

**2008 - VRA Conference - San Diego**  
**California State University Visual Resources Specialists**  
**2008 Survey of Current Practices for California State University Visual Resources**  
**Specialists**  
**Survey result and discussion**  
**By**  
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**(Transcript of Power Point Presentation given at the conference)**

**Environmental Scan**

23 California State University campuses

15 Visual Resources Specialists

(CSU VRSs)

2 campuses have 2 VRS each (Art department, Architecture)

2 are classified under IT (more compensation)

**Conclusion (digital)**

**(In % refers to respondents)**

- More than 50% (5) continue to produce slides, time spent from 1 - 5%
- Digital production is at a 100% (9); time spent is from 10 to 75%
- More than 50% (5) catalog digital images, time spent 2 - 70%
- Only one campus has a wide image delivery system

**Conclusion (digital)**

**Digital work include:**

- Image capture - 6
- Photoshop - 5
- Image storage - 4 (external HD)
- Image delivery - 6 (mostly ppp)

**Conclusion (Duties)**

**Duties include:**

- Cataloging digital images - 6
- Internet image harvesting - 5 (2 no)
- Study guides - 5 (2 no)

**Conclusion (ARTstor)**

- ART subscription - 6 campuses
- Uploading images - 3 (5 no) up 250 images a year
- ARTstor managing images for individual campuses - NONE
- ARTstor managed by main library - only 2

**Conclusion (instructional support)**

- Research for images - 6 yes, 1 no
- Power Point - 3 yes, 2 no
- Online support (BB etc.) - 1 yes, 3 no

- Creating Web course review - 5 yes
- VR related accreditation review - 3 yes

### **Conclusion (other duties)**

- Supervise staff - 6
- Manage other collection - 5
- Teach - 1
- Manage computer lab - 2
- Other - 2 (??)

### **Conclusion (Users)**

- Department faculty – 9
- Students (Majors) – 9
- Non-department faculty – 6
- Non-department students – 5
- K-12 teachers or students – 2
- Art community – 2

### **Conclusion (Networking)**

- Professional affiliation - 6
- Meeting with colleagues - 5
- Local art communities - 2
- Publication - 3
- Exhibition - 2
- Other – 2 (??)

### **Conclusion (Advocacy)**

- Marketing VR collection - 6 yes, 2 no
- Networking w/campus community - 6
- Newsletter - 2
- Email - 4
- Website - 2
- Attend meeting (department/campus) - 1
- Other - (orientation) 1

### **Conclusion (Overall)**

- Digital work increases, analog work continues with less time devoted to it
- No campus or system wide image delivery technology exists
- ARTstor is not used fully (faculty resistance, ARTstor inadequacy)
- VRS do not do enough to promote VR collection and services

### **Conclusion (How to promote)**

- Self - evaluation
- Advertise via website, newsletter, main library web link, blog, wiki
- Increase networking with key administrators
- ARTstor training to faculty and students

- Work with main library
- Increase funding by grant writing
- Collaborate with solo VR professionals

**Conclusion (How to promote)**

- Offer media literacy instructions to students and faculty
- Incorporate Google and other Web search engine in training
- Use professional tools for PR (Strategic plan, five year plan)
- Adjust to user's needs, embrace your resources (ARTstor, Google, main library), reach out to the community
- COMMUNICATE, COLLABORATE

**2008 Survey of Current Practices for California State University Visual Resources Specialists (CSU VRSs) Results - Summary**

1.

**Do you continue to acquire 35 MM slides?**

Yes – 5

No – 3

In house slides – 3

Repair – 1

Faculty donation – 1 (I am sure there are more but did not mention)

Percentage of time – 1 to 5%

2.

**Do you acquire digital images?**

Yes – 9

No – 0

In house – 9

Purchase – 4

Percentage of time – 1 to 75%

3.

**Software used for image production**

Time spent for:

Images capture - 6 yes – 4 to 60%

Photoshop - 5 yes– 13 to 50%

Image storage - 4 yes– 10 – 30% (MAC, Embark, Excel)

Image delivery - 6 yes, 1 no – 5 – 75%, (most use ppp, portfolio, blackboard)

4.

**Do you catalog digital images?**

Yes – 5

Percentage of time – 2 to 70%

5.

**Do you look for images on the Internet?**

Yes – 5

No - 2

Percentage of time – 1 to 10%

6.

**Do you create study guides?**

Yes – 5

No - 2

Percentage of time – 1 to 10%

7.

**Technical support**

Yes – 5

No - 2

Mostly department and college IT, some university wide IT

Whenever needed

8.

**Does your campus have a campus-wide image delivery system in place?**

Yes – 1 (Extensis Portfolio - Chico)

No – 7 (2 Embark department level)

9.

**Did you participated in any discussion or projects with staff or administration from other departments such as the library, the IT staff, or other academic department to implement a campus-wide image delivery capability?**

Yes – 1 (discussion only)

No – 5 (though a discussion in one campus resulted in ARTstor subscription by the library)

10a.

**Does your campus subscribe to ARTstor?**

Yes – 6, used occasionally, mostly by 1 or 2 faculty members, in one campus will use more now because large images available on ARTstor

No - 2

10b.

**Do you upload additional images for faculty on ARTstor? How many a year?**

Yes – 3 (40%? 250, 70)

No – 5

10c.

**Does your campus participate in ARTstor's pilot project to manage images for individual campuses?**

Yes – N.A.

No - 2

10d.

**Does the library administer ARTstor?**

Yes – 2

No - 1

11.

**Do you assist faculty with**

**Researching images for lectures, research projects, professional presentation, etc.?**

Yes – 6

No - 1

Percentage of time – 5 to 30%

11a.

**Do you assist faculty with**

**Power Point lectures?**

Yes – 6

No - 1

Percentage of time – 5 to 30%

11b.

**Do you assist faculty with**

**Using course delivery like Blackboard, Web CT, etc.?**

Yes – 1

No - 3

Percentage of time – 30%

11c.

**Do you assist faculty with**

**Creating web based course review?**

Yes – 5

No – N.A.

Percentage of time – 5 to 40%

11d.

**Do you assist faculty with**

**Program or accreditation reviews VR related?**

Yes – 3

No - 2

Percentage of time – 1 to 5%

12.

**Who are your users?**

Department faculty – 9  
Students (Majors) – 9  
Non-department faculty – 6  
Non-department students – 5  
K-12 teachers or students – 2  
Art community – 2  
Other – 1

13.

**Services you provide your users?**

Scanning, image preparation & delivery – 9  
Content reference – 8  
Technical reference – 9  
One-on-one training for accessing or producing images – 7  
Create instructional materials for self-service help – 6  
Evaluate and make recommendations for purchase of resources based on the users' need and your university program – 5

13a.

**Services you provide your users?**

Digital images – 6  
Library database subscription – 3  
Books and periodicals for the main library – 3  
Software – includes image production and presentation – 5  
Equipment hardware and software – 5

14.

**Do you supervise staff?**

Yes – 6  
No - 2  
1 to 4 students, from 10 to 40 hours a week

15.

**Do you participate in grant writing, as an investigator or support staff, or in drafting proposals?**

Yes – 2 (1 ten years ago, 1 not VR related)  
No - 5

16.

**Are there other duties outside the VR position description that you have to perform?**

Yes – 5

- Manage other collection – 5
- Teach – 1
- Manage or support a computer lab – 2
- Other – 2

17.

**Are you active professionally?**

Yes – 6

No – 2

- Member of professional association – 6
- Attend meeting with colleagues – 5
- Local art communities – 2
- Publications – 3
- Exhibitions – 2
- Other – 2

18.

**Do you actively market your facility or position?**

Yes – 6

No - 1

- Face to face visits with faculty, administrators, other university employees, students, etc. – 6
- Newsletter – 2
- Emails – 4
- Website – 2
- Attend meetings (faculty, univ. committees, statewide or system wide) – 1
- Other – 1 (orientation to introductory courses)

19.

**What is your annual budget?**

- \$1000 - \$2000 – 2
- \$3000 - \$4000 – 1
- \$7000 - \$9000 – 3
- Over \$9000 – 1