

Lekha Sapers

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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:** Leveraged 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.

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.

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

- **Leadership & Instruction:** Designed and delivered personalized ski lessons to students of all ages, adapting techniques to diverse learning styles and fostering skill development.

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

- **Event Coordination & Sailor Support:** Assisted in organizing large-scale regattas and sailing events, managing operational databases and ensuring compliance with regulatory standards.

RESEARCH AND INTERNSHIPS

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 a competitive \$2K grant to spearhead a digital preservation project, developing an interpretive website chronicling the history of data storage. Led content creation, established partnerships with MET School, curated a public exhibit

Research Assistant *Barbareño Chumash Linguistics (Dr. Marianne Mithun)*, June 2024 - Sept 2024

- **Cultural Preservation:** Applied computational and linguistic methodologies to transcribe and transliterate over 30 texts, creating a searchable digital corpus that supports cultural preservation, language research, and educational initiatives.

Research Assistant *Feminist Approaches to Porn (Dr. Mireille Miller-Young)*, Sept 2023 - Dec 2023

- **Algorithmic Fairness and Censorship:** Examined legal frameworks surrounding freedom of expression, digital surveillance, and the ethical implications of content regulation.

Research Assistant *Evolution of Repression in 21st Cen. (Dr. Kai Thaler)*, Mar 2023 - June 2023

- **Protest Movements and Governmental Responses:** Conducted targeted research (2018–2022) on protest movements and state repression, leading to actionable insights on protest tactics that informed analyses of organizational responses.

Research Assistant *Political Violence Lab (Dr. Andrew Shaver)*, June 2022 - Aug 2022

- **Quantitative Analysis & Media's Role in Public Policy:** Analyzed global political violence data to build a comprehensive database and co-authored a paper examining how media coverage shapes public policy and legal discourse, demonstrating the business impact of strategic information dissemination.

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 *Media Duplication (Dr. David Novak)*, Mar 2022 - June 2022

- **Oral History & Archival Practices:** Transcribed oral histories from the 1970s–80s, ensuring accurate and culturally sensitive documentation for ethnographic research, contributing to the integrity of historical media archives.

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.

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 competitive finishes.
- **Mentorship & Development:** Led a team of 30 athletes, fostering a competitive and collaborative environment while mentoring students in leadership and ethical decision-making.

Outreach Director *Sexinfoonline.com*, Oct 2022 - June 2024

- **Content Strategy & Digital Compliance:** Led the creation of sexual health content, ensuring adherence to medical privacy laws (HIPAA) and ethical content guidelines. Spearheaded efforts to make content inclusive, accessible, and legally sound for a global audience.
- **Operational Oversight:** Managed a team of content creators, using performance data to continuously refine outreach strategies.

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.
- **Curated Artistic Collaborations:** Collaborated closely with filmmakers and musicians, ensuring live performances elevated the narrative impact of each film, enhancing audience engagement.

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

- **Medical Support:** Provided logistical and medical assistance to underserved communities in Panama alongside healthcare professionals.
- **Health Outreach:** Led health education programs, contributing to long-term public health improvements.
- **Cultural Engagement:** Collaborated with international teams, fostering cross-cultural understanding.

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