

IPI Awarded a National Leadership Grant for Museums to Pursue Plastics Research

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded IPI a [National Leadership Grant for Museums](#) for \$711,598 to support a three research project, *Mapping Environmental Conditions That Prevent Plastic Deterioration While Contributing to Sustainable Preservation Environmental Management*, that will study the relationship between equilibrium moisture content (EMC) and the physical stability of plastics and plastic composite artifacts found in museums. The experimental design for this project builds on previous research on moisture and plasticizers conducted by Emma J. Richardson, IPI Director of Research, and the EMC work of Jean-Louis Bigourdan, IPI Research Scientist Emeritus.

Grant funding will support extending laboratory capabilities with new instrumentation and include recruitment of a two-and-a-half year Post-Doctoral Researcher. The appointed researcher will conduct research using advanced thermomechanical analytical techniques and data analytics to quantify the impact of changing environmental conditions on the mechanical properties of plastic composites, with a view to identifying safe storage, display, and handling conditions for historic plastics. A search for the Post-Doctoral Researcher position will begin this September.

eClimateNotebook®

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A New Version of eClimateNotebook is in the Final Stages of Development

IPI is preparing to launch an upgraded version of eClimateNotebook with a new interface and enhanced functionality. Our focus in the new design is to improve the user experience while also establishing a new infrastructure to support future features and new functionality. The new version includes enhanced data analysis tools, streamlined data management pages, responsive/mobile friendly design, and improved educational resources. In the new version of eClimateNotebook each subscription level will have access to all the features and functionality eClimateNotebook has to offer. A new pricing model will also accompany this launch.

If you are an eClimateNotebook subscriber, you will receive a future newsletter dedicated entirely to eClimateNotebook updates. If you are not currently a subscriber, but would like to receive those updates, [sign up here](#).

Partnership with Onset, Maker of HOBO Dataloggers

IPI is excited to announce a new partnership with Onset, maker of HOBO dataloggers, which are used in a wide range of collecting institutions. eClimateNotebook subscribers can save 5% off the price of HOBO monitoring products that are compatible with eClimateNotebook by using promotional code **eClimateNotebook5** at the time of purchase. A portion of the proceeds from these sales will be returned to IPI to support our mission. Learn more: <https://www.onsetcomp.com/eClimateNotebook/>

eClimateNotebook is compatible with a range of dataloggers capable of converting or producing data as a CSV file, and IPI continues to support and service PEM2 dataloggers. If you have questions about how to select dataloggers that best fit your environmental monitoring needs, contact us at ipitechsupport@rit.edu.



Preliminary 3D Printing and 3D Printed Objects in Collections Survey Findings

This month, IPI is completing the first year of a three-year research project aimed at building a foundational understanding of how museums are creating, collecting, and consuming 3D printed objects. In May and June of 2022, project work included an online survey assessing how collecting institutions are using 3D printing and interacting with 3D printed objects and materials across a broad range of activities. Participants were able to choose different sections of the survey to take depending upon their professional experience with 3D printing. Highlights and preliminary findings from the survey are summarized in this [initial report](#). A full length report will be forthcoming and will be made available at <https://www.imagepermanenceinstitute.org/research/3d.html>.

IPI is grateful to all our colleagues who thoughtfully contributed to the survey, to the Institute of Museum and Library Services for supporting this project, and to the Modern Materials and Contemporary Art working group of the International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC) for highlighting this project in their [July newsletter](#).



IPI at the Getty/National Science Foundation Experts Meeting

This July, Emma J. Richardson, IPI Director of Research, traveled to Los Angeles to attend an experts meeting on machine learning and data science in cultural heritage, co-funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK), and the Getty Conservation Institute. Cross-sector delegates from across North America and Europe came together to discuss the current landscape of collections research and management, the built environment, preservation science and the digital humanities, and identify opportunities to address grand challenges within these areas through machine learning and data science. The organizers are now preparing a formal report for NSF, which will be published more widely in due course.

Staff Announcements

Christopher Cameron, IPI Sustainable Preservation Specialist, has accepted a new position as Assistant Director of Facilities Management for Cabot Group in Rochester, NY starting later this month. Kelly Krish, IPI Preventive Conservation Specialist, has also accepted a new position starting later this Fall as Senior Preventive Conservator for the National Museum Cardiff which is part of Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales. Chris and Kelly are excellent colleagues and we wish them both success and happiness in their new appointments.

Later this month Denise Schwan will join IPI as the new Financial and Operations Assistant, and we are excited to have her join our team. In the weeks ahead, IPI will open two new searches for a Preventive Conservation Specialist and a Post-Doctoral Researcher. We are also actively interviewing for a new Research Scientist position specializing in Data Science. For updates on opportunities at IPI follow us on [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

Education & Training Opportunities

Upcoming Workshop

Workshop: Advanced Print Identification and Characterization for Photographic Collections

Date: October 18-20, 2022 (3 full days - 9am-4pm each day)
Location: Image Permanence Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
Registration Fee: \$650

Instructors: Al Carver-Kubik, Preservation Researcher at Image Permanence Institute, Taina Meller, Conservator in Charge at George Eastman Museum, and Sarah Casto, Assistant Conservator at George Eastman Museum

Registration Deadline: September 20, 2022

Photographic print identification is challenging as several print types are difficult to distinguish from one another. This workshop will focus on identification of perennially difficult to identify processes, including matte albumen, matte collodion, early and toned silver gelatin, platinum, and photogravure. Additional viewing will include gum bichromate, bromoil, bromoil transfer, and combination processes, such as gum over platinum. Workshop participants will strengthen and develop new identification skills through workshop demonstrations and hands-on examination exercises using the Image Permanence Institute's study collection. In coordination with the George Eastman Museum, participants will also learn how analytical techniques such as microscopy and X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy can aid in print identification. Two days of the workshop will be held at the Image Permanence Institute (IPI) utilizing IPI's research collection and the third day will take place at the George Eastman Museum viewing and analyzing objects from the museum's photography collection with conservation professionals.

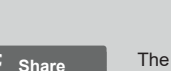
The workshop will be limited to a maximum of 12 attendees. Registration per individual is \$650 and participants are responsible for their own travel, meals, and lodging costs.

[Additional Information and Registration](#)



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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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