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MOVING TOWARDS DIGITAL

SoA Visual Services—the Art Slide Library and Art Media Center—is a partner in a University-wide collaboration that includes the UW Libraries, faculty and librarians at the Tacoma campus, and visual resources collections at the Bothell campus and the College of Architecture and Urban Planning. This collaboration is working towards the development of centralized digital image collections to be housed at the UW Libraries. To start this work, the group has received a \$99,000 **UW Fund for Innovation and Redesign grant**, which will pay for developing the central storage, purchasing digital images, and some infrastructure improvements.

SoA Visual Services is paralleling these developments with extensive in-house work to expand our ability to create and manage the digital images that students need for course review and faculty need for teaching. We will begin to build our digital image database during Autumn Quarter 2004 using the **Madison Digital Image Database (MDID)** software. MDID should be easily searchable, and it will provide tools for lecture preparation and presentation. As this is developed, we will continue to work with the UW Libraries electronic reserve (Eres) software to provide online images for student review in many courses. We hope to keep faculty and students apprised of digital image developments through our web pages.

Art Slide Library: <http://art.washington.edu/slidelibrary/HomePage.html>

Art Media Center: <http://art.washington.edu/mediacenter/MHome.html>

This transition will take several years at a minimum, and it will be costly because we have to continue developing and maintaining the slide collection while we build the digital collection so that we can provide full curriculum support. Current funding barely covers the slide collection costs, and high-quality digital images and their databases are at least as labor-intensive as slides in the long run. If you would like to help us succeed in this transition, **please donate to the Art Slide Library fund** (see the envelope insert in this newsletter).