

# Lekha Sapers

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Strategic Communications | Digital Archives & Policy | Media & Technology Research

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## SELECTED EXPERIENCE

### **Archives Director and Assistant Program Director** *91.9 KCSB FM*, June 2021 - Aug 2024

- **Ownership:** Led digital transformation of 24/7 radio station operations, managing team of 100+ programmers and launching station's first digital archive system while maintaining 100% FCC compliance
- **Developer of KCSB's OMEKA-S Archive:** Architected and deployed the first-ever OMEKA-S digital archive for a college radio station, safeguarding the station's legacy while navigating issues around intellectual property and public access. Led the preservation and digitization of 50+ archives to ensure compliance with legal frameworks surrounding media rights and accessibility using extensive metadata preservation systems.
- **Technical Documentation & Web Analytics:** Authored detailed technical documentation and spearheaded a data-driven web strategy by integrating UI/UX design and Google Analytics, significantly improving operational efficiency.

### **Global Climate Leadership Undergraduate Representative** *University of California*, Sept 2022 - June 2024

- **Climate Policy Advocacy:** Collaborated with 24 stakeholders to launch a climate communication platform, producing data-informed newsletters that distilled complex research into accessible content, reaching over 200,000 students across 9 campuses
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Addressed legal ramifications of climate change policy, working closely with environmental experts and legal advisors to develop communication strategies aligned with UC's climate goals.

### **Archival and Research Intern** *Rhode Island Computer Museum*, Oct 2024 - Present

- **Digital Cataloging and Restoration:** Developed and maintained a detailed spreadsheet-based digital catalog for a 100,000 sq ft collection of computer technologies (1960s onward), streamlining asset tracking and facilitating rapid retrieval for educational and commercial rentals (e.g., TV productions like *Mad Men*)
- **Grant Award:** Secured Rhode Island Humanities \$2K grant to spearhead a digital preservation project, developing an interpretive website chronicling the history of data storage. Led content creation (garnering a 30000+ person outreach), established partnerships with the MET School, and curated a public exhibit

### **Digital Content Intern** *Voice of America*, June 2022 - Aug 2022

- **Multimedia Strategy & Data Analytics:** Created digital content for an international audience, evidenced by engagement by listeners in India and China, ensuring strict compliance with international broadcasting standards, and utilized Google Analytics to produce data-driven reports that informed editorial and business strategies.

### **Research Assistant** *(Multiple Projects)*, 2022-2024

- **Political Violence & Protest Research** (Thaler, Shaver): Built databases, analyzed global protest data, co-authored publication on media framing.
- **Barbareño Chumash Linguistics** (Mithun): Digitally transcribed 30+ texts, producing a searchable corpus for linguistic and cultural preservation.
- **Porn & Surveillance Studies** (Miller-Young): Researched freedom of expression, algorithmic censorship, and legal implications.
- **Media Duplication/Oral Histories** (Novak): Preserved 1970s–80s ethnographies via transcription and metadata curation.

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair Intern** *US Sailing Youth Advisory Board*, June 2019 - Aug 2022

- **DEI Policy Innovation:** Spearheaded diversity initiatives by collaborating with the DEI board to implement equitable policy changes, and organized international outreach events— such as the Starboard Portal Youth Panel— to foster global community engagement and drive policy reform.

## **OTHER WORK**

**Sales Associate** *North Sails*, Nov 2024 - Present

- **Operations Management:** Manage daily store operations and consistently record sales metrics to ensure high efficiency and accountability.
- **Deliver Results:** Leverage my consistent part-time shifts— primarily on Sundays and Mondays— to drive significant performance improvements, increasing share of weekly sales on these days from 19.1% to 27.6% on Sundays and 9.6% to 17.5% on Mondays year-over-year. Received "Green Face" recognition for exceeding performance benchmarks on a substantial number of shifts.

**Ski Instructor** *Yawgoo Valley Ski Area, Winters Only*, Nov 2017 - Jan 2021

**Sailing Office Communications Assistant** *New York Yacht Club, Summers Only*, Jun 2019 - Aug 2021

## **KEY PROJECTS AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

**Team Captain** *UCSB Sailing*, June 2023 - June 2024

- **Strategic Budget & Project Management:** Managed a \$70K team budget and secured \$1M in grants, overseeing operational logistics and project execution that led to top nationally competitive finishes.
- **Mentorship & Development:** Led a team of 30 athletes, fostering a competitive and collaborative environment while competing on the top national level.

**Music Coordinator** *REEL LOUD FILM FESTIVAL*, Oct 2020 - June 2022

- **Event Innovation & Adaptation:** Orchestrated UCSB's only student-run film festival during COVID by transforming it into a drive-in movie theater experience, preserving artistry amid unprecedented challenges.

**Brigade Member** *Floating Doctors*, Oct 2020 - May 2022

- **Medical Support:** Provided logistical and medical assistance to underserved communities in Panama alongside healthcare professionals.

## **EDUCATION**

University of California in Santa Barbara, Goleta CA, Sept 2024

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Global Studies with a Minor in Earth Science

3.96/4.0 Cumulative GPA | Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society | High Honors

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- **Tools:** Google Analytics, Omeka-S, G Suite, GitHub
- **Languages:** HTML/CSS, SQL (basic), Python (basic), Spanish (limited working proficiency)
- **Methodologies:** Metadata schema, content compliance, user-centered design, data storytelling