



**Session: Charting the Digital Landscape of the Conservation Profession
Saturday, May 31, 2014, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.**

What digital tools and resources do conservators use and create? Who are the audiences for conservation content, and how can this content be delivered to these groups by digital means? What kinds of digital tools, resources and platforms will be needed as the profession continues to grow?

These questions form the core of “*Charting the Digital Landscape of the Conservation Profession*,” a project of the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC). With funding from the Mellon, Kress and Getty Foundations, FAIC is investigating the digital landscape of the profession to better understand its breadth and complexity, and to identify areas critical to the community both now and into the future.

This session is the first in a series of planned forums designed to map the digital landscape of the profession.

Speakers

Eric Pourchot (FAIC Institutional Advancement Director) will discuss the project and initial findings from a survey of conservators about their use of digital resources.

Ken Hamma (Consultant and representative of the Mellon Foundation) will discuss the Foundation’s efforts in the areas of conservation and digitization, the goals and directions of these efforts, and their relationship to the bigger picture of the digital humanities.

Nancie Ravenel (Conservator at the Shelburne Museum) will provide an overview of key resources she uses as a conservator and will talk about how her inability to easily access some resources (e.g., ARTstor; ILL) changes how she locates and navigates information.

David Bloom (Coordinator of VertNet, an NSF-funded collaborative project that makes biodiversity data freely available online) will speak about the importance and opportunities offered by data sharing and online collaboration. He will address issues such as how to engage people to work together as a community when working on digital projects, interdisciplinary collaborations, and sustaining community efforts for these projects.

Share Your Thoughts!

There will be an extensive period for Q&A and discussion after these presentations. Please take part and tell us how you use digital resources to do your work, what issues you face, and what you think the community needs in the area of digital resources. If you cannot take part in the discussion at the session, let us know your thoughts by contacting FAIC at: foundation@conservation-us.org and be sure to complete a survey about the topic at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GGV7G5V>