

ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH LIBRARIES
146TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THE TRANSFORMATIVE NATURE OF LARGE-SCALE DIGITIZATION PROJECTS: A CONVERSATION

Carole Moore, University of Toronto Libraries
John Price Wilkin, University of Michigan Library
Clifford Lynch, Coalition for Networked Information
Ann Wolpert, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries, *Moderator*

Thursday, May 26, 2005
Grand Ballroom
9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

In the foreseeable future, large-scale digitization projects will achieve a critical mass of content that could enable libraries to pursue their missions in new ways. Each panelist has been invited to speculate about how libraries might anticipate and prepare to implement one or two new strategies in an environment transformed by the availability of masses of quality digital content. Issues that might be raised by panelists or the audience during this conversation include:

- Implications for teaching & learning (e.g., meeting Net Generation expectations, delivering content and reference services to students, changing the dialog with faculty).
- Implications for research (e.g., generating multi-institutional support for large digital repositories, investments in long-term enduring access).
- Print collections: what are their future roles? access to the full text when digitized text is restricted? suppliers for ILL requests? print archives as a fail-safe? How many do we need?
- Implications for the use of physical space in library, different space needs.
- Digitization is usually applied to collections retrospectively; are there *prospective* strategies for current publications?
- Implications for institutional repositories? Can we focus library business differently within our institutions?
- Research libraries are facing shared impact; what are some shared solutions? What are the tools and infrastructure needed to move in new ways?
- Communicating the message of these implications to faculty and institutional leaders.