Charting the Digital Landscape of the Conservation Profession

Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation

AIC May 2014
A  Where are we?
B  Where are we going?
C  How do we get from A to B?
... the outcome should truly support the profession with board access to information – textual, analytical, graphical – about treatments and other topics of use to professionals.

Welcome to the Research Resource

The study of paintings by Raphael has produced an exceptional collection of material over the 500 years since their creation in the sixteenth century, covering their history and provenance as well as the materials and techniques used in their making.


Enter Research Resource

What we have included

A wide range of information has been supplied by various departments and specialists. An example of the diverse types of material provided by the National Gallery can be seen here.

Extending the project

We expect that other institutions will contribute relevant information to the Research Resource in the near future. Furthermore, the project has been designed to allow for the inclusion of other artists.
The Madonna of the Pinks ('La Madonna dei Garofani'), Raphael (1483-1520), NG6596
About 1506-1507, 27.90 x 22.40 cm, Drying Oil on Yew Panel, The National Gallery, London

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AIC May 2014
In 2009, the Design Phase of ConservationSpace was undertaken by the Office of Digital Assets and Infrastructure (ODA) at Yale University with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

In the fall of 2010, the National Gallery of Art, with additional support from Mellon and the commitment of a group of institutional partners, began a one-year project to define the technical requirements and scope of work associated with the development of ConservationSpace.

The goal of ConservationSpace is to develop an open-source software application that will address a core need of the conservation community for a shared solution to the problem of documentation management. The conservation community has long recognized that a digital approach to managing its documentation would improve continuity in procedures, increase access, expand research opportunities, and better ensure the preservation of its documents.

**Design Phase**

**Planning Phase**

**Build Phase  [current phase]**

ConservationSpace Partners Project Site [working Google site with most current documentation]

ConservationSpace Confluence Wiki [software development site hosted by Sirma Group]

For read-only access, log in with:
Username: guest
Password: conservationspace

Note: initially user will get a "no security certificate" alert. Select "Proceed to
Inclusiveness

Research
Welcome to CoOL

Help Plan the Digital Future of Conservation and Preservation

Please help FAIC gather information about the digital landscape of the conservation and preservation professions. By taking a short online survey, you can help us develop a snapshot of how computer programs, databases, and web-based resources are being used today by those who care for cultural collections, and what the digital needs and wishes might be for the future. The survey is at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CLGDDNK

The FAIC online survey is part of a larger planning grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, supplemented with funds from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and the Getty Foundation. The grants will help fund research, surveys, and discussions to determine how digital resources are currently being used, what resources are needed, and how FAIC might best serve the conservation profession moving forward. The study is expected to yield valuable information regarding the future of FAIC’s Conservation OnLine and Conservation DistList resources.

Resources for Conservation Professionals

Conservation OnLine (CoOL) is a freely accessible platform to generate and disseminate vital resources for those working to preserve cultural heritage worldwide. Through the support of the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC), CoOL provides a wealth of information and tools for conservators and related fields.
Better indexing of/search for information
A repository for research findings
A repository for conservation treatment records
Archive of past conservation practices
Clearer identification of trustworthy information

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Resources for Conservation Professionals

Conservation OnLine (CoOL) is a freely accessible platform to generate and disseminate vital resources for those working to preserve cultural heritage worldwide. Through the support of the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) and the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), CoOL provides open access to essential guides, resources, and best practices for preservation professionals. CoOL aims to foster knowledge exchange, support professional development, and enhance the conservation community's collective wisdom. Visit cool.conservation-us.org for more information.
ResearchSpace - a digital Wunderkammer

What is ResearchSpace?

ResearchSpace (RS) is an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funded project aimed at developing an open source platform to support collaborative internet research and information sharing with Web-based applications for the cultural heritage scholarly community. The ResearchSpace environment intends to provide following integrated elements;

- Data and digital analysis tools.
- Collaboration tools.
- Semantic RDF data sources.
- CIDOC CRM (Conceptual Reference Model).
- Data and digital management tools.
- Internet design and authoring tools.
- Web Publication

One of the first datasets to be made available in RS for annotation and other research activity will be the British Museum’s collection data (currently 2 million objects).

The development of the ResearchSpace system (during 2013/14) will have both technical and process synergies with the Mellon’s ConservationSpace projects which aim to produce next generation collection and conservation systems.

Scotland’s National Collections and the Digital Humanities workshop Organised by Lisa Otty, Lecturer in English Literature and Digital Humanities at the Centre for the History of the Book, Literatures, Languages & Cultures department, University of Edinburgh. “Focusing on the …

Posted 6 May 2014 04:40 by Dominic Oldman

CAA 2014 - Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology
Sebastian Rahtz, Director of Academic IT
Welcome to the Shared Digital Future

HathiTrust is a bold idea.

HathiTrust is a digital library comprised of member libraries working to ensure that the cultural heritage is accessible to all. There are more than 90 partners and institutions worldwide.
Do something beneficial for the field, which is not the same as, but should map to ‘do something beneficial for me.’

Talk openly and often about policy issues (habits) around access to documentation and information.

Look out to the larger world of research – historical, technical, scientific.