Imaging America:
From Project to Program

Classroom Use of Digital Images

Luna Imaging Implementation

Yale University Library

April 1, 2000

Luna Project Organization at Yale

- Arts Library & Visual Resources
- Beinecke Rare Book Library
- Yale Museums
- Library Systems Office teams
- Information Technology Services
- Luna Imaging, Inc.
- Future contributing units: *Orbis Pictus*

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Imaging America Project Goals

1. Create an authoritative digital image library for American Studies
2. Build a sustainable federation of participating institutions
3. **Develop classroom use of digital technologies**
    -   **Driven by faculty teaching needs**
    -   **Focus on the user interface**

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Teaching Tools

- Ease of use; Added value
- Sophisticated visual environment
- Classroom presentations (Java client)
- Web access (Insight Browser)
- Image groups for home study
- Image groups for student assignments
- HTML export

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Important Issues to be Resolved

- **Interoperability**
  - Inclusion of private "rogue" collections
  - Image import from Non-Luna resources
  - Accessibility from external systems
- **Relationship to library online catalog**
- **Portability of classroom presentations**
- **Management of image "Groups" created by faculty and students**

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Challenges

- Current preference for static web sites
- Reluctance to contribute private images
- Lack of metadata and source info for private collections
- Limitations of display and projection
- Authentication
- Rights management

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Coming Enhancements

- New Luna database structure (June 2000)
  - Cross-collection searching
  - Complex object relationships
  - Data loads from diverse sources
- Bi-directional web links
- Annotation feature
- Images in series (container / objects)
  - Architecture, sculpture
  - Manuscript collections
  - Page-image navigation

Conclusions

- Demand-driven strategy with classroom orientation *works*

- Collaboration at many levels is crucial

- Evolutionary development leads to best results

- "Immediate strategic action" is essential

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