

# AMIA Student Chapter at the University of Texas at Austin

## Annual Report of Activities Spring 2016

President - Ayshea Khan  
Secretary - Nicolette Khan  
Treasurer - Kate Cronin  
Faculty Advisor - Dr. Caroline Frick

Dear AMIA Office & Education Committee,

As we end our fourth year of being a student chapter we continue to grow as a group and are excited to present our 2016 Annual Report of Activities. We have much to share and have learned a lot about the role AMIA-UT has to play within Austin's active audiovisual community!

We are pleased to report that our membership base has steadily increased since our initial chapter formation. Event attendance has had an average of about 12-15 students, which is much greater than the 2-3 we used to see! However, the UT student chapter of Society of American Archivists has a much larger membership presence and calendar of professional development events. When talking with the SAA-UT student board, we realized that members of both organizations frequently felt forced to choose between the two organizations' events in order to handle their graduate school workload. Therefore, our AMIA chapter strived to provide shorter, low-pressure events that allowed for our members to relax while still learning about the work within audiovisual archives.

Our events for Spring 2016 comprised of a series of repositories tours and happy hours coupled with archival film screenings. We started the semester with a screening event held at the Bullock Texas State History Museum, which examined archival footage documenting the character known as the Texas Ranger. We took a tour of the Lyndon Baines Johnson paper and audiovisual archives and explored the complications related to archiving multimedia video games at the Briscoe Center for American History. We also took a tour of the history and facility for Austin Public, the oldest U.S. public access station still in operation. We viewed how their digital files were managed and stored as well as the video production process. Our chapter members also visited Austin Public for a follow-up consultation, advising on how their digital asset management system could be cleaned up and made more efficient. We were also able to take a look at the newly processed Gabriel García Márquez

collection at the Harry Ransom Center, particularly his papers related to his work as a screenwriter. We celebrated the end of the semester with a 35mm archival film screening of CREEPSHOW, presented by the archivists at the American Genre Film Archive.

The AMIA-UT board initiated a push with Dr. Caroline Frick to see if AMIA-UT members could be invited to the Summer 2016 Audiovisual Preservation Exchange in Santiago de Chile. We were happy to hear that applications for participation was opened to graduate students outside of the New York University MIAP program. AMIA-UT President Ayshea Khan and Treasurer Kate Cronin were able to participate over the summer, working with collections at the Señal 3 public access station and the Biblioteca Nacional. Both members were able to share their experiences and knowledge at the Fall 2016 kick-off happy hour, followed by a 35mm archival film screening of the original JU-ON: THE GRUDGE screening, also presented by the American Genre Film Archive.

While we were excited to host Austin's Home Movie Day last year, this year was not met with as much success. Because October is Archives Month, couple with the bi-annual Austin Archives Bazaar, a free community space was hard to come by. We hope to encourage the next board to pursue additional funding opportunities so a rented space can be obtained. However, other Spring 2016 events have included a tour of the Film Collection at the Harry Ransom Center, which boasted costumes from the Robert De Niro collection and the art department renderings in the Selznick collection. We also have a tour arranged with the LLILAS Benson Latin

American Studies and Collections to take a look at the recent moving image acquisitions within their collections. Other additional Spring 2016 event include an AMIA National Conference debrief, open to the entire Austin community, and an additional end of semester archival screening.

In addition to our events, we will also be electing the 2017 AMIA-UT board at the end of this semester. We hope to collaborate with the future board on how to make our programming more meaningful and attractive to future members. Locating external funding for AMIA-UT events has been a struggle, and I believe should be a focus for next year's board. Additional programming ideas have included a film handling workshop, digital preservation workshops for audiovisual materials, and providing additional networking opportunities with Austin professionals working with moving image collections.

Overall we have had a full year and are anticipating a good final semester with some great activities! We'll continue to keep the Education Committee and AMIA at large included on our events and welcome any feedback or questions you may have.

Thank you,

Ayshea Khan

President

AMIA Student Chapter at the University of Texas at Austin.

