickly that not everyone was happy with how they were presented. This brought home the realization that in creating archives, we are agents representing others every day, and it is incumbent upon us to do so responsibly, improving things even in small ways through more inclusive, less normatively white practices and description.



2018 Fall Workshop Recap

SIA held its *Deconstructing Whiteness* fall workshop at the Indiana University – Purdue University – Indianapolis (IUPUI) School of Informatics and Computing on Friday, October 19, 2018. The Education Committee hosted 24 people for the full day workshop due to a generous sponsorship from the IUPUI Department of Library and Information Science.

The day began with a colloquium lecture by historical archeologist, Dr. Paul Mullins from the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts. Dr. Mullins shared his archival research and expertise on the displacement of an African American neighborhood in downtown Indianapolis. Hundreds of acres of homes and businesses were gradually eliminated during the 1950s-1970s due to the passage of federal urban renewal legislation and the expansion of IUPUI. The recorded lecture will be available via the IUPUI School of Informatics and Computing at a later date.

Following the lecture, Samantha Winn, Collections Archivist at Virginia Tech, provided an in-depth workshop to examine how whiteness effects the archival profession and our work. This workshop was inspired by dialogue around #ArchivesSoWhite and M. Ramirez's 2015 article "Being Assumed Not to Be: A Critique of Whiteness as an Archival Imperative." Attendees gained an understanding of white supremacy and white privilege; learned key concepts, including the state of white fragility, and participated in several group exercises developed from pre-workshop



Lecture attendees (L-R) Nichelle Hayes, Special Collections Librarian, Center for Black Literature & Culture, Indianapolis Public Library and Olivia McGee-Lockhart, Keeper of History for Bethel AME Church

readings. Strategies to begin dialogue with colleagues, institutions and communities were drafted as on-going homework.

In addition to the lecture and workshop, SIA members networked over a light breakfast and lunch downtown. A drawing was held during the afternoon for an SIA-themed tote, mason jar and archival supplies. For more information about the colloquium lecture and workshop, contact Lydia Spotts, SIA Board Member and 2018 Education Committee Chair. Winn's slides and bibliography can be found on the SIA website: <https://inarchivists.org/18wksp#Workshop>

Contributed by Bethany Fiechter



Workshop attendees listen to Samantha Winn at the front of the classroom

2018 Fall Workshop Survey Summary

Note: a standard survey was created by Julie Motyka, Bethany Fiechter, and Tony Barger this fall in an effort to better manage, respond to, and compare feedback year to year. The board hopes to continually improve events and better meet the needs of membership, while also successfully transferring knowledge to new committee and board members.

The responses to the survey were generally positive. There were 16 responses out of 24 attendees, for a response rate of 66.6%. All 16 respondents indicated that the workshop met or exceeded their expectations. In responses to the question focused on why the workshop met attendees' objectives, opinions were mixed. Two attendees felt that Winn needed more time - perhaps a second day - to cover her points, while one attendee felt that Winn's presentation was too long. One attendee praised the level of dialogue in the session, while another attendee wished that other participants had spoken up more. Nearly all attendees stated that they had learned a great deal about critical race theory and ways to apply it in their jobs.

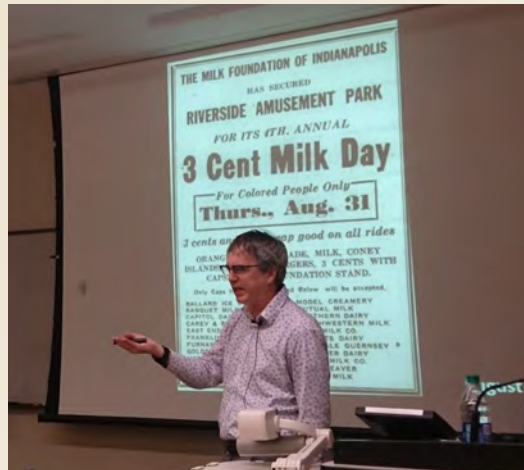
As to the question regarding what they least liked about the workshop, six attendees had nothing to indicate. Several of the remaining comments were focused on the length of time for discussion (3) and the amount of content (2).

It was interesting to note that the favored regions for holding future SIA event were Central and Northwestern Indiana. This may be helpful in planning future events.

Selected topics suggested for future educational events were:

- ♦ Donor relations (3 responses)
- ♦ Keeping and utilizing volunteers

- ♦ Institutions that are in historic buildings like house museums
- ♦ Digital preservation
- ♦ Finding Aid/Guide Usability
- ♦ ArchivesSpace (2 responses)
- ♦ Involving the community in archive creation and archive use (2 responses)



Dr. Paul Mullins

Selected feedback from workshop attendees:

Why did the workshop meet or fail to meet your objectives?

"I felt that in an ideal world, this could have been split into two days. We had to spend so much time orienting ourselves with race in general that we didn't get as deep into workplace issues as I thought we would."

"Both the speaker and the workshop facilitator provided meaningful insights and actionable information."

"Diverse age and experience of the participants made it relevant as well as the number of new archivists joining the profession; the dialogue"

"I only wish my fellow participants had been a bit more vocal."

The best thing I learned at the workshop was:

"That people from all types of institutions are concerned about these issues and are willing to talk openly about them."

General comment:

"Ms Winn was an excellent facilitator; she knew the subject matter, had appropriate readings and questions --allowed us to arrive at answers at our own pace while giving us new ways of looking at troublesome issues. I loved the professor's talk about urban history displacement."

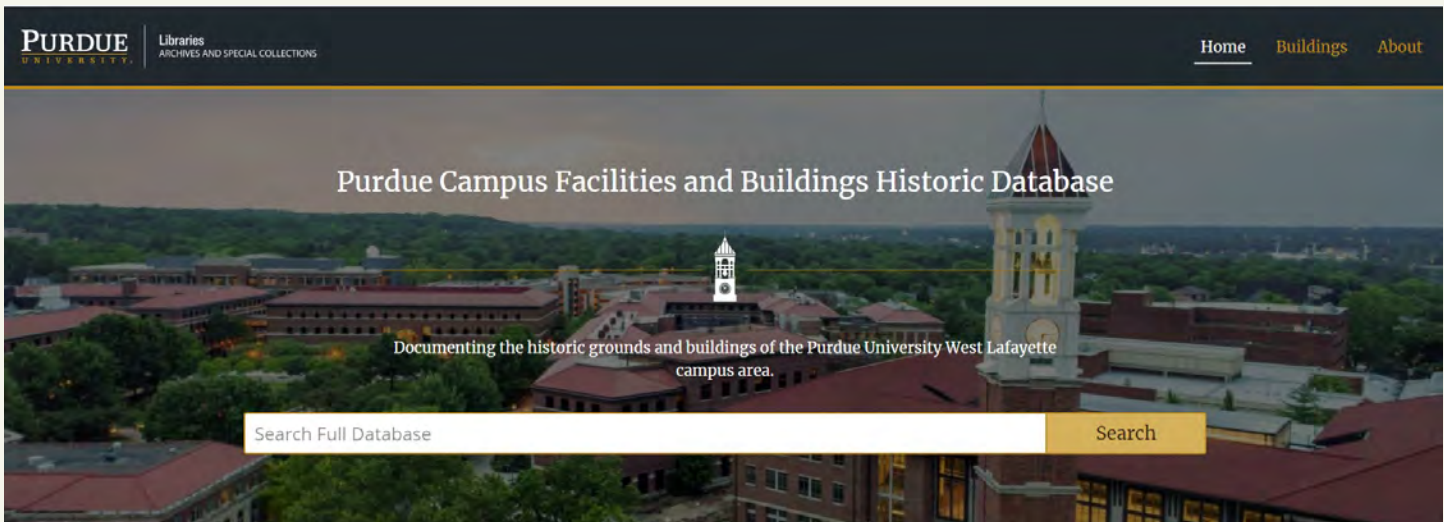
Contributed by Julie Motyka

Purdue Archives Launches New Online Building Database

A new online database allows users to take a closer look at the metamorphosis of Purdue's buildings over the years. Purdue University Archives and Special Collections debuted an historic online database in November 2018 that documents the historic grounds and structures of Purdue's West Lafayette campus. The project took five years to complete and was funded by a 2013 gift from Richard Funkhouser, professor emeritus.

thousands of hours of detailed archival research into the history of each campus facility and building identified.

Data has been gathered from archival collections, reports and publications regarding all known structures throughout the West Lafayette campus history. Priority is given to academic buildings, but the project encompasses non-academic buildings as well.

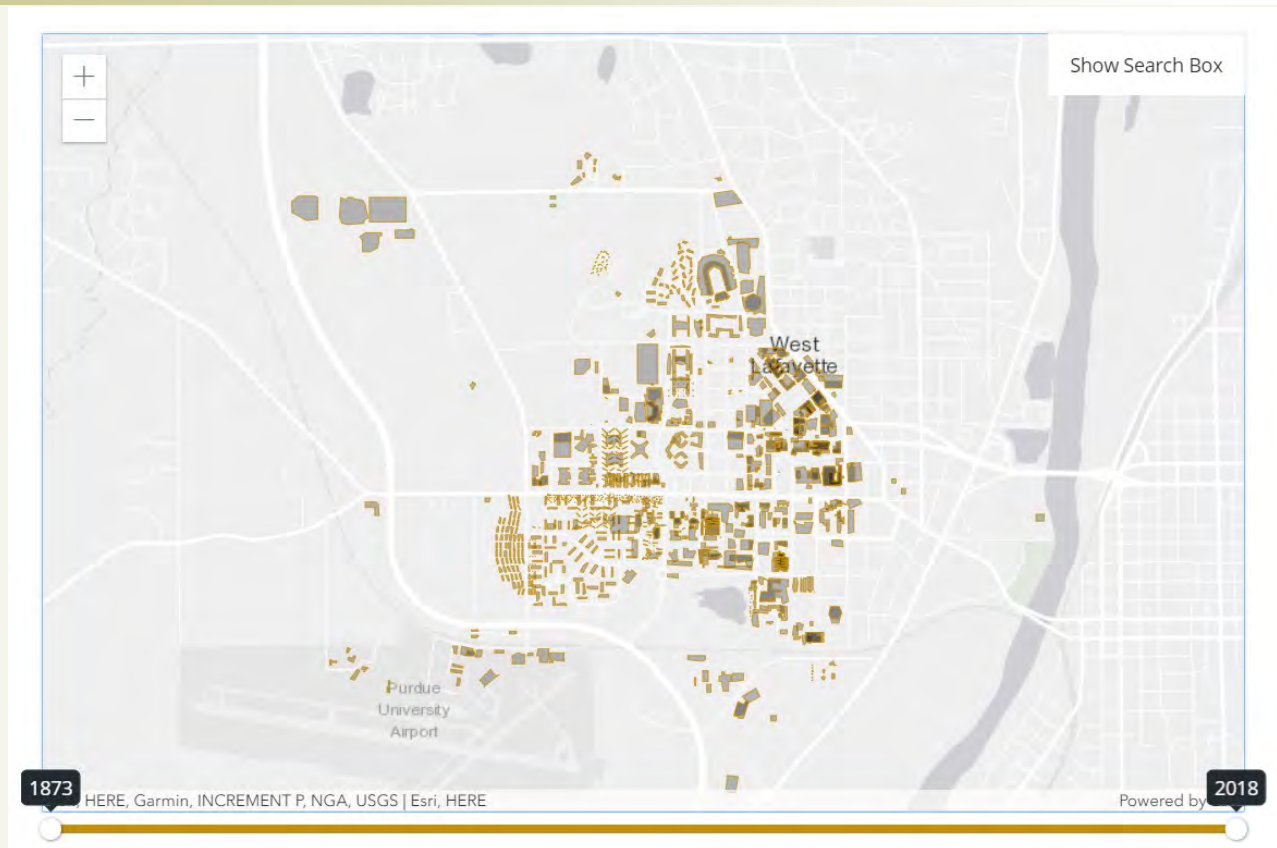


Using an interactive map and facetable interface, researchers will be able to find and sort campus buildings by architects, contractors, university president at time of construction, building materials and keywords. Each building has data related to its specific history, including construction information, renovation information and images from various stages of their use.

Neal Harmeyer, a digital archivist in [Archives and Special Collections](#), led the Purdue Libraries project team that created the Database. The database is entirely online. Digitized and georeferenced campus maps have been created to visualize the history of campus. Meanwhile, Purdue Libraries information technology developers partnered with Archives and Special Collections to create a database and interface to incorporate map and research information. Using the donated funds, Archives and Special Collections graduate and undergraduate researchers completed

Through studying the history of Purdue's facilities, the intention of the database is to help researchers understand and visualize Purdue's growth over the years – and perhaps study how those facilities will impact Purdue's future. The Historic Database will provide all members of the Purdue community the opportunity to experience the West Lafayette campus from an entirely new perspective. As the university has changed over its existence, the places Purdue students, faculty, and staff have visited, studied and lived have also changed. For the first time, there is a resource to search and study the physical campus and re-visit those experiences.

Archives and Special Collections wishes for the database to be used for educational purposes in addition to traditional research. For example, Purdue Polytechnic or Engineering faculty can use the database to learn more about construction materials and building techniques over time. Or, political science students can analyze



building numbers in micro or macro scales to determine economic trends in campus buildings infrastructure. And, of course, former Purdue students can check out just how much campus has changed since their days at the university.

The Purdue University Development Office and Archives and Special Collections are also partnering to provide donor information data for different buildings on campus. All information related to donors is maintained and managed by the development office, and information is being added or amended in the Database incrementally.

The database will continue to be maintained, and information will be added on an annual basis to reflect new buildings or demolition of buildings. The address of the Database is <http://collections.lib.purdue.edu/campus>.

Contributed by Neal Harmeyer, Digital Archivist, Purdue Archives and Special Collections

Province Archives Offer Virtual Tour



The Archives of the Province of Our Lady of Consolation, Conventual Franciscan Friars, have added “A Quick Visual Tour of the Archives” to their website: <https://franciscansusa.org/about-the-province/the-province-archives>

Contributed by Bro. Dennis Moses, OFM Conv., Archivist, Province of Our Lady of Consolation, Conventual Franciscan Friars

Lisa Lobdell Named Certified Archivist

CARMEL, Ind. – Great American Songbook Foundation Archivist Lisa Lobdell has been named to the national Academy of Certified Archivists, a certification that supports and promotes the highest level of professional archival standards and practices.

Lobdell has served since 2010 as archivist of the Foundation's Songbook Archives & Library, which houses more than 100,000 documents, images and historic artifacts – over 2,000 linear feet of materials representing the 20th century golden age of American popular music. Highlights include rare Andrews Sisters memorabilia, early working versions of Meredith Willson's *The Music Man*, handwritten original lyrics for Hy Zaret's "Unchained Melody" and Gus Kahn's original lyrics for "I'll See You in My Dreams," and a growing library of books, recordings and audiovisual materials.

An Indianapolis resident, Lobdell established the Foundation's physical archives and continues to manage the acquisition of new collections, curate gallery exhibitions, supervise volunteer docents and oversee increasingly important digital preservation efforts.

To acquire the Certified Archivist designation, an applicant must hold a master's degree in a relevant field and pass a rigorous exam that tests understanding of a wide range of archival principles and practices, including document selection, arrangement and description; reference and access services; document preservation and protection; advocacy and promotion



of archival collections; archival program management; and professional, ethical and legal responsibilities.

Lobdell sat for the Archival Certification Examination during the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting in August in Washington, D.C. She holds Master of Library Science and Master of Arts in Public History degrees from Indiana University-Indianapolis. She is a member of the Society of American Archivists, the Society of Indiana Archivists, the Midwest Archives Con-

ference and the Association of Recorded Sound Collections.

About the Great American Songbook Foundation

The mission of the Great American Songbook Foundation, founded in 2007 by five-time Grammy® Award nominee Michael Feinstein, is to inspire and educate by celebrating the Great American Songbook – the timeless musical standards of pop, jazz, Broadway and Hollywood. Headquartered at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, Indiana, the Foundation advances this rich legacy by curating physical artifacts of its creators, performers and publishers; operating a multimedia exhibit gallery; overseeing the Songbook Hall of Fame; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars and artists; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual Songbook Academy® summer intensive. The Foundation is a Cultural Affiliate of the Los Angeles-based Grammy Museum®. More information is available at www.TheSongbook.org.

Vigo County Public Library Receives LSTA Grant



The Vigo County Public Library has received an LSTA grant to digitize thousands of items from its John A. Curry Architectural Drawings collection. As the progress with its LSTA grants is blooming, the VCPL would like to take the opportunity to highlight the work of temporary metadata specialist, Haley Smith. A senior at ISU, Haley has a strong background in architectural design as well as Special Collections. With the ability to accurately read and describe blueprints, Haley has been a major asset in this digitization project since she can provide concise detail in the metadata for researchers to utilize.

Contributed by Sean Eisele, Special Collections Librarian, Vigo County Public Library

Getting to Know SIA Board Members

Bethany Fiechter



SIA Communications Committee member Joseph Coates recently interviewed Bethany Fiechter, SIA Vice President and Rare Books and Manuscripts Supervisor at the Indiana State Library.

cannot read cursive and it's a challenge for all of us. Over the past few years, the Indiana State Library has developed a strong volunteer program to help transcribe our collection. There are several institutions in our state seeking transcription volunteers, in-person or virtual, such as [The Ryan White Letters Transcription Project](#) from the Children's Museum of Indianapolis. I encourage you to take a look at other transcription projects like the [National Archives: Citizen Archivist](#) and the [Smithsonian Transcription Center](#).

Joe: What is your educational background and how did you end up at your current position?

Bethany: Believe it or not, the initial plan was to become a graphic designer. I received my Associate of Science degree from Vincennes University in 2005. I quickly fell in love with art history and received my Bachelor of Arts from the Herron School of Art and Design. I took a year off before graduate school to decide what was next and heard about the IU-Bloomington library science program. In 2010, I graduated from IU-Bloomington with an MLS and specialization in Archives and Records Management. I accepted a position out of graduate school as the Archivist for Manuscript and Digital Collections at Ball State University and began my current position as the Head of Rare Books and Manuscripts in 2013.

Joe: What are some of your recent projects you are working on?

Bethany: Our most recent project is transitioning to ArchivesSpace. It's taken a little over a year to finalize our data before the final migration. We were awarded a National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Archival Projects grant through the National Archives in June. This grant supports the digitization and accessibility of Will H. Hays' papers, our most popularly viewed manuscript collection. We're also gearing up for Indy's bicentennial in 2020.

Joe: Where do you see the future of archives?

Bethany: In the classroom with the help of transcription. We continue to see many students who

Joe: What are some of your favorite and least favorite parts of the job?

Bethany: I enjoy working with a diverse group of patrons. Some days we provide instructional sessions to undergraduate students, other days we're helping state agency employees, legislators or the Governor. We truly have a gem of a collection. The most wonderful aspect is it's been built with generous donations for over 190 years and belongs to each citizen of our state. As far as my least favorite part of the job? I dislike working with acidic newspaper clippings, especially those covered in massive amounts of tape.

Joe: Any advice to a future archivist?

Bethany: We're a small community full of amazing colleagues who help extraordinary people. Don't be afraid to ask for help, start conversations and try new things.

Joe: What do you see as an up and coming trend in archives?

Bethany: We all know archives are powerful – a simple request can inspire the next revolution. My question is: are we prepared? I'm hopeful leaders of the profession will continue to provide discussion about ethical challenges in our field. The Society of American Archivists placed a call for members to comment on the current "Core Values Statement and Code of Ethics" during the summer. I look forward to learning more about the review and proposed updates. In the meantime, a series I've enjoyed reading is from the [NC State University Libraries blog, titled "Ethics in Archives"](#).



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