

UCLA

UCLA Library Research Forum

Title

UCLA Library Research Forum 2026 Detailed Schedule

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2026 UCLA Library Research Forum - Detailed Schedule

10:00 - 10:20: Welcome + Opening Remarks

*Introductions from **Casey Winkleman** (Librarian/Manager, IS Library and Media Preservation Lab/ R&PD Chair and **Michelle Brasseur** (Humanities and Social Sciences Librarian, Subcommittee Chair, Research Forum Planning Sub-Committee)*

*Opening remarks from **Athena Jackson** (University Librarian)*

10:20 - 10:50: Twelve Years On: Do UCLA Students Still Prefer Print Over Electronic Format for their Academic Readings?

*Presenter: **Diane Mizrahi** (Librarian for Jewish Studies, Israel Studies & Information Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Religion and Sociology)*

This presentation will share results from a follow-up study of the attitudes and behaviors of students at UCLA regarding reading their academic texts in print and electronic format. The original study from 2014 showed that 70.2% of the respondents preferred reading academic texts in print, citing better learning outcomes with hard copies. Actual format use varied according to context and circumstances. Qualitative analysis concluded that the central question was not whether students preferred print or electronic formats, but when each was used. Results from the 2014 study were included in the Academic Reading International Study (ARFIS).

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted traditional academic reading practices by limiting access to print materials and compelling reliance on digital resources. A study of UCLA students during the pandemic found that students missed physical libraries and print resources, and that attitudes toward electronic reading had not significantly improved.

The present study investigates the current attitudes and behaviors of a new cohort of students and seeks to determine whether print-based academic materials remain relevant in an era dominated by digital alternatives. It addresses four questions:

- Which format do UCLA students currently prefer for reading their academic materials?
- Why do they prefer one format over the other?
- Under what circumstances do they use their less-preferred format?
- How do current responses compare with pre-pandemic attitudes?

Results will be included in the follow-up international study, ARFIS2. Findings will provide evidence to guide educators, librarians, and technologists in developing informed policies and investment strategies regarding print and electronic resources.

10:50 - 11:00 — Break

11:00 - 11:30: The Library of Architecture and Allied Arts of Los Angeles (LAAALA)

Presenter: Lane Goldszer (Arts Library Collections Coordinator)

The Arts Library collections are supported by an endowed fund called The Library of Architecture and Allied Arts of Los Angeles (LAAALA). The LAAALA fund was created in 1986 when the Allied Architects Association (1921-1944) donated their institutional records, library and funds to UCLA Library and dissolved their organization. The Allied Architects Association was responsible for designing the Los Angeles Civic Center, the Hollywood Bowl, and LA County Hospital. They did not take private projects for individuals. After meeting a donor who was a member of the Allied Architects Association, I became interested in the work of this organization and its legacy. Although it was an influential organization that worked on a number of large projects, there is very little written about the Allied Architects Association. Following up on traces of history from the Allied Architects

Association records in UCLA Library Special Collections to the Bibliography of their library held at the Arts Library, I will try to uncover this organization's history.

11:30 - 12:00: Moving the Metadata Mountain: Building a Semi-Automated Workflow for Islamicate Manuscript Catalog Records

*Presenter: **Abigail Connick** (Cataloging and Metadata Librarian) and **Eileen Keegan** (Subject Authority & Database Maintenance Specialist)*

In 2022, UCLA Library Special Collections (LSC) launched the Islamicate Manuscripts Initiative (IMI), a project to catalog the nearly 9,000 Islamicate manuscripts LSC stewards. LSC recruited temporary staff with subject and language expertise for the project, but training these scholars in MARC cataloging was impractical. Instead, LSC implemented Airtable forms for gathering metadata, thereby transforming spreadsheet metadata into MARC records.

Through a strategic partnership with the Resource Acquisitions and Metadata Section (RAMS), the team transitioned from the use of a rigid MARCedit template to a semi-automated pipeline using OpenRefine and Python in order to transform Airtable CSV files into MARC records for OCLC and Alma. This workflow demonstrates a practical approach to streamlining rare manuscript catalog record creation. The team will share key learnings regarding the process of inter-departmental collaboration and the effective use of OpenRefine and Python in managing complex metadata workflows.

12:00 - 1:00 — Lunch

1:00 - 1:30: Taming the Chaos: Devising and Conducting an Inventory of the On-Site Maps at the UCLA Library

*Presenter: **Maggie Tarmey** (Librarian for Geography, Maps, and Economics//Research Services)*

After starting at the UCLA Library and assuming responsibility for the map collection in July 2023, I learned that the majority of our on-site maps were not cataloged due to historical practices and were disorganized. To develop a better understanding of our holdings and to begin the arduous work of cleaning up the collection, I devised an inventory process, drawing on my background in archival work, to get a handle on the situation. The main objectives were to develop a clear understanding of the collection's contents, identify gaps, and improve accessibility for researchers. This process took multiple years and the assistance of four student workers, wrapping up in the fall of 2025. I will discuss the process, challenges, and findings of this process that spanned two UCLA Library locations and over 100,000 maps.

1:30 - 2:00: Countering digital obsolescence: Using open-source and crowd-sourced interventions to preserve 5.25" floppy disks in the Korematsu v. US collection

*Presenters: **Elizabeth Gost** (Acquisitions and Accessioning Assistant, Library Special Collections) and **Azad Namazie** (Digital Archivist, Library Special Collections)*

Disk imaging is a common practice in the field of digital preservation to faithfully capture digital content from a diverse range of storage media. LSC has been actively collecting born-digital carriers since they emerged as personal storage devices. As such, occasionally we have to work with obsolete carriers, with little-to-no accompanying public-facing documentation. Our recent efforts have been centered around the contents of 5.25" floppy disks from the Korematsu v. United States Coram Nobis Litigation collection. These disks, created for pre-DOS machines in the late 1970s and early 1980s, contain administrative and research files created by Korematsu's legal team, who worked towards reversing the Supreme Court's shameful 1944 judgement that deemed wartime internment of Japanese Americans to be lawfully justified. In this presentation, we will provide our considerations for imaging these pre-IBM floppy disks, as well as the technical and conceptual challenges of working with formats considered obsolete. We will

argue that research into non-institutional user forums and digital preservation communities is a necessity, as they serve as a fount of knowledge regarding underdocumented formats. We will present the various workarounds that we created to address obstacles in the transfer process, including custom scripts and the incorporation of new emulation tools. Finally, we will situate these disks within a historical continuum of digital media obsolescence and recontextualize their contents as tools used in present legal tactics of resistance against state-sanctioned incarceration of migrant communities.

2:00 - 2:10 — Break

2:10 - 2:40 — Rooted in Collaboration: the Biomedical Library's Anatomy Collections

*Presenters: **Gissel Rios** (Open Science and Collections Librarian) and **Daniel Contreras** (Access Services Assistant, Unified Access Services) and **Monalisa Ruiz** (Access Services Lead, Unified Access Services)*

From the outside looking in, collection development can appear to happen in siloes, with decisions made by a handful of people. In reality, it requires extensive collaboration at various stages, including assessment, decision making (e.g., purchases, renewals, and cancellations), access and storage, and outreach. This presentation will shed light on various instances of collaboration—both within the library and externally—that have gone into transforming the Biomedical Library's Anatomy Collections.

The presentation will begin at the project's inception, when colleagues in Unified Access Services (UAS) noted increased usage of the physical anatomy models and helped identify user affiliations. This was followed by collaborations with Resource Acquisitions & Metadata Services (RAMS) to place physical orders and to develop a dashboard for circulation statistics. Then, the presentation will delineate the collaborations that formed with stakeholders, such as liaison librarians and relevant faculty, who helped contextualize usage patterns and user needs. Next,

the presentation will highlight collaborations that played a role in identifying potential new resources and understanding their many implications, including labor and space. The presentation will conclude by sharing about the work done alongside Communications colleagues to build greater awareness of the anatomy collections – in both physical spaces and the library’s digital platforms.

Altogether, these examples will capture the breadth of collaboration, as well as will underscore the importance of working closely with others to assess and revamp library collections.

2:40 - 3:10 — “Welcome to View!” UCLA Student Public Access TV in the 1970s

*Presenters: **Maya Montañez Smukler** (Archive Research and Study Center Officer, UCLA Film & Television Archive) and **Jackie Forsythe** (Obsolete Media Coordinator, UCLA Film & Television Archive)*

This presentation highlights the Film & Television Archive’s recent UCLA Student Film Collection Access Initiative that focuses on the curation of alumni films to be made accessible on FTVA’s YouTube Channel with accompanying blogs, posted on FTVA’s website, historicizing the films and their makers. This talk will highlight the late 1970s, when UCLA students took advantage of the new public access television platforms made available through federal regulations, developing a weekly experimental television program entitled View. Broadcast on Theta Cable (known for the Los Angeles local movie Channel Z), View showcased student films, interviews, documentaries, and experimental video art. Supervised by veteran filmmaker and video artist Shirley Clarke during her time as a lecturer in the Motion Picture Division at UCLA, View was a program established in collaboration with talented film and video students. View was programmed and hosted by UCLA students, demonstrating a remarkably eclectic and radical output of student work, broadcast for the public. In this presentation, Jackie and Maya will discuss their approach to researching student films, within FTVA and Library Special Collections, and the workflow necessary to prepare moving image titles for online access.

3:10 - 3:15: Closing Remarks

*Facilitator: **Michelle Brasseur** (Humanities and Social Sciences Librarian/Subcommittee Chair, Research Forum Planning Sub-Committee)*

2026 Planning Committee:

Michelle Brasseur – lead

Angela Horne

Mei-Chen Chen

Kelsey Brown

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Casey Winkleman - LAUC-LA R&PD Committee Chair

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