

**Curriculum Vitae  
Melissa G. Ocepek**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**MAILING ADDRESS**

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
School of Information Sciences  
501 E Daniel St., MC-493  
Champaign, IL 61820

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

2019-Present      Assistant Professor, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign  
2017-2019      Visiting Assistant Professor, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign  
2016-2017      Postdoctoral Research Associate, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign  
2015-2016      Visiting Scholar, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

**DEGREES**

2016:      Ph.D. in Information Science  
University of Texas at Austin  
Dissertation: Everyday Shopping: An Exploration of the Information Behaviors of the Grocery Shoppers  
Committee: Drs. William Aspray (Chair), Lynn Westbrook, Melanie Feinberg, & Ann Reynolds  
2009:      B.A. Cum Laude in Sociology and Political Science with Honors  
Pepperdine University, Seaver College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Everyday Information Behavior, Cultural Theory, Critical Theory, Food Studies, Research Methods

**AWARDS & HONORS**

- SIG USE Elfreda A. Chatman Research Award (2017)
- List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent (Fall 2016, Fall 2019)
- Benonine Muse Scholarship (2015-2016)
- H. W. Wilson Endowed Presidential Scholarship (2014-2015)
- Robert R. Douglass Memorial Endowed Scholarship, University of Texas at Austin (2012-2013)
- Honor's Research Program in Political Science, Pepperdine University (2009)
- Member of Phi Sigma Alpha, political science honor society (2009)
- Pepperdine Speech and Debate Team Scholarship (2007-2009)
- Member of Eta Sigma, first year national honor society (2006)
- Dean' Scholarship, Pepperdine University (2005-2009)

**PUBLISHED WORKS**

Makri, S., Chen, Y. C., McKay, D., Buchanan, G., & **Ocepek, M.** (2019, September). Discovering the unfindable: The tension between findability and discoverability in a bookshop designed for serendipity. *Proceedings of the 17<sup>th</sup> IFIP Conference on Human-Computer Interaction – INTERACT 2019*, 3-23. (Best Paper Award Winner, Acceptance Rate: 29%)

## Melissa G. Ocepek

- Ocepek, M. G.** (2018). Bringing out the everyday in everyday information behavior. *Journal of Documentation*, 74(2), 398-411.
- Ocepek, M. G.** (2018). Sensible shopping: A sensory exploration of the information environment of the grocery store. *Library Trends*, 66(3), 371-394.
- Ocepek, M. G.** (2017). Passive information behaviors while grocery shopping. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, 54(1), 507-510.
- Simons, R. N., **Ocepek, M. G.**, & Barker, L. J. (2016) Teaching tweeting: Recommendations for teaching social media work in LIS and MSIS Programs. *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*, 57 (1), 21-30.
- Ocepek, M. G.** & Westbrook, L. (2015). Question, answer, compare: A cross-category comparison of answers on Q&A websites. *New Review of Hypermedia & Multimedia*, 21(3-4), 212-226.
- Gruning, J., Bullard, J., & **Ocepek, M.G.** (2015). Medium, access, and obsolescence: What kinds of objects are lasting objects? *Proceedings of the ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems—CHI 2015*, 3433-3442. (Acceptance Rate: 23% of 2150 submissions.)
- Ocepek, M. G.**, Karadkar, U., & Aspray, W. (2015). A perspective on the larger world: Newspaper coverage of national and international events in three small US cities, 1870 – 1920. *Information & Culture: A Journal of History*, 50(3), 417-440.
- Royer G., **Ocepek, M. G.**, & Aspray, W. (2015). Food fights for freedom: A critical reading of food advertisements from Ladies' Home Journal during the Second World War. *Advertising & Society Review*, 15(4).
- Kim, Y., Briley, D. A., & **Ocepek, M. G.** (2015). Differential innovation of smartphone and application use by sociodemographics and personality. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 44, 141-147.
- Aspray, W., **Ocepek, M. G.**, & Royer, G. (2014). On cars and food: Reflections on sources for the historical study of everyday information behavior. *Information & Culture: A Journal of History*, 49(4), 492-525.
- Aspray, W., Royer, G., & **Ocepek, M. G.** (2014). *Formal and informal approaches to food policy*. New York: Springer.
- Ocepek, M. G.**, Aspray, W., & Royer, G. (2014). The incidental impact of First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy on the revival of French food in America. *Food Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 3(2), 11-19.
- Aspray, W., **Ocepek, M. G.**, & Royer, G. (2013). America eats out: An interdisciplinary study of American eating habits from colonial to modern times. *Americana*, 9(2).
- Aspray, W., Cortada, J., **Ocepek, M. G.**, & Royer G. (2013). Against Internet exceptionalism: Understanding Open Table through a traditional business history of technology approach. *Journal of Internet Business*, 11, 39-59.
- Aspray, W., Royer, G., & **Ocepek, M. G.** (2013). *Food in the Internet age*. New York: Springer.

## Melissa G. Ocepek

**Ocepek, M. G.** & Fetzter, J.S. (2010). The causes of pro-immigration voting in the United States Supreme Court. *International Migration Review*, 43(3), 659-696.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Ocepek, M. G.**, Burnett, G., Martaus, A., McKenzie, P., & Mansourian, Y. (2020, March). *Just having fun: What studying fun in LIS can tell us about engaging communities*. Session for Interaction and Engagement presented virtually at iConference, Boras, Sweden.

Hu, Y., **Ocepek, M. G.**, Barker, L., & Downie, J. S. (2020, March). "The real library world is dirty and you don't learn that at all in schools." Poster presented virtually at 2020 iConference, Boras, Sweden.

Lee, L., **Ocepek, M. G.**, Makri, S., Buchanan, G., & McKay, D. (2019, October). *Getting creative in everyday life: Investigating arts and crafts hobbyists' information Behavior*. Poster presented at 2019 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Melbourne, Australia.

Benson, S., & **Ocepek, M. G.** (2019, August). Students' emotional responses to copyright before and after a copyright intensive course. Lightning talk presented at the 85<sup>th</sup> IFLA General Conference and Assembly, Athens, Greece.

**Ocepek, M. G.**, Bullard, J., Hartel, J., Forcier, E., Polkinghorne, S., & Price, L. (2018, November). *Fandom, food, and folksonomies: The methodological realities of studying fun life-contexts*. Panel presented at 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, Canada.

Chen, A. T., **Ocepek, M. G.**, Potnis, D., & Wang, Y. (2018, November). *Moving toward the future of information behavior research and practice: 18th annual SIG-USE research symposium*. Workshop presented at 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, Canada.

Lee, L., **Ocepek, M. G.**, (2018, November). *Everyday information practices: An exploration of intraindividual information behavior across everyday contexts*. Poster presented at 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, Canada.

**Ocepek, M. G.**, (2018, November). *An exploration of everyday information behavior*. Talk presented at 18th annual SIG-USE research symposium pre-conference for ASIS&T 2018, Vancouver, Canada.

Buchanan, S. A., Bullard, J., Aspray, W., Bailey, D., Barker, L., Carter, D., Clement, T. Gottschlich, N. Howison, J. McLaughlin, S., **Ocepek, M.**, Sholler, D., & Trace, C.B. (2017, October). *Collaborative syllabus design for studying information work*. Poster presented at 2017 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Washington, DC.

**Ocepek, M. G.** (2016, October). *Shopping for sources: An everyday information behavior exploration of grocery shoppers' information sources*. Poster presented at 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Barker, L. J., Broussard, R., Buchanan, S., Carter, D., Gruning, J., Gursoy, A., Kazin, N., Moon, E., **Ocepek, M. G.**, & Simons, R. (2015, March). *21st century information workers: What core competencies should MSIS students learn?* Session for Interaction and Engagement at iConference 2015, Newport Beach, CA.

## Melissa G. Ocepek

**Ocepek, M. G.,** Aspray, W., & Royer G. (2013, October). *'I'm not Mrs. Roosevelt': The incidental impact of First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy on food and nutrition*. Paper presented at the 3rd International Conference on Food Studies, Austin, TX.

### INVITED TALKS

**Ocepek, M. G.** (2019, February). *Information Behavior at the Grocery Store*. Talk presented at the Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL.

**Ocepek, M. G.** (2016, October). *Shopping for Sources: An Exploration of Grocery Shoppers' Information Sources*. Talk presented to the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship (CIRSS) Seminar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Aspray, W., Royer, G., & **Ocepek, M. G.** (2012, November). *The Informed Stomach: A Study in Food, Culture, and Information in America*. Talk presented to the School of Information Research Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin.

### PUBLIC OUTREACH

Bavis, L. (2020, April 6). How to stay safe from COVID-19 while grocery shopping. *Side Effects Public Media*. <https://www.sideeffectspublicmedia.org/post/how-stay-safe-covid-19-while-grocery-shopping>.

Benson, S. (2020, February 25). Melissa Ocepek's insights into copyright instruction. [Audio podcast episode]. In *Copyright Chat Podcast*. Scholarly Communication and Publishing – University of Illinois Library. <https://www.library.illinois.edu/scp/podcast/melissa-ocepeks-insights-into-copyright-instruction/>.

### COURSES TAUGHT

Instructor, IS 590CI: *Copyright for Information Professionals* (UIUC; SU2018 online, SP2019, SP2020)

Instructor, IS 503: *Use and Users of Information* (UIUC; FA2019)

Instructor, IS 501: *Information Organization and Access* (UIUC; FA2017, SP2018, FA2019)

Instructor, IS 502: *Libraries, Information, and Society* (UIUC; FA2016, SP2017, FA2017, SP2018, SP2019 online, SP2020)

Assistant Instructor, INF 335W: *Information in Cyberspace* (UT; SU2015 online)

Teaching Assistant, INF 380E: *Perspectives on Information* (UT; SP2014, SU2014)

Teaching Assistant, INF 385T: *Pets and Everyday Information Behavior* (UT; SU2013)

Teaching Assistant, INF 335W: *Information in Cyberspace* (UT; SP2013 online)

Teaching Assistant, INF 397C: *Understanding Research* (UT; FA2012)

### NEW COURSE DEVELOPMENT

IS 590CIO: Copyright for Information Professionals. Co-developed with Sara Benson, Copyright Librarian, an elective master's course designed for LIS and IM students interested in how copyright affects information work.

### SERVICE

Committee Member, *MS/LIS & CAS Committee*, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois (2020)

Committee Member, *Information, Technology & Society Hiring Committee*, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois (2019-2020)

Committee Member, *Communications*, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois (2019-2020)

Committee Member, *BS/IS Committee*, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois (2019)

## Melissa G. Ocepek

Committee Member, *Admissions Committee*, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois (2017-2019)

Committee Co-Chair, *SIG-USE Symposium*, SIG-USE, ASIS&T (2017-2018)

Student Representative, *Doctoral Studies Committee*, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin (2014-2015)

Coordinator, *iSchool Doctoral Student Association*, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin (2014-2015)

Student Representative, *Curriculum Committee*, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin (2013-2014)

Organizer, *iSchool Doctoral Student Association*, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin (2013-2014)

### DOCTORAL COMMITTEE WORK

Lo Lee, University of Illinois, School of Information Sciences, Chair

Eddie Clem, Wilkes University, School of Education, External Examiner

### ASSISTANTSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Texas Continuing University Fellowship (2015-2016)

This fellowship provided full support (\$34,316 total) over a 9-month period in recognition of accomplishments as a graduate student.

Graduate Research Assistant, Preparing Tomorrow's Faculty to Study the Work of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarians Grant, University of Texas at Austin (2013-2015), IMLS

This assistantship supports participation in an IMLS-funded project focusing on information work and the creation of ILS curricula to prepare future LIS graduates.

Graduate Research Assistant, Information Technology, Remote Socialization, and the Development of Occupational Identity, University of Texas at Austin (Summer 2013), NSF

This assistantship supported participation in an NSF-funded project focusing on remote occupational socialization of workers in Brazil, India, Poland, Mexico, and the United States.

Editorial Fellow, *Information and Culture: A Journal of History*, University of Texas at Austin (2012-2013)

This fellowship involved reviewing academic submissions, website maintenance, and assisting with editorial decisions.

Graduate Assistant, Sanger Learning and Career Center, University of Texas at Austin (2011-2012)

This assistantship involved working with learning specialists to develop programs to develop and improve skills for peer tutors and teaching assistants.

### AD HOC JOURNAL, CONFERENCE, AND BOOK PROPOSAL REVIEWER

*Journal of Documentation*

*Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*

*Food Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*

*ASIS&T Annual Meeting*

*Illinois Open Publishing Network*

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T): since 2012