

SOPAG

Task Force on Digital Visual Resources Planning

Charge:

The Task Force on Visual Resources Planning is charged to explore the opportunities, challenges, and benefits in collaborating on digital resource repository(ies) and related services within and among the UC Libraries. While the focus of the Task Force's work will be on collections owned or managed by the UC Libraries, it is expected that key questions and issues for image collections will be identified which will inform future planning and discussions regarding campus visual resources outside of the libraries. The task force should assume that the process for licensing commercial images will continue and that one or more major collections will be recommended for purchase in the near future.

As an initial step, the Task Force is asked to undertake a survey of the UC Libraries to determine: 1) what visual resource collections, including both moving and still images, are now owned or managed by the UC Libraries; 2) what user groups these collections now serve; and 3) what use statistics are currently available for these collections.

On the basis of the information gathered from the survey, the Task Force should explore the following issues in developing a white paper to guide University planning for digital visual resources:

1. **Scope.** Assess the potential scope of UC digital visual resource repositories, including existent digitized resources, as well as those which may or should be digitized.
 - Is there a need for a union catalog of digital visual resources? If so, which collections should be included?
 - What extent do multimedia resources need to be included or linked to complement visual resources?
2. **Services.** Investigate the need for services that support creation and use of digital images for various purposes.
 - What other services are needed in addition to basic discovery services e.g., content management, collection management, instructional support, eScholarship services, etc.?
 - What are the questions of copyright and fair use that need to be addressed in order to make resources available UC-wide?

3. **Technical Infrastructure.** Explore issues related to the technical infrastructure and architecture for the creation and use of a visual resources catalog, including metadata and specialized software or software used for other purposes which incorporates visual resources
 - Are existing standards sufficient and applied widely enough to support needed services and infrastructure?
 - Is a common technical infrastructure needed or would multiple interoperable platforms better suit the environment?
 - Is a centralized or decentralized architecture appropriate?
4. **Organizational and Operational Infrastructure.** Explore options for the organizational and operational infrastructure for visual resources within and among UC Libraries, with consideration of current campus library image projects and systemwide projects such as the OAC.
 - What alternatives are there for action that could include specific experiments, further study of particular issues, continuation of existing activities, or other next steps?

Membership:

Leslie Abrams (UCSD)
Howard Batchelor (UCLA)
Christine Bunting (UCSC)
Larry Carver (UCSB)
Laine Farley (CDL)
Kathryn Wayne (UCB)

Consultation:

- The Task Force should consult with appropriate technical experts within the University to assist in carrying out its charge.
- The Task Force should consult with appropriate individuals at campus libraries not represented on the Task Force.

Time frame:

A preliminary report of the findings should be submitted to SOPAG when the results of the survey are completed; a final report should be submitted six months from appointment of task force

Background information:

Several different threads of interest and activity regarding image content and management have recently surfaced. Specifically:

1. The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) has identified **art & architecture image content as high priority**. Some content is or will be available for licensing (e.g., *Saskia* art history images and *Hartill Art Associates, Inc. Visual Resources for Architecture and Related Arts* collection; Mellon's *ArtSTOR* project). Other attractive collections may be (or become) available at no cost or through agreement with other institutions (e.g., *Rumsey Map* collection).
2. The visual resource librarians throughout UC, aka "sliders," are investigating **a UC union repository of digitized art and architecture images**. A prototype "Library of UC Images" (LUCI) is an extant database of such materials ready for experiments in delivery and use. A report on phase 2 of LUCI, which used *Insight* at UCB and was funded by the UC Institute for the Arts, was produced in February, 2003. **High-quality software for use of images has matured** and is generating excitement among faculty and visual resource librarians. There are several alternatives; the **most often cited example is *Insight* from Luna Imaging, Inc.** ArtSTOR cites *Insight* in their announcement; UCB has a license for *Insight*. The CDL has done preliminary investigation of systemwide licensing of *Insight*.
3. The CDL has a growing need for **image and multimedia management in the OAC, eScholarship, and California Cultures** projects.
4. *Image Matters: a Binocular View (Yale + Luna Imaging) of the Digital Marketplace* by Barbara Rockenbach and Max Marmor at Yale describes some of the benefits and challenges of "invest[ing] in the infrastructure required for managing digital image collections and integrating them into the fabric of teaching and learning.
5. The Mellon Foundation has funded (or is about to fund) two projects at UCSD: 1) Union Catalog of Art Images using bibliographic and "visual" metadata from three partner institutions, exploring the technical issues surrounding the unification and display of diverse record structures and content in order to assess the viability of a bibliographic utility for image metadata; and 2) the digitization of UCSD slide collection as one of the charter collections of ArtSTOR in association with Luna Imaging, Inc.

5/24/02

A beginning framework...

	Content	Services	Technical Infrastructure	Organizational Infrastructure
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed • Library owned/created • Multimedia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery • Content management • Collection management • Instructional • eScholarship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central vs. distributed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central vs. distributed
Needs assessment (functional requirements)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (applied to above) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interoperability 	
Feasibility			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards • Copyright/fair use 	
Lessons learned				
Next steps				