

VICKI LYNN TOBIAS

tobiashistoryresearch@gmail.com

www.linkedin.com/in/vickitobias

SUMMARY

Skilled information professional with more than 20 years of experience directing complex information and technology projects and managing staff. Extensive background in digital project management, digital librarianship, genealogy and local history research, general research methodology, archives and information management. Concentration on advanced technology applications in libraries and archives, digital resources management and preservation, and library information policy. Exceptional web technology and interpersonal communication skills.

EXPERIENCE

Tobias History Research, Madison, WI 2016–present
Founder and Research Manager

Responsible for new business and product development, marketing and outreach, and research tools evaluation. Research services include North American family and community history research, archives and public records research, archival assessment and planning, corporate history research and writing, digitization consultation, heir search/forensic genealogy, personal archives organization and preservation, prospect research.

- Provide detailed research reports to individual and corporate clients.
- Create content for and manage company web site: www.tobiashistoryresearch.com.
- Develop business models to grow market presence and company revenue.

The School of Computer, Data and Information Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison 2016–present
Associate Lecturer

Teach courses related to technology, archives administration and genealogical research. Mentor graduate students following the archives track. Facilitate development of new community practicum experiences for students interested in data analysis, information policy, user-centered design, assessment, archives management and other topics related to technology in libraries. Courses taught:

- Instructor for LIS 640, Genealogy for Librarians (Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2021)
- Instructor for LIS 644, Digital Tools, Trends and Debates (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018)
- Instructor for LIS 818, Archives Appraisal and Accessioning (Spring 2017, Spring 2019)

Wisconsin Library Services/Recollection Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 2017–2021
Digital Projects Consultant and Grant Project Leader

Provided ongoing support for Recollection Wisconsin, Wisconsin's DPLA hub. Built relationships with potential content partners, provided training and support for local history organizations' digitization projects. Created content for Recollection Wisconsin website and blog including online exhibits and instructional content. Supervised graduate students. <https://recollectionwisconsin.org/>

Coordinated all aspects of *Curating Community Digital Collections* – a two-year, IMLS-funded digital stewardship program that placed graduate students in small or under-funded Wisconsin cultural heritage institutions or libraries to complete a digital preservation project for academic credit. Oversaw student and host site selection process. Developed and launched digital preservation curriculum as part of our pre-summer workshop for project students and supervisors. Conducted site visits and managed communication to support project participants. <https://recollectionwisconsin.org/digipres>.

Serve as mentor for *IMLS Accelerating Promising Practices Community Memory Cohort* (2019-2021). Coordinate annual workshop and monthly meetings with ten cohort members representing public libraries across the United States. Develop instructional content and maintain cohort communications platforms. Coordinate grant requirements between IMLS staff and cohort members. <https://www.ims.gov/>

University Archives, University of Wisconsin–Madison

2011–2016

Images and Media Archivist

Managed, provided access to and coordinated collection development activities for photo, audio, film and born-digital collections. Coordinated outreach work to promote archives collections and services. Provided reference service and instruction using Archives collections. Supervised student and volunteer staff. Represented the Archives at campus and community events.

- Curated content for the *University of Wisconsin Collection* in the UW Digital Collections.
- Modernized metadata creation workflow to make available previously inaccessible collections.
- Designed procedures for curating born-digital and web content using Archive-It.
- Acquired grant funding to support film collection processing and preservation efforts.
- Honored as UW-Madison's *Librarian of the Year* in 2013.

UW Digital Collection Center, University of Wisconsin–Madison

2004–2011

Digital Services Librarian, Project Manager

Worked cooperatively with University of Wisconsin System leadership, administrators, faculty and librarians to create digital resources to support teaching and research. Managed all project development work. Initiated and participated in outreach activities to increase awareness and use of digital collections.

- Administered IMLS, NHPRC and LSTA grant-funded digitization projects.
- Managed full-time and student reformatting and metadata staff and all digitization work.
- Coordinated marketing work through social media, publications and events.
- Curated and managed content housed in the library institutional repository, *MINDS@UW*.

Wisconsin Historical Society, Library–Archives Division, Madison, WI

2000–2003

Web and Digital Projects Coordinator

Collaborated with staff to build innovative web content and digital collections illuminating the Society's holdings, services and programs. Evaluated new technologies to improve online collections and reference services. Created and implemented project development models and digitization standards.

- Developed inaugural web-based photo and genealogy reference services.
- Provided technology support and database training to library and archives staff.
- Supervised reformatting work for *American Journeys*, an IMLS-funded collaboration with National History Day to make available over 18,000 pages of North American exploration accounts.

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin–Madison, Master of Library and Information Studies (Archives); *F. Gerald Ham Archives Fellow* (2002-2003)

University of Washington–Seattle, Bachelor of Arts (Chinese Language and Literature)

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Bachelor of Arts (History, Slavic Studies)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of American Archivists (SAA)

Midwest Archives Council (MAC)

Association of Professional Genealogists (APG)

National Genealogical Society (NGS)