



NATIONAL
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HUMANITIES

Research on Integrating Risk Assessment for Pollutants into Energy-saving Strategies

The [National Endowment for the Humanities](#) awarded IPI a Research and Development grant for \$350,000 to support a three-year, field-based research project that will develop a methodology for monitoring room-level pollutant concentrations while implementing energy-saving strategies. The goal is to identify and evaluate potential risks associated with indoor- and outdoor-generated pollutants when implementing energy-saving mechanical system operations. Research activities will be organized and led by Kelly Krish, Preventive Conservation Specialist at IPI, and involve collaborating with colleagues in the Golisano Institute for Sustainability (GIS) at RIT, the Canadian Conservation Institute, and an independent consultant in indoor air quality. IPI will also partner with three collecting institutions to implement the testing and methodology. The project begins in March 2021, and at that time IPI will be looking to identify three partner institutions.

[Read the RIT press release](#) and [sign up if you would like to be contacted when applications for potential partner institutions become available](#).



Jean-Louis Bigourdan Receives Honorary Title of Research Scientist Emeritus

Jean-Louis Bigourdan retired at the end of January, after a distinguished twenty-six-year tenure at IPI. That same week he was awarded the honorary title of Research Scientist Emeritus at RIT, in recognition of his dedication to the preservation field, his research contributions, and the generous manner in which he conducted his work. In 2016, Jean-Louis received the Silver Light Award from the Association of Moving Image Archivists in recognition of his outstanding career achievements and contributions to the field of film preservation. In addition to his research activities, he maintained a long-time commitment to mentoring emerging preservation professionals and supervised twenty-one interns from 2006 to 2019. We congratulate Jean-Louis on his retirement and well-deserved Emeritus status, and look forward to his continued engagement with IPI as an Emeritus member of RIT.



Sealed Frame Package Questionnaire Results

In September 2020, IPI began a three-year research project funded by the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) designed to identify the most cost-efficient and environmentally responsible preservation methods of preparing paper-based collection objects for transit and display. During the first phase of this project, IPI distributed an online questionnaire in November 2020 to inform a current inventory of commonly used materials and designs for sealed frame packages. We are grateful to the more than 100 colleagues, working in a variety of collecting institution types around the world, who responded to our sealed frame package questionnaire. Twenty-five respondents also generously contributed annotated schematics of the sealed frame package designs used at their institutions. The information collected will inform additional phases of the project, including testing a variety of sealed frame package designs under several different temperature and relative humidity profiles to compare how they perform. Each design will also be evaluated for cost and environmental waste comparisons. The ultimate goal is to provide guidelines for creating the most cost-efficient and environmentally responsible sealed frame packages that provide the desired preservation goals.

[Read the Sealed Frame Package Questionnaire Report \(PDF\)](#)

Staff Announcements

Alex Shuey, Web Applications Developer, has accepted a career advancement opportunity with a cybersecurity and data backup company. IPI achieved significant web development goals during Alex's tenure, and we continue to strengthen IPI web resources. We look forward to sharing a new version of [eClimateNotebook](#) as soon as possible. In the meantime, join us in wishing Alex success in the next phase of his career.

Upcoming Events

Free Webinar: Energy Monitoring for Cultural Heritage Institutions Friday, February 19th at 2:00-3:00 PM EST

This webinar will explain why institutions should consider energy monitoring, different strategies for doing so, and how the data collected can inform decision-making. IPI's Christopher Cameron and Kelly Krish will discuss energy use in collecting institutions, and both passive and active ways to reduce it. Martin Schooping from the Golisano Institute for Sustainability at RIT will talk about different strategies for energy monitoring and how to evaluate the subsequent data. Samantha Owens and Stephen Carrick from Glenstone Museum will then present a case study of how they have successfully implemented and used energy monitoring at their institution to inform sustainability goals and make changes. This webinar is funded by an Education and Training grant from the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#); there is no registration fee.

[Register for the webinar](#)

Online Workshop: The Identification of Photographic Print Processes Hosted by Rare Book School

August 1-6, 2021

Application deadline: March 3, 2021

Co-taught by IPI's Al Carver-Kubik and Jae Gutierrez, this course will offer instruction in the identification and characterization of all the major photographic print processes, from the earliest photographs of the 19th-century to modern digital prints. The processes to be considered fall into four broad categories: 19th-century, 20th-century black and white, 20th-century color, and 21st-century digital. The course will discuss methods to distinguish photomechanical prints from photographs and how deterioration affects the appearance of photographs. The course will use a structured, observation-based approach to print identification in which a variety of specific characteristics such as image structure, color, visibility of paper fibers, texture, sheen, and image deterioration are considered in logical order. A small sample set of photographs will be supplemented by lectures on process, printing technologies, history, and use of the website [Graphics Atlas](#).

[Read more and apply](#)

Your gift matters.

As a non-profit research center, IPI depends on private and public philanthropy to fund its research program. You can support IPI's efforts to inform the preservation of collections in libraries, archives, and museums world-wide by making a donation today.

Make a Gift



The Image Permanence Institute® (IPI) is an academic research center within the College of Art and Design at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) dedicated to supporting the preservation of cultural heritage collections in libraries, archives, and museums around the world.

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