PROPOSAL FOR THE IFLA RBSCS MID-YEAR CONFERENCE IN LISBON

Roundtable discussion: How Can We Achieve GLAM? Understanding and Overcoming the Challenges to Integrating Metadata Across Museums, Archives, and Libraries. David Farneth, Moderator.

For years, researchers, teachers, and the general public have called for integrated access to collections and collection information across the library, archives, and museum sectors. The most tangible results thus far have been large-scale aggregations like Europeana, as well as institution-specific projects to implement federating searching across various in-house collections.

In August 2015, a panel of eight colleagues representing museums, libraries, and archives gathered at the International Council of Museums CIDOC conference to discuss ways to overcome the challenges to integrating metadata across these three sectors. The goal of this roundtable discussion is to share the conclusions of the CIDOC group with the IFLA RBSCS Midyear conference participants and to extend the discussion with the assembled experts in rare books and special collections. A summary of the roundtable discussion can then be published on the section’s blog. This kind of cross-sector, international-level discussion and dissemination of opinions is necessary to make progress on a thorny issue that is steeped in technological, organizational, and cultural challenges.

Attached you will find the report from the CIDOC meeting, which will be synthesized down to bullet points for the purpose of the discussion. I envision a 45-minute session: 15 minutes to communicate the recommendations of the CIDOC group, and 30 minutes for conference participants to comment on those recommendations and to propose additional ones. The discussion will be recorded and a summary prepared for further distribution.

Submitted by David Farneth, Assistant Director, Getty Research Institute