Sarah Huber

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I am a strategic and creative leader with a deep interest in how information is organized, accessed, and transformed through emerging systems of knowledge organization. My work investigates how libraries can support the creation, storage, and discovery of non-traditional and multimodal forms of scholarship. Drawing on a robust background in teaching, visual literacy, and makerspace design and management, I develop environments and programs that encourage low-stakes experimentation across diverse materials and media. By bridging information searching with creative inquiry, I help learners actively engage with information in formats ranging from audio and print to textiles and mixed-media. I am particularly interested in how these varied modes of making generate ideas, shape the creation process, and open new pathways for communicating knowledge.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Visual Literacy
- Multimodal Scholarship
- Informed Learning
- Curriculum Design and Teaching
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration
- Learning Through the Search

EDUCATION

Master of Library and Information Science
St. Catherine University | St. Paul, MN 2014

Associate of Applied Science | Audio, Visual Digital Media
Minneapolis Community & Technical College | Minneapolis, MN 2007

Bachelor of Arts | English
University of Minnesota | Minneapolis, MN 2000

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Library Science
Purdue University | West Lafayette, IN 11/2016 to 06/2022
Associate Professor of Library Science & Knowledge Lab Director
Purdue University | West Lafayette, IN 07/2022 to Present

Designed and direct the Libraries' makerspace, the Knowledge Lab, overseeing budget, staff, and programming. The Lab provides a low-stakes, rapid-prototyping environment where students and faculty experiment with materials, equipment, and software to explore ideas and translate their coursework and research into diverse information formats. I teach visual literacy and multimodal creation, helping students navigate and produce visual and material forms of information. As liaison to Computer Graphics Technology and Computer and Information Technology, I collaborate with faculty, provide research consultations, and teach library resources and information literacy practices. I also instruct credit-bearing courses on data management, research, and visual literacy.

Highlights

- Partnered with School of Communication to produce *MakeYourStory* podcast, to teach students, specifically students in STEM, how to tell compelling stories about their innovations and ideas.
- Developed an online visual literacy framework and tool to teach both introductory navigation and creation of data visualizations.
- Collaborated across campus Cultural Centers to produce podcast *Diversity and Making*, both in-person and virtual, through the lens of diversity, highlighting contributions of the Asian, LGBTQ, Latino, and Native American populations.
- Applied a multi-disciplinary approach, connecting visualization and computation center with the Libraries to develop a 3D model repository.
- Designed and direct a successful makerspace that partners across campus and hosts over 7,000 sign-ins a semester.

Classes Taught

- ILS 301: Data Foundations, Tools, and Applications
- ILS 595: Visual Media for the Workplace
- R1:199: Honors Research
- R1:299: Honors Mentor
- ECET 380: Global Professional Issues in Engineering Technology
- ANTH 497: Senior Honors Seminar
- ILS 295: Foundations of the Data Mind; An Interlocking Modules Approach to Data Management
- ILS 103: Introduction to Data Management
- Nuclear Engineering 480: Essential Communications Skills for Engineers

Librarian
Dunwoody College of Technology | Minneapolis, MN 12/2007 to 11/2016

Designed and implemented information literacy instruction throughout campus. Taught faculty workshops on basic photography, Photoshop, and instructional video creation. Liaisoned to faculty integrating technology in the classroom across disciplines. Liaisoned to the engineering, architecture, and interior architecture departments, building resources specific to their programs.

Highlights

- Assisted in implementing engineering programs ABET, CIDA, and NAAB.
- Secured funding and built a virtual reality lab.
- Built a materials library to support engineering, interior architecture, and architecture programs.
- Supervised student workers within the library for two years, mentoring and delegating tasks.
- Part of the planning team organizing main library rebuild prior to approval and hand off.
- Created educational videos for Lean Manufacturing, Welding & Construction Safety for program instruction.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Art Instructor
Walker Art Center | Minneapolis, MN 08/2003 to 10/2008
Contracted with Modern Art Museum to lead children's workshops focused on textile arts. Wrote lesson plans and led workshops involving stamps, drawing, printing on fabric, and other child-focused makerspace activities.

Video Editor
TN Marketing | Plymouth, MN 02/2007 to 12/2007
Edited video footage for marketing clients. Content revolved around information, education, and instruction related to client industries.

APPOINTMENTS

Courtesy Appointment: Computing & Graphics Technology
Purdue University | West Lafayette, IN Fall 2019 to Present
Courtesy appointment as an Assistant Professor of Computer Graphics to support faculty collaboration on research and instruction and to serve on graduate committees.

Courtesy Appointment: Engineering Technology
Purdue University |West Lafayette, IN Fall 2019-Fall 2023
Courtesy appointment as an Assistant Professor of Engineering Technology to support faculty collaboration on research and instruction and to serve on graduate committees.

COURSES TAUGHT

ILS 301: Data Foundations, Tools, and Applications

Data are everywhere. Data permeates every aspect of our lives, from journalistic reporting to workplace projects to artificial intelligence applications. This course covers the basics of the data research lifecycle, including locating and managing datasets, along with applying different methods and tools to craft compelling stories about data.

ILS 595: Visual Media for the Workplace

Students actively engage with information literacy practices to make informed decisions when choosing visual media to communicate their message. Students utilize design principles, accessibility standards, and ethical use of visual information, among other topics, to create impactful and effective visuals. This course prepares students to communicate with visuals for a workforce that communicates through diverse formats.

R1: 199: Honors Mentor

Offered Fall and Spring semesters. A Learning Community course aimed to fast-track students for success in undergraduate research. This course gives members of the Learning Community an overview of research methods and practical experience doing creative research. After completing this course, students are positioned to maximize their experience as part of an R1 research institution.

R1: 299: Honors Mentor

Offered Fall and Spring semesters to undergraduate students in their junior and senior year across a variety of programs. Students in this course mentor freshman and sophomores in the accompanying HONR R1:199. Honors Mentor is a course for students to develop and refine leadership skills through a series of reflective activities and engagement in practical leadership experience.

ECET 380: Global Professional Issues in Engineering Technology

10% appointment Fall and Spring semesters. This course addresses professional ethics, legal issues, professional development, technology transfer, and corporate culture as they relate to engineering technology graduates and our global society. A focus is placed on developing research questions, citation, and reference skill development in their capstone project.
Led a collaboration between an anthropology student and Purdue Libraries Archives and Special Collections to identify archive objects we 3D scanned and made available through both an Open Access Repository and an online exhibit.

ANTH 497: Senior Honors Seminar

Led a collaboration between anthropology student and Purdue Libraries Archives and Special Collections to identify archive objects we 3D scanned and made available through both an Open Access Repository and an online exhibit.

ILS 295: Foundations of the Data Mind: An Interlocking Modules Approach to Data Management

Offered as part of three one-credit courses that combined to meet a set of core competencies in data science. The courses offered through three colleges (Philosophy, Purdue Libraries, and Electrical Engineering), covered principles of data management and organization, data analysis and visualization, and ethical and social implications of data science.

ILS 103: Introduction to Data Management
Offered Fall semester. Provides a foundation in the concepts of data organization, management, preservation, and publication. Students engage with the data management topics through readings, videos, discussion, lectures, guest speakers, and hands-on activities. They develop an ability to locate, access, transform, and evaluate data to answer everyday and research questions.

Nuclear Engineering 480: Essential Communications Skills for Engineers
Database searching within nuclear engineering, advanced search strategies, evaluating information, searching government information, scientific and technical information, technical standards and patents, plagiarism, copyright, attribution and citation.

LICENSURE

MN School Library Media Specialist
St. Catherine University | St. Paul, MN 2016 to 2022

GRANTS & AWARDS

Joanne J. Troutner Innovative Educators Program Award | *Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies* | Total award amount: $3,385
Date awarded: May 2, 2024

Joanne J. Troutner Innovative Educators Program Award | *Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies* | Total award amount: $2,600
Date awarded: May 2, 2023

Joanne J. Troutner Innovative Educators Program Award | *Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies* | Total award amount: $4,771
Date awarded: May 27, 2022

Joanne J. Troutner Innovative Educators Program Award | *Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies* | Total award amount: $2,015
Date awarded: March 24, 2021

International Travel Grant | *PULSIS: Libraries Research & Scholarship Grant* | Total award amount: $2,000
Date awarded: January 28, 2019

Foundations of the Data Mind: An Interlocking Modules Approach | *Purdue: Integrative Data Science Initiative* | Total award amount: $48,639
Date awarded: May 7, 2018 / End date of funding: June 1, 2019

Crosby Fellowship Grant | *Dunwoody College of Technology* | Total award amount: $10,000
Date awarded: December 1, 2014 / End date of funding: December 1, 2016

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Edited)

Huber, S. (Ed.). (2026). *Creative formats across media and disciplines: Assignments beyond the essay*. Set Margins'. https://www.setmargins.press/books/creative_formats/

Book Chapters

Huber, S., & Sumner, A. (2021). Photogrammetry and texture baking: Creating lightweight 3D objects for any VR headset. In E. Kroski (Ed.), *32 virtual, augmented, and mixed reality programs for libraries* (pp. 62–69). ALA Editions. https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/lib_fsdocs/252/

Huber, S., Edmondson, A. P., & Meher, R. I. (2020). Part VIII craft projects: Carving cute critters (pp. 235–239). In E. Kroski (Ed.), *53 ready-to-use kawaii craft projects*. ALA Editions. https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/lib_fsdocs/251/

Articles

Bochenek, A., Huber, S., & Varma Mudduluru, R. (2025). Libraries facilitating knowledge creation through podcasting: Exploring podcasts as a form of scholarship. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 51(3), 1–9. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2025.103042

Huber, S., Mayhook, Z., & Huang, W. (2024). Visual media assignments: Faculty vs. student experiences and expectations in engineering and business. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 50(6). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2024.102971

Huber, S., Sari, P., & Meher, R. (2021). Diversity and making: A living history quilt. *Journal of Learning Spaces*, 10(3). http://libjournal.uncg.edu/jls/article/view/2125

Bosman, L., Bartholomew, S., Huber, S., & Amiaya, A. (2021). Using adaptive comparative judgment to promote the entrepreneurial mindset and visual literacy in the engineering technology classroom. *Entrepreneurship Education*. https://rdcu.be/czEIi

Huber, S., & Puliyadi Ravi, S. (2021). A visual design framework and assessment to inform instruction. In J. Lee, S. M. Christensen, S. Beene, X. Chen, & W. Huang (Eds.), Visual literacy in the virtual realm: The book of selected readings 2021 (pp. 39–52*). International Visual Literacy Association*. https://doi.org/10.52917/ivlatbsr.2021.015

Huber, S. (2021, March). Active discovery information systems. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 47(2). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2020.102283

Huber, S., Bosman, L., & Bartholomew, S. (2021, January). Library instruction and adaptive comparative judgment to foster visual literacy skills. *Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, 21(1). https://doi.org/10.1353/pla.2021.0001

Hannah, M., Huber, S., & Matei, S. A. (2019). Collecting virtual and augmented reality in the twenty-first century library. *Collection Management*, 44(2–4), 277–295. https://doi.org/10.1080/01462679.2019.1587673

Huber, S. (2018). The dynamic library. *Collection Management*, 43(3), 223–225. https://doi.org/10.1080/01462679.2018.1482246

Howard, H., Huber, S., Moore, E., & Carter, L. (2018). Academic libraries on social media: Finding the students and the information they want. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 37(1). https://doi.org/10.6017/ital.v37i1.10160

Phillips, M., & Huber, S. (2017, Summer). Standards resources for engineering and technology. *Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship*, 87. https://doi.org/10.5062/F4B27SJ7

PRESENTATIONS

Huber, S. (2025, November 19). *Zines as a method for research* [Virtual conference presentation]. American Library Association Image Resources Discussion Group Annual Meeting.

Fundator, R., Gerrish, T., Huber, S., LeGrand, S., & Maybee, C. (2025, July 21). *First-hand knowledge: Four approaches to experiential information literacy at Purdue*. Summer Information Literacy Presentation Series, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States. Online.

Huber, S., & Gerrish, T. (2025, May 20). *Search behaviors across information platforms*. LIDA: Libraries and Information Institutions in the Digital Age, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Bochenek, A., & Huber, S. (2024, March 26). *Librarians facilitating creativity and knowledge among students through podcasting*. LILAC: The Information Literacy Conference, Leeds, England.

Huber, S., & Mayhook, Z. (2023, April 19–21). *Getting visual: Assessing the need for visual literacy instruction within engineering and business courses*. LILAC: The Information Literacy Conference, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Bochenek, A., & Huber, S. (2022, July 31–August 2). *Make your story: Creating community and celebrating makers through the narrative podcast*. Special Libraries Association Annual Conference, Charlotte, NC, United States.

Bochenek, A., & Huber, S. (2022, June 1–3). *Make your story: Creating community and celebrating makers through the narrative podcast*. ACRL New England/NELIG Joint Annual Conference, Virtual.

Huber, S., & Sari, P. K. (2021, July 15). *University Libraries and Cultural Center maker collaboration: Fostering diverse makers and their making*. Makerspaces for Innovation and Research (MIRA) Conference, Virtual.

Huber, S., & Sari, P. K. (2021, June 1–4). *University Libraries and Cultural Center maker collaboration: Fostering diverse makers and their making*. Polytechnic Summit, Virtual, International.

Huber, S. (2020, September 24–27). *A visual design framework with adaptive comparative judgement (ACJ) to assess visual design skills*. International Visual Literacy Association Annual Conference (IVLA), Virtual, International.

Huber, S. (2020, March 2). *Data visualization essentials: Choosing the right graph for your data.* Women in Data Science (WiDS) 2020, West Lafayette, IN, United States.

Huber, S. (2019, November 7). *Poster: PULSIS: Mobile making*. Purdue GIS Day, West Lafayette, IN, United States.

Huber, S. (2019, September 30). *Engage students and enhance data management*. Midwest Data Librarian Symposium (MDLS), Chicago, IL, United States.

Huber, S. (2019, July 14–19). *Poster: Adaptive comparative judgement (ACJ) to support visual and information literacy for engineering technology students*. Gordon Research Conference: Visualization in Science and Education, South Hadley, MA, United States.

Huber, S. (2019, April 6). *Visual literacy & zine making: Staying wild, CounterPlay 2019!.* Aarhus, Denmark.

Huber, S. (2019, May 10). *Integration of a foundational data management course into STEM.* Indiana Online Users Group (IOUG) Spring Conference, Indianapolis, IN, United States.

Huber, S. (2018, March 14). *Slaying the social media dragon: A quest to connect with students.* LibTech: Library Technology Conference, Saint Paul, MN, United States.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Grievance Committee | Committee Member | *Purdue University*
10/2025 to Present
Information Focused Teaching and Learning REAL Group | Member | *Purdue University*
10/2025 to Present
Faculty Senate | Committee Member | *Purdue University*

10/2024 to 05/2027
Learning Council | Committee Member | *Purdue Libraries*
09/2024 to Present
Image Resources Discussion Group | Convener | *American College of Research Libraries*
02/2020 to Present
Visual Arts & Design Committee | Chair | *Purdue University*
10/2018 to 05/2022
Entrepreneurship Implementation Task Force | Committee Member | *Purdue Libraries*03/2018 to 03/2019
Digital Scholarship Task Force | Committee Member | *Purdue Libraries*
01/2018 to 01/2019
Seminar Committee | Chair | Purdue Libraries
08/2017 to 08/2020

STUDENT ORGANIZATION FACULTY ADVISOR

Fashion Retail Organization 02/2023 to Present
Purdue Sewing & Design Club 02/2023 to Present
Clothing for Cancer 02/2023 to Present
Aurum Arts & Culture Magazine 08/2022 to 05/2023

MEMBERSHIPS & ORGANIZATIONS

Association of College and Research Libraries 05/2017 to Present
International Visual Literacy Association 10/2021 to Present
American Society of Engineering Educators | Engineering Libraries 05/2017 to 05/2023
American Technical Education Association 12/2015 to 11/2016
Association of Architecture School Librarians 05/2013 to 11/2016
Digital Public Library of America Community Trainer 01/2014 to 01/2015
MLA's Institute for Leadership Excellence (MILE) 05/2013 to 12/2015

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Purdue Insights Faculty Forum | *Purdue University* 08/2025 to 05/2026
Teaching for Tomorrow Faculty Fellowship Program | *Purdue University* 09/2020 to 09/2021
Data Science & Visualization Institute for Librarians / *North Carolina State University* 06/2018