

Digital Collections Users' Group
Annual Report: 2009 – 2010
Submitted: May 19, 2010

Members:

Ellen Corrigan (2008-2011), Eastern Illinois University, Chair
Christopher Day (2009-2010), School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Eben English (2009-2012), Illinois Institute of Technology
Ginger Frere (2009-2010), Newberry Library
Betsy Kruger (2008-2011), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Meg Miner (2010-2012), Illinois Wesleyan University
Julie Patton (2009-2011), Northwestern University
Laurie Sauer (2009-2012), Knox College
Kevin Ford, Columbia College Chicago, resigned Dec. 2009
Nathaniel Wilson, National-Louis University, resigned Feb. 2010

CARLI Staff Liaisons: Jessica Gibson and Amy Maroso

Communication

- The DCUG meets monthly by conference call or in person.
- The DCUG uses e-mail and an internal wiki to work collaboratively on materials between meetings.
- A public wiki serves the CARLI community interested in or working on digital collections.

Accomplished Tasks

- Co-sponsored "Ensuring Enduring Access: A Forum on Digital Preservation" with the Preservation Working Group, held July 21, 2009 at the I Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign. Presented to more than 65 attendees, the forum served as an introduction to the topic of digital preservation from a variety of perspectives.
- Developed and reviewed "Guidelines for the Creation of Digital Collections" documentation. The Standards Subcommittee revised the "Digitization Best Practices for Audio" document as of November 1, 2009, and reviewed "Digitization Best Practices for Images and Text" as of December 15, 2009.
- Monitored the transition to CONTENTdm version 5.1. The upgrade was completed January 4, 2010. CARLI staff liaisons conducted webinar training sessions on the Project Client-Acquisition Station, and on the CARLI Digital Collections redesign and CONTENTdm Web Administration in December and January.
- Redesigned the interface for CARLI Digital Collections. The Interface Subcommittee worked with a consultant to update the interface to increase functionality and provide a modern look and feel. The new interface went live in January with the successful installation of CONTENTdm 5.1.
- Participated on the Digital Preservation joint subcommittee with the Preservation Working Group in examining the question of CARLI's role in digital preservation. The subcommittee submitted "CARLI and Digital Preservation: A White Paper" to the Products and Services Vetting Committee in March 2010 with the recommendation to create a task force to educate CARLI members on digital preservation and investigate software systems.

- Co-sponsored the “Copyright and Digital/Electronic Opportunities” program with I-Share Users’ Group, held April 28, 2010 at the I Hotel in Champaign. Featured speaker Professor Dwayne K. Buttler of the University of Louisville addressed more than 100 attendees on recent legal developments as well as real-world scenarios in CARLI member libraries.
- Continued to publish “CARLI Digital Collections Featured Image” and “Digitization Quick Tips” features on the CARLI Blog. These features are intended to market and promote increased usage of CARLI Digital Collections, and to provide how-to’s, announcements, and advice for CARLI members interested in digitization and CONTENTdm.

Projects in Progress

- Planning a forum on metadata titled “Metadata Matters,” to be held July 15, 2010 at Kankakee Community College, with members from CARLI libraries presenting.
- Developing a “Digitization Best Practices for Moving Images” document.
- Consulting on the new CARLI Digital Collections publication and customization forms being developed by the CARLI Office, in conjunction with developing a document to define the collection categories for member libraries and end-users.
- Performing literature review on usability testing.

Potential Future Plans

- Conduct usability testing on new CARLI Digital Collections interface.
- Continue to develop and revise documentation and educational materials on digitization workflow and best practices for use by CARLI member libraries.
- Assist CARLI in moving forward with digital preservation task force as needed.
- Sponsor forums or workshops on digital collections and related issues for CARLI member libraries.