

Opening Up Audiovisual Archives Education: The Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship

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Abstract: The Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship is an IMLS-funded experimental model to provide graduate students in LIS programs with specialized training in audiovisual preservation by offering funded ten-week Fellowships to digitize at-risk local public television and radio content. Fellows kick off the program with a one-week immersion in the fundamental concepts of audio and video, perform hands-on digitization work at their host stations, shepherd the ingest of the digitized materials into the American Archive of Public Broadcasting (a collaboration between WGBH and the Library of Congress), then bring that experience and training back to their graduate programs to create documentation in support of ongoing AV preservation education for future students.

This poster will present the Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship model for providing specialized archival education at non-specialized graduate programs, with a focus on the project's collaborative methodologies, replicability, and prospective long-term impact on the participating schools, stations, and students. The poster will include an overview of the project's achievements and challenges, as well as a presentation of the resources developed over the course of the project.

About the Authors:

Sarah Buchanan is an Assistant Professor at the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies (iSchool) at the University of Missouri. She is a faculty advisor for the American Archive of Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship led by WGBH which partners archival graduate programs with U.S. public broadcasting organizations. Her research interests include data and provenance issues in archival studies, and arrangement and description of special collections.

Virginia Angles, Rebecca Benson, Evelyn Cox, Riley Eren, Laura Haygood, Eric Saxon, Dena Schulze, Steve Wilcer, and Tanya Yule are the Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellows for 2018. Each of these Fellows worked to preserve archival programming at a public media organization, preserve it for posterity in the American Archive of Public Broadcasting, and create documentation about the process for the benefit of future students in their library and information science graduate program.