

ISRAC conference call  
Friday Feb. 23, 2006  
DRAFT 1.

Present: Susan Moon (UCSB), Rosalie Lack (CDL), Maureen Burns (UCI), Greg Careaga (UCSC), Dan Goldstein (UCD), Maryly Snow (UCB), Vickie O’Riordan (UCSD), Margaret Hogarth (UCR).

Absent: Emily Lin (UCM), Brian Warling (UCSF), Stephen Davison (UCLA)

Recorder: Maryly Snow

March 10, 2006 conference call cancelled due to Visual Resources Association meeting in Baltimore.

Next conference call will be March 24, 2006.

I. ISRAC response to the HOPS Report:

ISRAC committee members expressed their disappointment in the HOPS Report. ISRAC does not feel that the committee charge has been completed. There hasn’t been an official roll-out yet. Only a small number of faculty on each campus are aware of UC Image Service. The advisory portion of our charge (see #4), especially the intellectual property and collection development guidelines, have not been completed. Although disappointed, the committee was not surprised at the HOPS response, as it has become clear to ISRAC that HOPS only wanted an advisory committee, not a roll-out committee, in spite of the contents of the charge and in spite of the name of the committee itself. The charge, as written and presented to ISRAC, was a source of confusion from the start for ISRAC. It is probably the case that HOPS merely passed along the charge from SOPAG to HOPS without careful consideration.

ISRAC continues to believe that UC Image Service using Insight does not fit any prior library models. It is not an electronic resource with built-in content. It is not a read-only library resource. It is a combined library and instructional media resource to be developed, enhanced, disseminated, and utilized. ISRAC continues to assert the need for a “hard” (concerted, official, widespread) roll-out, one that intentionally does not follow the model of other library resources. ISRAC recognizes that the existing library work culture is not compatible with a time line necessary for a hard roll-out, especially given the license renewal deadline of Dec 31, 2006. This belief is reinforced by University Librarian Dan Greenstein’s recent comments at the Feb. 15-17, 2006 Webwise conference in Los Angeles. Here he expressed frustration with the slow pace of action in university libraries and CDL. Paraphrasing Greenstein: If Google can get that much accomplished in two years, it is clear that we need to learn to act more quickly as well, learning to let go of some of our old ways so we can move forward. ISRAC believes that a hard roll-out would have benefited both faculty

and student users, as well as CDL, who must assess the usefulness of UC Image Service's Insight implementation without a full-fledged rollout.

ISRAC also wanted to move ahead quickly because of mounting pressure from faculty. UC visual resources professionals are acutely aware of the recent attitudinal sea change among UC faculty teaching visual content. Last year (2004-2005) faculty teaching with digital images were the exception. This year (2005-2006) faculty teaching with digital images are the norm, while faculty teaching with 35mm slides are the exception.

ISRAC believes that it was given an appropriate charge, but was not given the authority to fulfill its charge. ISRAC suggests that HOPS should be aware of the bind in which it placed ISRAC. ISRAC's authority to implement and move ahead was not commensurate with its charge; the charge exceeded the authority that HOPS was willing to delegate. ISRAC tried to move a large, unwieldy bureaucracy quickly but didn't succeed.

ISRAC believes that it's back to business as usual, when roll-out will occur entirely at the local level, ensuring that each vr collection and each University library will continue developing silos of visual information instead of shareable system-wide content.

ISRAC believes that its committee composition was excellent. Committee structure brought two different working cultures together, librarians, who are more versed in planning and hierarchical approval processes, and VR professionals, who are accustomed to taking action as needed, a do-it right now mentality. These two groups collaborated easily and fruitfully. ISRAC believes that the committee composition could have been expanded further to include instructional technology specialists, museum curators or registrars, and archivists. It certainly could serve as a model for future roll-outs if granted commensurate authority and funding for roll-out and face to face meetings.

ISRAC acknowledges that working with CDL was very productive. Individual committee members, especially the VR professionals, hope to develop a mechanism to facilitate continued interaction with CDL developing UC Image Service.

ISRAC requests that the ISRAC web site remain in place, as it is full of useful documents for local implementation and teaching of Insight. If HOPS does not want to continue hosting ISRAC web site, we request that it be moved in its current structure to Inside CDL or a local campus server.

Ultimately, ISRAC wonders, why have a rollout committee if the committee doesn't have the authority to fulfill its charge? If HOPS doesn't want to follow advice and input from the experts, they shouldn't have asked.

## 2. Collection descriptions.

Maryly emailed ISRAC the first draft of proposed collection descriptions. The proposed collection descriptions, intended for the Insight java client, are longer than the 3 lines of description on CDL's UC Image Service web page, but abbreviated from the current text in Insight 5.1. Only a few members had concrete suggestions at this point, but most expressed interest in making it easier for faculty and students to discover the essentials about each collection. Maryly made revisions and emailed the second draft of the proposed collection descriptions the same day. If committee members like the concept, Maryly will create abbreviated descriptions for the rest of the collections along the same guidelines.

3. Insight User Group. There are two Insight user group meetings, each three hours, scheduled for Visual Resources Association in Baltimore. Maureen is attending the Monday afternoon session, Maryly the Monday evening session. Maureen wants to rearrange the ISRAC comments from our north and south training so we can more easily focus on issues relevant to Luna Insight.