Project Update for
SAA 2010 Research Forum, Kari Smith

Embedded Metadata:
For the Long Now
Project Objectives

- Allow curators to more efficiently collect metadata from faculty and student contributors and ingest it into a central database.

- Empower contributors to keep embedded metadata in their image files for the purpose of managing them with common desktop photo applications and sharing with colleagues and students.

- Create data that is both Core 4 and IPTC compatible, i.e., it is interoperable with most photo software and can be easily ingested into a VR focused database.
http://metadatadeluxe.pbworks.com

**Metadata Deluxe**

send your images packing
with embedded metadata

the public forum for the
Visual Resources Association
Embedded Metadata Working Group

[how to participate](http://metadatadeluxe.pbworks.com)

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**News**

VRA EMWG updates as well as new developments, applications, and services in the area of embedded metadata from the broader community. [more](http://metadatadeluxe.pbworks.com)

**Introduction**

Traditionally, data about a digital image is stored separately in a central database which manages and delivers it to users. With the advent of digital images... [more](http://metadatadeluxe.pbworks.com)

**Projects**

Current and future tools, guidelines and standards... [more](http://metadatadeluxe.pbworks.com)

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**Principles**

**Descriptive metadata should be embedded in the image file itself.**

There are distinct advantages for embedding descriptive metadata directly in digital image files. There are also disadvantages which must be accounted for.

**Embedded metadata should be usable at all levels.**

It should take full advantage of XMP’s interoperability and not focus on satisfying just one audience.

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**Intentions**

Reconcile commercial photo and cultural heritage descriptive metadata standards.

Create a crosswalk between CDWA Lite, VRA Core, ARTstor Core, Exif, IPTC IMF, and XMP.

Create open source tools for converting and embedding cultural heritage metadata using XMP.

Create an application that will embed VRA Core 4 metadata.
**Workflow Tool Phase One**

The Workflow Tool is a user input form for describing images of cultural heritage works.

**User input panel** *(work in progress)*

- Workflow Tool Phase One Mockup: Standard View
- Workflow Tool Phase One Mockup: Basic View
- Workflow Tool Phase One Mockup: Minimal View

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- Create a panel that fulfills the Phase One Use Cases.

**File types supported**
- JPEG
- TIFF

**Applications supported**
- Adobe CS4 Photoshop and Bridge
- Standalone Windows and Mac desktop application
- Web form

**Phase One Use Cases:**

1. **Faculty/student submits images to VR collection**
   - Architecture/Site
   - Creative works by themselves (painting, sculpture, etc.)
   - Creative works by others (from a museum they visited)
   - Events (festivals, exhibitions)
   - Dissertation (visual arts, theater)

2. **VR copy stand workflows for backlog processing**
   - Photographer/scanner enters the image caption and source citation, page number, faculty/staff requestor

3. **Faculty/student or VR curator submits images to Flickr, Smugmug, Picasso, etc. to be shared and downloaded**
   - Essential data must display on web services, while more complete data could be retrieved by VR curator
Basic Input Panel using Photoshop

This custom panel allows for data entry within a common image software, in this case PhotoShop. Data fields are specific to VRA Core 4.0 schema but map across major metadata standards so as to import and export correctly in many image viewing platforms.
Custom XMP panel - the top half contains information such as the unique order number, requester, department, genre, the source title and author, the bottom half contains production details such as when the order was photographed and when it was cataloged.
Next Steps

- Continue Workflow Tool development
- Continue collaboration with external organizations
- Document case studies
- Test import / export of MD
Credits

Visual Resources Association, Embedded Metadata Working Group and external colleagues

- Johanna Bauman, ARTstor
- Greg Reser, University of California, San Diego
- Robert Carter, University of Texas, Austin
- Jodie L. W. Double, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Kari Smith, University of Michigan
- Sheryl Frisch, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
- Michael Stelmach, Library of Congress (Consultant)
- Steve Tatum, Virginia Tech

- David Reicks, Controlled Vocabulary
- Susan Jane Williams, Independent Cataloging and Consulting Services
- Carl Rambert, Pound Hill software
- Stefan Makswit, Adobe
- David Kennard, photographer and XMP programmer in the UK.