

BRIAN M. WATSON

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Education

- 2020 (expected) **Master of Library Science**, *Archives & Digital Humanities*
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
- 2012 – 2013 **Master of Art**, History and Culture *summa cum laude*
Drew University, Madison, NJ
- 2007 – 2011 **Bachelors of Art**, English and **Bachelors of Art**, History *magna cum laude*
Keene State College, Keene, NH

Honors & awards:

- 2020 IU Janice Kilner Egloff Scholarship
- 2020 Digital Pedagogy Lab Fellow
- 2020 ArchivesUnleashed/Columbia University Libraries Datathon Award
- 2019-20 Kinsey Institute Graduate Fellow
- 2019-20 IU Margaret Griffin Coffin Fellow
- 2019 Association of College and Research Libraries Women and Gender Studies Student Fellow
- 2018-19 IU May Copeland Fellow
- 2019 American Library Association Student Fellow
- 2014 Drew University: David Kohn Thesis Award

Professional Experience

- 2018 – Current Kinsey Institute Library and Special Collections
Graduate Archivist; Intern (Linked Data Project)
- Worked on several different collections at the Kinsey, including traditional, audiovisual, and born-digital collections. Highlights include the unarchiving, rehousing, digitizing, and error-checking the 20,000 item Print Media Response Collection; the reorganization of the Michael R. Perelman collection; the processing, cataloging, and organization of the Crossdressing Publications Collection, and more. Created finding aids for several collections.
 - Helped manage a 100,000+ item digital library, including audio, video, and image items, both digitized and born-digital. This required extensive use of a variety of systems, both in-house and commercial.
 - Completed the transformation of the Kinsey Institute's internal thesaurus Sexual Nomenclature from an ANSI-standard thesaurus into SKOS-enabled linked data vocabulary. Revision and updating of terms is ongoing.
 - Helped in initial conversations with a number of donors that resulted in the curation and depositing of new materials into the. Built, developed and deposited collections of other scarce and endangered material, including born-digital material
- 2019 – Current American Psychological Association, Div44, CNM Taskforce
Archivist-Historian, Executive Board.
- Serving on the executive board, working closely with co-leads Dr. Heath Schechinger and Dr. Amy Moors to document and preserve the work of 100+ professionals at 50 universities worldwide into the Kenneth R. Haslam Collection on Polyamory at the Kinsey Institute. Required significant education on archival practices and federal

regulations (FERPA, HIPAA ,and others). Also manage the taskforces' KO and archiving workflows.

- Additional work includes
 - (1) working with Dr. Sechinger to increase the funding, awareness and donation to the Haslam Collection by financial and material donors.
 - (2) the construction of a taxonomy and controlled vocabulary for hundreds of items of CNM literature to be used by researchers, educators, and clinicians.

2019 – Current

Researcher: *Classifying, Documenting, and Preserving Human Sexuality*

Dr. Marika Cifor, Dr. Robert D. Montoya

- Prepared literature and archival collection reviews. The research is a multi-disciplinary project involving archival studies, knowledge organization, and history, the third of which is my focus and contribution. My contributions to the research have grown out of my own research into the history of the classification and organization of sexualities in Western contexts between Hirschfield and Kinsey.
- The purpose of the project is examining the historical and contemporary collection, classification, and description practices pertaining to human sexuality materials in the Kinsey Institute. The work of the Institute has had a profound, but under examined impact on the classifications of bodies, sex, and sexuality across information contexts.

2019 – Current

Encoder: *The Algernon Charles Swinburne Project*

Dr. John Walsh

- XML-TEI Encoding of Swinburne's letters and essays. This project is funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

2019

Researcher: *"The Price of Admission" GLAMs and Internship Diversity*

Dr. Marika Cifor

- Undertook a large literature review of all the available information on GLAM internships and diversity, and then prepared data on nearly 400 institutions of higher education in the United States, Canada, and elsewhere.
- The purpose of this project was examination of the lack of diversity in GLAM institutions, which are overwhelmingly white. Data is being processed into a conference paper and may be used for a grant application.

2018 – 2019

Scholarly Communications, *Indiana University Libraries*

Open Access Graduate Assistant

- Worked on several major projects within the Scholarly Communications department and among other Indiana University school units. This includes projects such as the management and understanding of the institutional DSpace repository, blogging, preparing educational materials, administrating Open Journal Systems for Open Access Journals.
- Contributed towards the promotion, event planning and development of the department.
- Developed a social media strategy for the promotion of Scholarly Communications work including blogging, podcasts, and videos on Twitter and other platforms. Also

helped in the management and distribution of departmental email accounts and email newsletters.

- 2012 – 2019 **CFO, Moderator, Podcast Host, AskHistorians**
- Helped in the establishment of AskHistorians as the largest academic public history forum with nearly 1MM subscribers, 20MM monthly pageviews, and 20-30,000 monthly podcast listeners and financial supporters.
 - Received recognition from the AHA and NCPH and collaborated with the Library of Congress and other institutions.
- 2015 – 2018 **Adjunct Professor, New England College**
- Taught American History, Essay Writing, and Democracy to freshman, sophomores, and juniors.
 - Used class and internet participation, outside engagement in teaching 20-30 pupils.
 - Instructed on a variety of topics, including creative poetry, freshman composition, and literature classes.
- 2013 – 2018 **International Researcher & Author**
- Researched and wrote a book on the development of censorship and obscenity, which went on to win several awards, was featured on the Conan O'Brien show, and inspired a number of interviews, articles and more.
 - Spent nearly seven months abroad conducting international research and engaging in negotiations for access to restricted material
- 2015 – 2016 **Historical Researcher and Cataloger, Noblespirit**
- Provided research and information for company that sought to disrupt the usual antique store model by selling directly to consumers.
 - Supervised a team of 20 photographers and listers.

Advisory Boards & Professional Memberships

Advisory Boards:

- Homosaurus LGBTQ+ Linked Data Vocabulary
- The Kenneth R. Haslam Collection On Polyamory

Professional Memberships

- ISKO: Int'l Soc. for Knowledge Organization
- SAA: Society of American Archivists
- InULA: IN University Librarians Association
- AHA: American Historical Association
- SHARP: Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing
- SCMS: Society for Cinema & Media Studies (Libraries and Archives & Adult Film History Scholarly Interest Groups)

Honor Societies:

Sigma Tau Delta (ΣΤΔ) English, Phi Alpha Theta (ΦΑΘ) History, Order of Omega Greek, National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS)

Proficiencies

Library and archive specific:

- Archiving—paper, photo, born-digital
- Archival software, EAD
- Oral Histories (recording & editing)
- Metadata—crosswalking and original
- Dublin Core
- Controlled vocabularies
- SKOS, RDF
- Knowledge organization
- Development of finding aids
- MARC
- Open source software
- Open Access
- Social media management (reddit, Twitter, Facebook, Canva, Wordpress)

Digital & Software:

- Omeka & Scalar
- Microsoft Office
- Online collaborative applications (Google Doc suite, Prezi, etc.)
- Educational software (Blackboard, Moodle, etc.)
- Oxygen XML
- Adobe Creative Suite (Creative Cloud, Acrobat, InDesign)
- Audacity
- Ubuntu Linux (proficient, server and desktop)

Languages:

- French (reading and writing)
- XML (intermediate)
- Ruby on Rails (intermediate)
- LAMP (intermediate)
- Python & HTML (basic to intermediate)
- SQL (beginner), MySQL (proficient), NOSQL (proficient).

Professional Presentations & Appearances

Non-conference Professional

- *Subjects in Chains: Linked Data Vocabularies and Sexual Liberation*. Presented at the Digital Humanities Forum at the University of Kansas.
- *Queer as Data: Linked Data and Minoritized Digital Archives*. Presented at Indiana University Library's Digital Brown Bag Series. Link: <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/23729>

Non-Chaired Conference

- American Historical Association, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020 (accepted).
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies, 2019,
- SHARP, Amherst MA, 2019
- National Council on Public History 2017
- Dean Hopper Graduate Student Conference, 2016

Broadcast & Podcast Appearances:

- Broadcast: *Conan O'Brien*. WBUR Boston iLAB: "Boston's Combat Zone, a History."
- Podcasts: *The AskHistorians Podcast*, American College of Physicians' *Bedside Rounds*, WBUR's *Endless Thread*, Gimlet's *Every Little Thing*. WBUR Boston, *The Manwhore Podcast: A Sex Positive Quest for Love*, New Hampshire Public Radio, Greg and the Morning Buzz.

In Progress & Published Work

Digital Projects in Progress

- *50 Years On, Many Years Past: Nonfictions of Sexuality*: A digital bibliography of histories of sexuality. A demonstration is available on <https://www.brimwats.com/50yr>
- *SUE – Sex, Sexuality, Erotica: A Linked Data Vocabulary*.
- (With kirstyn seanor (Western University) and Sophia Chen (University of Michigan)) *Erotic Platforms – Ethics, Representation, and Consequences* (working title)

Work in Progress:

- *(Trans) Naming*: A research article on how libraries and archives have dealt with trans* and crossdressing names, as well as the choice of the author in cataloging individual's names.
- *"Stunted even unto Asexuality:" The History and Classification of Asexuality in LCSH*: a study of the recent addition of 'asexuality' to the Library of Congress Subject Headings. Drawing on historians of sexuality, feminist and asexual theory, and medical scholarship, I argue that this is a grave oversight. Throughout this essay, I also argue for the consideration of a new movement of critical catalogers (or #critlib).
- *A Study of Hierarchical Pornographic Classification vs. Individualized Pornographic Classification on Reddit's /r/NSFW411*: a research paper on the development of sexual hierarchal and classification systems on Reddit and elsewhere.
- *Blue Laws, Blue Books: E. Haldeman-Julius & American Sexual Knowledge before Kinsey*: a book history-focused paper that examines the underexamined Haldemann-Julius company and their sexological publications.

Books in Progress:

- *Grasping Towards Pornotopia: The Myth of the Sexual Revolution* (working title): an examination of the creation of popular understandings of sex and sexuality in the West between the end of WWI and the beginning of the Reagan Era. The project questions the usual chronology and concept of the Sexual Revolution as a concept.
- *Utopian Potentiality: A History of Polyamory* (with Sarah Stein-Lubrano). This work in progress proposes to excavate the history of polyamory and nonmonogamy by reexamining the biographies and histories of 100 Western cultural figures.

Published Works, Books:

- *Annals of Pornographie: How Porn became 'Bad.'* Popular history book focusing on the development of obscenity, erotica, and pornography from the Renaissance to Hollywood. Resulted in authorial appearance on Conan O'Brien and a number of interviews.

Published Works, Reviews:

- "Rogue Performances: A Review of Abigail De Kosnik's *Rogue Archives: Digital Cultural Memory and Media Fandom* (MIT Press, 2016)." Forthcoming review and research article to be published in *Digital Humanities Quarterly*.
- "Screening Adult Film History at #SCMS19, Seattle." Forthcoming conference report and review for *Screening Sex*.
- "Homosaurus and The Digital Transgender Archive." *American Archivist Reviews* (blog): <https://reviews.americanarchivist.org/2019/06/18/homosaurus-and-digital-transgender-archive/>

- **“Bias and Inclusivity in Metadata.”** (A Report on Julie Hardesty’s Presentation to Indiana University Bloomington). *Archival Outlook*, no. July/August (2019): <https://mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?i=601234&p=1&pp=1&view=issueViewer>.
- **Review: Bodies of Information: Intersectional Feminism and the Digital Humanities:** Elizabeth Losh and Jacqueline Wernimont, Editors. For *American Archivist*. Forthcoming.
- **Review: Ethical Questions in Name Authority Control**, edited by Jane Sandberg. *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639374.2019.1673524>
- **Review: Archives by Andrew Lison, Marcel Mars, Tomislav Medak, and Rick Prelinger.** For *American Archivist*. Forthcoming.

Published Works, Essays:

- ***Utopian Potentiality: Histories of Polyamory and Non-Monogamy:*** (With Sarah Stein-Lubrano) We present the results of an investigation into the biographies, letters and archives of approximately 50 well-known figures in Western intellectual and artistic history in the post-Enlightenment era. In this article, biographies and partners of Virginia Woolf, Max Weber, Edna St. Vincent Millay, William Moulton Marston, Erwin Schrodinger, and Victor Hugo are mentioned. While some of these non-monogamous relationships are well-known, much of the evidence of their existence has been ignored, misrecognized, or intentionally obscured. The results of this survey demonstrate that contemporary patterns of non-monogamies are deeply rooted in historical precedence.
- **“Mind the Gap: Sexology and Library of Congress Classification of Erotica, Pornography, Families and Children.”** Forthcoming article in special issue of *Social Text* edited by Joan Lubin and Jeanne Vacchario discussing Class H and the placement of Erotica and Children.
- **“Queer Beginnings: From Fanzines to Rule 34”** (with Bobby Derie). In *Representing Kink: Fringe Sexuality and Textuality in Literature, Digital Narrative and Popular Culture.*, edited by Sara K. Howe and Susan E. Cook, 67–81. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2019. Discusses the history and intersections between of fan fiction and queer culture.
- **“Hellfire and Cannibals: 18th and 19th Century Erotic Reading Groups and Their Manuscripts.”** forthcoming chapter in the *Edinburgh History of Reading* (2019), that assesses erotic book clubs and their material.
- **“Freedom, Interrupted: 21st Century Antisexuality Movements – Histories, Organizations & Tactics.”** Forthcoming chapter in American Librarian Association’s *Censorship Stories from the Frontline* (2019) that describes and contextualizes the histories, motives, and tactics of antisexuality and antipornography groups, including the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, Culture Reframed and others.
- **Society, Vice, and Suppression: The Historical Creation of ‘Pornography in England, 1750-1850.** Submitted and accepted for Drew University’s Masters of Arts in History and Culture. <https://walter.drew.edu/ETD/MA/2013/Watson/>
- **“The Victorian with a Secret” and “A Poison More Deadly’: Defining Obscenity in the West”** for *NOTCHES Blog: (Re)Marks on the History of Sexuality*—a peer-reviewed, collaborative and international history of sexuality blog.
- Sex-Ed articles for Pornhub.com’s Sexual Wellness Center: ‘History of the Dildo’, ‘History of the Condom’, ‘When and why did masturbation become an issue?’, ‘How did Porn become Porn?’, ‘Where did the ideas of homosexuality and heterosexuality come from?’.
- ***Crossdressing Crossculture: Shakespeare, Calderon de la Barca, Catalina Erauso, Mary Frith and the Theaters of Golden Age Madrid and Tudor-Stuart London.*** Published in *Metamorphosis*. <https://metamorphosis.coplac.org/index.php/metamorphosis/article/view/140>

Additional Professional Blogging and Interviews:

Articles for the ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom:

- [National Center on Sexual Exploitation's Dirty Dozen Censorship](#)
- ["Actions Shutting Down Information and Freedom – Interior's Attack on FOIA"](#)
- [Happy Birthday to the Marquis De Sade!](#)
- [The Past & Future of Free Collecting with Liana Zhou, Kinsey Institute](#)
- [An Interview With Snowden Becker. "Keeping the Pieces:" Police Work and Documentation](#)

Articles for ALA's American Libraries

- [Intellectual Freedom 101](#)
- [Still Chilling: Censorship Beyond Banned Books](#)
- [A Library Privacy Primer](#)

Articles for Indiana University's Scholarly Communications:

- [Using Podcasts and Videos for Scholarly Communication](#)
- [PDOT and Open Access – Dissertation Publishing](#)
- [cOAlition S: The Future of Research](#)
- [Open Access Week](#)

Others:

- ["The Raunchy World of Edmund Curll."](#) A Covent Garden Gilflurt's Guide to Life Edited by Catherine Curzon.
- [HistoryGal Interview with Brian M. Watson.](#) Interview by Nicola Lambert.
- Clutterbuck-Cook, Anna. ["Book Review: Annals of Pornographie."](#)
- [Reddit Moderator Has MA in History of Porn](#)
- [Porn Historian Brian Watson Explains Balloon Porn, 17th-Century Dildos in Reddit AMA.](#)

Service

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| 2019 – Current | President, American Library Association IUB Student Chapter <ul style="list-style-type: none">• President for the IUB ALA Student Chapter. Lead the executive board and help organize events, correspond with larger student body, and work with department administration. |
| 2019 – Current | Secretary, Society of American Archivists, IUB Student Chapter <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretary for IUB-SAA Student Chapter. |
| 2018 – 2019 | Treasurer, Nothing Is Binary (Indiana University Bloomington) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treasurer for the IUB graduate, undergraduate and faculty queer student group. Ran the budget for and aided the president in administrative matters. |
| 2014 – 2019 | Various, Delta Nu Psi Upsilon Alumni Association (Keene, NH)
<i>As President and Founder (April 2014 – March 2016)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrote constitution and established as a nonprofit in New Hampshire and the United States, included nonprofit and management experience. |

As Treasurer (March 2016 – May 2019)

- Managed a \$5000 budget, fundraising, scholarship disbursements of the chapter's nonprofit arm.

2012 – 2013

Founding Member, History of Ideas Club (Drew University)

- Won "Dean's Award for Student Club of the Year."

2009 – 2012

President, Delta Nu Gender Inclusive Chapter, Psi Upsilon Fraternity

As President (Fall 2010 – Spring 2011)

- Oversaw the largest membership increase in ten years.
- Balanced and managed a \$10,000 annual budget and over 50 members.
- Awarded by the national chapter for achievements.

As Vice President (Fall 2009 – Fall 2010)

- Restructured the organization by rewriting the constitution and membership process.
- Served on Community Service and Academic committees as chairperson