

~ Melissa Villa Nicholas, PhD ~

[Faculty Website](#)
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Appointments

University of California, Los Angeles, **Associate Professor**, July 2025–present
University of California, Los Angeles, **Assistant Professor**, July 2024–July 2025
University of Rhode Island, **Associate Professor**, July 2023–July 2024
University of Rhode Island, **Assistant Professor**, July 2017–June 2023
University of Rhode Island, **Lecturer**, August 2016–June 2017

Education

PhD, Information Science, Minor: Queer Theory, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2016
M.A., Library and Information Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2012
M.A., Cultural Studies, Claremont Graduate University, 2010
B.A., Literature; B.A., Global Studies, Azusa Pacific University, 2005

Affiliations

The Esperanza Laboratories, UCLA
Chicano Studies Research Center, UCLA
DataX, UCLA
Latino Policy Institute, UCLA

Books

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023). *Data Borders: How Silicon Valley is Building an Industry from Immigrant Data*. University of California Press.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2022). *Latinas on the Line: Invisible Labor in Telecommunications*. Rutgers Press.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2026). Shadow self: Archetypes of Mexican men and technology in Michael Peña films. *Label Me Latina/o*, 16(1).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025). Women's history in computing: A case study of women in the workforce. *Women's History Database*. ABC-CLIO.

Sweeney, M., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2022). Digitizing the Latina information worker. *American Quarterly*, 74(1).

Villa-Nicholas, M., & Sweeney, M. (2020). Designing the 'good citizen' through Latina identity in USCIS's virtual assistant 'Emma.' *Feminist Media Studies*, 20(7).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019). Latinx digital memory: Identity making in real time. *Social Media and Society*, 5(4).

Austin, J., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019). Information provision and the carceral state: Race and reference beyond the idea of the ‘underserved.’ *The Reference Librarian*, 60(4).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018). Teaching intersectionality: Pedagogical approaches for lasting impact. *Education for Information*, 34(2).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018). Terror by telephone: Normative anxieties around obscene calls in the 1960s. *First Monday*, 23(5).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018). Discerning fake information. *Teaching Media Quarterly*, 6(1).

Velez, L., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017). Mapping race and racism in U.S. library history literature, 1997–2015. *Library Trends*, 65(4).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017). Ruptures in telecommunications: Latina and Latino information workers in Southern California. *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*, 42(1).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2015). Latina/o librarian technological engagements: REFORMA in the digital age. *Latino Studies*, 13(4).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2014). Latina narratives of information technologies: Towards a critical Latina technology studies. *Media-N*, 10(3).

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapter

Villa-Nicholas, M., Drake, T., & Tidline, T. (2019). Healing justice: An approach of caring for intersectional LIS professionals. In *Social justice and activism in libraries: Essays on diversity and change*. McFarland Press.

Invited Publication

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2016). The invisible information worker: Latinas in telecommunications. In S. Noble & B. Tynes (Eds.), *The intersectional internet: Race, sex, class and culture online*. Peter Lang Digital Editions Series.

Edited Journal

Velez, L., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2020). Information studies, race and racism. *Open Information Science*. De Gruyter Publishers. (Guest editors)

Miscellaneous Publications & Public Scholarship

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2020). Data body milieu. *Feminist Media Studies, Commentary & Criticism*.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019). Missing cells: The growing economic value of immigrant and refugee biological data. *Bitch Media*.

Karno, V., Ma, Y., Mandel, L., Moen, M., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018). *Graduate School of Library and Information Studies self-study (2010–2017): Master of Library and Information Studies*. University of Rhode Island. Prepared by the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies; submitted to the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation, February 1, 2018.

Grants

External

Institute of Museum and Library Services. (2024–2027). *Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program: Early Career Grant* (Project team member). University of North Carolina at Greensboro, with LaTasha Velez (Principal Investigator), Michelle Rosquillo, and Melissa Villa-Nicholas (Co-researcher/Consultant).

Internal

Mellon Foundation. (2025–2026). Mellon Digital Humanities Course Development Grant (Co-Principal Investigator). University of California, Los Angeles. \$10,000.

University of California, Los Angeles. (2026). Community Engagement Research Grant: La Historia Museum (Co-Principal Investigator). School of Education and Information Studies, UCLA. \$10,000.

University of California, Los Angeles. (2025–2026). Community Engagement Course Development Grant (Co-Principal Investigator). University of California, Los Angeles. \$5,000.
Institute of American Cultures. (2026). Institute of American Cultures Research Grant (Principal Investigator). University of California, Los Angeles. \$3,000.

Social Science Institute for Research, Education, and Policy. (2022–2023). SSIREP Research Grant (Principal Investigator). University of Rhode Island. \$7,000.

University of Rhode Island, College of Arts & Sciences. (2022). Dean's Summer Faculty Research Grant (Principal Investigator). University of Rhode Island. \$5,000.

Center for the Humanities. (2021). Subvention Grant (Principal Investigator). University of Rhode Island. \$1,000.

Office of Research Development. (2021). Project Completion Grant (Principal Investigator). University of Rhode Island. \$3,000.

University of Rhode Island. (2019–2020). Faculty Career Enhancement Grant (Principal Investigator). University of Rhode Island. \$7,298.

Honors and Awards

- Association of Borderlands Studies Book Award (2025). For *Data borders: How Silicon Valley is building an industry around immigrants*.

- McGannon Center Book Award, Fordham University (2024). For *Data borders: How Silicon Valley is building an industry around immigrants*.
- Labor Tech Network Book Award, Honorable Mention (2022). For *Latinas on the line: Invisible information labor in telecommunications*.
- Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Awards, University of Rhode Island (2021).
- Library Juice Press Paper Contest (2020). For Austin, J., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019). Information provision and the carceral state: Race and reference beyond the idea of the “underserved.” *The Reference Librarian*, 60(4).
- Smalley Fellowship, Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (2015).
- i3 Schools PhD Teaching Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh (2014).
- James Krikelas Award, Honorable Mention, University of Wisconsin–Madison (2012).
- REFORMA Scholar, REFORMA (2011).
- Dianne McAfee Hopkins Award, University of Wisconsin–Madison (2011).
- Advanced Opportunity Fellowship, University of Wisconsin–Madison (2010–2011)

Forthcoming Peer Review & Invited Public Scholarship

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Forthcoming 2026). “María: Las mujeres migrantes en el centro de la historia de la tecnología.” Peer Review Publication with Revisions for *Relaciones*.

Fronteras: migración, corporalidad y trabajo en la relación México-Estados Unidos, siglos XX-XXI. (2026). Guest Editor con la Dra. Diana Irina Córdoba Ramírez.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Forthcoming 2026). Book review for *American Quarterly* of Code Work: Hacking Across the US/México Techno-Borderlands by Hector Beltrán (Princeton Press, 2023) and Border Tunnels: A Media Theory of the U.S.-Mexico Underground (University of Minnesota Press, 2023) by Juan Llamas-Rodriguez.

Villa-Nicholas, M. & Ringrose, K. (Forthcoming 2026). *Data borders* Q&A Interview with K. Ringrose. Georgetown Press.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Forthcoming 2026). “Data Borders: Three Years Later.” Invited post for *Platypus*, the Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing (CASTAC) Blog, The American Anthropological Association. <https://blog.castac.org>

Manuscripts Under Review/In Progress

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Under contract discussion). *Mexican migrant women in the age of A.I.* University of California Press.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (Peer review article under review). “Visual representations of Latines with technologies in the for-profit college scam era.”

Chaar López, I., Córdoba Ramírez, D. I., Rivera Andrade, S. F., Montaña, D., Amaya Schaeffer, F., Castorena-Sáenz, N., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (English manuscript under review). *Border Ecologies: Life in Transit*. Open Source Manifolds @ University of Minnesota Press.

Chaar López, I., Córdoba Ramírez, D. I., Rivera Andrade, S. F., Montaña, D., Amaya Schaeffer, F., Castorena-Sáenz, N., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (Spanish and Bilingual manuscript under review). *Border Ecologies: Life in Transit*. Históricas.

Invited Speaker and Invited Engagements

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, December). “María: Las mujeres migrantes en el centro de la historia de la tecnología.” [Hybrid panel]. Fronteras: Migración, corporalidad y trabajo en la relación México–Estados Unidos, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Ciudad de México, México.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, November). Invited lecture for Data Borders Book Club. [Virtual lecture]. University of Maryland, iSchool.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, October). “Data borders.” [Invited lecture]. McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, May). “Data borders.” [Webinar]. Meet the Author Series, ASIST.
Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, March). “Data borders: How Silicon Valley is building an industry around immigrants.” [Virtual keynote]. Brown University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, March). Interview on the topic of Data Borders. [Interview]. C2I2, University of California, Los Angeles.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, March). “Libraries, labor, and perpetual obsolescence: A recent history of the future.” [Virtual invited response]. Massachusetts Historical Society.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2024, October). “Data borders: Storytelling in the age of A.I.” [Virtual panel]. Big Data & Society.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2024, April). “Data borders: Storytelling in the age of A.I.” [Invited lecture]. Center for the Humanities, Washington University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023, April). “Data borders: How Silicon Valley is building an industry to know immigrants.” [Invited lecture]. Center for Internet Inquiry (C2i2), University of California, Los Angeles.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023, February). “Data borders: How Silicon Valley is building an industry to know immigrants.” [Keynote]. University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, College of Communication & Information Science, Discerning Diverse Voices Symposium.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023, June). “Teaching incarceration in LIS.” [Invited webinar]. San Francisco Public Library, Jail and Reentry Library Services.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2022, October). “Data borders.” [Invited webinar]. Center for Latinx Digital Media, School of Communication, Northwestern University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2021, April). “Innovative technologies: Opportunities and challenges.” [Invited lecture]. Innovation and the Future of LIS: Technology, Ethics, and Inclusion, Tenth Annual Allen Smith Symposium, iSchool, Simmons.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2021, March). Latino tech talent. [Virtual roundtable]. Aspen Institute.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2020, July). “Don’t call ICE and other methods of resistance in the library.” [Keynote; conference canceled due to COVID-19]. Library Instruction West.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2020, April). “Innovative technologies: Opportunities and challenges.” [Invited lecture; conference canceled due to COVID-19]. Innovation and the Future of LIS: Technology, Ethics, and Inclusion, Tenth Annual Allen Smith Symposium, iSchool, Simmons.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2020, Summer). “Data body milieu: How Silicon Valley is designing technology around Latinx immigrants.” [Lecture canceled due to COVID-19]. AI Now Institute, New York University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2020, February). “Biotechnology and data citizens on the U.S.-Mexico border.” [Colloquia presentation]. University of California, Los Angeles.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019, April). “Histories of Latinx tech labor: 1870–present.” [Invited lecture]. Harrington Forum, University of Rhode Island.

Sweeney, M., & Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019, March). “Cultural affordances of ‘Emma,’ USCIS’s Latina virtual assistant.” [Invited lecture]. Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018, November). “The intersectional process: Revise, fail, revise again.” [Invited lecture]. Faculty Development Series, University of Rhode Island Libraries, University of Rhode Island.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017, March). “Latina information workers in telecommunications.” [Invited lecture]. Special Interest Group for Computers, Information, and Society, Computer History Museum.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2016, February). “Latina information workers in telecommunications: Intersectional experiences in the Bell System.” [Colloquia presentation]. Department of Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2015, April). “Latina information workers in telecommunications: Intersectional experiences in the Bell System.” [Barbara and Donald Smalley Lecture]. Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Conference Papers, Research Talks, and Presentations

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, June–October). Lecture series. *Latinas Write! The Esperanza Laboratories*, Murrieta, CA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, September). Panel presentation: “Framing empowering conversations about Latine patrons.” REFORMA National Convention, Long Beach, CA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2024, July–August). “Technology, policy, and democracy in flux.” Oxford Summer Media Institute, Jesus College, Oxford, UK.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2024, March). Retreat presentation. Techno Fronteras Retreat, Techno Anzaldúa’s, UC Santa Cruz.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023, September). Panel presentation: “Data Borders: How Silicon Valley is Building an Industry Around Immigrants.” SIGCIS SHOT.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023, October). Roundtable: “Latinx Internet Studies.” Association of Internet Researchers (AOIR), Philadelphia, PA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2021). Panel presentation: “Strategic visibilities: Digitizing the Latina information worker.” AOIR, Virtual.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2021, October). Panel presentation: “Borderlands and/as machine: Technoscience in unequal and uncertain lifeworlds.” 4S, Virtual.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019, September). Panel presentation: “Collecting people as data.” 4S, New Orleans, LA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018, September). Panel presentation: “Crossing institutional divides: Services to incarcerated patrons as a bridge between public libraries and library and information science education.” Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC).

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018, September). Poster presentation: “Teaching and applying intersectionality in the LIS classroom.” JCLC.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017, September). Paper presentation: “‘I am so versatile—I can be used for just about everything’: Race, gender, and the perfect digital Latina laborer.” Society for the Study of Social Science.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017, January). Poster presentation: “The evolution of critical theories in library history literature, 1997–2015.” ALISE.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2015, September). Online lecture: “How to read and write for grad school.” Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2015, March). Panel presentation: “Pipelines and pathways into the information professions.” iConference, Newport Beach, CA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2014, May). Paper presentation: “Neoliberal intimacies: Latina/o information workers.” Gender, Bodies, Technologies Conference, Blacksburg, VA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2014, February). Panel presentation: “Social justice in LIS.” iConference, Berlin, Germany.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2013, September). Panel presentation: “The development of the Distributed Open Collaborative Courses (DOCCs).” Information Technology and Africa: Practices, Potentials and Challenges, Urbana, IL.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2013, May). Panel presentation: “Back to the future! Adelante: A historical account of REFORMA in the digital age.” History and Theory Conference: Responding to Crisis, Irvine, CA.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2013, April). Panel presentation: “Nostalgic reflections: Producing citizenship with archival social media.” HASTAC, Toronto, Canada.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2012, September). Paper presentation: “From the anti-apartheid movement to the Madison occupation: Representing dissent in the digital world.” Protest on the Page: Print Culture History in Opposition to Almost Anything, Madison, WI.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2012, April). Poster presentation: “A collaborative story: Librarians and activists partnering to preserve local history.” Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians, Lake Geneva, WI.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2011, November). Panel presentation: “LIS Access Midwest Program.” Wisconsin Library Association, Milwaukee, WI.

Invited Course Lectures

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, November). Lecture: “Silicon Valley storytelling in the age of AI.” Information Studies, UCLA, for Dr. Thuy Vo Dang.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2025, May). Lecture: “Data Borders.” Information Studies, UCLA, for Dr. Miriam Posner.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2024, November). Lecture: “Data Borders.” Information Studies, UCLA

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2024, November). Lecture: “Silicon Valley storytelling in the age of AI.” Information Studies, UCLA for Dr. Thuy Vo Dang.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2023, March). Lecture: “Latinxs designed as AI.” Science and Technology Studies, Brown University.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2022, March). Lecture: “Latinas on the line.” Borderlands, Technology, Race, University of Texas at Austin.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2021, March). Lecture: “Data Borders.” Introduction to Latinx Studies, URI, for Dr. Julie Keller.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2019, March). Lecture: “100+ Years of Solitude.” Simmons College, School of Library and Information Science, for Dr. Colin Rhinesmith.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2018, November). Lecture: “The intersectional internet.” Doctoral Seminar, Annenberg School of Communication, University of Southern California.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017, May). Lecture: “Latinas in information labor.” Doctoral Seminar, iSchool, University of California, Los Angeles, for Dr. Sarah Roberts.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2017, Spring). Lecture: “Information labor.” Seminar, Media and Communication, University of Southern California, for Dr. Safiya Noble.

Villa-Nicholas, M. (2016, September). Lecture: “Modern librarianship.” Student ALA Lecture Series, University of Rhode Island.

Teaching

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

- Academic Assemblages (Graduate Course offered: 2025)
- Information Technology, Borderlands, and Surveillance (Graduate Course offered: 2025)
- Critical Disability Approaches to LIS (Graduate Course offered: 2024)

University of Rhode Island (URI)

- Critical Disability Approaches to LIS (Course offered: 2018–2024)
- Social Justice in Children’s and Young Adult Literature (Course offered: Fall 2018–2024)
- Immigrant and Migrant Information Contexts and Practices (Course offered: Spring 2018–2024)
- Searching for Answers: Meeting Users’ Information Needs (Course offered: 2017–2024)
- Multiculturalism in Libraries (Course offered: 2017–2024)
- Introduction to Information Science and Technologies (Course offered: 2016–2024)
- Humanities Information and Materials (Course offered: 2017–2024)
- Document, Assess, and Evaluate (Course offered: 2017–2024)
- History of Libraries (Course offered: 2017–2024)

Curriculum Development

- History of Libraries
- Track in Information Equity, Diverse Communities & Critical Librarianship
- Social Justice in Young Adult and Children’s Literature
- Immigrant & Migrant Information Contexts & Practices
- Critical Disability Approaches in Information Studies

University of Pittsburgh

- Research Methods & Design, i3 Institute (Undergraduate Course offered: 2014)

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Race, Gender, and Information Technologies (Undergraduate Course offered: 2013)

Media Appearances

- Bucket List Community Café (2025). “Denver Residents Protest Palantir Headquarters in Downtown.” Interviewed on the topic of Palantir.
- [New Books Network Newsletter](#) (2025). *Scholarly Sources with Melissa Villa Nicholas*. (Newsletter interview).
- [New Books Network Podcast](#) (2025). Interview on the topic of *Data Borders*. (Audio podcast episode). Spotify.
- [Common Ground with Sonja Wolf Podcast](#) (2025). Interviewed on the topic of *Data Borders*. (Audio podcast episode). Spotify.
- [Big Data & Society BookCast](#) (February 2024). Interview on the topic of *Data Borders: How Silicon Valley is Building an Industry Around Immigrants*. (Audio podcast episode).
- [The Majority Report with Sam Seder](#) (July 2023). “Big Tech at the Border.” (Radio broadcast).
- El Café Latinx Podcast. (2022). Melissa Villa-Nicholas and making Latinx realities visible in academia (P. Boczkowski, Interviewer) (Audio podcast episode). In [El Café Latinx](#). Spotify.
- Peet, Lisa. (May 2021). Interview. “The University of Rhode Island Launches MLS Track in Information Equity, Diverse Communities, and Critical Librarianship.” *Library Journal*.
- Moore, Kendall. (2019). Interview in the documentary “Decolonizing Science.” (Film interview).
- Hodge, Twanna. (2019). Interview on “Mapping Race and Racism in U.S. Library History Literature, 1997–2015” in the ODLOS *Intersections blog focus* by The Diversity Research Grants Committee. (Blog interview).

Community Engagement

TODEC Legal Center (2025-present)

MVUSD Ballet Folklórico Corazón de mi Tierra (2024-present)

MVUSD Latino Parent Advisory Committee (2023-present)

Madison Infoshop (2010-2012)

Guadalupe Homeless Project (2007-2008)

Peppertree Kids Lake Elsinore (2006-2007)

Consulting

Aspen Institute Latinos & Society Program & Aspen Digital. (2021). *A roadmap to empowerment: The future of Latinos in a digital economy* [Consultant contribution]. The Aspen Institute. <https://www.aspeninstitute.org/publications/roadmap-to-empowerment/>

Professional Development

Oxford Media Institute Certificate	2024
Basic Brightspace Competency Certificate, URI	2020
High Impact Teaching Seminar, URI	2017
Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning Training	2016
Urban Scholars, UCLA	2007

Honors Societies

Beta Phi Mu, an international honor society for library and information studies
Sigma Tau Delta, an international honor society for English

Service

External Editorial Reviewer

First Monday
Information and Culture
In the Library with a Lead Pipe
Journal of Community Informatics (JoCI)
Journal of Critical Library and Information Studies (JCLIS)
Journal of Radical Librarianship
MIT Press Book Reviewer
UC Press Book Reviewer

University Service

Faculty Advisory Committee, DataX, UCLA	2025-present
Faculty Advisory Committee, Chicano Studies Research Center, UCLA	2024-present
Admissions Reviewer, IS, UCLA	2025-present
Committee on Accreditation, IS, UCLA	2025-present
“Going Public” Grant Reviewer, SEIS, UCLA	2025
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee, SEIS, UCLA	2024- present
Director Hiring Committee for GSLIS, Chair, URI	2023-2024
Admissions Committee, GSLIS, URI	2017-2024
Curriculum Committee, GSLIS, URI	2016-2024
Faculty Senate, URI	2019-2022
Service and Life Faculty Senate Subcommittee	2019-2022
Ad Hoc Committee to Establish an Online Accelerated Program	2018-2022
Latin American/Latino Studies Minor at URI, GSLIS, URI	2017
Faculty Committee, GSLIS, URI	2016- 2024
Student American Library Association Faculty Advisor, GSLIS, URI	2017-2024
Committee to Implement the Strategic Plan, Harrington School, URI	2019-2020
Committee on Accreditation, GSLIS URI	2016-2018
Technology Committee, GSLIS, URI	2016-2017

External Service

NSF Grant Reviewer
IMLS Grant Reviewer

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Grant Reviewer	
Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) 2026 Conference Planning Committee	2025-2026
Labor Tech Research Network Book Award Committee	2024
RI Statewide Library, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Day	2018-2019
Rhode Island Library Association, Full Board	2016-2017

Event Planning

Latinas, Write! Writing Workshops, Esperanza Labs, Murrieta, CA	Ongoing
Voices for Information Equity Webinar Series, URI	2020-2023
Volunteer GALA, Habitat for Humanity	2007
Revolution (626), Azusa, CA	2002-2003

Professional Memberships and Affiliations

Association for Borderlands Studies
 Association of Internet Researchers (AOIR)
 ALISE (Association for Library and Information Science Education)
 Aspen Institute Affiliate
 Center for Critical Internet Inquiry, UCLA
 Chicano Studies Research Center, UCLA
 DataX, UCLA
 REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos
 Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)
 Social Science Institute for Research, Education, and Policy (SSIREP), URI
 Techno-Anzaldúa's U.S. and Mexico

Fiction & Nonfiction Creative Works

Villa Nicholas, M & Nicholas, M. *Pásale: A Novel*. (2017). Floricanto Press.
 Villa Nicholas, M. and Nicholas, M. (2017). *Se Me Olvidó. The Grief Diaries*.
 Nicholas, M. and Villa Nicholas, M. (2017). Culture. *Dear Journal*.

Work & Volunteer Experience

Director, The Esperanza Laboratories, Murrieta, CA (2025-Present)

- Design and teach Latinas, Write! Writing class
- Grant Writing and Fundraising
- Host related parties

Website Manager, Dept. of Gender and Women's Studies, UIUC (January 2012 - August 2016)

- Publish headlines on current news and events for the GWS department
- Manage social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook for event marketing and information dissemination
- Create mixed media, such as videos and posters, to promote GWS

Research Assistant, Student Affairs, GSLIS. (January 2014 - August 2014)

- Wrote grants for GSLIS diversity grants

- Researched diversity in the LIS field. Research and disseminate information on grants and scholarships for students
- Drafted grant materials for IMLS grants applications

Research Assistant, LIS Access Midwest Program (August 2012 - August 2013)

- Designed a website using WordPress and Drupal
- Coordinated Summer Institute
- Used multimedia to promote the program

Project Assistant, LIS Access Midwest Program (September 2011 - May 2012)

- Coordinated events for diversity in the SLIS department
- Researched and presented data on diversity in Library Science
- Managed digital tools and multimedia technologies

Reference Desk Intern, Madison Central Library (May 2011 - August 2011)

- Answered reference-related questions in person and over the phone
- Assisted patrons in technology and Web troubleshooting
- Developed programming for Madison's Big Read book discussion

Info Desk Staff, Media, Education, Resources, and Information (MERIT) Library UW-Madison (September 2010 - July 2012)

- Answered reference-related questions and conducted reference interviews with undergraduate and graduate students
- Assisted patrons in software program issues and troubleshooting multimedia
- Taught research methods and software to School of Education classes and individuals
- Collection development of bilingual materials in Spanish with a budget of \$2000

Volunteer Coordinator, Public Counsel Law Center (2007 - 2008)

- Coordinated pro-bono attorneys in representing tort cases and updating them on the status of the case
- Assemble Immigration documents for clients and update them in ProLaw Software
- Coordinated training sessions for Pro-bono attorneys acting as Guardian Ad Litem

Volunteer Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (2006 - 2007)

- Assisted Habitat for Humanity with the coordination, recruitment, and retention of individual volunteers
- Informed 20-30 volunteers bi-weekly about Habitat for Humanity
- Maintained user-friendly volunteer database