

From the WHO Business Plan

Vision:

- To make WHO a recognized resource, known and used for its quality
- To enable users to search digital content of cultural institutions across the state
- To build a portal to access content regardless of content management system

WHO Planning Committee Update

A revised draft Business Plan for WHO has been issued March 24, 2006. There's a copy at the [WHO Project Resource site](#).

The minutes for the March 23rd meeting of the WHO Planning Committee are also at www.wils.wisc.edu/widigital. This was a very exciting, energetic and satisfying meeting. I believe reading the minutes will not do it justice, but please do read them.

Wisconsin Heritage Online Demonstration Website

The Wisconsin Heritage Online demonstration website will make its debut on July 1, 2006! The initial harvested sites will be Wisconsin Historical Society's Turning Points collection, UW-Milwaukee's Milwaukee Neighborhoods and the Milwaukee Repertory Theater Photographic History. These collections are in CONTENTdm, a digital content management system. UW-Madison's State of Wisconsin collection, a Site-Search collection, will be the third harvested site. The fourth site will be a museum.

The demonstration site will illustrate proof-of-concept of our statewide digital heritage vision. The University of Wisconsin-Madison is providing technical support by building an OAI harvester, aggregating the metadata (not the content, which remains at the contributing institution's site) and normalizing the data so that search retrieval will work correctly. The UW will also host the search interface web page.

WHO Working Group Updates

Preservation, Joshua Ranger, Chair

Josh noted at the recent Planning Committee meeting that the group will need to revise the Preservation Recommendations issued in draft in August 2005 to reflect the change of the CONTENTdm host from UW-Madison to Wisconsin Historical Society. Their document is complete.

Scanning/Reformatting, Krystyna Matusiak, Chair

This group began meeting in February. Discussion is going well and the group has begun writing. Their recommendation for scanning will be at a fairly high level. Digital preservation and storage have been a constant presence during the meetings. Everyone agrees that high resolution files will be necessary and that storage of files will be of ongoing concern. Their work intersected with the work of the Collection Development and Metadata groups recently.

Collection Development, Jonathan Cooper, Chair

This group has also been meeting since February. They are just beginning to make decisions after looking at a number of collection development and selection policies. They plan to issue two documents, a Collection Development Policy and a shorter Selection Guidelines document. They follow closely the discussions of our Scanning and Metadata working groups since many of the resource documents from other states have policies and guidelines that advise adherence to scanning and metadata criteria.



The logo for Wisconsin Heritage Online features the word "Wisconsin" in a large, blue, serif font. Below it is a stylized, blue, wavy line representing a landscape or a river. Underneath the line is the phrase "Heritage Online" in a smaller, blue, serif font.

WHO Working Group Updates cont'd.

Metadata, Steve Miller, Debbie Cardinal, Co-Chairs
This group has been meeting the longest and is still working hard. The group has three documents nearly in final form; they are all intended to be easy-to-use tools for WHO contributors. They're not final yet because we're not sure about ease of use and are still tweaking. The group is also writing a complete Metadata Guidelines document intended to be similar to the CDP Dublin Core Metadata Best Practices available at www.cdpheritage.org/digital/index.cfm. The group members have divided into smaller groups to write sections; Debbie is formatting and pre-editing. Steve Miller will be the primary editor.

Education/Training/Outreach, Janice Dibble, Chair
This group has been concentrating on developing contacts with non-library cultural heritage institutions such as historical societies and museums. They have developed a [Digital Profile Survey](#) which is available at the WHO Project Resource site. They also make and take opportunities to visit cultural heritage institutions.

Technical, Linda Gruber, Chair
While the Technical WG is not actively meeting, there is a LOT of activity from the technical group members. UW-Madison has built the OAI harvester,

which will collect metadata from OAI compliant sites. They are also providing the Phase I search interface. Wisconsin Historical Society is preparing to provide CONTENTdm hosting services to cultural heritage institutions that do not, or cannot host their own server. Members of the group continue to explore and track developments that may ease Phase II complexities.

Future Directions, Paula Kiely, Chair
This group has recently taken on the responsibility of preparing marketing materials to generate interest and support among contributors to WHO. [The Marketing Plan](#) is posted on the WHO Project Resource site. They prepared, too, a document called *Why WHO?* which is an FAQ for potential WHO contributors. They are also working on the content of the WHO Demonstration website: "about" files for WHO and for the four first contributors; and lists of sites that will be harvested later.

Accessibility, Peter Gilbert, Chair
This group will do most of their work once the web site for WHO users is available.

Wisconsin Heritage Online Bimonthly Newsletter
Debbie Cardinal: principal writer and editor