

Digital Collections Users' Group
Annual Report: 2012-2013
Submitted: June 4, 2013

Members:

Ellen Corrigan (2011-2014), Eastern Illinois University
Christopher Day (2010-2013), School of the Art Institute of Chicago, **Chair**
Peter Hepburn (2010-2013), University of Illinois Chicago (resigned December 2013)
David Levinson (2011-2014), Lake Forest College
Benn Joseph (2012-2015) Northwestern University
Mary Rose (2012-2015) Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Laurie Sauer (2012-2015), Knox College
Adam Strohm (2012-2013) Newberry Library
Julia Thompson (2011-2014), Western Illinois University

CARLI Staff Liaisons: Jessica Gibson and Amy Maroso

Communication

DCUG met monthly throughout the year via telephone conference call, with one in-person day-long planning session in August 2012 at the CARLI headquarters in Champaign, IL. DCUG uses an internal wiki (http://wiki.carli.illinois.edu/dcug/index.php/Digital_Collection_Users_Group) as collaborative work space and to archive documents. Along with the monthly meetings, the committee broke up into two- to three-person project groups which met individually, via e-mail or conference call, and report back to the wider group with progress on small projects.

Projects in Progress

DCUG continued to work with projects that would both promote the collections of CARLI Digital Collections and provide tools for member institutions to promote collections on their own. Ongoing projects include:

CARLI Digital Collections Featured Image continued from previous years, first posted on the CARLI Blog and then transitioning to the new CARLI website. This year saw an increase in frequency of postings to approximately once a week and a change in format to include a more personal exploration of the images and collections by the posters. A core group of two committee members, joined by guest posters throughout the year, drove the project.

The **DCUG Twitter Account** (@carli_dcug) continued to be active, primarily posting news about DCUG activities and the Featured Image postings.

Four new reports from **Google Analytics** data for CARLI Digital Collections were created this year: one for Quarter 4 of 2011-12 and reports for the first three Quarters 2012-13. Reports, and raw data for the "Keyword Search" report, were posted to the CARLI website [<http://blog.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/contentdm/google-analytics-usage-reports-carli-digital-collections>]. The format of the report was adjusted for the current year, with less of an emphasis on ranking in examining the "Traffic Source" data and more analysis of the types of

sources. The reports included, in addition to Keyword information, examinations of individual CARLI Collections that receive traffic from multiple sources, and sources that drive traffic to multiple CARLI Collections. Instructions for creating the reports were developed and will be posted on the DCUG Wiki so that the project can be continued in the future.

Completed Projects

Work on the new Best Practices document **Digitization Best Practices for 3-D Objects** was completed this fall, with final feedback and approval of the work done the previous year. The final document has been posted to the CARLI website.

DCUG members continued to serve on the **Digital Preservation Joint Subcommittee** (with members from the Preservation Working Group). Work by the Subcommittee focused on setting up the “CARLI Digital Preservation Trainers Program” taught by the Library of Congress’ Digital Preservation Outreach and Education (DPOE) office. The CARLI Program Planning Committee approved a proposal for the workshop, and applications for the trainee 18 slots were solicited in February and March. The program will take place the week of July 8, 2013 in Champaign, IL, and after the 3½ day “Train-the-Trainer” workshop, participants will be expected to conduct two training sessions for CARLI members over the next year.

One new term was added to the list of “Browse by Topic” terms on the CARLI Digital Collections. The term **Women’s Studies** was added in January of 2013.

Potential Future Plans

While the Digital Collections Users Group will transform into Created Content Committee several projects were begun that can be continued in the next year:

Planning began for a potential webinar on promoting digital collections using Web 2.0 image sharing resources such as **Flickr, Tumblr, and Pinterest**. Two committee members have set-up example Tumblr and Pinterest sites for some of their collections and are using them as test cases that can be examined in a webinar. A webinar is a possibility for the fall of 2013, after testing and analytics can be analyzed, but no specific plans have been made to date.

Originally thought of as a companion to the Featured Image postings, work was begun to develop some form of **CARLI Featured Digital Collection**. While initial thoughts were more along the lines of the Featured Image blog-type postings focusing on whole collections rather than individual images, thoughts moved towards the development of a series of webinars. A proposal was made that the webinars focus on different collection platforms, types of items within collections, and issues like project successes and failures, funding, and workflows. The webinars would draw on participants from throughout CARLI, not focusing solely on institutions with collections in CARLI Digital Collections. Planning discussions continue.

The shape and direction of outreach projects such as the **DCUG Twitter account** will need to be examined moving forward.