**Curriculum Vitae (Brief)**

Laura A. Ring

Librarian for Southern Asia & Anthropology

University of Chicago Library

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**Degrees:**

BA Hampshire College, 1990 (Anthropology)

MA University of Chicago, 1994 (Anthropology)

PhD University of Chicago, 2003 (Anthropology)

MS University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2010 (Library and Information Science)

**Doctoral Dissertation:**

(En)Gendering Tension: Anger, Intimacy and Everyday Peace in Karachi

Arjun Appadurai, Thesis Director

**Professional Experience:**

2022-present, Southern Asian Studies Librarian, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2017-2022, Metadata Librarian & Librarian for Southern Asia & Anthropology, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2016-2017, Cataloger & Southern Asia Librarian; Interim Subject Specialist for Anthropology, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2011-2016, Cataloger & Southern Asia Librarian, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2010-2011, Assistant Bibliographer for Southern Asia, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2008-2011, Assistant Cataloger for Southern Asia, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2008-2010, Principal Orders Assistant, University of Chicago Library, Chicago, Illinois

2004-2006, Administrator, Developmental Psychology, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2003, Starr Lecturer, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2002-2003, Preceptor, Gender Studies, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

**Publications:**

“Collections, Care, and the Collective: Experiments with Collaborative Fieldwork in Area Studies Librarianship,” co-authored with Ellen Ambrosone and Mara Thacker, *IFLA Journal*, forthcoming

*Zenana: Everyday Peace in a Karachi Apartment Building*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006

“A Day in the Life,” Mines, Diane and Sarah Lamb, eds., *Everyday Life in South Asia*, 2nd ed., Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010

Review of *Violence and Subjectivity* by Veena Das et al, *American Ethnologist,* Vol. 29, No. 1 (Feb. 2002), pp. 210-212

Review of *Passing By: Gender and Public Harassment* by Carol Brooks Gardner, *Contemporary Sociology*, Vol. 25, No. 4 (Jul. 1996), pp. 480-482

“Sexual harassment and the production of gender,” *Differences: a journal of feminist cultural studies* 6.1 (1994): 129-166

“And if morning never comes? Roiphe, resistance and the subject of women,” *Radical America* 25.2 (1994): 57-64

**Presentations:**

*South* *Asian Archival Resources and Odishan Studies: Forging Global Collaboration.* Invited panelist. Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, India, February 2020

The Politics of Documentation: Thinking Beyond Conflict in Karachi. *Limits of Archives: Mapping Urban Spaces in Modern South Asia*, CSSSC, Kolkata, India, January 2020

Challenges of Open Access: Reflections on the *South Asia Materials Project*, *South Asia Open Archives*, and the *CSSSC Archive.* Invited panelist. *Limits of Archives: Mapping Urban Spaces in Modern South Asia*, CSSSC, Kolkata, India, January 2020

Submitting a Successful SAMP Proposal. *Committee on South Asian Libraries & Documentation (CONSALD) Autumn Meeting*, Madison, WI, October 2019

*Sonic and Visual Research in South Asia: A Workshop on Digitization*. Moderator. Madan Puraskar Pustakaliya, Lalitpur, Nepal, July 2017

Identity, Ethnography, Archive: Locating Neighborhood in Karachi. Presented at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 2016.

Use and Users of South Asian Periodicals: From the Local to the National? Presented at the Library UX Chicago Collections Assessment Event, Loyola University, Chicago, IL, January 2016

Collecting in the Ethnomusicology of South Asia. Presented at the South Asia Cooperative Collection Development Workshop, Madison, WI, October 2015

“*Kasi Jun*: Intimate Encounters with the Crescent Moon” by Rehanna Kheshgi. Invited discussant. *EthNoise! Workshop*, University of Chicago, October 2014

Notes on Conflict and Documentation in Karachi. Invited paper presented at MIT conference The Orangi Pilot Project and Legacy of Perween Rehman,Cambridge, MA, April 2014

Home and the World: Gender and labor in South Asia. Invited discussant. 42nd Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 2013

Sound Documents and Conflict Archives. Workshop on Audio Cultures of India: Rethinking the Performance Archive, University of Chicago, September 2013

Collecting from Areas of Conflict. Visiting Committee, University of Chicago Library, November 2012

Muslim Women and Conflict in South Asia. Council of American Overseas Research Centers Outreach Workshop, University of Chicago, December 2011

Book talk: Zenana: Everyday Peace in a Karachi Apartment Building. DePaul University, Chicago, January 2008

Book talk: Zenana: Everyday Peace in a Karachi Apartment Building. University of Texas, San Antonio, March 2008

Agents of Shame: Narratives of Love and Loss in Karachi. The 32nd Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 2003

(En)Gendering Tension: Peace, Exchange and Embodiment in a Karachi Apartment Building. Semiotics of Anxiety/Anxiety about Semiosis Conference, University of Chicago, February 2002

The Shame of True Love: Notes on Purdah in Pakistan. The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2001

“Our Men are Angry:” Gendered Sentiments of Peace and Violence in Pakistan. The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 2000

Angry Men, Discerning Women: Sentiment and Praxis on the Other Side or Honor. Gender and Society Workshop, University of Chicago, October 2000

Civic Intimacy: The Language of Women’s Attachments in a Karachi Apartment Building. The 29th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 2000

Sharing the Shade: Neighborhood and Women’s Public Lives in Karachi. The Central States Anthropological Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 1999

Heretical Body, National Space: On Being Sindhi in Karachi. The 27th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 1998

**Grants:**

Co-PI, Center in Delhi Grant “Archiving the History of Modern Bengali Songs,” 2020-2022

Co-PI, Neubauer Family Collegium for Culture and Society Grant “Interwoven: Sonic and Visual Histories of Indian Ocean Worlds,” 2017-2021

Co-PI, NEH Grant “Urdu Publications from Pakistan: Providing Access to Private Collections,” 2015-2019

Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS) Special Projects Grant “Identity, Performance and Gender in Pakistan,” a lecture by Sheema Kermani, 2019

Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS) Special Projects Grant “Old World, New World; Old Ways, New Ways: Libraries and Cultural Property,” a lecture by Graham Shaw, 2018

Co-PI, Center in Delhi Grant “Sounding the Audio Moment in South Asia,” 2015-2018

Co-PI, NEH Grant “Digital Dictionaries of South Asia: Scholarly Resources for the Advanced Study of the Subcontinent,” 2014-2016

Co-PI, Neubauer Family Collegium for Culture and Society Grant “Audio Cultures of India: Rethinking the Performance Archive,” 2013-2014

Norman Cutler Travel Grant, 2012-2013

Committee on Southern Asian Studies Fellowship, 1998-2002

Fulbright Fellowship, 1996-1997

Social Sciences Unendowed Fellowship, 1991-1995

**Professional Service:**

American Institute for Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

Board of Trustees Member, 2019-present

Nominating Committee, 2021-2022

AIPS Book Prize Committee, 2020

Political Conflict, Gender and People’s Rights Project, University of California, Berkeley,

Advisory Board member, 2016-present

South Asia Open Archives (SAOA)

Executive Board Member, 2021-present

Chair, Outreach Working Group, 2021-present

Infrastructure Working Group, 2018-2021

Content Curation Working Group, 2016-2018

Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation (CONSALD)

Chair, 2015-2017

Executive Board Member, 2012-2018  
Asian Liaison Librarians Committee (ex officio), 2015-2017

South Asia Materials Project (SAMP), Executive Board Member (ex officio), 2015-2017

Mushfiq Khwaja Library and Research Centre, Karachi, Pakistan

Advisory Board Member, 2018-present  
NEH Preservation and Access Grant Program, Reviewer, 2018-19

**Editorial Service:**

*Critical Pakistan Studies*, Editorial Board, 2022-present

*ASIANetwork Exchange: A Journal for Asian Studies in the Liberal Arts*, Editorial Board, 2011-2014

*Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, Peer Reviewer, 2013

*Human Organization (Journal)*, Peer Reviewer, 2013

*Urban Studies*, Peer Reviewer, 2015-2016

*American Ethnologist*, Peer Reviewer, 2016-2017

*Oxford Research Encyclopedias*, Peer Reviewer, 2017-2018

**Memberships:**Association for Asian Studies (AAS)Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation (CONSALD)American Library Association (ALA)Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)  
 Anthropology and Sociology Section (ANSS)  
 Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Section (AAMES)  
American Anthropological Association (AAA)  
 American Ethnological Society (AES)

**Languages:**

Spoken and written Urdu, Hindi and Spanish; facility with Devanagari, Perso-Arabic, Gujarati, Gurmukhi and Tamil scripts