



## Vanessa Reyes, Ph.D.

Ph.D. in Library and  
Information Science

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Author of Saving Your  
Digital Past, Present, and  
Future A Step-by-Step Guide

## Biography

Dr. Vanessa Reyes is an Assistant Professor of Instruction for the School of Information at the University of South Florida. She is Editor-in-Chief for the *Florida Libraries*, the official journal of the Florida Library Association and is a Director-At-Large for Beta Phi Mu, the International Library, and Information Studies Honor Society. Dr. Reyes holds a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, and an M.S. in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University. After working in archives, legislation, university, and public libraries, she was interested in exploring the field of PIM (Personal Information Management) at the start of her career as a library page. As a library page, she taught an introduction to computer use to an audience of aging adults, which prompted her to walk learners through the basics of saving, and sorting personal files, emails, and photos. Dr. Reyes also worked with researchers in other information settings and noted that there was an interest in the use of organized and preserved personal collections for academic work. These experiences inspired her research in personal information management (PIM), quantifying how individual users organize, manage, and preserve digital information. In her most recent book, *Saving Your Digital Past, Present, and Future, A Step-By Step Guide*, she makes the case for improving the organization of personal digital collections, by introducing PIM tools and their importance to our daily lives as we create methods that allow PIM activities.

## Workshop Participation

In the *PIM 2022: Successfully Aging with Our Information and Our Information Tools* Workshop, Dr. Reyes will author a position paper entitled *PIM, Libraries, and Successful Aging: Conquering Our Declining Memory for the Sake of Our Personal Digital Collections*.

Some of the topics that Dr. Reyes plans to cover in her contribution include,

- On-the-ground experiences teaching older adults about computer technology.
- The role of public libraries and memory institutions in preserving personal materials
- The role of PIM in memory.