

Informatics Best-Practices for Gallery, G

of academia and the general public. This trend has

continued rapidly in the six decades since, connecting humans from all corners of the globe to a seemingly never-ending stream of historical artifacts, works of art, and literature. At the same time, widespread adoption of the internet alongside innovation in digitization processes (creating digital records, often of physical objects) has, in the process, evolved the societal role of GLAM institutions into “places of learning that convey knowledge and insights atop of being centers of cultural heritage.”¹

In the process of my bibliographic exploration, the chief goal of the research project, I spoke with the decision makers at world-class GLAM institutions, including The Met, Smithsonian Institution, Wikimedia Foundation, and Bowdoin’s own museums, to understand and compile a comprehensive account of the “state of the union,” per se, of the role of digital in regards to knowledge sharing. Particularly, I was led to investigate the changing roles of digital asset and collection management architectures (DAMS & CMS) concerning trenwithin

a digital society to

include online access to collections and interactive digital displays, for instance. Better endowed institutions, recognizing this, have adopted their business models to meet these demands and have grown as a result. As a result, other resource-constrained institutions that are slow to meet these demands lose support, creating a positive feedback loop. Without adequate expertise, resources, and external support, disproportionate gaps in knowledge and accessibility are created. To alleviate underrepresentation, small institutions should reflect on their longtime priorities and unique cultural contexts. If it is deemed necessary to embrace digital to perpetuate a sustainable business model, these institutions are strongly encouraged to consult with third-party experts to develop specific phased approaches that are implemented to bring their digital of

Finally, many disciplines within GLAM informatics should continue to be challenged. For instance, prominent DAMS and CMS platforms are created and developed by western companies. Little is written about whether the ontologies currently used in these programs are sufficient in creating equitable

has challenged historical means of proving ownership and provenance. Further examination should be made to measure potential benefits to GLAM business models and the residual ko
