

END OF FUNDING PERIOD REPORT

LAUC Statewide Grants, Research & Professional Development Committee

Primary Applicant(s): Celia Emmelhainz
Campus: Berkeley
Email: emmelhainz@berkeley.edu
Telephone: 510-642-5339

TITLE: Doing Anthropology in a Digital Age: Questions to Ask Across the Qualitative Research Lifecycle

Time Period of Grant: Fall 2016
Amount of Award Received: \$420

Abstract: The role of academic librarians in supporting anthropologists has shifted from a focus on developing library collections, assisting in research requests, and demonstrating Searching 101, to encompass a broader advisory role for qualitative researchers at all stages of research. New roles such as digital humanities librarian, scholarly communications librarian, or quantitative data librarian testify to the breadth of skills which librarians are developing in support of faculty research as well as in instructing students in classes and in preparation for the field. In this paper, I consider how qualitative research librarians can work with new or experienced anthropologists to provide guidance as scholars a) find and organize research materials; b) secure fieldnotes and interview notes while in the field; c) document and share research records in digital archives, and d) cite and re-use “secondary data” from archives in an appropriate matter. At each stage of the lifecycle of research in anthropology, I note questions that librarians may ask as they engage with students and researchers, as well as resources that might help qualitative researchers meet those challenges independently. I attend closely to issues of ethics, ownership, and agency as I consider how qualitative research changes in the face of an increasingly digital ethnographic research process, from beginning to end.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION

Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.

I prepared and led a presentation on data management across the research lifecycle for the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (the major national conference for anthropologists).

What aspects were completed as proposed?

The presentation went as proposed, and was well received.

Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?

The presentation was attended by about 30 guests as part of a larger panel on anthropological archiving. It generated a lively question and answer session, and was recorded/streamed for those who could not attend in person. As a result, I was invited to sit on the board of the *Council on Preservation of Anthropological Records (CoPAR)*.

What would you do differently next time, if anything?

Nothing.

What advice do you have for others applying for LAUC research grants?

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED?

Yes.

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

I estimated the costs to present at \$350 airfare, \$298 registration, \$50 transit, \$500 hotel, and \$442 meals.

I actually spent \$366 on airfare, \$298 on registration, \$54 on transit, \$315 on hotel, and \$140 on meals; the \$420 grant partially offset these costs.

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS

I shared full-text slides online at Slideshare, at <https://www.slideshare.net/emmelhainz/questions-to-ask-across-the-ethnographic-lifecycle>. The slides were viewed by 54 people via either direct links or google searches. Readers were primarily from the United States, but also from Russia (5 views) and Europe (5 views).