UNC Chapel Hill’s Experience with Shared Shelf

Heather Gendron
Art Librarian
Sloane Art Library
hgendron@email.unc.edu

JJ Bauer
Curator
Visual Resources Library (Art Department)
jbauer@email.unc.edu
UNC Chapel Hill Context

- 29,278 students
- 3,221 full-time faculty
- 7.2 million volumes and 92,483 serial titles*
- Total library expenditures (including Univ Library, Health, Law) $45,714,243*

*2010/11 library stats
What is Shared Shelf?

It’s a management software that enables institutions to **manage, store, use, and publish** their institutional and faculty media collections within their institution or publicly on the Web.


As part of the ARTstor workspace, Shared Shelf allows for collection-level control and different levels of user access.

ARTstor is designed for teaching and researching with images.
Why UNC Participates

Shared Shelf:

• Puts media collection cataloging tools in the hands of collection managers across campus.
• Allows us to share collections not only across UNC departments – it also allows us to share collections across institutions.
• Shared Shelf Commons gives us a platform to share select collections in an open environment on the Web.
Media Types Supported

- **Image types:** .png, .jpg, .jpeg, .tif, .tiff, .mov(qtvr), .jp2
- **Video types:** .asf, .qt, .mov, .mpg, .avi, .wmv, .mp4, .m4v, .3gp
- **Document types:** .doc, .ppt, .xls, .pdf, .docx, .pptx, .xlsx
- **Audio types:** .mp3
SSN (Shared Shelf Names)—collaboratively created/updated with all other Shared Shelf subscribers across institutions, can create, edit, develop records, ultimately links to ULAN for authority control.

- Direct lookup in AAT and TGN
- Can append other authority controls (LCSH, TGM, local existing) or create new
ARTstor Integration

- Publish from multiple projects to a single ARTstor collection, or from a single project to multiple ARTstor collections
- Replace or suppress images or data in existing records in ARTstor with nearly immediate publication of changes in ARTstor environment
- Can restrict access to files according to which collections in ARTstor are the publishing target (i.e. can control file access on a collection by collection basis)
Preservation

- Bulk uploading from anywhere using a web browser
- Unlimited size still image support
- Some multimedia support
- Storage and daily back up of source images on multiple, geographically dispersed servers
- Automatic monitoring of server availability
- Level 1 preservation included to protect source files (NDSA guidelines), working on providing other levels in future
- Export images, descriptive metadata and technical metadata in standard format for ingestion into other local systems (e.g., institutional repository)
Shared Shelf Commons

- **Shared Shelf Commons** is a free, open-access library of images. Search and browse collections with tools to zoom, print, export, and share images.
- Files appear in similar workspace environment as ARTstor, but without requiring subscription to ARTstor for use.
- Images can be shared with anyone anywhere via generation of an image-specific URL.
- NOT integrated with ARTstor (complicating use in shared folders unless files also published to a hosted collection within ARTstor)
Case Study: Institutional Collections

- Opportunity to create locally shared image collections.
- Academic departments and individual faculty participate.
- With Shared Shelf, cataloging tools are in the hands of collection creators and customized metadata standards are possible.
- Good option for collections that include images without copyright privileges, for teaching and research.
- Potential to make certain collections available via Shared Shelf Commons.
Case Study:
Artists’ Book Collection

Accessible on the Web via Shared Shelf Commons and in ARTstor.

Over 650 artists’ books - collection strengths include:
• work from major artists’ book presses such as Nexus Press, Visual Studies Workshop, and Women’s Studio Workshop, among others
• Latin American artists’ books, especially from Argentina, Cuba, and Mexico
• books featuring fine examples of different printmaking methods
• work by North Carolina artists
Case Study: Ackland Art Museum

- Approximately 16,000 works of art.
- Entire collection is being re-photographed (IMLS grant).
- Ackland ARTstor collection is being planned.
- Ackland staff will use Shared Shelf to catalog their image collection.

Project manager:
Scott Hankins, Associate Registrar
Potential ASERL Partnerships

• Strategic approach to shared image collections across multiple institutions
  – Saves time and money (shared cataloging, shared images)
  – Shared expertise (sharing of unique metadata schema and approaches to non-traditional data/images)

• Platforms to showcase multi-institution digitization projects, in an online environment suitable for teaching, research, and public outreach.

• Other partnerships may involve societies and institutes (e.g., Society of Architectural Historians – SAHARA project)
Questions?


Shared Shelf Commons:  
http://www.sscommons.org/openlibrary/welcome.html

UNC Chapel Hill Sloane Art Library  Artists’ Book Collection in Shared Shelf Commons

About UNC Chapel Hill Libraries: 
http://www.lib.unc.edu/about/