

AMIA Student Chapter

The University of Texas at Austin

Annual Report 2016 - 2017

10.01.2017

2017 UT-AMIA Board

Selena Aleman (co-director)

Itza Carbajal (iSchool Liaison)

Jennifer Allen (Interim co-director)

Kate Roden (Radio/Television/Film Liaison)

Sarah Gardner (co-director)

Dr. Caroline Frick (Faculty Advisor)

Sara Rogers (co-director)

Mission Statement

The AMIA chapter at UT is dedicated to the discussion and education of our members interested in moving image archiving. We aim to promote the appreciation of film history, the preservation of moving images, and access to audiovisual heritage. We believe in diversity and inclusion within the materials we work with and those interested in archiving by striving to maintain an open dialog.

Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AMIAatUTAustin/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/amiaatut>

Activities from 2016 - 2017

Change in Board Structure/Bylaws

We recently changed our board leadership structure as well as our bylaws. After some discussion in February, we decided that our chapter of AMIA would prefer to divide our leadership into that of co-directors rather than the former structure of President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Our decision stemmed from a desire to approach events in a more collaborative way and to make future recruitment inviting to students who may feel unqualified for specific roles. Since other student organizations at the School of Information (specifically ALA/TLA) have been successful with a co-director structure we felt it would be the best fit for us. With AMIA's approval, our bylaws have been re-written to reflect this change with an additional clause that allows for future members to change back to the former structure, if they should wish to do so.

Screenings/Social Events

Due to our transitional period earlier this year, our events for 2016 - 2017 were mostly comprised of happy hours coupled with film screenings around Austin. We started the Spring semester with an informational happy hour followed by a screening of the documentary, *Southwest of Salem*, at the Austin Public Library where we were lucky enough to speak with the director, Deborah Esquenazi. Our first event with a full board in place was a screening hosted by the Austin Film Society in conjunction with the Bullock Texas State History Museum titled, *Pioneers of African American Cinema: Blood of Jesus and Shorts*. Later in the semester we organized a happy hour event to coincide with a Terror Tuesday screening at the Alamo Draffhouse Ritz of the South Korean film *A Tale of Two Sisters*.

For a bit of summer fun, AMIA-UT joined hundreds of others at a free outdoor screening of *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*, part of the Sound & Cinema series which combines live local bands with classic movie screenings. This was an attempt to invite incoming iSchool students to experience a quintessential Austin event and meet and greet other students. Lastly, we held a welcome back tour of the Bullock Texas State History Museum's newest temporary exhibit, *From Pong to Pokémon: The Evolution of Electronic Gaming*, to greet incoming students and continue our conversations on the different formats of moving image materials.

Projects

During the later part of the Spring semester we hosted an event at the iSchool called *Moving Images Beyond Film: Preserving Legacy Video Games*. Interim board member, Jennifer Allen, built a Raspberry Pi to allow us to play legacy video games such as the original *Zelda*

and *Mario Kart*. This gave the students a chance to take a break from finals as well as have some fun. It also provided us a platform to promote the preservation of other moving image materials besides film. The event was so successful that the School of Information suggested we set-up a monitor at our information table during the school's biannual Open House event. We were able to speak to much of the university community, including students, faculty, alumni, donors, and visiting guests, about video games progression, our organization, and about the importance of preserving moving image in all its forms.

Project Planning

Before summer started, we drafted and submitted a proposal for the 2017 AMIA Conference in New Orleans. Our proposal was accepted and we will be doing a 30 minute presentation titled, *Warning! Materials May be Unsettling: Sensitive AV Materials in Archives*. The presentation will be a reflection regarding a panel that we will be hosting in our local Austin community this fall.

Future

We look forward to the upcoming year and hope to make AMIA-UT an even better and stronger organization within the University of Texas community, as well as the School of Information.

Milestones

- I. Expanded conversation on what constitutes a moving image
- II. Accepted to speak at the 2017 AMIA Conference
- III. Edited the chapter bylaws to reflect our personal ideas about leadership