Resources on the Net:
Visual Aspects of Education Libraries

Compiled by Anne Wade, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec

Pettersson, R. (n.d.). *Information Design.* Retrieved on December 6, 2004, from: http://www.idp.mdh.se/forskning/amnen/informationsdesign/publikationer/pdf/ID-Opuscula.pdf

In this lengthy paper (62 pages), Pettersson reviews different literacies (computer, information, media, television, and visual) and their impact on information design with a look at learning theories. The author concludes by stating "Information design is a multi-disciplinary, multi-dimensional and worldwide consideration with influences from areas such as language, art and aesthetics, information, communication, behaviour and cognition, business and law, as well as media production technologies."

Sankey, M. (2001). *Are Images Being Widely Utilised as Learning Tools in Instructional Materials Produced By USQ? If not why not and what would be the benefits.* Retrieved on December 6, 2004, from: http://www.usq.edu.au/users/sankey/Resources/Ind_%20report01.pdf

Sankey provides an extensive review the literature in the area of visual literacy and the use of images to enhance student learning and investigates the area of communication theory, cultural issues, student cognition, information retention and the need for an awareness of visual literacy. A summary of the results of a visual survey of teaching materials produced by the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) is provided along with recommendations for those who are responsible for the writing, design and production of these materials.

Stokes, S. (2002). **Visual Literacy in Teaching and Learning: A Literature Perspective.** *Electronic Journal for the Integration of Technology in Education, 1*(1) Retrieved on December 6, 2004, from http://www.schoolnetafrica.net/fileadmin/resources/visual_literacy_in_t__l.pdf

Stokes provides an introduction to visual literacy and includes a review of studies that investigate the effects of instruction that incorporates varying degrees of visual components including no visual support, still visual aids, and animated visual sequences. The purpose of this literature review is to stimulate interest in using visual enhancements in teaching and to promote the development of learners' visual skills in combination with their development of verbal, reading, and mathematical skills."

Access to Visual Resources

Art Libraries Society of North America. (1996, April 22). *Staffing Standards for Art Libraries and Visual Resources Collections.* Retrieved from the ARLISNA web site on December 6' 2004, from: http://www.arlisna.org/staffing

Provides standards for staffing in art libraries and visual resources. Includes sections on Professionals, Paraprofessionals, Technical and Support Staff and a section on staffing by type of collection. Appendices include Self Assessment Criteria, Responsibilities by type of position and an extensive bibliography.

Besser, H., & Yamashita, R. (1998, July). *The Cost of Digital Image Distribution: The Social and Economic Implications of the Production, Distribution and Usage of Image Data.* Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Imaging/ Databases/ 1998mellon

The result of a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this project examined the costs of digital image distribution for educational purposes by looking at an experimental project: the Museum Educa-

tional Site Licensing Project. This comprehensive report summarizes "the issues likely to affect the economic viability of one specific type of digital library: a collection of photograph-like digital images of cultural heritage objects and accompanying descriptive metadata, as distributed to university communities."

Chrisfield, T., & Cosgrove, R. (n.d.). ***Building Digital Audio Visual Collections for Research &Teaching: A Collaborative Approach.*** Retrieved on December 6, 2004, from http://www.vala. org.au/vala2000/2000pdf/ Chr_Cos.pdf

This paper discusses a collaborative project, completed in 1997, between the La Trobe University Library and the university's Department of Archaeology. A working model for building multimedia web resources for research and learning is presented. Advantages of digital delivery from library systems, along with educational outcomes are addressed. Although the technology has advanced in the last seven years, lessons learned are still relevant.

Goodrum, A. (n.d.). ***Image Intermediation: Visual Resource Reference Services for Digital Libraries.*** Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from: http://quartz.syr.edu/dii/Image%20Intermediation.pdf

Goodrum presents a description of the challenges in providing digital image intermediation and presents a research framework for addressing these challenges in digital libraries.

Signage and Web Sites

Association of Research Libraries. (1995, May). ***Spec Kit 208: Effective Library Signage.*** Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from: http://www.arl.org/spec/208fly.html

The ARL provides the results of a survey of 81 member libraries who reported on effective library signage. Issues related to design, construction, location, installation, vandalism, and the use of temporary signs are addressed. Includes a link to a sample Library Signage Manual.

Bundy, A. (2004, February 5-6). ***Places of Connection: New Public and Academic Library Buildings in Australia and New Zealand.*** Paper presented at the Library Buildings Conference (Bournemouth, UK). Retrieved on December 6, 2004, from: http://www.library.unisa.edu.au/ about/papers/Places-of-con nection.pdf

Bundy's paper discusses how "the emphasis in the burgeoning and sometimes outstanding new library buildings and major rebuilds in Australia and New Zealand is on building social and educational capital. This is being achieved through attention to distinctive spaces for user groups, retailing approaches to ambience, interior design, furniture, lighting, signage, pervasive ICT and eating and drinking facilities. There is an increasing number of new joint use libraries between public and educational libraries, which have special design needs. The user response to, and professional satisfaction with, many of the new buildings reflects the growth in consultation with stakeholders. It also reflects architects and consultants with library experience who are responsive to the aspirations of librarians for attractive, flexible and efficient library buildings."

Cooke, H., Hornsby, E., & Todd, H. (n.d.). ***The Cybrary – Seamless For The Customer, Fine Needlework for the Staff.*** Retrieved on December 7, 2004, from: http://blindio.library.uq.edu.au/ papers/ht2001 seamless. pdf

Cooke, Hornsby & Todd examine how high quality customer focused innovative information resources, services and programs are integrated with, and central to, teaching, learning and research activities at the University of Queensland Cybrary. "The Cybrary website - www.cybrary.uq.edu.au - enables customers to access information more or less seamlessly anywhere anytime. This paper will go behind the seams to discuss some of the technologies that underpin service delivery and some of the implications for the Cybrary's human, physical and financial resources." Includes the use of physical space and signage.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. National Cancer Institute (NCI). Communication Tech-

nologies Branch (CTB). ***Research-Based Web Design and Usability Guidelines***. Retrieved on December 7, 2004, from: http://usability.gov/pdfs/guidelines.html#1

The Communication Technologies Branch of the National Cancer Institute has developed guidelines "to assist those involved in the creation of websites base their decisions on the current and best available evidence. The *guidelines* are particularly relevant to the design of information-oriented sites...The primary audiences for the guidelines are website designers, managers, and others involved in the creation or maintenance of websites. A secondary audience is researchers who investigate Web design issues." Includes chapters on Design Process and Evaluation, Optimizing the User Experience, Accessibility, Page Layout, Navigation, Text Appearance, Graphics, Images, & Multimedia, Writing Web Content, Content Organization and Searching.

Links to Sites

Arlis.net. (n.d.). ***Directory of Art, Architecture, and Design Resources***. Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from: http://www.arlis.net/directory.php

Based on responses to a questionnaire sent out to 450 organizations, this directory "lists more than 250 organisations that have books, magazines, archives and other material on art, architecture or design. The database includes names, addresses, opening hours, web site addresses and details about access."

Arizona State University. (n.d.). ***Joel and Irene Benedict Visual Literacy Collection***. Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from: http://www.asu.edu/lib/archives/vislitlinks.htm

Provides a list of links related to visual literacies.

Computers and History of Art Group, UK. (2004, November). ***World Wide Web Virtual Library of Art History***. Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from http://www.chart.ac.uk/vlib/index.html

This site is aimed at everybody interested in art, with a special focus on the academic study of Art History.

International Federation of Library Associations. (n.d.). ***International Directory of Art Libraries***. Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from http://artlibrary.vassar.edu/ifla-idal/

This Directory provides "access nearly 3,000 libraries and library departments with specialized holdings in art, architecture, and archaeology throughout the world. Data recorded for each institution includes address, telephone and tele-facsimile numbers, hours of operation, annual closings, and listings of professional personnel. It also includes electronic mail addresses of individual librarians and direct web links to institutional home pages."

University of California at Berkeley. Architecture Visual Resources Library. (2004, January 9). ***SPIRO: Architecture Visual Resources Library***. Retrieved on December 5, 2004, from: http://www.mip. berkeley.edu/spiro/about.html

SPIRO is the visual online public access catalog to the 35mm slide collection of the Architecture Visual Resources Library (AVRL) at the University of California at Berkeley. "SPIRO was named in honor of the late architectural historian Professor Emeritus Spiro Kostof, and stands for "Slide and Photograph Image Retrieval Online. SPIRO is freely available on the World Wide Web."

Compiler's Note: Text that is enclosed within quotations marks has been taken directly from the document.
Anne Wade is Manager and Information Specialist at the Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance and has taught in the Information Studies Program at Concordia University for ten years. Email: wada@education.concordia.ca