



FAIC E-news, August 2016

Dear Walter,

Welcome to the August 2016 edition of the FAIC E-News! In this edition we are highlighting a few projects related to our digital programs.

Digital Landscape Project

FAIC's *Charting the Digital Landscape of the Conservation Profession* ended in late 2015, and after a period of open commenting, the report, written by Project Director Diane Zorich, was completed. This groundbreaking report summarized the digital information, technologies, and infrastructure that conservation professionals rely on for their work. In addition, it underscored the need to promote digital competency across the profession and identified ways to help determine and meet the technological needs of an evolving field.

Conservators use a variety of digital platforms to share resources, take webinars, and find information or publications on specific topics. FAIC offers many important digital resources to tackle such demands, including the [CoOL](#) online archive, [C2C Care](#) webinars, and [Conservation DistList](#) listserv, to name a few.

Among the Digital Landscape Project recommendations were:

1. *Enhance and Sustain Resources*: Hire a development officer for FAIC who would assist in fundraising and finding support for digital strategies, and identify partners and sponsors to expand the digital capacity across the discipline.
2. *Enhance Leadership on Digital Issues*: Create the role of a Digital Strategies Advocate who will drive coordinated digital strategies across the community, and seek funds to support them.

3. *Training and Professional Development*: Develop a Digital Competency Task Force, comprised of conservation professionals, educators, and archivists, to help identify training needs and competency areas.

FAIC is happy to report that all three of these recommendations have been realized and are moving forward! **In March, FAIC hired Melissa Ezelle as the new full-time Development Associate.** Melissa has already begun raising funds for specific FAIC digital programs, as well as strategizing other areas of support for the future. She has created a comprehensive fundraising plan, FAIC's first!, and is actively working on ideas to support CoOL and other conservation publications and research. In addition, Melissa has created strategies for development of small and individual campaigns to raise funds for FAIC digital initiatives. **In August, Melissa launched a fundraising campaign for the ConsDistList.**

In April, FAIC hired Matt Morgan as the Digital Strategies Advocate. Matt has a long history of mixing digital strategy and the arts, serving as past manager and director for the Metropolitan Museum of Art and New York Public Library websites, respectively, as Manager of Information Systems for the Brooklyn Museum, and Chief Digital Officer for the Tisch School of the Arts. If you have enjoyed viewing The Met's collection online, you can likely thank Matt for jumpstarting that access! Matt has already done incredible work on the ConsDistList in preparation for long-term moderator Walter Henry's retirement. Matt will be working on improving the structure and format of the DistList for the future.



Matt Morgan

In June, Matt convened the Digital Competency Task Force, engaging members of the conservation community and allied professionals to draft a set of digital competencies for the profession. The task force will also work on issues for AIC members to consider when updating the AIC Code of Ethics and Commentaries.

The project report mentions so much more, and is worth a read by everyone in the community. [Learn more about the Digital Landscape project or read the full report now.](#) **It's Not Too Late! Help FAIC Celebrate 29 Memorable Years**

Walter Henry will be retiring later this month as long-term moderator of the popular Conservation DistList. He will continue to manage the CoOL digital archive. FAIC is humbled by the overwhelming response to our recent campaign in support of the DistList, and in honor of Walter's many years of service. To date, more than \$8,900 has been raised.



Walter Henry

Subscribers have been sharing their words of thanks to Walter during the campaign. David Harvey, of City of Angels Conservation, says, "Walter has provided an incredible resource to conservators, archivists, and museum professionals through his steadfast management of CoOL and the ConsDistList."

It's not too late to join others in making a donation! Just \$29 for 29 years of incredible service. Your gift will make a difference.

To make a donation, please [click here](#).

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