Image Discovery and Access Across Campus

VRA + ARLIS/NA, Friday March 25, 2011

Nicole Finzer, Visual Resources Librarian,
Digital Collections, Northwestern University
n-finzer@northwestern.edu
Digital Collections Department advances the University's teaching and research mission by:

1. Providing digitization services and support to Northwestern faculty and graduate students.

2. Partnering with other Library and University departments to bring unique and rare collections to researchers around the world.

3. While digital content production is at the heart of the department, we are also firmly committed to instruction, training and user support.
The Library assumed responsibility for the Visual Media Collection (Art History Slide Library) in 2007. Digital Collections then evaluated issues in three major areas of image discovery and access:

1. Digitization and cataloging

2. Service assessment and promotion

3. Providing tools to make the collection useable
Challenges:

• Expanding services to reach users outside of Art History.

• Convincing users that working with the library to integrate their images into a centralized system is beneficial.

• Implementing robust and scalable architecture and descriptive metadata standards.
Digital Image Library Implementation Plan:

“The library will implement a web-based tool for contributing images, allowing users to upload and catalog their own materials. Once these images are contributed, they will be vetted for inclusion in the shared Digital Image Library collections.”

“The goal is to provide a central gateway for images regardless of discipline, keeping the tools Art Historians like but expanding or generalizing them to serve other disciplines.”
The process of managing digitization workflows and submitting digital assets to the repository resulted in the **Production Support and Delivery System (PSDS)**:

- Unify intake, digitization and cataloging services within Digital Collections.

- Simplify intake procedures and develop an outreach plan to continuously assess faculty needs.
Workflow Management using Drupal

Access denied
You are not authorized to access this page.

User login
Username: *
Password: *
Log in
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Record type</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>RU Requester</th>
<th>Status</th>
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ngf811 06/16/2010: dog

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Short description or title: dog
No. Requester: ngf811
Due Date: 2010-06-23
Priority: Medium
Description: None available at this time.
Cataloging Level: Full

ITEM INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)
File Name: mmn/carved_mm/pcml/VAC/YM068-2/WS9/Y2G18.11
Media Type: Tiff Image

ITEM WORKFLOW
Workflow Type: DIG Image
Status: Ready for Delivery

IDENTIFIERS
Prefix: di
Globally Unique ID: 11066

STAFF PROJECT ROLES
Approver: ngf811
Assigned to: ngf811
Cataloger: ngf811

RECORDED DATES AND TIMES
Record Locked: No
Approved: Thu, 2010-11-11 14:12
Assigned: 2010-11-08 10:18
Cataloged: Thu, 2010-11-18 10:19
Digitized: Thu, 2010-11-18 10:15
Ingested: Thu, 2010-11-18 10:19
Metadata Editor using Xforms
### Location

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<th>Extent</th>
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Save Work  Save Image  Cataloged
“Hydra Head” for use by faculty that supports their private or shared submission, aggregation, annotation, cropping, and potential cataloging of items in the DIL collection.

Our application allows faculty to:

• Aggregate items by dragging them from the collection private/shared collections.

• Add notes to items, define crop boundary "areas of interest" on the images, and potentially extend their private "notes" to fully structured catalog records.
Delivery Tool using Hydrangea
Asset Manager / Media Type Liaison /Specialist:

• Faculty serve the purpose of subject specialist.

• Model tools so users will engage with them.

• Establish positive communication models.
Images Libguide:
Digital Library Committee: identify and manage digital projects
# Digital Collections Liaisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Liaison</th>
<th>Staffweb page</th>
<th>Public site</th>
<th>Location of documentation</th>
<th>Location of archival copies</th>
<th>Other locations</th>
<th>Who are key contacts?</th>
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[Northwestern University Library](http://www.library.northwestern.edu)
About

What’s that Logo?

It’s not a microchip: it’s a Mies corner. Mies van der Rohe used existing technology—steel I-beam construction as shown in the logo—to realize his vision. Technology did not dictate his design; rather Mies employed technology in imaginative ways to develop its full potential and beauty. The corner, traditionally a difficult element to design, in a Mies building is more than an example of the intersection of aesthetic vision and technology. Mies’ design has significantly improved the built environment for Chicagoans and the subsequent development of modern architecture. While perhaps on a less monumental scale, THATCamp shares these aspirations — not only to exploit technology to carry out the vision of humanities scholarship but to improve technology itself, with lasting, practical, well-designed projects as a result. THATCamp is more.

What is a THATCamp?

Here are the key characteristics of a THATCamp:

• There are no spectators at a THATCamp; everyone participates.
• It is small and intimate, housing anywhere from 25 or 50 to no more than 100 participants. Most THATCamps aim for about 75 participants.
• It lasts no more than two days.
Pilot database for Departmental Image Content using Drupal
About the Classicizing Chicago Project

New work in the growing field of Classical Reception Studies has drawn attention to classical antiquity as a reference point and catalyst in the social, cultural and intellectual development of the United States. In Chicago, we can trace patterns of engagement with Greece and Rome across multiple forms of cultural production, this famously commercial, modern Midwestern city is full of scattered traces of a changing, sometimes antagonistic, but always keen relationship with the classical past. This pilot website and database offers the first results of an interdisciplinary and collaborative research project to investigate how and why antiquity has been not just a legacy but a living presence and a resource for a diverse set of Chicago visual artists, activists, architects, politicians, writers, journalists, educators and entrepreneurs from the 1830s through today.

This project is the first examination of the uses of the classical past over time across forms of cultural production in a single metropolis, Chicago. We hope that interdisciplinary research on the topic will (1) contribute to our understanding of the history of Chicago, (2) yield insights into the dynamics of the modern use of the classical past (3) expose layers of interpretation and (4) through focused study of a single city, help build greater understanding of the peculiarities of the resonance of antiquity in the American context.

We warmly welcome inquiries, contributions and new collaborators. Contact:
classizingchicago@northwestern.edu.

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Lauren Wolk, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, Temple University

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Daniel Garrison, Professor of Classics, Northwestern University

Research Director
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Project Coordinator
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http://www.library.northwestern.edu
Looking ahead..

Once the tools are in place the library must work with users from varying disciplines within the university to identify and ingest the content that will best serve their needs. Coupling this content with a set of services and tools that are better suited for many disciplines, media types, and metadata schemas use is crucial.

For additional information, email: n-finzer@northwestern.edu