Transforming the Librarian Paradigm in the context of scholarly communication

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Results of SCI IV

- SAH applied for two grants
  - Feasibility of moving Journal of the SAH to an online publication
  - Planning for the development of the Architectural Visual Resource Network (AVRN)
- AVRN Planning group comprised of
  - Scholars, librarians/VR curators, SAH administration
Planning Team

• 2007 planning team discussions
  – What should AVRN contain
  – What should AVRN provide for scholars in terms of tools
  – Technical infrastructure
  – Metadata
SAH AVRN

- Implementation grant from Mellon
- Collaboration between scholars, librarians and libraries, and ARTstor
- Collective decision making about
  - Content
  - Digitizing standards
  - Metadata schema and standards
  - Tools needed to be successful
  - IP issues
What makes AVRN different?

• Being created by scholars, a learned society, and librarians to advance scholarship
  – Content will be peer reviewed
• ARTstor will be expanded to create tools for ingest of content and access
• Sustainability is a core principle of AVRN
Activities for year 1

• Content
  – identification of content from scholar and academic collections that will form the base
  – Identification of content for year 2
  – peer review process
• Technical development
  – development of ingest, content management and search/display tools
• Metadata schema development
• Business model
More Activities

- Develop outreach and education plan
- Establishing the collaboration and working relationships among partners
- Intellectual property issues
- Explore long-term synergies with the JSAH online and its Buildings of the United States projects
Phase 1 content

• Participating scholars
  – MIT
  – Brown
  – University of Virginia

• Participating libraries and art/vr librarians
  – MIT
  – Brown
  – University of Virginia
Metadata schema

- **Goals**
  - Usable by scholars
  - Usable by librarians
  - Clean data for ease of search and retrievability
- **Schema developed by scholars and VR librarians**
  - Based on VRA Core and CCO
- **Working with ARTstor to create an AVRN XML schema that will map into ARTstor**
Editorial Committee

• All content going into AVRN will be peer reviewed

• Editorial Committee
  – Comprised of scholars, librarians, administration
    • Identifying collections
    • Data capture specifications
    • Cataloging and maintenance tools
Functionality Group

• Comprised of scholars and librarians
  – Working on ingest tools during year 1
  – Will look at other pieces of functionality
    • i.e. search, retrieval, other presentation tools in years 2 and 3
Outreach and Education

- Committee comprised of scholars, librarians, and SAH administration
  - Will focus on training scholars how to use AVRN
  - Training on use of ingest tools
  - Training in intellectual property rights issues
April 1, 2009

• Launch date at SAH conference in Pasadena, CA
  – Will have ca. 10,000 still images and ca. 100 QTVRs available
  – Will have tools for the ingest of images and metadata for scholars
  – Intellectual property agreements outlined
  – Training sessions for SAH conference attendees
Roles of librarians in AVRN

• Specifications
  – Data Capture
  – Cataloging and Metadata Maintenance Tools
• Development of Workflows and Processes
  – Year one and beyond
• SAH AVRN Editorial Committee
  – Librarians will be on the editorial committee
Roles of Librarians

- Facilitate Collaborations with Faculty and the SAH AVRN
  - Training scholars in using AVRN
  - Work with faculty in their institution's collections How to contribute
  - Sorting out IP issues
  - Cataloging
- Cataloging enhancement
- Provenance/ IP issues
  - Advising faculty on IP issues around their own images
Thank you

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All images courtesy of the MIT Rotch Library Visual Collections unless otherwise noted
Where we’re going

• April 1, 2009
  – An online searchable database of visual content, ca.10,000 images
    • Still images
    • QTVR
  – IP agreements
  – Ingest tool
AVRN will change scholarship

- Will redefine the study of architectural history
  - Inclusion of content from all periods, geographic locations, and cultures
  - Variety of content
  - Will become a primary source
  - Comprehensive image and authority file
Content

- Western architecture
- Vernacular architecture
- Adaptive re-use
- Landscape architecture
- Urban planning
- Environments designed by women and minorities
- Non-western design