

Winter 2021

# SIGAH NEWSLETTER

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# MESSAGE BY THE CHAIR

SIGAH

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## Greetings from the Special Interest Group for Arts & Humanities!

Allow me to introduce myself as the new SIG-AH chair. My name is Ann Graf and I took over from Julie Carmen after the annual meeting this fall. I want to thank Julie for all her engaging work with the SIG during her tenure. She continues to be a great support to me as I take over the reins. I am an assistant professor in the Library and Information Science graduate program at Simmons University in Boston, teaching and researching in the areas of information organization and art documentation. I am a photographer and have a great love for arts of all kinds. I have been a member of SIG-AH for about 6 years now and involved as the social media officer along the way.

The SIG started out our year of events with a webinar on December 9<sup>th</sup>, co-sponsored by SIG-VIS and presented by Dr. Heather Shirey and Dr. Todd Lawrence: In the Streets; On the Walls: Archiving, Activism, and the Urban Art Mapping Street Art Database. I will report more on this wonderful event later in the newsletter. SIG-AH has plans for more co-sponsored events in the new year with SIG-VIS, as well as another annual Virtual Symposium in the spring. The theme of the 2022 Virtual Symposium is Material Collections. Stay tuned for more information!

It is a tradition where I live to wish everyone a peaceful, safe, and happy holiday season and I would like to extend these wishes to all SIG-AH members around the world. I am writing while on the road, traveling from Boston, Massachusetts in the eastern United States to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the Upper Midwest. These are cold parts of the country, and we mark the end of the teaching semester and the beginning of December with several holiday celebrations and the first of likely many snowfalls. It is a hopeful season during many continuing struggles around the world as the Corona Virus continues to

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mutate and spread.

I hope that you feel welcome in the SIG and that you find our programs informative and interesting. If you have ideas or questions, please feel free to reach out to me or any of our SIG officers via iConnect. Please also consider letting us know who you are by submitting a short bio to the New Members column in the newsletter. We are hoping to receive more of these member bios in the new year to enhance our sense of community and to foster connections among the SIG membership.

Best wishes to all as you wrap up your work for 2021. We look forward to collaborating with you in 2022!

**Ann Graf**  
Chair - SIGAH

# New Officers

SIGAH – 2021

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<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Ann Graf</b> (new), Simmons University, Boston
<b>Chair-elect:</b>	<b>Jeremy McLaughlin</b> (new), University of Wisconsin-Madison
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<b>Arjun Sabharwal</b> (returning), The University of Toledo
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	<b>Muhammad Tariq</b> (returning), COMSATS University, Lahore, Pakistan
<b>Social Media and Communications:</b> OPEN	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	OPEN
<b>Secretary:</b>	OPEN

We are very glad to have continuity with the offices of Webmaster and Newsletter Editor. Arjun and Muhammad have served SIG-AH very well, enhancing our SIG presence through iConnect, our website, and the quarterly newsletter. We bid farewell to past chair Julie Carmen and Secretary Alicia Takaoka. Julie and Alicia continue their participation in ASIS&T on other fronts. Alicia has been chosen as one of five ASIS&T New Leaders for 2021-22 and we wish her the best in this new role.

Jeremy is joining us as chair-elect so he will take over after the annual meeting in the fall of 2022. Jeremy comes to us with lots of experience in both ASIS&T and SIG-AH, having served as a past chair of the SIG. He and I will be working together on a number of programs and opportunities for the new year.

As you can see, we still have a few officer positions open that we would like to fill. If you could help out your SIG as a social media and communications officer, treasurer, or secretary, please let us know! The commitment is manageable and will allow you to get to the know the workings of the SIG in more detail. It would really help us out as we seek to deliver the best experience to our membership, and it's fun! We are an easy-going group and we would love to expand your opportunities for service, so please let us know if you can help and we'll fill you in on the duties for each officer position.

# SEMINAR ON “IN THE STREETS ON THE WALLS: ARCHIVING, ACTIVISM, AND THE URBAN ART MAPPING STREET ART DATABASE”

**REPORT** by Ann Graf

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Dr. Heather Shirey and Dr. Todd Lawrence, both of the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis, Minnesota, presented a webinar entitled “On the Streets; On the Walls: Archiving, Activism, and the Urban Art Mapping Street Art Database.” The webinar was co-sponsored by SIG-AH and SIG-VIS. Shirey and Lawrence provided an overview of their work to document the graffiti and street art response to the murder of George Floyd as a multi-disciplinary effort of faculty and students from the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of St. Thomas. There were 47 people registered and 27 attended in real time. If you registered, you should now have received the link to view the recording.

When George Floyd was killed outside Cup Foods in Minneapolis on May 5, 2020 by a white police officer, the response in the community was swift and loud, reverberating across the country and soon around the world. A very visual response came from within and alongside the graffiti and street art community as words, phrases, and murals appeared near ground zero, quickly echoing like ripples on water and spreading ever outward. Lawrence, a folklorist and ethnographer, and Shirey, an art historian, immediately saw the importance of this historic moment and the need to document the ephemeral evidence of response. Thus the Urban Art Mapping project was born.

Today the George Floyd and Anti-Racist Street Art Database includes over 2000 images from around the world. The website states,

The George Floyd and Anti-Racist Street Art Database seeks to document examples of street art from around the world that have emerged in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd as part of an ongoing movement demanding social justice and equality.

**“When George Floyd was killed outside Cup Foods in Minneapolis on May 5, 2020 by a white police officer, the response in the community was swift and loud, reverberating across the country and soon around the world.”**

The database serves as a repository for images and a future resource for scholars and artists through metadata that is freely available for educational use and research. In addition, the provided metadata allows for an analysis of the themes and issues that appear in street art, explored in terms of local experiences, responses, and attitudes. (<https://georgefloydstreetart.omeka.net/collections/browse>)

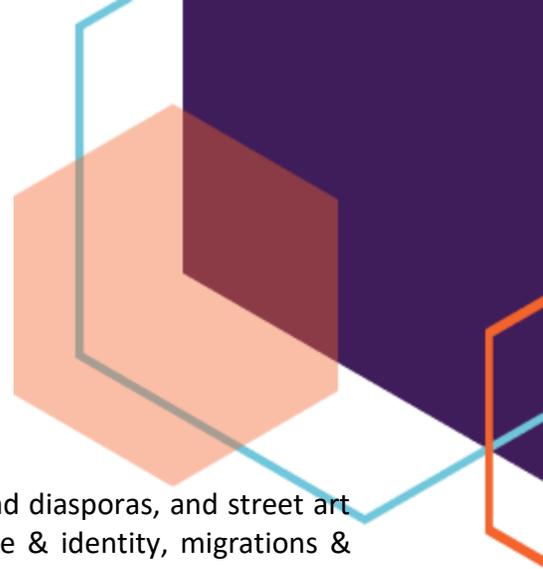
Dr. David Todd Lawrence is Associate Professor of English at the University of St. Thomas, where he teaches African American literature and culture, folklore studies, and cultural studies with research focusing on the Black Arts Movement, James Baldwin, racial passing, black speculative writing, and ethnographic writing. Dr. Heather Shirey is a Professor of Art History and interim department chair.

Her teaching and research focus on race and identity, migrations and diasporas, and street art and its communities. Topics of interest in her courses include race & identity, migrations & diasporas, and museums & their communities, while her research focuses on the arts of the African Diaspora, the history of photography, and global street art. Together with geographer Dr. Paul Lorah, Dr. Shirey and Dr. Lawrence co-direct the Urban Art Mapping research team. Their combined academic backgrounds are a natural fit for such a project that documents art, racial inequity, community, and memory.

The group created and manages three street art archives, based on distinct themes:

- the Covid-19 Street Art Database (<https://covid19streetart.omeka.net>),
- the Eco Street Art Database (<https://ecostreetart.omeka.net>) and
- the George Floyd and Anti-Racist Street Art Database (<https://georgefloydstreetart.omeka.net>).

Please visit the three databases from the Urban Art Mapping project, and consider submitting images of artworks you find and photograph that address the individual collections. Instructions for submissions are available on each of the websites. The collections continue to grow through submissions from people around the world.



# SIGAH MEMBERS MEETING

**REPORT** by Ann Graf

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SIG-AH held a meeting during the ASIS&T annual meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 2pm EST. The agenda was ambitious, and we covered a lot of ground, though most items were introduced and the discussion was general as we planned for the upcoming year.

We began by thanking exiting Chair Julie Carmen and Secretary Alicia Takaoka for their service to the SIG. New officers were introduced and we discussed the need to fill the open officer positions of Secretary and Social Media. If additional volunteers are found, the office of Treasurer could also be filled.

The December 9<sup>th</sup> webinar was discussed, and plans made to further promote the event, as well as plans for future webinars and the spring virtual symposium. Ann made plans to meet with the chair of SIG-VIS to discuss cross-promotion of events and other possible collaborations across the two SIGs. Ann and Jeremy also set up plans to meet to discuss topics for the 2022 virtual symposium.

We discussed the student research award, possible themes for the award, and ideas for promotion. Jeremy agreed to look into promotion strategies.

Our newsletter editor, Muhammad Tariq, has extensive experience with organizational communications and has developed an improved structure, thematic outline, and publishing consistency for our SIG's newsletter. We agreed to move to a quarterly format and applauded the added column for member bios called "Get to Know Your SIG Members".

We wrapped up the meeting by discussing plans for future meetings.



# TIM GORICHANAZ

Meet the **SIGAH MEMBER**



Gorichanaz is Assistant Teaching Professor at Drexel University in the College of Computing & Informatics. He teaches courses across Drexel's relationship and human-centered computing programs, with a particular focus on design thinking ethics. He lives in Philadelphia with his partner and his cat.

In his research, Tim explores how human pursuits of the good life intersect with information technology and how they may be changing in the digital age, work that bridges philosophy and

information science. In particular, Tim explores information experience, or people's lived experiences of engaging with information technologies, a lens that brings a first-person perspective to questions of information behavior and practices. His work has centered on a handful of concepts at this juncture, including understanding and personal meaning. In his doctoral research, for example, Tim explored the artistic genre of self-portraiture as a document genre and conducted empirical research on

local artists' process of creating self-portraits, including how they interacted with information technology along the way. Most recently, Tim has been working on applications of virtue ethics in information technology, reflecting on how such technologies can help people discern and move toward the good life. This line of work examines concepts such as intellectual humility and hope, and it explores how digital technology may help us become humbler and more hopeful.

As part of his research career thus far, Tim has enjoyed exploring how scholarly work can be presented in ways beyond the standard research paper. For example, he edited the collection "Documents in Human Life: Fresh Approaches" (2017), which was a special issue of *Proceedings from the Document Academy*. In 2020, he helped organize a book symposium (a format common in philosophy but not in information science) on a new monograph by philosopher Luciano Floridi, which was published in *Journal of Documentation*

under the title "Information and Design." Outside of work, Tim's main hobby is ultra-distance running. He began running in 2010 and gradually increased his mileage, and now he runs one or two 100-mile races a year, as well as periodic races of shorter distances. He runs nearly every day, with a long run every weekend. His other biggest hobby is fiction writing; a few of his short stories have been published, and he self-published two novels.

He recently finished revisions on a new young-adult fantasy novel, for which he is pursuing traditional publishing. He also enjoys practicing classical guitar, a hobby that he returned to with gusto since the beginning of the pandemic; and he is a longtime player of Dungeons & Dragons and other tabletop games.

You can learn more about Tim at his website <http://timgorichanaz.com> and connect with him on Twitter @timgorichanaz.



# SIGAH MEMBERS

## activities

### Embroidery Class By Julie Carmen

Julie Carmen announced a class I am offering through the Embroiderer's Guild of America. She first discovered them when she was researching the historic stitches of the Bayeux Tapestry. She is now a member and enjoying learning from these gifted embroiders. Please consider reading about this course as it crosses over the embroidery threshold to teach how to search in medieval manuscripts for illuminated images to use for making one's own pattern for embroidery, There will be an overview on creating a program in makerspaces too. Here is the information: [Online Class: Creating a Pattern for Embroidery from Digital Images with Julie Carmen | EGA](#)



### Training on Endnote by Dr. Tariq

Dr. Muhammad Tariq conducted a training entitled "How to manage references through Endnote". The participants were the MBBS doctors of Chughtai Labs and create reference library in the Endnote software, though. The training mode was presentation, discussion, and hands on practice.



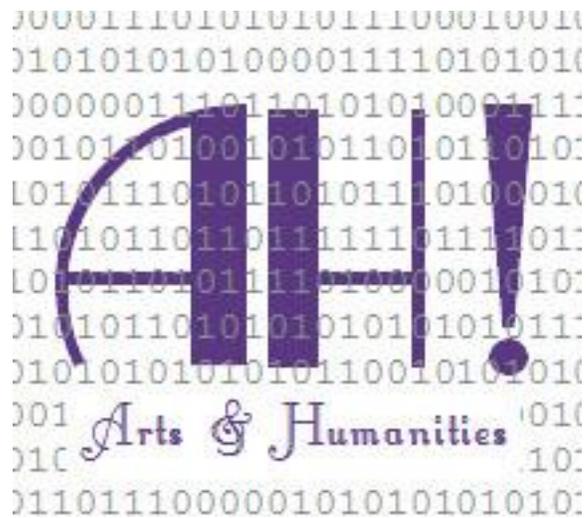
### Research publications

- Ashiq, M; Rehman, SU, Rafiq, S; Tariq, M (2021). Women Women Library Leadership in Pakistan: A qualitative Study on the Journey of Career Progression and Serving the Community. College and Research Libraries (IF: 2.27)
- Anwar, Naveed; Shahzad, Khurram; Tariq, Muhammad Dr.; and Bhatti, Amber Mehboob, (2021). "Barriers for the Adoption of Professional Development Courses (PDCs) in Public Sector University Libraries". Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal). 6389. <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/6389>



### Editorial Board

- Chair:** Ann Graf, Simmons University, Boston
- Chair-elect:** Jeremy McLaughlin, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Webmaster:** Arjun Sabharwal, The University of Toledo
- Newsletter Editor:** Muhammad Tariq, COMSATS University, Lahore-Pakistan



Special Interest Group of Arts and Humanities SIGAH  
**Association for Information Science & Technology**

