

Alexandria Rayburn, PhD

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Education

- 2020-2025 **Doctor of Philosophy in Information**, University of Michigan School of Information
Dissertation title: Women in Museum Computing: Implementing Transformative Data Practices in Collection Work
Committee chairs: Ricardo Punzalan & Andrea Thomer
- 2018-2020 **Master of Science in Information**, University of Michigan School of Information
Concentration in Digital Curation, Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies
- 2013-2017 **Bachelor of Arts, Arts & Humanities**, *Cum Laude*, Michigan State University
Minors in Museum Studies and Geography

Academic Employment

University of Hawaii at Manoa, School of Communication and Information
Assistant Professor, August 2025-present

Funding and awards

- 2024 Rackham Fellowship for Doctoral Research in Museums (\$10,000)
2024 Museum Studies Research Practicum Funding (\$6,500)
2024 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3,000)
2023, 2021 Rackham Travel Grant (\$1,000)
2022 iConference 2022 Best Poster Award
2020-2021 University of Michigan School of Information Merit Fellowship
2018-2020 University of Michigan School of Information Wallace J. Bonk Scholarship
2018-2020 University of Michigan School of Information Philip Berry Scholarship
2019 Midwest Archives Conference 2019 Best Poster Award
2013-2017 Michigan State University Honors College

Publications

Journal articles

1. **Rayburn A**, Punzalan R, Thomer AK. (2024). Persisting through friction: growing a community-driven knowledge infrastructure. *Archival Science* (24): 61–82.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10502-023-09427-5>
2. Prosper S, **Rayburn A**, Ramirez Y, Punzalan RL. (2024). Indigenous Digital Projects: A Proposed Assessment Framework. *Journal of Information & Culture* 59(1): 66-96.
<https://doi.org/10.7560/IC59104>
3. Thomer AK, **Rayburn A**. (2024). “A Patchwork of Data Systems”: Quilting as an Analytic Lens and Stabilizing Practice for Knowledge Infrastructures. *Journal of Science, Technology, & Human Values* (49)5: 1073-1102. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01622439231175535>

Book chapters

1. **Rayburn A**, Thomer, AK (2024). Reconstructing provenance in long-lived data systems: the challenge of paradata capture in memory institution collection databases. In: Huvila, I., Andersson, L., Sköld, O. (eds) *Perspectives on Paradata*.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-53946-6_9

Refereed conference proceedings

1. **Rayburn, A.** (2025, March). Data Feminism in museum collections: mapping principles to practices. In the proceedings of the 2025 *iConference*. Bloomington, Indiana.
<https://doi.org/10.47989/ir30iConf47332>.
2. Thomer, AK, Starks, JR, **Rayburn, A**, & Lenard, MC (2022, November). Maintaining Repositories, Databases, and Digital Collections in Memory Institutions: An Integrative Review. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, 59(1): 310-323
<https://doi.org/10.1002/pra2.755>
3. Thomer AK, **Rayburn A**, Tyler ARB. (2020, February). Three approaches to documenting database migrations. *International Digital Curation Journal* (15)1.
<https://doi.org/10.2218/ijdc.v15i1.726>

Posters

1. Starks JR, **Rayburn A**, Lenard M, Thomer AK. (2022, March). What best practices exist to support database and digital collection migration? Poster presented at the *Research Data Access and Preservation (RDAP) Association*. Virtual. <https://osf.io/vxe3a/>
2. **Rayburn A**, Thomer AK. (2022, February). The Craft of Database Curation: Taking Cues from Quilting. Poster presented in the *iConference proceedings 2022*. Virtual.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.7302/4358>
3. **Rayburn A** (2021, October). Understanding the Role of Community Collaboration Within Indigenous Cultural Heritage Data Migrations. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology* (58)1: 811-812. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pra2.571>
4. Tracey P, **Rayburn A.** (2021, October). Reddit as a Forum for Social Service Workers. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology* (58)1: 847-848.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/pra2.584>
5. **Rayburn A**, Thomer AK. (2020, February). Reconstructing the development of legacy database platforms. Poster presented at the *International Digital Curation Conference*. Dublin, Ireland.
<https://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/handle/2027.42/162598>
6. **Rayburn A**, Counts M, Sexton T, Patterson, R (2019, August). A Digital Look At Protest Culture In Ann Arbor, Michigan. Poster presented at the *83rd Annual Society of American Archivists Conference*. Austin, TX.
7. **Rayburn, A**, Counts, M, Sexton, T, Patterson, R (2019, April). A Historic Look at Protest Culture In Ann Arbor. Poster presented at the *Midwest Archives Conference*. Detroit, MI.

Workshop papers and doctoral colloquia

1. **Rayburn, A.** (2024, October). Women in Museum Computing: Implementing Transformative Data Practices in Collection Work. Presented at the doctoral colloquium for the *87th Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology*. Calgary, Alberta.
2. Thomer AK, **Rayburn A** (2022, May). Craft, data, and the material ethics of computing. Towards a Material Ethics of Computing Workshop. *ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2022*. New Orleans, LA.
3. Thomer AK, Sciolla S, **Rayburn A**, Topham K, Lundering-Timpano M. (2019, June). Practical and meta-challenges in modeling database migrations: a case study of the MBGNA. Conceptual Models in Digital Libraries, Archives and Museums Workshop. *Annual Meeting of the Joint Conference of Digital Libraries*. Champaign, IL.
https://github.com/sig-cm/JCDL2019/blob/master/thomer_sigcm_19.pdf

Presentations and Panels

1. **Rayburn A** (2024, October). Women in museum computing: perspectives on transformative data. *Museum Computer Network (MCN) 2024*. Lawrence, KS.
2. **Rayburn A** (2024, October). Beyond data entry: women's contributions to museum knowledge work. *The Archival Education and Research Institute (AERI) 2024*. Abu Dhabi, UAE. Virtual.
3. **Rayburn A** (2023, November). Challenges and coping strategies of museum data migrations: a multi-case study summary. *Museum Computer Network (MCN) 2023*. Philadelphia, PA.
4. **Rayburn A** (2023, June). Memory institutions as infrastructure: exploring the friction of maintenance. *The Archival Education and Research Institute (AERI) 2023*. Baton Rouge, LA.
5. **Rayburn, A** (2023, April). Innovative tech and invisible labor: lessons from early museum computing. *AI & Archives Symposium, Sussex Humanities Lab*. Sussex, UK.
6. Hodge C, Krmpotich C, Marsh D, Punzalan R, **Rayburn A**, Raymond S. (2021, November). A conversation on community-led databases: surveying methods of knowledge sovereignty. Roundtable at the *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (AAA)*. Baltimore, MD. Virtual.
7. Tracey P, Huber L, Perry C, **Rayburn A** (2021, September). Theorizing care and the digital. Panel at the *34th Annual Meeting of the Society for Literature, Science and the Arts (SLSA2021)*. Ann Arbor, MI.

Teaching

Fall 2024 **Lead Graduate Student Instructor**, University of Michigan School of Information
Information Ethics: SI 302

Winter 2024 **Graduate Student Instructor**, University of Michigan School of Information
Information Ethics: SI 302

Fall 2023 **Graduate Student Instructor**, University of Michigan School of Information

Winter 2023 Introduction to Information: SI 110

Fall 2022

Experience

- Winter 2025 **Specialist for Remediation of Harmful Repository Metadata**, Deep Blue Data
Developed technical documentation on reparative description practices for the University of Michigan data repository Deep Blue Data and Documents. The deliverable synthesizes existing literature on reparative description and maps this to the recommended next steps for the repository.
- 2019-2022 **Graduate Student Research Assistant**, University of Michigan School of Information
Assisted Dr. Andrea Thomer on the Migrating Research Data Collection project (IMLS funded) developing best practices in data and database migration, specifically in museums and archives.
- 2021- 2022 **Archivist**, Graduate Employee Union (GEO) AFT Michigan 3550, AFL-CIO
Created a sustainable archival plan for this organization including arranging and classifying digital assets, creating procedures for a digital repository, and implementing a document retention schedule. Coordinated a record donation of analog material to a relevant archive.
- Summer 2019 **Research Assistant**, University of Michigan School of Information
Assisted Dr. Patricia Garcia on the project CompuGirls (IMLS and NSF funded), developing a culturally responsive model for teaching STEM in public libraries.
- Summer 2019 **Archive Intern**, Carhartt Corporate Archives
Reformatted thousands of metadata records. Processed accessions, which included rehousing and cataloging objects following a standardized protocol.
- 2018-2019 **Art Handler**, University of Michigan Museum of Art
Prepared, installed, and rehoused works of art for the use of visiting students and researchers of the museum.
- Fall 2018 **Reference Librarian**, Stephen S. Clark Library at the University of Michigan
Cataloged maps using Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) standards along with assisting patrons.
- 2016-2018 **Collections Specialist**, Michigan State University Museum
Digitally archived material for The Quilt Index and the Michigan Stained Glass Census (NEH and IMLS funded).
- 2015-2016 **Library Conservation Technician**, Michigan State University Libraries

Prepared books in various states of distress under the supervision of the Special Collections conservation team.

Summer 2015 **Research Intern**, Southern Food and Beverage Museum

Researched exhibit content and created permanent labels surrounding the cultural roots of southern food.

Service

2024-2025 Reviewer, ASIS&T

2022-2025 Reviewer, iConference

2021 Reviewer, Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW) 2022

2021 Reviewer, Archival Science

2020 Student Volunteer, International Conference on the History of Records and Archives

2019 Student Officer, Society of American Archivists University of Michigan Chapter