

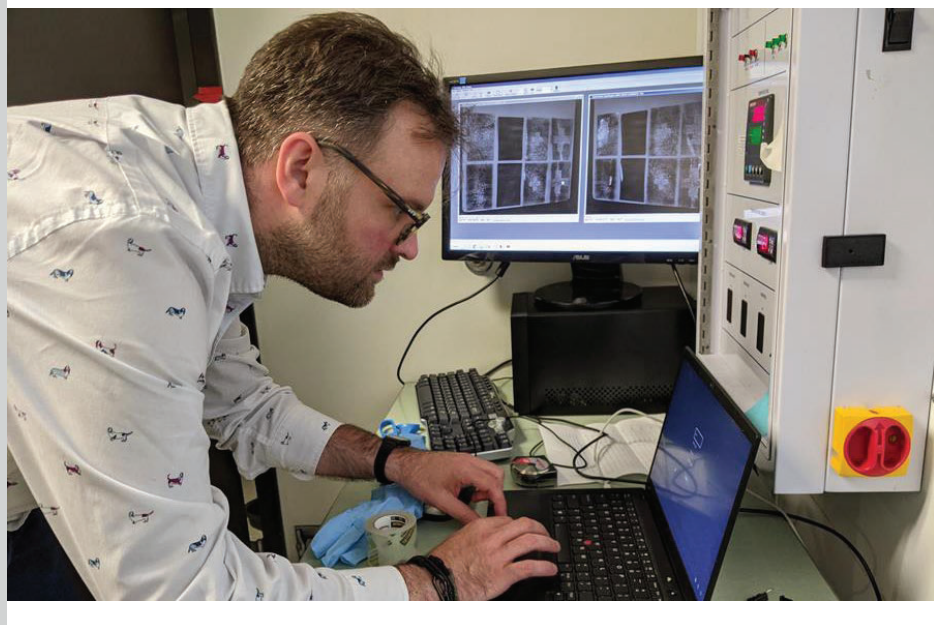


Introducing Emily Bernal, Sustainable Preservation Specialist

IPI is excited to introduce Emily Bernal, who joined the team in April as our new Sustainable Preservation Specialist. Emily has a MPS in Environmental Studies and Advanced Graduate Certificate in Environmental Leadership. Prior to joining IPI, she held fellowships at the Wildlife Conservation Society and Rosamond Gifford Zoo where she focused on developing and delivering educational programs and resources making complex preservation and sustainability concepts accessible to diverse audiences.

Emily is the lead contact for technical support on IPI's web-based software eClimateNotebook, and she will serve as a consultant to collecting institutions as part of [IPI's environmental monitoring and preservation environmental management consulting services](#). She shares, "I am very excited to have joined the team at IPI. I am passionate about finding place-based conservation solutions that aid in preserving our cultural heritage collections in addition to conserving our natural resources. I strive to continue to bring a fresh, interdisciplinary perspective to the team and I look forward to collaborating with collecting institutions to help meet their preservation and sustainability goals."

To start a conservation about how IPI can assist with achieving your short-term or long-term preservation environment and sustainability goals [submit this form](#).



IPI at the Gordon Research Seminar

In July IPI's Postdoctoral Researcher, Jacek Olender, will speak at the prestigious [Gordon Research Seminar: Future-Proofing Heritage Science, Focusing on Sustainability in Conservation and Heritage Materials Analyses](#). Jacek's presentation is titled *Sustainable Preservation of Plastics: Mapping the Mechanical Properties of Cellulose Acetate Composites to Support Guidelines for Sustainable Environmental Management in Collections* and will provide an update on IPI's ongoing, three-year research project Mapping Environmental Conditions That Prevent Plastic Deterioration While Contributing to Sustainable Preservation Environmental Management.

In this project IPI is studying the relationship between equilibrium moisture content (EMC) and the physical stability of plastic objects found in museums by investigating the dependency of EMC on changes in the surrounding temperature and relative humidity (RH) for two major classes of plastics, namely cellulose acetate films and polyurethane foam. The seminar is held in advance of this year's [Gordon Research Conference: Advances and Challenges in Heritage Materials Characterization and Data Interpretation](#), which Jacek will also attend.

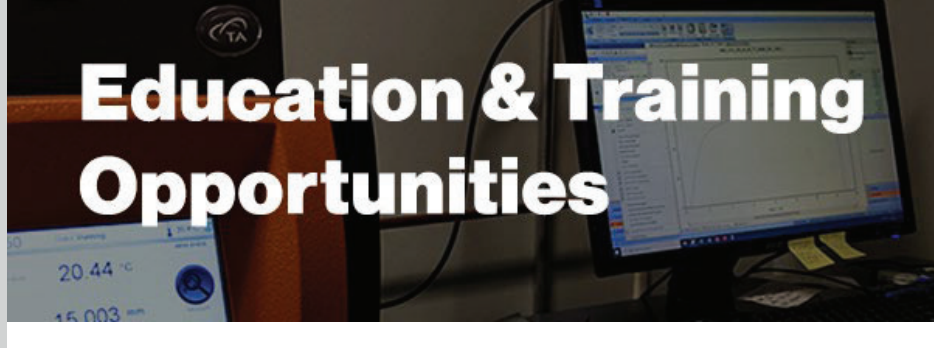
[Read more about the project](#)



Update on Pollutant Monitoring While Implementing Energy-saving Strategies Research

The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC) and the Research Center for Heritage Conservation at the Universidad de Ingenieria & Tecnologia, are hosting the [30th biennial IIC Congress](#) in person and online in Lima, Peru this September. IPI's Director of Research, Emma Richardson, is preparing a talk titled *Interrogating Pollutants in Collecting Institutions During the Implementation of HVAC Energy-saving Strategies: Lessons Learned and Practical Implications for Optimizing Sustainable Environmental Control*. The presentation summarizes preliminary findings from IPI's three-year research project, Integrating Risk Assessment for Pollutants into Energy-saving Strategies for Sustainable Environmental Management of Collection Storage Spaces, in which IPI partnered with four collecting institutions on the East Coast of the US to monitor temperature, relative humidity and six pollutants before, during, and after testing outside air reduction, fan speed adjustments, and mechanical system shutdowns.

IIC's proceedings for the 2024 congress will be published in [Studies in Conservation](#).



Workshops

September 17-18, 2024

Workshop: Managing Preservation Storage Environments

Location: Image Permanence Institute, Rochester, NY

Environmental management is a critical component of collections preservation and sustainability in collecting institutions. Maintaining a careful balance between slowing the rate of collection decay while minimizing energy costs requires an ongoing commitment to monitoring, analysis, and management. This workshop will i) provide instruction on the best practices for collecting environmental data in collections spaces, ii) discuss the fundamentals of environmental data analysis and how to use IPI's Preservation Metrics to interpret environmental risks, and iii) introduce sustainable preservation practices that can inform environmental management decision making. The intended audience is collections staff newly, or recently, made responsible for environmental management of collections spaces, and interested in learning the fundamentals of environmental monitoring and sustainable preservation practices for environmental management.

[More information and registration](#)

October 15-17, 2024

Workshop: Practical Introduction to Mechanical Analysis of Cultural Heritage Materials

Location: Image Permanence Institute, Rochester, NY

This workshop will provide a theoretical and practical understanding of static mechanical analysis and dynamic mechanical analysis, with a view to characterizing the physical properties of heritage materials, and developing appropriate methodologies for conservation and preservation applications. Over the course of three days, participants will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of mechanical analysis and data analysis, and participate in practical laboratory sessions using tensile testers, dynamic mechanical (thermal) analysis, and dynamic mechanical (humidity) analysis. These sessions will be supplemented with case study examples from the field of conservation and preservation, providing tangible examples of how mechanical properties can inform the treatment, storage and display of objects, mechanical test method development, and test limitations. The target audience is conservation professionals new to mechanical analysis who wish to perform laboratory analysis or conservation professionals working in collaboration with heritage scientists and engineers wishing to equip themselves with a fundamental knowledge to inform discussions.

[More information and registration](#)

IPI partners with organizations to offer custom education programs upon request. If you are interested in hosting a workshop please [contact us](#) for a quote.

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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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