

Sarah Norris

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Research and Service Interests

- Conservation treatment for library and archives materials.
- Risk mapping and climate resiliency in cultural heritage collections.

Education

University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX
Master of Science in Information Studies 2009
Certificate of Advanced Study in Conservation

- Concentration: Book and Paper Conservation

Bachelor of Arts in Plan II and English 2003

- Concentration: Music Performance
- Minors: Spanish, Art History

Employment

Conservation, Libraries, and Archives
University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX
Assistant Professor of Practice in Library and Archives 2020-present
Conservation and Preservation

- Develop and teach master's- and undergraduate-level courses on conservation, preservation, exhibits, and disaster response.
- Conduct conservation treatment and outreach.
- Manage conservation lab.

Texas State Library and Archives Commission Austin, TX
Conservator 2009-2020

- Establish conservation program and lab.
- Design workflows with archivists, librarians, and collections managers.
- Conduct or supervise all conservation treatment.
- Mentor interns and volunteers at the pre-program and graduate levels.
- Prepare and install exhibit items; document exhibit lighting and advise on preservation issues; assist in exhibit planning and item selection.

- Oversee environmental monitoring in Austin, TX and Liberty, TX; issue quarterly reports and recommendations.
- Manage the design, development, and maintenance of MySQL-based treatment documentation database.
- Contribute to disaster recovery plan and item loan guidelines.
- Conduct item evaluations for loans.

Business

<i>360training (eLearning Provider for Compliance, Certification, and Licensing)</i>	Austin, TX
Content Manager	2005-2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Managed six-person team developing content for online coursework. ● Determined course specifications and researched content sources. 	
Copyeditor	2004-2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proofread and authored educational text and evaluation items. 	
<i>The Crossings (Conference Center and Resort)</i>	Austin, TX
Purchasing Agent	2003-2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directed purchasing, inventory, and accounts payable for food services. ● Managed monthly \$35,000 - \$50,000 budget. 	

Experience

Conservation, Libraries, and Archives

<i>The Newberry Library</i>	Chicago, IL
Advanced Conservation Intern	2008 - 2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Performed special collections conservation treatment. ● Assisted with environmental monitoring, and integrated pest management. ● Assisted with exhibit preparation and installation. 	
<i>Benson Latin American Collection, University of Texas at Austin</i>	Austin, TX
Conservation Technician	2007 - 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Performed special collections conservation treatment. ● Created exhibit mounts. 	
Google Books Project Assistant	2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Packed and tracked volumes for off-site scanning. 	
<i>Marr Sound Archive, University of Missouri Kansas City</i>	Kansas City, MO
Audio Intern	2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Digitized and repaired open-reel audio tapes in Raymond Scott Collection. ● Cleaned and assessed condition of acetate discs. ● Wrote finding aides for paper-based archival materials. 	

Perry-Castañeda Library, University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX
Assistant Conservation Technician 2006-2007

- Performed circulating collections conservation treatment.
- Assisted in preparation of materials for library binding.

Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas Austin, TX
Technical Assistant and Intern 2002-2003

- Cleaned and stabilized costume designs on paper.
- Assisted in condition survey of oil paintings.
- Wrote finding aides.

Teaching

University of Texas

INF 386E, Planning and Understanding Exhibits	2020-current
INF 393C, Preservation Science and Practice	2020-current
INF 393C, Introduction to Paper Conservation	2021-current
INF 385T, Disaster Planning and Response	2021-current
INF 320C, Preservation of Difficult Histories	Proposed Spring 2024
Submitted for Cultural Diversity in the US flag, 2024	

Norris, Sarah. “Conservation and Preservation in Archives and Libraries.” BDP101, Introduction to Museum Studies (Julia Guernsey & Chris Bell, instructors), 2022 - ongoing, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah. “Intro to Audio Preservation.” INF392E, Materials in Libraries, Archives and Museums (Karen Pavelka, instructor), 2011- 2019, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah. “Effects of Desiccation on Degraded Binder Extractions in Magnetic Audio Tape.” INF392L, Introduction to Audio Preservation and Reformatting (Sarah Cunningham, instructor), April 2011, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Norris, Sarah, Jelain Chubb, and James Harkins. “Real Places 2019: Archival Research and Practical Strategies for Preservation.” Texas Historical Commission Real Places Conference, January 2019, General Land Office and Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah and Bret Adams. “Disaster Recovery and Salvage for Paper-Based Records.”

State and Local Records Management Webinar, September 2012, Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

Conservation Treatment and Lab Management

Conservation lab manager (Principal Investigator)	2020-current
Maintain treatment workflow with UT and regional libraries and archives	2020-current
Oversee installation and management of de-ionized water system in Paper Lab.	2020-current
Ensure safety inspections with UT Environmental Health and Safety and lock system security (BACS) with UT ITS.	2020-current
Maintain public-facing blog that spotlights lab activities.	2020-current

Publications

Norris, Sarah and Kathryn Boodle. “Shiny, Lined, and Brown: Building Conservation Context for Harry Jander’s Document Restorations.” *Book and Paper Group Annual*, 39, 2020.

Norris, Sarah. *Library and Archives Conservation* blog (UT School of Information), 2020-present. <https://conservation.ischool.utexas.edu/>

Norris, Sarah. “Toward an Ontology of Audio Preservation.” *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, 53(3), 2014, pp. 171-181.

Norris, Sarah. “Effects of Desiccation on Degraded Binder Extraction in Magnetic Audio Tape.” *Association for Recorded Sound Collections Journal*, 41(2), 2010, pp. 183-199.

Norris, Sarah / Texas State Library and Archives Commission. *TSLAC Conservation* blog, 2010-2020. <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/conservation/>

Norris, Sarah. “New Conservation Lab Provides Treatment for Texas Records.” *Southwestern Archivist*, 33(4), 2010, p. 25.

Service & Outreach

University of Texas

- Collaboration with Professor Holland Hopson, University of Alabama. My students in Planning and Understanding Exhibits featured and interpreted his multimedia work in their spring exhibit, *Algorithmic Assemblages: Do Machines Dream of Art?* I arranged

visiting-artist guest lectures for Holland at UT's Visual Arts Center, with Dr. Marina Petersen's Sonic Ethnography students, and at our exhibit closing reception, 2023.

- Collaboration with Professor Gail Chovan, UT School of Human Ecology. My students in Disaster Planning and Response created a risk assessment for the Textiles and Apparel Collection to support future administrative support and grant seeking. My students in Planning and Understanding Exhibits featured materials from the Textiles and Apparel Collection in their fall exhibit, *All Dolled Up: Playing with Identity in 1940s Paper Dolls*, 2022.
- Collaboration with Bree'ya Brown, University Archivist, Huston-Tillotson University. My students in Disaster Planning and Response performed mold remediation for HT archives materials, 2022.
- Faculty Advisor, UT Student Chapter of the Society of American Archivists, 2023-ongoing.
- On-site Supervisor, Master's Capstone project with King Davis and Kaitlyn Dougherty, 2023.
- Supervisor, Academic Assistant position with Madeleine Nezat supporting climate resilience project in collaboration with UT's Historic Preservation Program in Architecture, Fall 2022.
- Host, iSchool Preservation Clinic; in conjunction with American Library Association's Preservation Week, 4/24/21.
- iSchool Faculty Advisor, 2020-present.
- Undergraduate Student Mentor for Museum Studies UT Bridging Disciplines Program, 2020-present.
- Awards Committee, School of Information, 2023-2024.
- Faculty Advisory Committee, UT School of Human Ecology Division of Textiles and Apparel, 2022 – 2025.
- 75th Anniversary Planning Committee, School of Information, 2022-2023.
- Undergraduate Studies Committee, School of Information, 2022-2023.
- University Faculty Gender Equity Council, Fall 2021.
- Education Committee, School of Information, 2020-present.
- Master's Studies Committee, School of Information, 2020-2021.
- Master's Admissions Committee, School of Information, 2020-2022.
- Research Colloquium Committee, School of Information, 2020-2023.
 - Host, iSchool Research Colloquium. Andrew Davis, Library of Congress, "Modern Revisiting of Historical Preservation Science Data from the William Barrow Labs." 10/26/21.
 - Host, iSchool Research Colloquium. Kristen St. John, Stanford University, "Unlocking Conservation Documentation: the work of the Linked Conservation Data Consortium," 2/9/21.

- Museum Studies Faculty Panel, UT Bridging Disciplines Program, 2020-present.

National

- Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities grant proposal on climate risk mapping for cultural heritage, May 2022.
- Book and Paper Group Nominating Committee, American Institute for Conservation (AIC), 2021-22.
- Book and Paper Group Financial Committee member, AIC, 2019-2020.
- Secretary/Treasurer of the Book and Paper Group, AIC, 2017-2019.
- Chair of the Webinar Committee, Connecting to Collections Care, AIC, 2014-2017.
- Nominating Committee member, Electronic Media Group, AIC, 2014-2016.
- Webmaster of the Electronic Media Group, AIC, 2012-2014.
- Publications Committee member, AIC, 2012-2014.
- Article editor for the *Electronic Media Review*, AIC, 2012-2013.

State and Local

- Web Designer and Media Outreach Coordinator, Austin Edible Book Festival, 2023.
- Chair, Preservation Table, Austin Archives Bazaar, April 2022.
- Employee of the Quarter Committee member, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, 2018 - present.
- Texas Cultural Emergency Response Committee member, 2014-2015.
- Texas Governor's Commission for Women member, 2012-2014.

Professional Affiliations

- AIC, American Institute for Conservation, 2006 - present.
- IIC, International Institute for Conservation, 2020 - present.
- SAA, Society of American Archivists, 2022 - present.
- ICON, Institute of Conservation (UK), 2020 - 2022.
- ALA, American Library Association, 2020 - 2022.
- ARSC, Association for Recorded Sound Collections, occasional.
- TSHA, Texas State Historical Association, occasional.
- WAAC, Western Association for Art Conservation, occasional.

Professional Development

- Professional Track Peer Networking Circle, Difficult Dialogues focus area, UT Austin, 2023.
- Fellow, American Institute for Conservation, November 2019 - present.
- Professional Associate, American Institute for Conservation, October 2012 - October 2019.

- Scholar's workshop (Jodie Utter), "Gellan Gum Applications for Various Works," July 2018, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, Austin, TX.
 - Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation workshop, "Photographic Chemistry for Preservation," November 2016, online.
 - Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation workshop, "Removal of Pressure-Sensitive Tape and Tape Stains," October 2015, Georgia State Archives, Morrow, GA.
 - National Center for Preservation Technology and Training workshop, "Fiber Identification and Analysis for Conservation," March 2015, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, TX.
 - Association of Moving Image Archivists workshop, "Film Projection," October 2014, Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar, Austin, TX.
 - Rare Book School course, "The American Book in the Industrial Era, 1820-1950," July 2013, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.
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Presentations

Norris, Sarah, Heather Galloway, and Courtney Murray. "Old Wives' Tales and Urban Legends: Ask-a-Conservator Day." Connecting to Collections Care, Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation, November 2022, online.

Norris, Sarah. "Risk Mapping for Texas Archives." Annual Meeting of the American Institute for Conservation, May 2022, Los Angeles, CA.

Norris, Sarah. "Climate Risk Mapping for Texas Archives: Working Iteratively with Students for Disaster Preparedness." Planet Texas 2050 Research Symposium, April 2022, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah and Kathryn Boodle. "Shiny, Lined, and Brown: Building Conservation Context for Harry Jander's Document Restorations." Annual Meeting of the American Institute for Conservation, May 2020, online.

Norris, Sarah. "When Storage is Display: Housings for Iconic Items in the Archives." Into the Vault: Library & Archive Storage Strategies Conference, September 2017, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah. "Conservation ID for Library and Government Docs Materials." Reference Staff Trainings, October 2015 and periodically to present, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah. "Texas Investigates: The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy and Wounding of Governor John B. Connally." State Archivists and Librarians of Texas Meeting, November 2013, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

Norris, Sarah. "Conservation at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission." Austin Woman's Club Meeting, January 2013, Austin, TX.

- Norris, Sarah, John Anderson, Laura Saegert, and Jelain Chubb (primary presenter.)
“Preservation Tips and Techniques to Increase the Life of Your Records.” Annual
Conference of the County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas, June 2012,
Austin, TX.
- Norris, Sarah. “Toward an Ontology of Audio Preservation.” Annual Meeting of the American
Institute for Conservation, May 2012, Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, NM.
- Norris, Sarah. “Conservation Lab Tips.” Annual Meeting of the Western Association for Art
Conservation, October 2011, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.
- Norris, Sarah. “Effects of Desiccation on Degraded Binder Extractions in Magnetic Audio
Tape.” International Symposium on Preserving Endangered Audio Media, June 2011,
Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany.
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Posters

- Norris, Sarah. “A Conservation Treatment for a Special-Collections Paperback.” Annual
Meeting of the American Institute for Conservation, May 2009, Hyatt Regency, Los Angeles,
CA.
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Workshops

- Norris, Sarah. “Iron Gall Ink: Hands on With Science and History.” Thinkery21 (children’s
museum program), July 2015, The Thinkery, Austin, TX.
- Norris, Sarah (panel organizer), Linda Hohneke, Jay Hoffman, and Mervin Richard.
“Conservation Treatment Documentation Databases.” Annual Meeting of the American
Institute for Conservation, June 2013, JW Marriott, Indianapolis, IN.
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Grants and Fundraising

- Collection Builder Test Pilot. I was selected from a pool of applicants to test an IMLS-funded online exhibit tool developed by the University of Idaho. Testing occurs in my Planning and Understanding Exhibits course, 2023. (\$500.)
- Planet Texas 2050 Bridging Barriers Program. I secured funding for the iSchool to offer an Academic Assistant position supporting a climate resilience project in collaboration with UT’s Historic Preservation Program in Architecture, 2022. (\$2,000.)
- Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant. I provided technical

information to support applying existing LSTA funding to digitize 25,000 cassette tape recordings of the proceedings of the Texas State Senate, 1972-2006. FY2013 (\$293,067.04).

- Texas State Library and Archives Commission, State Employee Charitable Campaign co-chair. FY2012 (\$8,700).
- Austin New Music Co-op, City of Austin Cultural Contracts Grant. FY2006 (\$4,000).
- KVRX FM Radio, University of Texas at Austin. On-air fundraising, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003.

Awards

- Courtesy Appointment, UT School of Human Ecology, Division of Textile and Apparel, 2023-2026
- Employee of the Quarter, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Q1 2014.
- Full-tuition scholarship, Rare Book School, 2013.
- George Stout Grant to attend American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting, Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation, 2010.