

Heather Hope Kuruvilla, MA, JD

she/her/hers

CONTACT



Heather@HelloHeatherHK.net



+1.856.534.7997



www.helloheatherhk.net



@helloheatherhk



Berks County, PA



heatherhopekuruvilla

EDUCATION

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Juris Doctor, 2011

Certificate in Intellectual Property: Art & Museum Law
Top 25% of class

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Master of Arts with Distinction, 2008

Museum Professions (Museum Registration)

Thesis: *Visualizing the Path Forward: The Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 and Recommendations for a Response by American Museums.* Advisor: Petra Chu, Ph.D.

STUDIO ART CENTERS INTERNATIONAL

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, 2006

Art History

Thesis: *From Form to Body: The Dissolution of the Taboos Concerning the Use of the Human Form in Art and Science.* Advisor: Maria Antonia Rinaldi, Ph.D.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, DOUGLASS COLLEGE

Bachelor of Arts, 2002

Art History Major, Psychology Minor

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY, PA

Department of Art Education

M.A. in Arts Administration

Program Coordinator, August 2022 – June 2023

- Served as point-of-contact for internal and external communications, promote program at virtual and in-person events (recruitment fairs, open houses, etc.).
- Advisor to all graduate students (approx. 30).
- Developed and prepared for submission to the curriculum council a new 4+1 accelerated master's degree with the Department of Art History, and laid the groundwork for expansion of that program to students in the Anthropology, History, and Music Business departments.
- Developed and presented to the department new stackable certificates in collaboration with the College of Business to provide professional training and certification for non-matriculating working professionals.

Instructor, August 2017 – June 2023

Arts and Civic Engagement, ARU 562

Arts & PreK-4 Education: ARU/EEU/MUU 236

Ethical and Legal Issues in the Arts, ARU 564

First Year Seminar, FYS 100

Graduate Seminar in the Arts, ARU 595

Independent Study (Master's thesis), ARU 577

ST: Controversy in the Arts, ARU 570

Women in the Arts, ARC/HUM/WGS 211

Curriculum:

Developed new stacked professional certificates in collaboration with the College of Business:

- Arts & Business
- Arts & Leadership

Developed new 4+1 accelerated master's for students in the Art History major, with planned expansion to Anthropology, History, and Music Business programs.

Updated (collaboratively) to regularly offered course for re-submission and re-approval by College and University Curriculum committees:

- *Developing the Leader in You, ARU 565*

Wrote and had approved proposals and master syllabi for new graduate courses, including rationale, assessment memo, objectives, SLO alignment, course outline, and identification of instructional resources:

- *Internship in Arts Administration, ARU 566*
- *ST: Controversy in the Arts, ARU 570*

Assessment: Conduct end-of-semester assessment, determining learner achievement of SLOs and making recommendations to improve outcomes.

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PUBLICATIONS

A Legal Dictionary for Museum Professionals (2nd ed. 2021, 1st ed. 2016). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

American Association for State and Local History, Standards & Ethics Committee, "What's Next? A Guide to Museum Transitions and Closures," March 2021, writing committee member.

American Association for State and Local History, Standards & Ethics Committee, "Valuing History Collections," May 2020, writing committee member.

All in a Day's Work: How Museums may Approach Deaccessioning as a Necessary Collections Management Tool. *Journal of Art, Technology, and Intellectual Property Law* 22(1), 119-181. 2011.

The Art of Taxing and the Encouragement of Giving: The Artist-Museum Partnership Act as a Vehicle to Increase Museum Support, unpublished, 2010. (In completion of the DePaul Law Review program.)

CERTIFICATIONS

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace, University of South Florida, June 2021
Kutztown University, April 2021

- **Diversity: Inclusion in the Modern Workplace Certificate**
- **Managing Bias Certificate**
- **Accommodating People with Disabilities Certificate**

Applying the Quality Matters Rubric (APPQMR), July 2018

The Cycle: Management of Successful Arts and Cultural Organizations, University of Maryland via Coursera, July 2018

Teaching Online Certificate Course, Kutztown University, 2017

Grant Writing and Research Certification, Delaware County Community College, 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, PA
Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Minor in Museum Studies
Adjunct Instructor, January – June 2022
Museums and Collections I, MSM 210

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, Lexington, KY
College of Fine Arts
M.A. in Arts Administration
Adjunct Assistant Professor, July 2021 – Present
Adjunct Instructor, October 2018 – June 2021
Arts & The Law, AAD 650
Dissertation Committee Chair, AAD 676
Curriculum: Had approved a complete course revamp to bring materials in line with developing law, ethics, and professional best practices.

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY, South Orange, NJ
College of Communications
M.A. in Museum Professions
Adjunct Instructor, January – June 2018
Guest Lecturer, 2013 – 2017, *Legal and Ethical Issues in Museums, ARMS 6805*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AGATE CREATIVES

Founding Member and Organization Re-Imaginer
March 2021 – Present

- Assist in imaging and implementing a non-hierarchical NPO model that seeks to reject the fundamental characteristics of traditional PWIs (predominantly white institutions)
- Brainstorm and design social media posts on current events and DEIA (diversity, equity, inclusion, and access) issues in the museum field and American society.
- Successfully led process to incorporate as an Illinois nonprofit corporation and obtain 501(c)(3) tax exempt recognition.

FAMILY RACE EXHIBIT COLLECTIVE (FREC)

Planning and Operations Team Member
Aug. 2020 – Mar. 2021

- Assisted in developing operations for new non-hierarchical collective.
- Researched and presented on decision making in non-hierarchical settings.
- Applied for and received state incorporation and federal tax exemption.

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EXHIBITIONS

CURATOR, The Meadowlands Museum, Rutherford, NJ, 2013-2014.

- *Alternate Reality: Steampunk and the Victorian Age*
- *Rutherford Remembers: World War I Centennial*
- *Meadowlands Historic Schoolboy Football Exhibit*
- *Needlecrafts in the Meadowlands*
- *Constructing Home: Residential Architecture in the Meadowlands*

CURATORIAL ASSISTANT, Morristown & Morris Township Library, 2018. Morris Museum, NJ, 2020.

- *The Ties that Bind: How Race Relations Shaped Morris County & New Jersey 1688-2018*

RIGHTS MANAGER, The Newark Museum, Newark, NJ, 2007.

- *The Art of Glass from Gallé to Chihuly: Highlights from the Lowenbach Collection*

REGISTRATION INTERN, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, 2007-2008.

- *Tapestry in the Baroque: Threads of Splendor*
- *Jasper Johns: Gray*

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE (CMS)

Filemaker Pro
PastPerfect
The Museum System (TMS)

SYSTEMS KNOWLEDGE

- **Office:** Microsoft Suite, Google Drive
- **Communications and Social Media:** Constant Contact, Mail Chimp, Padlet, Canva, Wix, WordPress, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE (LMS)

BlackBoard
Canvas
D2L (Desire2Learn)

EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

MUSEUM PARTNERS CONSULTING, Maplewood, NJ

Curatorial Assistant

Aug. – Sept. 2018

The Ties that Bind: How Race Relations Shaped Morris County and New Jersey, 1688-2018

- Edited and organized the exhibition timeline. Researched local and regional African American, legal history, and Quaker history.

Event Executive Assistant

May – June 2018

“Juneteenth in Morristown, NJ”

- Planned and implemented all marketing and PR, including writing press release, identifying appropriate news outlets for distribution, and managing social media outlets.

Designed handouts to synthesize information for visitors and volunteers. Located vendors, facilitated creation of custom items, and liaised with representatives across organizations.

THE MEADOWLANDS MUSEUM, Rutherford, NJ

Interim Director

Aug. 2013 – Sept. 2014

- Successfully oversaw museum reopening following long-term construction project.
- Connected with civic groups, stakeholders, and community members. Carried out Board policies and served as public liaison.
- Implemented two-year exhibition schedule with fundraising activities and programming to reinvigorate core visitor base and reach new communities and interest groups.
- Raised professionalism of collection management systems to meet industry best practices.
- Researched, developed content, created outlines for, and wrote exhibition- and gallery-related collateral, including text panels, labels, and other elements as required for exhibitions.
- Primary contact for museum constituents, including donors, lenders, community leaders, press, and public. Conducted outreach to members and community to build and maintain sustainable partnerships.
- Implemented monthly programming series designed to enhance visibility of museum programs and events, while also promoting the museum as a gathering place for community residents.

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SERVICE

KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY

Library Liaison: Department of Art Education, Aug. 2022 – June 2023

Member: Graduate Council, Aug. 2022 – June 2023

Thesis Advisor: Amanda Svetlak, M.A. in Art Education, Arts Administration, “Leadership and Community in the Arts: A Case Study of Legend and Culture in Chiusdino, Italy,” 2018- 2019.

PROFESSIONAL

Board/Creatives Liaison: Agate Creatives, Jan. 2022 - Present

Peer Reviewer: *The Journal of Arts Management, Law and Society*, 2021.

Peer Reviewer: “Contracts” in R.A. Buck and J.A. Gilmore, *On the Road Again: Developing and Managing Traveling Exhibitions* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: American Alliance of Museums.

Committee Member: Standards & Ethics, American Association for State & Local History, 2019-present

- Capitalization of collections working group, 2019-20
- Museum closure working group, 2020-21

Consultant: Institute of Museum Ethics, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, 2015-2020.

Extern Supervisor: Associate Alumnae of Douglass College Extern Program, Meadowlands Museum, Rutherford, NJ, 2013.

Brief Grader (2013-17), Judge (2012, 2015): National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition, Chicago, IL.

Volunteer: Holocaust Art Restitution Project: Database of Art Objects at the *Jeu de Paume*, online, 2010.

COMMUNITY:

Troop Leader: Girl Scouts of Eastern PA, Brownie Troop 1867, 2020 – Present

Secretary: Board of Directors, The Georgian Society, 2014-18

Annual Gala Planning Committee: The Georgian Society, 2012-13, 2016-17, 2021-22

Volunteer: Pearl S. Buck National Historic Landmark, Perkasio, PA, 2011-12

Volunteer: Douglass Alumnae Recruitment Team (DART), 2006-14.

EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW, Chicago, IL

Research Assistant, Patty Gerstenblith, J.D., Ph.D.

Aug. 2010 – May 2011

- Researched case and statutory law for *Art, Cultural Heritage, and the Law: Cases and Materials 3rd Ed.*

PHILADELPHIA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS

Legal Services Coordinator

June 2010 – Aug. 2010

- Conducted client-intake interviews, authored informational materials, and paired *bro bono* attorneys with artists and organizations.

CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM, IL

Law Clerk, Office of the President

Jan. 2010 – May 2010

- Advised upper management on legal issues impacting administration and collections.
- Reviewed and redrafted contracts.

CHICAGO PUBLIC ART GROUP, IL

Law Clerk

June 2009 – Aug. 2009

- Advised senior management and director on complex agreements and transactions.

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, New York, NY

Graduate Intern, Office of the Registrar

Sept. 2007 – Dec. 2007

- Assisted with immunity from seizure and federal indemnification forms.
- Assisted with collection storage inventories.
- Oversaw unpacking of loans.

SAVE ELLIS ISLAND, Mt. Olive & Jersey City, NJ

Education Intern

April 2007 – Aug. 2007

- Helped run NEA-funded teacher workshops on historic preservation.
- Conducted historic research for tour content.
- Served as the public face on-site.

THE NEWARK MUSEUM, NJ

Rights Manager, Office of the Registrar

April 2007 – June 2007

- Determined rights ownership; secured use.
- Drafted licenses and negotiated uses.
- Conducted due diligence of orphaned and public domain works.

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AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- "Person of the Year: The Meadowlands Museum," *South Bergenite* newspaper, 2014
- Commendation, Rutherford Mayor & Council, 2014
- DePaul University College of Law, Faculty/Staff Endowed Scholarship, 2011
- Honorable mention, Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation Competition, 2011
- Faculty/Staff Endowed Scholarship, DePaul University College of Law, 2011
- CALI Award for Excellence in Senior Research Seminar: Cultural Property, Spring 2011
- Art Law Award, DePaul Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law, 2010
- Bernard B. and Gloria L. Rinella Endowed Scholarship 2010
- CALI Award for Excellence in Civil Procedure, Spring 2009
- DePaul University College of Law, Academic Merit Scholarship: 2008, 2009, and 2010
- Leopold Schepp Foundation, 2008-2011

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (NON-PRESENTING)

- ALI-ABA Legal Issues in Museum Administration annual conference, 2007, 2008, 2015, 2016.
- American Association for State and Local History annual conference, 2019, 2021.
- ArtEquity, "BIPOC Surviving PWIs," 2020.
- ArtEquity, "BIPOC + Philanthropy" workshop, 2021.
- Artwork Archive, "Preserving Black Artists' Legacies," 2021.
- Deaccessioning After 2020 Symposium, Syracuse University, 2021.
- Federal Bar Association's Art Law and Litigation Conference, 2018.
- The Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation annual conference, 2016, 2017.
- Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums, 2007, 2008, 2019.
- The Muse Series with Emma Thorne-Christy, "Exhibition Politics: Addressing political subjects in the gallery," "Awareness isn't enough: Bringing activism to exhibitions in meaningful ways," 2021.
- Museum Hue, "Portrait Series: Critical Race Theory in Museums with Dr. Kelli Morgan," 2021.
- New Jersey Association of Museums, 2007.

SPEAKING & PRESENTATIONS

WEBINARS

- **Creative Reckoning: The Fall and Rise of a BIPOC Creative**, [Collective Liberation]: Disrupt, Dismantle, Manifest, June 3, 2021.
- **Deaccessioning in a Recession? Why or Why Not**. American Association for State and Local History, May 21, 2020.
- **The Business of Being an IMP**, American Alliance of Museums, Independent Museum Professionals Committee, October 24, 2019.

GUEST LECTURER

- **Ethical and Legal Issues Related to Museum Collections**. ARMS 6805: Legal and Ethical Issues in Museums, Seton Hall University, Prof. Greg Stevens. April 15, 2020.
- **Museum Deaccessioning Policies When the Options are 'Sell or Close'**. ARU 591: Methods of Research in the Arts, Kutztown University, Dr. Heather Fountain, Fall 2018.
- **Intellectual Property for the Museum Professional**, ARTH230: Introduction to Museum Studies, Prof. Leah Niederstadt, Wheaton College, Norton, MA, Fall 2015.
- **From Stolen Art to Selling Art: Contemporary Challenges in Museum Ethics**, Wheaton College, Norton, MA, Fall 2015.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Deaccessioning: Challenges for Museums in Ethics and Law**, Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums annual meeting, Wilmington, DE, October 21, 2016.
- **Deaccessioning 101**, New Jersey History and Historic Preservation Conference, South Orange, NJ, June 9, 2016.
- **Walking the Wire: Balancing Moral Rights and the Artist's Vision after VARA**, New Directions in Museum Ethics Conference, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, November 14, 2009.

SESSION CHAIR

- **Rescued or Stolen? Perspectives on Collections**, AASLH conference 2019.
- **The Management and Deaccession Toolkit: Making the Right Decisions for Your Institution and Collection**, AASLH conference 2019