

Lori Birrell

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EDUCATION:

Doctorate of Education, Warner School of Education, University of Rochester, expected graduation May 2017

Dissertation focus: Developing career ladder to provide leadership and management training opportunities for librarians.

Masters of Arts, Library and Information Science, Simmons College, 2011

- President, Library and Information Science Student Association, Simmons College, Fall 2010-Spring 2011

Masters of Arts, History, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2009

Bachelor of Arts, Feminist Studies, Mount Holyoke College, Cum Laude, Honors in History, 2007
Concentrations: Gender Studies, History

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVAL EXPERIENCE:

Head of Special Collections, University of Arkansas, Department of Special Collections, 2017-present

- Associate Librarian, tenured
- Leads a team of 9 FTE librarian faculty and staff members
- Provides strategic vision and direction for the department in all functional areas
- Collaborates with the dean and Development Office on donor relations and fundraising efforts
- Stewards collections with strengths in political science, music history, agribusiness, and local history

Special Collections Librarian for Historical Manuscripts, University of Rochester, Department of Rare Books Special Collections, and Preservation, 2011- present

- Promoted to Librarian III, 2016
- Interim Co-Director, March 2016- June 30, 2016
 - Oversaw daily operations of department
 - Supervised additional department staff
 - Managed department budget
 - Served as department representative for donor relations
 - Liaised with library and university development officers
- Curate nineteenth and twentieth century historical manuscript collections
- Supervise staff, volunteers, graduate students, and undergraduates
 - Determine processing priorities, collections maintenance and preservation priorities, and coordinate student assistant projects
- Teach primary source instruction sessions
 - Integrate primary source materials into course curricula to develop instruction sessions that support development of undergraduate research skills and meet course objectives
 - Lead students in analytical thinking activities to develop critical thinking skills

Lori Birrell

- Collaborate with faculty to develop course assignments that integrate primary sources into course objectives
- Serve as co-project manager for the AIDS Education Poster Translation Project
- Team-taught course with History Department faculty member, Digital Humanities Librarian *William Henry Seward and the Civil War*
- Participate in Collection Development team
 - Oversee the spending of endowed funds used to purchase historical manuscripts to support university curriculum and scholarship
 - Coordinate with donors to facilitate the transfer of materials, and funds to support new acquisitions
- Project Manager for Post Family Papers Digitization Project, <http://rbsc.library.rochester.edu/>
 - Supervised undergraduate and graduate student workers to transcribe and digitize 19th century collection
 - Oversaw \$30,000 project budget
 - Maintained positive relationship with donor, and provide regular updates related to meeting project objectives and use of collection in university curriculum
- Initiated River Campus Libraries Student Advisory Board
 - Served as staff coordinator for monthly program, 2013-2016
 - Work with Dean of River Campus Libraries to develop monthly topics for discussion
- Initiated Library Science graduate student and undergraduate internship program, and supervise interns
 - Coordinate with regional graduate programs and universities to develop projects tailored to individual student interest and department priorities
 - Introduce interns to the daily functions of a special collections department and academic library, including attending all staff meetings, and relevant guest speaker events
- Led implementation of ArchivesSpace
 - Coordinated training workshop in collaboration with Rochester Regional Library Council
 - Created implementation manual, department processes, and policies
- Collaborated with Head of Metadata Services to increase discoverability of manuscript collections
 - Solicited library staff volunteers from Cataloging and Outreach departments to process manuscript collection backlog
 - Led workshop sessions to teach archival theory and practice required for processing
 - Initiated Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aid editing project and created editing guidelines
 - Led workshop session to train catalogers and curators in best practices
- Connect manuscript collections to library staff and community members through public presentations
- Initiated and published department e-newsletter
 - Highlighted new acquisitions, department events, student projects, current and upcoming exhibits
 - Contribute to River Campus Libraries newsletter

Library Service:

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Mentoring Underrepresented Student Library Employees for a Career in Academic and Research Libraries and Archives Implementation Team and Working Group, 2016-present, Facilitator

Search committee for Collections Services Staff Assistant, 2016, Co-chair

Museum Studies Advisory Board, Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), 2016-present, Member

Search committee for Joseph N. Lambert and Harold B. Schleifer Director of Rare Books Special Collections and Preservation Department, 2016, Member

Strategic Planning- Implementation Team, 2015-2016, Member

- Serve as liaison to Assistant Dean Rare Books Special Collections to support achievement of strategic objectives, and contribute to quarterly reports documenting the current progress of working groups and implementation teams

River Campus Libraries and Writing, Speaking, Arguing Program Information Literacy Committee, 2015-present, Member

Search committee for Director, Rossell Hope Robbins Library, 2015, Member

Search committee for Library Section Supervisor-Course Reserves, 2015, Member

Search committee for Seward Project Archivist, 2014, Chair

Search committee for Exhibits Manager, 2013, Member

Search committee for Joseph N. Lambert and Harold B. Schleifer Director of Rare Books Special Collections and Preservation Department, 2013, Member

Strategic Planning- Implementation Team, June 2013, Member

- Collaborated with six colleagues to draft plans to achieve strategic objectives for River Campus Libraries
- Coordinated implementation of Year 1 objectives

Strategic Planning- Planning Team, Spring 2013, Member

- Worked with eight colleagues and strategic planning facilitator to draft five year strategic plan for River Campus Libraries
- Served as ambassador between planning team and library staff to encourage community participation and buy in

Digital Asset Management Task Force, 2012- 2013, Member

- Served as representative for Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation to draft best practices for digital assets
- Served as head of Asset Management sub-group

Annex Working Group, 2012, Member

- Served as representative of Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation

Lori Birrell

- Contributed to group's recommendations for best practices to transfer materials to off-site storage facility

Camelot Project Team, 2011- 2013, Member

- Contributed perspectives as an archivist on Camelot, a scholarly publishing project

Spotlight On Series, 2011- 2013, Member

- Reached out to potential faculty speakers and invited them to present a current research topic

Scare Fair: library's annual Halloween outreach event

- Chief organizer and chair, 2013
- Organizer and Co-chair 2012

SELECT EXHIBITS:

- Implemented "pop-up" exhibits to display collections related to course assignments and campus events to encourage integration of special collections into the curriculum and university community, 2013-present

Content Contributor:

- "City of Lights: Rochester and the History of Optics," August 2016-December 2016
- "New Acquisitions," September 2015-January 2016
- "The Play's The Thing," September 2014-January 2015
- "Acquiring Minds: Building Special Collections, 2009-2014," March-July 2014
- "Let the Good Times Roll," Summer 2011
- "Manuscripts as the Portals for Discovery," Winter 2012
- "Documenting the Past," June- August 2012

Project Manager:

- "Nurturing Inquiry: Exploring Special Collections," October 2013- February 2014
 - Supervised graduate student, co-curator
 - Sought "research products" from undergraduates, graduates and faculty to de-mystify the process of doing research using special collections
 - Served as coordinator for collaboration among three additional curators to create a cohesive narrative
- "Travel Stories: Nineteenth Century to the Present," April 2013- December 2013
 - Supervised undergraduate student curator and her selection of exhibit items
 - Proof read exhibit text
 - Coordinated exhibit opening with undergraduate speakers
- "Citizen's Rights to Vote: United States vs. Susan B. Anthony," February- May 2013
 - Co-curated exhibit with Susan B. Anthony Institute staff member
 - Worked together to select items for display and wrote exhibit text
 - Promoted exhibit through postcard mailing, exhibit talk and WXXI interview
- "A Presidential Voice: The History of Speechwriting," January- April 2013

Lori Birrell

- Co-curated with English Department faculty member
- Worked with faculty member to choose items for display
- Proof read exhibit text
- Promoted exhibit through television interviews with WHAM morning news program and WROC evening broadcast

- “William Henry Seward and His Civil War,” September 2012- January 2013
 - Supervised undergraduate student curator and her selection of exhibit items
 - Proof read exhibit text
 - Worked with UR Communications office to promote exhibit through Fall issue of *Currents*

RELATED LIBRARY AND ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

Digital Collections Intern, Mount Holyoke College Archives and Special Collections, 2010-2011

- Learned the content management system, CONTENTdm and applied metadata to newly digitized objects
- Supervised student assistant who scanned and described materials requested by researchers for digitization
- Collaborated with library department staff members to implement Perl script which greatly increased productivity when adding digital items to the online collection
- Updated digitization manual to reflect new workflow procedures
- Contributed to library’s outreach efforts by uploading content to the library’s Facebook page
- Communicated with researchers to meet their digitization needs in a timely manner

Social Media Coordinator, Emily Dickinson International Society, 2010- 2011

- Developed a plan of action for promoting and expanding the membership of the society
- Extended the society’s on-line presence to Twitter and Facebook

Intern, Preservation Lab, State Library of Massachusetts, Summer 2010

Intern, University Archives and Special Collections University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Fall 2008, UMASS Boston, Spring, 2010

Intern, Sophia Smith Collection, Smith College, Winter, Spring 2009

Adjunct Professor, History 302- *Research and Analysis*, Westfield State College, Fall 2009

- Developed course syllabus and content
- Led reference workshops to assist students in locating and evaluating primary and secondary sources
- Taught students through lectures and individual conferences to develop a research topic and gather primary and secondary sources culminating in a 30 page research paper
- Guided students through the writing process, including drafting a thesis statement, creating a historiography of their topic, and analyzing their sources to create an original piece of scholarship
- Graded all assignments

Lori Birrell

Teaching Assistant, History 111- *Global Civilizations 1450 to the Present*, History 151- *US History since 1865- Multiculturalism in American History*, University of Massachusetts- Amherst, Fall 2008 and Spring 2009

- Introduced students to the application of primary documents and materials in their critique of historical trends and themes related to each class
- Presented lecture in professor's absence
- Graded and critiqued papers and exams throughout semester

Tour Guide, Emily Dickinson Homestead and Museum, 2008- 2009

- Presented biographical, historical, and literary information to a varied audience
- Prepared materials for museum public programs and mailings

Content Developer, "Our Plural History" Springfield Technical Community College, Winter, Spring and Summer 2008

- Researched local history topics using primary and secondary materials culminating in 12 written pieces for on-line publication

Research Assistant, *Journal for the History of Childhood and Youth*, Fall 2007

- Edited Bai, Limin. "Children as the Youthful Hope of an Old Empire: Race, Nationalism, and Elementary Education in China: 1895-1915." *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*. Vol. 1 No. 2. Spring 2008

GRANTS:

Contributor to National Endowment for the Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Foundations grant, Partner with Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley, \$50,000, awarded 2017

PumpPrimer 1 grant, Partner with Biology faculty member, and Digital Humanities Center, \$5,000, awarded 2016

National Endowment for the Humanities Common Heritage grant, Partner with Rochester Public Library, Local History & Genealogy Division, \$12,000, not funded 2015

Contributor to CLIR's Digitizing Hidden Collections grant, \$150,000, not funded 2015

Contributor to Emerson Foundation Grant, awarded by Emerson Foundation to the Rush Rhees Library in support of the Seward Family Editorial Project, \$360,000, awarded 2013

Co-investigator Harold Hacker Award, awarded by the Board of the Rochester Regional Library Council to the Rochester Early-Career Information Professionals to organize Leadership Summit, \$5,000, awarded 2013

WORKSHOPS:

Birrell, Lori and Marcy Strong, "Creating Finding Aids," Rochester Regional Library Council, December 2016.

Birrell, Lori and Kristen Totleben, "Collaborating for Impact: Exploring Special Collections and Liaison Librarian Partnerships," Webcast series, ACRL, November 2016.

Lori Birrell

Birrell, Lori and Kristen Totleben, "Collaborative Instruction – Special Collections, Secondary Sources and Curriculum," Rochester Regional Library Council, 2015.

Birrell, Lori "Access and Outreach," invited speaker, Rochester Regional Library Council Archives Bootcamp, 2014.

PRESENTATIONS:

Birrell, L., Totleben, K., "AIDS Education Posters Translation Project," poster co-presenter, National Diversity in Libraries Conference, August 2016.

Birrell, L., Totleben, K., "Special Collections, Secondary Sources and Courses, Oh My!: Co-Teaching Experiences, Strategies and Lessons Learned," session co-presenter, joint RIT-University of Rochester Libraries Conference, June 2016.

Birrell, L., Glogower, A., "Hands on History: Telling Stories with Stuff," session co-presenter, Society of American Archivists, August 2015.

Birrell, L., Totleben, K., "Special Collections, Secondary Sources and Courses, Oh My!: Co-Teaching Experiences, Strategies and Lessons Learned," poster presentation, Conference on Teaching and Instruction, SUNY Geneseo, May 2015.

Birrell, L., Dr. Cerulli, K., "Wit and Wisdom of Susan B. Anthony," poster presentation, Silo Busting Bonanza! Rochester Regional Library Council, April 2015.

Birrell, L., "Organizing for Change: An Open Forum with New Professionals Group Leaders," session moderator and presenter, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, October 2015.

Birrell, L., "Connecting our Communities to Our Collections: Developing an Archives Exhibits Program," session Chair and presenter, Society of American Archivists, August 2014.

Birrell, L., Strong, M., "Partners in Discovery: Collaboration in Special Collections," session moderator and co-presenter, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, November 2013.

Birrell, L., "Collaboration and Community: Three Digital Humanities Projects," session Chair and presenter, Society of American Archivists, August 2013.

Birrell, L., Gorman, D., Mavrinac, M., "21st Century Academic Libraries: The Power of Collaboration!", The Highlands retirement community, January 2013.

Birrell, L., "Having Our Cake and Eating it Too: Security and Access in the Reading Room," Security Roundtable Presentation, Society of American Archivists, August 2012.

Birrell, L., Mead, M., "Bridging the Divide between Digital and Analog: Post Family Papers Digitization Project," Professional Poster Session, Society of American Archivists, August 2012.

Bell, S., **Birrell, L.**, Sarr, N., "Omeka: Bringing the 19th Century On-line," New York Archives Conference, Nazareth College, June 2012.

Lori Birrell

Birrell, L., “Omeka: Bringing the 19th Century On-line,” Tech Camp, RIT, January 2012.

Birrell, L., “Social Media: What is it Good For?” Mid Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, Fall meeting, 2011.

Birrell, L., “Omeka: Taking the Work out of Managing Your Digital Content,” Techno-Smart Series, Western New England College, 2010.

Birrell, L., “Re-Imagining Race in the Nineteenth Century Woman’s Suffrage Movement through the Eyes of a Visionary: Paulina Wright Davis and the First National Woman’s Rights Convention,” Boston University, Graduate Student Conference, Politics and History, 2009.

Birrell, L., “Susan B. Anthony: A Visionary of the Nineteenth Century American Female Suffrage Movement,” Mount Holyoke College Senior Symposium, 2007.

PUBLICATIONS:

Lori Birrell, *Developing the Next Generation of Library Leaders*, ACRL, Monograph, forthcoming December 2018.

Lori Birrell and Kristen Totleben, *Collaborating for Impact: Special Collections and Liaison Librarian Partnerships*, ACRL, Monograph, October 2016.

Lori Birrell and Marcy Strong, “Partners in Discovery: Collaboration in Special Collections,” *Archival Practice*, 2014. <http://www.partnershipsjournal.org/index.php/ap/article/view/886/615>.

Website Review. Grateful Dead Archive Online. March 2013.

<http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/Grateful%20Dead%20Archive%20Online.pdf>.

Birrell, Lori. “Remembering the Reformers.” *Archival Outlook*. November/December 2012. <http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/2012-6-AO.pdf>.

Book Review. Primary Research Group. *Trends in Rare Books & Documents Special Collections Management*. Fall 2012.

Book Review. Theimer, Kate. *Different Kind of Web*. *American Archivist*. Winter 2012.

Birrell, Lori. Oral History Transcription. Society of American Archivists Oral History Commemoration Project, 2011- 2012.

Satter, Lori. *You Want Me to Do What? Overcoming your fear of public speaking for new educators*. <http://www.lorisatter.com/public-speaking-for-educators/>, 2010.

Satter, Lori. “The Intangibles: Tips for Job Hunting and Interviewing in the Archives Field.” *NEA Newsletter: New England Archivists*. Vol. 37. No. 3, July 2010.

Book Review. Schlatter, N. Elizabeth. *Museum Careers: A Practical Guide for Students and Novices*. *American Archivist*, Spring/Summer 2010.

Lori Birrell

“Our Plural History.” <http://ourpluralhistory.stcc.edu/index.html>, 2008.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Service Award, 2014

Dolores M. Sayles '29LS Endowed Scholarship, 2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of American Archivists, Winter 2010- present, Member

- Manuscript Repositories Section, Steering Committee, member, 2016-present
- Reference, Access, and Outreach Section, Steering Committee, Ex-officio member, 2015-present
 - Teaching with Primary Sources Committee Co-Chair, 2015- present
 - Committee member, 2014-present
 - Coordinate committee's projects and facilitate progress to achieve annual objectives
 - Survey sub-committee, Member, Summer 2011- Summer 2013
 - Worked with group members to archival instruction and pedagogy survey and generate report

Mid- Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, Summer 2011- 2015, Member

- Program Committee, Spring 2015 joint NEA/MARAC, Member
- Co- chair Local Arrangements Committee for Spring 2014 meeting
- Outreach Committee, Fall 2011- 2015, Member

Rochester Young Information Professionals, Co-founder, 2013- 2015

- Organized monthly meetings with area young professionals to create an environment that fosters cross- institutional collaboration
- Invited speakers to share experiences from their early careers
- Coordinated visits to area libraries

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Coach U Part II, Led by Barb Saat, University of Rochester Human Resources, December 2015

Library Management Skills Institute II: The Learning Organization, DeEtta Jones Consulting and Kathryn Deiss, June 2015

Coach U, Led by Barb Saat, University of Rochester Human Resources, January 2015

Library Management Skills Institute I: The Manager, DeEtta Jones Consulting, December 2014

Digital Archives Specialist Curriculum Certificate Program, March 2014

- Digital Curation: Creating an Environment for Success
- Digital Archives and Libraries
- Digital Forensics for Archivists, Part I and Part II

Library Instruction Leadership Academy, 2013

Lori Birrell

- Participated in semester long academy offered through Rochester Regional Library Council
- Studied learning styles
- Learned and applies effective instruction methods and assessment tools

SPECIAL SKILLS:

Description Standards:

- EAD
- TEI
- Dublin Core

Encoding Standards:

- XML
- CSS

Computer Applications

Encoding Programs:

- Oxygen
- Dreamweaver
- NotetabPro

Content Management Systems:

- ArchivesSpace
- Blackboard
- CONTENTdm
- Cold Fusion
- Archivist Toolkit
- Omeka
- WordPress

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References:

Jim Kuhn
Associate Director and Hobby Foundation Librarian
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Harry Ransom Center
The University of Texas at Austin
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