HANDSOME LAMS?:
COLLABORATIONS AROUND COLLECTIONS
AT YALE UNIVERSITY

Bill Landis, Head of Arrangement and Description
Manuscripts & Archives, Yale University Library
bill.landis@yale.edu

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THE CULTURAL HERITAGE INSTITUTION LANDSCAPE AT YALE UNIVERSITY

- **Museums**
  - Yale University Art Gallery
  - Yale Center for British Art
  - Peabody Museum of Natural History
  - Yale Collection of Musical Instruments

- **Libraries**
  - Yale University Library
    - In 20 different buildings across the campus; central site is Sterling Memorial Library
  - Lillian Goldman Law Library

- **Archives**
  - Mostly located in the library system, by far the largest are
    - Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
    - Manuscripts & Archives, Sterling Memorial Library
http://www.yale.edu/collections_collaborative/

The goal of the Collections Collaborative is to enhance access to and use of the museums, galleries, and library special collections across the university. These collections comprise an extraordinary wealth of resources for teaching, learning, and research.

Discover Primary Sources at Yale

About the Mellon Foundation Collections Collaborative at Yale University

2006 Regrant Projects
2007 Regrant Projects
2007 Spring Symposium
2007 Fall Workshop
2008 NCD Forum
2008 Public Forums

More information
YALE COLLECTIONS
COLLABORATIVE PROJECT EXAMPLES

- Cross-Collection Searching prototyping
  - One-stop search interface across all collections
  - Transformation service for shareable metadata
  - Crosswalks to harmonize different metadata traditions
  - OAI-PMH harvesting for indexing/searching aggregation
  - Handle-based persistent identifier system for Yale

- FACT (Finding Aid Creation Tool)
  - XML-based (X-MetaL customization) tool for collection-level descriptions/inventories
  - WYSIWYG interface for inputting
  - Constrains inputting choices with XML schema [Encoded Archival Description (EAD)]
FACT (Finding Aid Creation Tool)
word processing-like interface for inputting
FACT (Finding Aid Creation Tool)
XML code interface for direct editing
New Haven, Conn. — Yale has established a new Office of Digital Assets and Infrastructure (ODAI), and Meg Bellinger of the Yale University Library has been named as its first director, announced Provost Andrew Hamilton.

The new office will develop strategies and systems for:

- Providing even broader access to Yale's collections, including digital renderings of materials in campus libraries, museums and other special collections;
- Preserving Yale's collections of audio and video recordings of music, plays, exhibits and oral histories, as well as testimonies that are now on deteriorating media; and
- Ensuring faculty and researchers get needed institutional support for the deposit, retrieval and preservation of their publications and research.

“Yale will be making a significant commitment to develop the infrastructure necessary to support the creation and organization of our intellectual assets, which, in turn, will enable robust access to, and dissemination of, those assets, both on and off campus,” said Hamilton. “Development of a virtual content repository is the 21st-century extension of Yale’s investment in, and support of, its great physical collections of books, manuscripts, art, artifacts and audio-visual materials.”

As director of ODAI, Bellinger will guide collaboration among the schools, libraries, museums and other campus units that are developing strategies and systems for digitization and digital asset management. She will also coordinate the development of a University-wide digital information management strategy.

Meg Bellinger

Digital dissemination, noted Hamilton. Bellinger will work closely with an advisory committee that will include the provost; the secretary of the University; the general counsel; the directors of the University’s libraries and museums, and the Yale University Press; the chief information officer; and several senior faculty. Among its
ODAI INITIATIVES

- Extend Collections Collaborative prototypes to production-level services
  - Fully supported cross-collection searching at Yale
  - Web Services infrastructure for Yale handle system
  - Campus-wide Digital Preservation Repository
- Foster new collaborative developments
  - License and implement Digital Asset Management (DAM) system across art galleries and natural history museum at Yale, bringing in the libraries in a later phase
The Yale West Campus has 1.6 million square feet of space spread among 20 buildings. The campus, situated on 136+ acres, straddles the towns of West Haven and Orange. The facility includes over 500,000 square feet of research/lab space and includes office and warehouse space, in addition to a full-service child care center and a central utilities plant.

The West Campus will provide opportunities to enhance the University’s medical and scientific research and other academic programs.

The West Campus video conference system is now available for use, with a recently upgraded system to meet the varied needs of the Yale community. For more information about reserving the room, please click here.

http://www.yale.edu/westcampus/
Yale West Campus building slated for LAM storage, multi-format collection digitization facility and other collaborative usage

http://www.yale.edu/westcampus/map.html
WHAT KEEPS BILL UP AT NIGHT ... SOMETIME

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Q3: As the people creating the stuff we collect increasingly work digitally, what are we doing to capture those source materials? Are we so hung up on *digitizing what we already have* that we’re failing to build an infrastructure to capture things in, say, 2010 that won’t be around in 2040 for us to scoop up using our legacy collecting paradigm?
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Q4: Does the lagging, territory-fraught pace of change in what we collect and how we provide access to our stuff doom us to irrelevance for our primary user communities in the next 10-20 years?