

## **Felicia Williamson, M.L.I.S., C.A.**

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### **Professional Experience**

Director of Library & Archives, Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum (DHHRM), Dallas, Texas, 2015-present:

I manage the 21,000+ museum objects, archival items, and library books in DHHRM's Library and Archives. I am on the leadership team at the Museum. I acquire an average of 50+ new collections a year on behalf of the Museum and launched a new collecting initiative for human and civil rights in 2018.

The 50,000 sq. ft. Museum has 16,000 sq. ft. of permanent exhibition space in addition to 2,500 sq. ft. of rotating special exhibition space, and a reading room open to the public. I manage the condition and care for all artifacts on permanent and temporary display and am responsible for copyright inquiries and all internal and external reference requests. I supervise 2 FTE and 2 PTE as well as 6-8 practicum students and volunteers annually. I oversee the library, archives, institutional archives, and oral history program.

- Member of leadership team that worked to design, build, and open the new Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum which opened September 2019 (including efforts surrounding a capital campaign).
- Arrange, describe, and digitize collections.
- Implement and maintain library and archives policies and procedures; write and implement Collection Management Policy (DHHRM Board approval, 2021).
- Recruit donations of artifacts relating to the Holocaust and human rights.
- Manage the Museum's reading room; answer reference questions and manage copyright inquiries.
- Manage the Museum's institutional archive; advise on records retention.
- Coordinate the Museum's oral history program; conduct oral history interviews.
- Oversee special exhibition installations, including supplementing artifacts from the Museum's collection; coordinate loaned items.
- \$164K Institute for Museum and Library Science Collections Stewardship grant (2021-2023)
- \$25K oral history cataloging grant (2021-2022)
- Provide access to the collections through artifact-based outreach and programming:
  - Artifact Interact sessions for visiting school groups at the Museum (grades 7-12)
  - Science of Preservation sessions for visiting school groups at the Museum (grades 7-12)
  - Preserving Family Memories workshops offered to the public by request both on and off site.

- Present multiple history lectures a year to the public both in person and virtually using archives as backbone of presentation (s).
- Co-lead Special Exhibitions Working Group (2019-2023)
- Covid Response and Re-opening Task Force (2020-2021)
- Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Committee (2020-2023)
- Generations Committee (2022-2023) Note: Generations are the children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors.
- American Alliance of Museums (AAM) Accreditation Working Group (2022-2023)

Head, Special Collections, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, 2011-2015:

SHSU Special Collections is the Special Collections department at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas (20K student population in 2015). I was in the administration group and reported directly to the Dean.

The collection contains over 20,000 rare books and more than 120 manuscript collections. I supervised 2 FTE and 3 PTE as well as 4-6 interns annually as we pursued an aggressive program of arrangement and description. Under my leadership, the department implemented Archon (a predecessor of ArchivesSpace) and began placing Encoded Archival Description (EAD) compliant finding aids online.

As the Head of SHSU Special Collections I answered archival reference questions, pursued donations and fostered relationships with campus and community partners. I also taught instruction sessions and managed departmental projects and events.

- Implement foundational policies.
- Implement Archon (create finding aids for all collections, linking digital content at the item level).
- Implement processing program.
- Outreach to campus and surrounding community.
- Implement collection development plan, including rare book purchasing and manuscript acquisitions.
- Implement liaison outreach. Collaborating with History, English, Criminal Justice, and Art departments on campus to expand instruction program.
- Work with community and campus organizations to build relationships and increase collaboration.
- Work with Digital Resources Librarian and Cataloging Librarian to enhance metadata standardization, implement institutional repository, and develop electronic records program.

Graduate Assistant/ Research Associate, Archival Training Collaborative (ATC), Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 8/2009-8/2011:

The Archival Training Collaborative (ATC) is an Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funded, tri-state collaborative providing inexpensive, quality archival training to under-reached audiences in the gulf region (Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi). The ATC

offered training to over four hundred trainees in a four-year period. As the grant administrator's graduate assistant, I was responsible for the day-to-day activities of the grant, including communication and outreach.

- Created, maintained, and distributed promotional materials for the ATC grant project.
- Created and maintained multiple databases for the ATC.
- Updated the ATC's website.
- Assisted with workshop preparation and follow-up.
- Executed multiple training events as support person and trainer.
- Contacted archivists (and lay historians) in the tri-state area to build relationships.

Archival Reference Intern, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), Washington, D.C. 5/2010-7/2010:

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is a congressionally mandated memorial and museum and is an international center for historical research on the Holocaust. The archival reference section provides reference services to Museum patrons and staff. The USHMM receives several million new archival documents a year and maintains a series of guides to its collections. As the Archival Reference Intern, answered reference questions from highly experienced researchers as well as patrons searching for relatives while also assisting with basic workflow at the reference desk.

- Staffed the main archival reference desk at the USHMM under the supervision of the chief Archival Reference Librarian.
- Helped Museum patrons by doing in depth searches and retrieving requested items.
- Answered archival reference inquiries via phone, email and in person.
- Created 150-page training manual for archival reference staff.

Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt Papers Archivist, University of Arkansas Libraries, Special Collections, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 8/2006-7/2009:

Created processing plan for the UA Special Collection's largest manuscript collection (1500 cubic foot boxes of congressional papers) using motivational team management and innovative processing techniques modeled on Meissner and Greene's "More Product, Less Process."

- Hired, trained, and supervised 4 FTE, 2 PTE.
- Created and maintained the finding aid for the collection.
- Maintained a balanced approach and timeline throughout the processing of the collection.
- Implemented unique processing plans for collection's oversize, audiovisual and electronic records.
- Assisted with departmental projects and events such as Arkansas Authors, Archives Month events.

Congressman Asa Hutchinson Papers Archivist, University of Arkansas Libraries, Special Collections, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 7/2005-7/2006:

Reviewed and adapted the previously existing processing plan, hired, and trained two part-time student workers, and completed the processing of the initial donation of papers using archival best practices.

- Created plan for the completion of the processing of the Asa Hutchinson collection (140 cubic feet).
- Created and maintained the finding aid for the collection.
- Maintained a balanced approach and timeline throughout the processing of the collection.

Library Academic Technician I, University of Arkansas Libraries Circulation Department, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 12/2003-7/2005:

Worked with a team of five to provide consistent service at the Circulation desks. Worked cooperatively to serve library patrons, provide security for the library, and enforce the library's policies.

- Conducted rounds of the building for security purposes
- Assisted patrons with the location and retrieval of library materials

## Education

- Louisiana State University (LSU) School of Library and Information Science, Masters of Library and Information Science with an archives focus (18 hours of archives coursework) (4.0 GPA), 2009-2011
- University of Arkansas- Fayetteville, B.A. in History, German, and European Studies (*summa cum laude*), 1999-2003
- Karl-Franzens Universität (Graz, Austria), exchange year abroad in conjunction with my undergraduate degree at the University of Arkansas, 2001-2002
- J. William and Elizabeth W. Fulbright Scholar, 2001-2002

## Internships

- *Index Arkansas* Intern, volunteer (Mentor: Elizabeth McKee), 8/2005-12/2005
- Reference Intern, volunteer (Mentor: Jan Dixon), 2/2005-8/2005

## Skills

- Certified Archivist (August 2011-present)
- Donor relations
- Public speaking
- Artifact-based lectures and classroom programs
- Experienced in archival processing techniques and project planning.
- Experienced in community outreach and event planning.
- Familiar with a wide range of information technologies including Encoded Archival Description (EAD), Encoded Archival Context (EAC), HTML, CSS and XML
- Ability to work with archival description standards, including MARC, DACS and Dublin

Core.

- Microsoft Office Suite, Microsoft Access, Microsoft SharePoint, oXygen XML Editor
- Fluent in German

## Memberships

- Texas Historical Records Advisory Board (appointed Feb. 1, 2023, term 2023-2026)
- European Holocaust Research and Infrastructure Working Group (2022-2023)
- Starling Lab (USC Shoah Foundation) Archives Accelerator Group (2022)
- DFW Archives Bazaar Steering Committee (Chair, 2018; Member, 2019-2021)
- Society of American Archivists (2009-present)
- American Alliance of Museums (2016-present)
- Society of Southwest Archivists (2011-present)
  - SSA Executive Board Member, (2015-2017)
  - Chair, Society of Southwest Archivists – Professional Development Committee (2013-2015)

## Awards

- TLA Upstart Innovative Programming Award for efforts to increase access to archival collections, 2015.

## Publications

Peer-reviewed:

- Williamson, Felicia. “Adapting Archival Programming for a Virtual Environment.” *Archival Outlook*. January/February 2021, pp. 9, 18. [https://mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?i=690860&article\\_id=3861870&view=articleBrowser](https://mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?i=690860&article_id=3861870&view=articleBrowser)
- Williamson, Felicia, Scott Vieira, and James Williamson. “Marketing Finding Aids on Social Media: What Worked and What Didn't Work.” *The American Archivist*. Fall/Winter 2015, Vol. 78, No. 2, pp. 488-513.
- Williamson, Felicia. “Metadata and LAMs: Lasting Collaborative Success.” *Provenance*, vol. 16, no. 2, 2013. pp. 149-161.
- Thomas, Felicia. “John Paul Hammerschmidt (1922-2015).” *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*, May 2008, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/john-paul-hammerschmidt-4169/>
- Thomas, Felicia. “Asa Hutchinson, 1950-” *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*, November 2007, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/asa-hutchinson-4517/>
- Thomas, Felicia. “Austria’s White Rose: Student Resistance to the Holocaust in the Barbaragemeinde.” May 2003, *Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Journal*.

## Book Reviews:

- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Typically Jewish* by Nancy Kalikow Maxwell. *Library Journal*, April 1, 2019, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/typically-jewish>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Collections, Data, Archives ... Oh My!* By Allison Cullingford. *Library Journal*, July 6, 2017, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/story/collections-data-archives-oh-my-professional-media-books>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Engaging with Records and Archives: Histories and Theories* by Fiorella Foscarini et al. *Library Journal*, July 1, 2017, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/engaging-with-records-and-archives-histories-and-theories>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew* by Abigail Pogrebin. *Library Journal*, January 13, 2017, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/my-jewish-year-18-holidays-one-wondering-jew>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *40 New Revenue Sources for Libraries and Nonprofits* by Edmund A. Rossman, III. *Library Journal*, November 15, 2016, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/40-new-revenue-sources-for-libraries-and-nonprofits>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Digital Curation, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* by Ross Harvey *Library Journal*, October 1, 2016, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/digital-curation>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *The Nazi Titanic: The Incredible Untold Story of a Doomed Ship in World War II* by Robert P. Watson. *Library Journal*, May 1, 2016, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/the-nazi-titanic-the-incredible-untold-story-of-a-doomed-ship-in-world-war-ii>.
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Stolen Words: The Nazi Plunder of Jewish Books* by Mark Glickman. *Library Journal*, February 26, 2016, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/stolen-words-the-nazi-plunder-of-jewish-books>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *The First Nazi: Erich Ludendorff, The Man Who Made Hitler Possible* by Will Brownell, Denise Drace-Brownell, and Alex Rovt. *Library Journal*, January 1, 2016, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/the-first-nazi-erich-ludendorff-the-man-who-made-hitler-possible>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *To Hell and Back: Europe 1914-1949* by Ian Kershaw, John Curless, et al. *Library Journal*, October 15, 2015, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/to-hell-and-back-europe-1914%E2%80%931949>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Extensible Processing for Archives and Special Collections* by Daniel A. Santamaria. *Library Journal*, February 27, 2015, <https://www.libraryjournal.com/review/extensible-processing-for-archives-and-special-collections-reducing-processing-backlogs>
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Reluctant Witnesses: Survivors, Their Children, and the Rise of Holocaust Consciousness* by Arlene Stein. *Library Journal* 139, no. 14: 128.
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Exit Berlin: How One Woman Saved Her Family from Nazi Germany* by Charlotte Bonelli. *Library Journal* 139, no. 14: 116.
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *James & Dolley: America's First Power Couple* by Bruce Chadwick. *Library Journal* 138, no. 9: 87.
- Williamson, Felicia. Review of *Hanns and Rudolf: The True Story of the German Jew*

*Who Tracked Down and Caught the Kommandant of Auschwitz* By Thomas Harding.  
*Library Journal* 138, no. 14: 118.

Peer-reviewer:

- Member of the Peer-review board for the *American Archivist*, the professional journal of the Society of American Archivists (2012-2014).
- Member of Peer-review board for *The Reading Room*, a professional journal for special collections librarians (2014-2016).

## Presentations

- “Great Expectations: Completing a Cataloging Grant” with Robynn Amaba and Anne Hanisch. Accepted, Mountain-Plains Museum Association Annual Conference, September 27-30, 2023.
- “Pandemic Disruptions in Archival and Library Careers” with Morgan Gieringer, Misty Maberry, and Krishna Shenoy at the Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Conference, May 20, 2022.
- “Best Fest: Archival Outreach Events Skill share Panel” with Abby Weiser, Molly Hults, Jennifer Day, James Williamson, and Brian Collins at the Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Conference, May 25, 2018.
- “Reaching out to the Community: I did it, so can you!” at the Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Conference, May 27, 2017.
- “Arrested Development: Paving the Way for Partnerships Between Archives and Development Offices” Co-presenter with Tim Nutt, John Slate, and Ben Carter at the Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Conference, May 19, 2016.
- “Triple Play: Three Ways to Maximize Social Media ROI.” Co-presenter with James Williamson at Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Conference, May 21, 2015.
- “Collaborative Instruction in the Archives: A Success Story.” Co-presenter with James TLA District 8 Conference, October 18, 2014.
- “Marketing Finding Aids: What Worked and What Didn’t Work.” Co-presenter with James Williamson and Scott Vieira at Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Conference, May 29, 2014.
- “Preserving Family Memories.” Presentation/ training workshop at Huntsville Public Library, November 2013.
- “Marketing Archon” co-presenter with James at Louisiana Archives and Manuscript Association, October 18, 2013.
- “Preserving Newspapers and Photographs.” Co-trainer along with Beth Colvin for a day-long training workshop for the Archival Training Collaborative, 2010.
- “Archival Training on Shoestring — Introducing the Archival Training Collaborative (ATC).” Presentation given at the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association Annual Conference (Alexandria, LA), 2009.
- “Oral and Visual History as a Family History Resource.” Co-presenter with Tom Dillard at the Fayetteville Public Library (Fayetteville, AR), 2007.