

4-2013

From Domestic Art to Graphic Design: Reflecting academic restructuring in institutional repositories

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Recommended Citation

Inefuku, Harrison W., "From Domestic Art to Graphic Design: Reflecting academic restructuring in institutional repositories" (2013). *Digital Scholarship and Initiatives Conference Presentations and Posters*. 1. http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/digirep_conf/1

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From Domestic Art to Graphic Design: Reflecting academic restructuring in institutional repositories

Abstract

As programs and departments merge, faculty retire and institutional priorities shift, academic restructuring can have significant implications for institutional repositories. If repositories are arranged into communities, the reorganization of campus units can quickly make repository organization out of date. This poster communicates how the use of archival description can allow repositories to accurately link scholarship to the campus units that participated in its creation, while maintaining disciplinary continuity through academic restructuring.

Keywords

academic restructuring, institutional repositories, archival description

Disciplines

Archival Science | Library and Information Science

From Domestic Art to Graphic Design

Reflecting academic restructuring in institutional repositories

Institutional repositories

- Provide open access to scholarship created by faculty, students and staff
- Often organized into “communities” that parallel existing campus units

Academic restructuring

- Includes the creation, closure, merger, division or renaming of campus units or programs

The question

How can institutional repositories that are organized into communities reflect academic restructuring?

Archival description

It is important:

- that repository organization accurately reflects the context of a work’s creation; and
- disciplinary continuity is maintained despite academic restructuring.

Archival description describes:

- aggregations of records;
- the functions that generated those records; and
- the creator(s) of those records.

If repository managers think of campus units as records creators and academic disciplines as functions, then archival description can be a useful tool in describing repository communities.

Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

Department Chair: Steven K. Mickelson

Since 1905, the Department of Agricultural Engineering, now the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (ABE), has been a leader in providing engineering solutions to agricultural problems in the United States and the world. The department’s original mission was to mechanize agriculture. That mission has evolved to encompass a global view of the entire food production system—the wise management of natural resources in the production, processing, storage, handling, and use of food fiber and other biological products.

History

In 1905 Agricultural Engineering was recognized as a subdivision of the Department of Agronomy, and in 1907 it was recognized as a unique department. It was renamed the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering in 1990. The department merged with the Department of Industrial Education and Technology in 2004.

Dates of Existence

1905–present

Historical Names

- Department of Agricultural Engineering (1905–1990)

Related Units

- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (*parent college*)
- College of Engineering (*parent college*)
- Department of Industrial Education and Technology (*merged, 2004*)

Related Resources

- Agricultural and Engineering Biosystems Engineering Digital Collection
Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering photographs and scrapbooks from Iowa State University Department of Special Collections and University Archives.

ISAAR (CPF)

International Standard Archival Authority Record for Corporations, Persons and Families
<http://www.ica.org/download.php?id=1648>

- Describes entities responsible for creating records; and
- Documents relationships between different records creators.

Conclusion

Creating community descriptions derived from ISAAR (CPF) allows repository managers to create community descriptions that accurately describe the academic and administrative contexts of university scholarship, while linking to the predecessors and successors of campus units, thus maintaining disciplinary continuity.

5.1.2 Authorized form(s) of name

To create an authorized access point that uniquely identifies a corporate body, person or family

Used to indicate the current, formal name of the campus unit.

5.2.5 Functions, occupations and activities

To indicate the functions, occupations and activities performed by the corporate body, person or family

A description of the academic discipline(s) covered by the campus unit, and research and teaching activities.

5.2.2 History

To provide a concise history of the corporate body, person or family

A history of the campus unit focusing specifically on academic restructuring, including the creation of the department and any mergers, divisions and renamings.

5.2.1 Dates of existence

To indicate the dates of existence of the corporate body, person or family

5.1.5 Other forms of name

To indicate any other name(s) for the corporate body, person or family not used elsewhere in the Identity Area

An indication of historical names used by the department and the dates those names were in use.

5.3.1 Names/Identifiers of related corporate bodies, persons or families

5.3.3 Description of relationship

5.3.4 Dates of the relationship

Describe relationships with other corporate bodies, persons and families as may be described in other authority records

List and link to related campus units, including predecessors and successors, and parent and child units.

6.1 Identifiers and titles of related resources

6.3 Nature of relationships

[L]ink the authority records to descriptions of records. Archival authority records can also be linked to other relevant information resources

List and link to related digital resources maintained by the library.