

**AMIA Student Chapter**  
**The University of Texas at Austin**  
**Annual Report 2017 - 2018**  
**09.30.2018**

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**2018 UT-AMIA Board**  
**Alejandra Martinez (co-director)**  
**Caroline Pendleton (co-director)**  
**Rodrigo Leal (co-director)**  
**Dr. Caroline Frick (Faculty Advisor)**

## 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 2017-2018

### Screenings/Social Events

AMIA-UT hosted and collaborated on a wide range of screenings during 2017–18. In October 2017, we hosted a happy hour at a local bar followed by a screening of Masaki Kobayashi's horror film *Kwaidan*. In the Spring semester, we partnered with UT's ALA/TLA student chapter to celebrate the opening of the new Austin Central Public Library by attending a screening of Frederick Wiseman's 2017 documentary *Ex Libris*, followed by a discussion of the film and the role of libraries in civic life at a local coffee shop.

As part of Fall 2018 orientation, AMIA-UT partnered with the Student Association for the School of Information (SASI) to host mixer and attend a 35mm screening of *Fantastic Planet* at Austin Film Society. This event was intended to welcome new students to campus and give them a sense of Austin's vibrant film culture. We offered a limited supply of free tickets for students, and the event boasted an attendance of approximately 15 people. In September 2018, we again partnered with SASI to host an on-campus screening of *Persepolis* as part of Banned Books Week. There was a turnout of about 15 students, including attendees from campus departments outside of the School of Information. We look forward to further pursuing collaborations with other student organizations to build community within the iSchool and beyond.

## Panel

In October, we were able to organize *Warning! Materials May Be Unsettling*, a panel discussion about sensitive materials in A/V archives, featuring various archivists and organizations from Austin. They included our very own faculty advisor Caroline Frick, who is also the Executive Director and Founder of the Texas Archive of the Moving Image, Ayshea Khan who is the current Asian-American Community Archivist at the Austin History Center, and Gabriel Solis who is the Executive Director of the Texas After Violence Project. The conversation was moderated by former AMIA-UT member Itza Carbajal, and centered around appropriate practices when dealing with sensitive materials, grappling with which materials become public-facing, and the importance of self-care for archivists working with such materials.

## Collaborations

In addition to hosting our own series of screenings and social events around town, we also had the pleasure of collaborating with other organizations within the School of Information at UT Austin on other projects. For example, in partnership with the Society of American Archivists (SAA-UT) and the American Library and Texas Library Association UT chapters (ALA/TLA UT), we were able to coordinate an LGBTQA+ Allyship training series, allowing us to work with our fellow students while fostering a sense of community and solidarity on campus. In a similar vein, we were also able to participate in Coffee and Conversation, a series of discussions regarding films, exhibits, and more centered around various issues. These were held in collaboration with SAA-UT and ALA/TLA UT and helped start important conversations about topics such as sexuality and social justice that may not always be talked about in a classroom setting. Additionally, we were proud to help coordinate a panel with SAA-UT that featured Emily Armstrong and Pat Ivers, the founders of the Gonightclubbing Archive, which is dedicated to preserving A/V materials from the early days of New York's punk scene. This panel helped put a spotlight on unconventional kinds of archiving practice, specifically from a bottom-up, grassroots approach, and provided valuable insight on different avenues A/V archival practice can take.

## Planned Projects

As our program at the iSchool has no formal media archiving classes, students interested in entering the media preservation field must seek hands-on training

experience on their own. Openings to work in the field can be far and few between, so a new priority for our chapter is to help create these opportunities.

Currently, we have begun talks with administrators at UT's Texas Student Media, a conglomerate of student-produced media outlets, looking for opportunities for collaboration. Early talks indicate that the student television station, TSTV, does not have a formal archiving plan set in place for the station's past programming. Administrators are open to the idea of an AMIA-UT survey of their current holdings and a guide on best practices for media management and archiving.

## Milestones

- I. Hosted panel on sensitive materials in AV archives
- II. Presented at 2017 AMIA national conference
- III. Launched newsletter detailing local film screenings and events