

Christina Velazquez Fidler to serve as Head of Bancroft Digital Collections

Description

I am very pleased to announce that Christina Velazquez Fidler will be serving as the new Head of the Bancroft Digital Collections unit in the Bancroft Technical Services Division. Since 2019, Christina has served as head of Bancroft's born digital archives program. Beginning this year, we consolidated the born digital archives program and the Bancroft digital collections program into a single unit.

As the Head of the newly configured Bancroft Digital Collections Unit, Christina will continue to manage the born digital archives program and take on responsibilities for our digitization and digital collection management, including metadata creation and maintenance, and managing preservation and publication workflows, working closely with the Digital Lifecycle Program, Library IT, and the Office of Scholarly Communications to support the digital work in Bancroft.

Christina joined the Library in December 2019 when she was hired as our first permanent Digital Archivist to manage our born digital archiving program. Prior to coming to Bancroft, Christina served as Museum Archivist at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and the California Academy of Sciences where she processed numerous archival collections and led multiple digitization efforts. At Bancroft, Christina has worked closely with stakeholders and colleagues throughout the library. She has demonstrated her leadership skills and ability to move coalitions forward through her extensive record of service to the Berkeley Library, UC System, and professional organizations, including as a founder of the Critical Librarianship Reading Group, member of the Berkeley Library Task Force on Racial Justice, chair of the Born Digital Common Knowledge Group for the University of California Libraries, as well as a member of national and statewide groups focused on digital preservation and access.

As Bancroft's digitized and born digital collections continue to grow, Christina's skills and expertise in these fields will allow us to better collaborate across the library, contribute to new policies, set priorities, implement new tools and workflows with Library partners, and ensure our digital collections are preserved and accessible to researchers. This spring, we will be recruiting a position (replacing Julie Musson who left in 2022) to help Christina manage the expanded work of this newly configured unit.

Please join me in congratulating Christina on her new role and thanking her for her on-going commitment to supporting the library's mission to preserve and provide access to collections.

Edited excerpt of email Mary Elings sent to library staff

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