With this issue of our semi-annual newsletter, I’d like to focus on our collections and their recent growth. The fall 2009 College of Fine Arts newsletter highlighted a recent donation, which along with purchase and digital copy acquisition, describe our three primary means of collection development.

Peter de Lory and his wife, Kay Kirkpatrick, donated Peter’s teaching collection of over 9,000 slides related to the practice and history of photography. These items will supplement and enhance the Bunting Library’s already strong collection. The slides are available, now, for review. Further, after processing via our established cataloging routines, unique items will be made available for use in digital formats. The BVRL is greatly appreciative of donated materials, particularly where the material coordinates with the teaching emphases of fine arts and architecture programs.

The Bunting Library also purchases and licenses digital image files and cataloging data from image vendors to support both established programs and those in development. One vendor, Scholars Resource, acts as an on-line clearing house for other merchants who have reduced their direct contact with purchasers. For example, images from the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston can be purchased through this federated site. Currently, 5,573 digital files, associated with images already licensed with Scholars Resource for use at UNM, are available for download to the UNM community. Another BVRL-vendor license makes available beautiful quality original photography of architecture, gardens and public art from Archivision, through the ARTstor interface.

Finally, over half of our new digital image acquisitions each year come from in-house production. The decision of which material to process is informed by faculty and user requests, as well as staff directed projects to highlight unique or original material in existing Bunting Library collections. Recent acquisitions include contemporary Caribbean and Latin American arts, as well as scanning slides of architecture in New Mexico and across the globe photographed by Dr. Bunting.

ARTstor, the Internet browser based image access portal jointly licensed to UNM by the University Libraries and BVRL, is our primary digital image delivery mechanism. However, it is possible to request groups of projection quality jpeg files from our cataloging database; and BVRL is also testing limited public access to this database through an Internet Explorer password protected site. Lastly, for pre-approved requests, digital images can be delivered via email or flash-drive directly to instructors.

Bunting staff would be pleased to talk further with users of digital images about any of these collection development methods, image access and use, or acquisition suggestions. Please stop by, call or email. We are looking forward to discussions with you!

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