Rachel Laura Pierce

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Education

M.L.I.S. The University of Borås, Library and Information Sciences, June 2018
Thesis: "Photography in Swedish Memory Institutions: Convergence, Digitization, and the Difficulties of Defining Images"

Ph.D. University of Virginia, History, August 2014
Dissertation: "Capitol Feminism: Work, Politics, and Gender in Congress, 1960-1980"

Certificate for oral history, Berkeley Regional Oral History Office Advanced Summer Institute, 2011

M.A. University of Virginia, History, August 2008
Thesis: "The Politicians of Women's Liberation: Bella Abzug and Feminism in Congress"

B.A. Grinnell College, History with Honors, May 2006

Academic Positions

Research Coordinator, KvinnSam (National Swedish Resource Library for Gender Studies), 2022-

Senior Lecturer, University of Borås, 2018-2022

Adjunct Lecturer, Gothenburg University, 2014-2018

Instructor, University of Virginia, Fall 2012

Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia, 2008-2012

Ongoing Research Projects

Gothenburg's 1968: Stories from a working class city in movement (Göteborgs 1968: Berättelser från en arbetarstad i rörelse), 2023-
This project is an oral history project to collect the experiences and recollections of individuals active in Gothenburg's 1968 activism, which spanned anti-war, feminist, communist, decolonization, student, and anti-fascist movements. The first two years of this project, which are financed by two generous grants from the Ahrenberg Foundation, have facilitated the initial archival research that will lay the groundwork for interviews. We began interviewing in May 2025.

The future of women's and gender research?, 2024-
Swedish archival institutions today are confronted with a number of important challenges. Many of these are connected to the digitization of society, a shift that changes what an archive is and undermines long-standing archival traditions, not least for personal archives and social movements. For institutions focused

on women's and gender history, this situation is even more complicated. How can archives adapt to developments in women's and gender history that highlight the importance of inclusivity and queer perspectives? Which donations should be prioritized, in order to ensure the future of archives-based women's and gender research? A grant from Riksarkivarie Ingvar Anderssons fond will facilitate the start of a network for researchers and cultural heritage practitioners interested in these questions.

Research Grants and Fellowships

Stiftelsen Riksarkivarie Ingvar Anderssons fond, 2024-2025

Ahrenberg stiftelse, 2023-2024; 2024-2025

Riksbankens jubileumsfond Oxford Digital Humanities summer school grant, 2020 (delayed to 2022)

Wahlgrenska stiftelses stipendium for media researchers, 2018-2019

Birgit och Gad Rausings Stiftelse for research in the humanities, 2017-2018

Åke Wibergs Stiftelse, 2017-2018

Helge Ax:son Johnsons Stiftelse, 2017-2018

Dissertation Write-Up Fellowship, Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia, 2013-2014

Buckner W. Clay Award in the Humanities and appointment as Fellow at the Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures, University of Virginia, 2012-2013

Congressional Research Award, Dirksen Congressional Center, 2012

Friends of the Princeton University Library Research Grant, Princeton University, 2012

Huck Travel Award, Pennsylvania State University, 2012

Bordin-Gillette Fellowship, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, 2012

United States Capitol Historical Society Fellowship, 2012

Quinn Fellowship, courtesy of the Doris G. Quinn Foundation, 2011-12

Caroline D. Bain Scholar-in-Residence at Smith College, 2011

Schlesinger Library Dissertation Year Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, 2011

Radcliffe Oral History Grant, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, 2011

Ada Leeke Fellowship Grant, Margaret Chase Smith Library, 2011

Awards

Zora Neale Hurston Prize for Best Graduate Piece of Scholarship on Gender and Women's Studies, Honorable Mention, University of Virginia, 2012

Maria Okey Prize for Best Piece of Scholarship on American or British History, Grinnell College, 2006

Charles E. Payne Scholarship for Outstanding History Major in the Graduating Senior Class, Grinnell College, 2006

Publications - History

With Anne Berg. Academic Riot Grrrls: Bang and the Conditions of 1990s Mainstream Feminism in Sweden. *Scandinavian Journal of History* (2025), 1–22. DOI: 10.1080/03468755.2025.2581619.

The Women's Movement is a Movement': Grupp 8 Gothenburg's archive, original (dis)organization, and archival rhythm," ('Kvinnorörelsen är en rörelse': Grupp 8 Göteborgs arkiv, ursprunglig (o)ordning och arkivalisk rytm,) *Objekt och samling* (Object and collection), ed. Birgitta Andréasson (Acta Universitatis Gothoburgensis, 2025).

"Representing Women across the Public/Private Divide: Kerstin Hesselgren's Image in the Swedish Digital Archives," *Women's History Review* (2023). DOI 10.1080/09612025.2023.2208412

"The Sexual Crimes Investigation, the Geijer Affair, and the Modern Women's Movement" (Sexualbrottsutredningen, Geijeraffären och den moderna kvinnorörelsen i Sverige) in *Seriously Spoken* (Allvarligt talet), ed. Maria Sjöberg (Göteborg: Makadam, 2018).

"The Political Is Personal: Feminism in Congress, 1960-80" in "Women and Politics in a Global World" International Congress Proceedings Book (Istanbul: Eurasian Universities Union, 2015): 224-237.

"Paddleball as Politics: Gender and the Role of Sociability in the 1960s United States Congress," special issue on the New Political History, *temp – tidsskrift for historie* 8 (Jun 2014): 34-47.

"Sarah Palin, Hillary Clinton, and the Legacy of 'The Personal Is Political'," *Essays in History* (Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia, 2011).

Publications – Archival and Library & Information Science

With Siska Humlesjö, "Ghosts in the Archives? The Search for Feminist and Queer Archival Materials in Sweden". *Digital Humanities in the Nordic and Baltic Countries Publications* 7:3 (2024). DOI: https://doi.org/10.5617/dhnbpub.12258.

"Sustainability and Swedish Women's History: Digitizing Photographs from the KvinnSam Archives," *Digital Humanities Quarterly* 18, nr. 3 (2024). Available at https://dhq.digitalhumanities.org/vol/18/3/000746/000746.html

"What is a Lesbian Document? Platforming Archival Description, Documents, and History in Sweden," *Proceedings from the Document Academy* 10, nr. 2 (2024). DOI: https://doi.org/10.35492/docam/10/2/10

"The Promise of the Finding Aid: A Critical Approach to Finding Biographical (Linked) Data in the Archive," *CEUR Workshop Proceedings* (2024). DOI: https://doi.org/10.3986/9789610508120_1

"Documents in the Dynarchive: Questioning the Total Revolution of the Digital Archive," *Proceedings from the Document Academy* 8 (2021). DOI https://doi.org/10.35492/docam/8/2/4

"Pioneers and Feminists: The Metadata Politics of Digitized Images of the Swedish Women's Suffrage Movement," *Digital Culture & Society* (Mar 2020).

"Digital Books Popular amongst the Young" (Digitala böcker populära hos unga), with Birgitta Wallin and David Gunnarsson Lorentzen, in *Regntunga skyar* (Rain-heavy Skies), ed. Ulrika Andersson, Anders Carlander, and Patrik Öhberg (SOM Institut, 2020): p. 145-157. Available at https://som.gu.se/digitalAssets/1773/1773910_145-158-wallin--pierce--g-lorentzen.pdf

"The Female Gaze? Searching for Women in the Digitized Photographic Collections of Sweden's Memory Institutions," *Open Information Journal* 3:1 (Jan 2019): 61-75.

Reviews and Other Publications – History

Review of *Kvinnotrubbel: Abort i Sverige, 1938-1974* (Women's Trouble: Abortion in Sweden, 1938-1974) by Lena Lennerhed for *historisk tidskrift* 1 (Jan 2019): 164.

Review of "A Certain Kind of Girl: Social Workers and the Creation of the Pathological Unwed Mother, 1918-1940" by Cara Kinzelman for *Dissertation Reviews* (Oct 2014).

Review of *Women Constructing Men: Female Novelists and Their Male Characters*, ed. Sarah S. G. Frantz and Katharina Rennhak for *The CCWH Newsletter* (Feb 2014).

"Title IX" and "Carol Hanisch: The Personal Is Political," *Flatworld Primary Documents Textbook* (Washington, D.C.: Flatworld Publishers, 2012).

"Civil Rights Act of 1964" and "Shirley Chisholm," *Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, ed. James S. Baugess and Abbe Debolt (Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2011).

Reviews and Other Publications – Library and Information Science

Review of *Digital Black Feminism*, Catherine Knight Steele (New York, NY: New York University Press, 2021) for *Information & Culture 58:2* (2023).

Review of *The Digital Black Atlantic*, eds. Roopika Risam and Kelly Baker Josephs (Minneapolis, MN: University of Minneapolis Press, 2021) for *Information Research* 26:3 (Sep 2021).

Review of *Digital Humanities for Librarians*, Emma Wilson (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020) and *The Digital Humanities: Implications for Librarians, Libraries, and Librarianship*, Christopher Millson-Martula and Kevin G. Gunn (London: Routledge, 2020) for *Information Research* 26:1 (Mar 2021).

Review of *Participatory Archives: Theory and Practice*, ed. Edward Benoit, II and Alexandra Eveleigh (London: Facet Publishing, 2019) and *Community Archives, Community Spaces: Heritage, Memory and Identity*, ed. Jeannette A. Bastain and Andrew Flinn (London: Facet Publishing, 2020) for *Information Research* 25:3 (Sep 2020).

Review of *A History of Place in the Digital Age*, Stuart Dunn (London: Routledge, 2019) for *Information Research* 25:2 (Jun 2020).

Review of *The Archivettes [a documentary film]*, dir. Megan Rossman (NYC: Hunter College, 2019) for *Information Research* 24:4 (Dec 2019).

Review of *Bodies of Information: Intersectional Feminism and Digital Humanities*, eds. Elizabeth Losh and Jacqueline Wernimont for *Information Research* 24:3 (Sep 2019).

Conferences and Presentations - History

"Gothenburg's 1968: Piecing together a movement, piecing together a project," together with Martin Linde and Martin Öhman, International Oral History Conference, Krakow, September 2025.

"Mainstream Riot Grrrls: The content and conditions of 90's feminism in Sweden, the example of Bang," together with Anne Berg, Nordiska historikermötet, Rejkjavik, August 2025.

"Creating a Representative Archive: Activists in the Gothenburg 1968 Movement," together with Martin Linde and Martin Öhman, European Social Science History Conference, Leiden, March 2025.

Participation in the roundtable "SKOGH presents: Gender history and the public (SKOGH presenterar: Genushistoria i samhället)." Historikermötet, Umeå universitet, Umeå, Sweden, June 2023.

"The Geography of the Racialized Family: Mapping Segregation DC and the Possibilities of Digital History." European Social Science History Conference, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden, April 2023.

"Representation in the Archive(s): Reading the Physical and Digital Archives Together." Digital History in Sweden, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, November 2022.

"Representing Women: Kerstin Hesselgren in the Swedish Digital Archive." Archiving, Recording and Representing Women: The Global History of Women's Emancipation in the 20th Century Conference, Second Meeting of the International Standing Working Group on Medialization and Empowerment, digital, December 2020.

"Sex and Sin: Gary Hart in Context." Institute for Historical Studies, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden, December 2017.

Moderator, "Port Cities' Urban Infrastructure" panel. Conference on Port Cities and Migration in the Modern Era, Centre for European Research CERGU/Department of Political Science, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden, November 2017.

"The Political Is Personal: Feminism in Congress, 1960-80." International Congress on Women and Politics in a Global World, Istanbul, Turkey, April 2015.

"The Political Is Personal: Feminism in Congress in the 1970s." Institute for Historical Studies, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden, March 2015.

"'Elitist' Is Probably the Most Abused Word in the Women's Liberation Movement': Feminists Climb Their Way into Legislative Politics," part of "Feminism, the State and Global Governance in the Twentieth Century" Roundtable. Berkshire Conference of Women's Historians, Toronto, Canada, May 2014 (roundtable accepted, but could not attend).

"Paddleball as Politics: Gender and the Role of Sociability in the 1960s United States Congress." New Political History Seminar, Odense, Denmark, April 2013.

"The Invisibility of Women: Researching Gender in Congressional Archival Collections." Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, June 2012.

"Feminist Republicans?: The Pursuit of Women's Equity within the Nixon and Ford Administrations." Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, May 2012.

"From Feminine to Feminism: Work, Gender, and Politics on Capitol Hill." American Historical Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, January 2012.

"The Politicians of Women's Liberation?: Sarah Palin, Hillary Clinton, and the Legacy of 'The Personal Is Political'" as part of the Goldberg Center symposium "Current Events in Historical Perspective." American Historical Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, January 2012.

"The Role of Feminist Staffing in Congress." Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, October 2011.

"From Feminine to Feminist: Dorothy Fosdick, Jane Frank Harmon, and Generational Difference in Congressional Female Staffing, 1950-1980." Sophia Smith Archives, Smith College, October 2011.

"The Last Plantation?: How the Women's Liberation Movement Upset the Geography of Race, Gender, and Job Hierarchy on Capitol Hill." Poster Session. Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Amherst, Massachusetts, June 2011.

"Historicizing the Rise of the Religious Right: How Conservatives Capitalized on the Politics of Second-wave Feminism." Policy History Annual Conference, Columbus, Ohio, June 2010.

"The Politicians of Women's Liberation: Feminism in Congress." Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Washington, District of Columbia, April 2010.

Conferences and Presentations – Archival and Library & Information Science

"Finding marginalized voices? Subject categorization, database search, and ghostliness in the archives," together with Siska Humlesjö, My Evidence: Creating LGBTQI+ Art and Archives, Amsterdam, October 2024.

"Ghosts in the Archives? A Search for Feminist and Lesbian Archival Materials in Sweden," together with Siska Humlesjö, Digital Humanities in the Nordic and Baltic Countries, Reykjavik, May 2024.

Participation in roundtable "Queer archives," Queer Audiovisual Culture: Queer World-making Remembrances symposium, Göteborg, December 2023.

Participation in roundtable "Collections <3 Communities – How Communities Build Archives and Archives Build Communities," Queerlit project, Göteborg, November 2023.

"What Is a Lesbian Document? The Platforming of Archival Description, Documents, and History in Sweden," The Document Academy conference, Paris, September 2023.

"Data Feminism 'in the Wild': Case Studies of Indexing Projects and Their Futurities" with Hana Marčetić, LIDA: Libraries in the Digital Age, Osijek, Croatia, May 2023.

"Picturing Swedish Women's History: Digitizing Photographs from the KvinnSam Archives," DHNB: Digital Humanities in the Nordic and Baltic Countries, digital. March 2023.

"The Promise of the Finding Aid: Finding Biographical Data in the Archive," workshop on Biographical Data in a Digital World, Digital Humanities conference, digital, July 2022.

"Documents in the Dynarchive: Questioning the Total Revolution of the Digital Archive," The Document Academy conference, digital, September 2021.

"Using Digital Tools to Educate Librarians in the Digital Age" with Elena Maciviciute, LIDA: Libraries in the Digital Age, Dubrovnik, Croatia, March 2021.

Doctoral Students

Secondary advisor: Hana Marčetić, University of Borås, Department of Library and Information Science, 2022-2024

Selected Employment Activities

Editor of English-language texts (including translation from Swedish to English and vice versa), Firma Rachel Pierce, 2018-2020

Part-time librarian, Mölndal's library system (composed of the city library, the two satellite libraries of Kållered and Lindome, and the book bus), Mölndal, 2018

Digitization Assistant, Internship with the Lars Tunbjörk Archive, Stockholm, 2017

Graduate Research Assistant, My History Partner Project, funded by Teaching American History, Center for Liberal Arts, University of Virginia, 2012-2013

Research Coordinator for former Senator Lowell P. Weicker oral history project in conjunction with the Public History Project at the University of Virginia, 2009-2010

Graduate Research Assistant for former Senator Edward M. Kennedy and former President William J. Clinton oral history projects at the Miller Center of Public Affairs, 2007-2008

Selected Service Activities

Member & contact person for International Federation for Research in Women's History, Swedish Women's and Gender Historians Board, 2024-

Member, Hagabion, 2018-

Organizer, volunteer coordinator and volunteer, Skatås parkrun, www.parkrun.se/skatas, 2016-2018

Member, Americans for Democratic Action Education Fund Board, 2012-2016

Hotline and community outreach volunteer, Sexual Assault Resource Agency, Charlottesville, VA, 2010-2012

Additional Languages

Swedish