Digitizing and providing access to Minnesota's Cultural Heritage.
the need

growing persistent demand for digitized content

promote access and assist in preservation
the vision

share experiences, resources, and “best practices”

build upon existing technical and library/museum infrastructures
collaboration partners

- libraries
- historical societies
- state agencies
- museums
- educators
- users

MINERVA 2001
the vision

single point of user access to dispersed digital collections

expand digitization/preservation efforts

mediation, description, interpretation
the vision

minnesota digital library

digitize
describe
manage
interpret
discover
retrieve
collaboration

to act treasonably with a current or potential opponent

to engage in unnatural acts with soul-less partners

to work in conjunction on intellectual or creative projects
collaboration

collection

images
metadata
search
collections

images
metadata
search
MDL

oai metadata
harvester

MINERVA 2001
collection challenges

identify resources that represent Minnesota’s diverse cultural heritage

enhance digital objects with authoritative interpretation

sustainability over time
resources to include

maps, photographs

diaries, rare books

letters, documents

artifacts, oral histories

artwork, manuscripts
technical challenges

implement shared metadata and image standards

develop crosswalks among metadata implementations

integrate interpretation and curriculum tools
collaboration for users
short term challenges

metadata content & structure

image formats

vocabulary control

suppressing sensitive data
long term challenges

sustainability and persistence of digital objects

ownership and copyright
continuing challenges

commitments to participation
(shared risk and rewards)

funding, funding, funding
the benefits

- shared expertise, new partners
- enhanced collections
- broader access, new audiences
- shared risks
working groups

- policy and planning
- audiences
- collections
- standards and training

MINERVA 2001
what we have learned

collaboration is difficult

we have silos and they are a problem

institutional problems are magnified

collaboration makes projects happen
next steps

- establish standards
- provide training
- secure funding
- assess audiences
next steps

- establish collection policies
- develop the collaborative
- promotion & marketing
- create digital content
planning partners

Working group volunteers come from:

- Minnesota Historical Society
- University of Minnesota
- MnSCU
- St. John’s University
- Cooperating Libraries in Consortia
- Minneapolis Public Library
- St. Paul Public Library
- Minneapolis Institute of Art
- Walker Art Center
- Olmstead County Historical Society
- Iron Range Research Center
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Office of Technology
further information

http://lrts.stcloudstate.edu/mdl