AMICO Press Release

For Immediate Release: August 1, 2002.

AMICO Research and Editorial Offices
Move to The University of Toronto,
Robarts Research Library for the Humanities and Social Sciences

The Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO) is delighted to announce that the University of Toronto has been selected as its new institutional host. Beginning in the fall of 2002 the AMICO Research and Editorial Offices will move to Robarts Library at the University of Toronto. The University of Toronto was selected following an open Request for Proposals, issued in the spring of 2002.

“We’re delighted to be moving to the University of Toronto”, says Jennifer Trant, AMICO’s Executive Director. “The diversity of academic computing activities and the breadth of interest in AMICO from across university departments bodes well for fruitful collaborations.”

Carole Moore, University Librarian, concurred. “Our proposal to AMICO demonstrated the diversity of activity at U of T. We’re pleased to have AMICO join the many other digital library initiatives within the University of Toronto Library and across our campuses. We’re excited not only to host AMICO but to see AMICO as a partner in our many on-going activities.”

The University of Toronto Library is in an ideal position to facilitate collaboration across departments, as its mandate is wider than most, including support and coordination of academic computing for instruction and provision of access to digital resources for research and teaching. In the words of U of T’s outgoing Provost, Adel Sedra, the Library provides, “one stop shopping for information and information technology.” Through its digital and print library resources, its Information Commons access services, and its Resource Center for Academic Technology support for teaching, the Library works with all faculties to integrate resources for user convenience.

The University of Toronto, which is among the largest in North America, has a strong entrepreneurial faculty culture and common interests in exploring utilization of new media and technology. “We’re looking forward to exploring ties with the Museum Studies Program, the Faculty of Information Studies, the Knowledge Media Design Institute and others across the Faculty of Arts and Science and the School of Education,” says David Bearman, AMICO’s Director of Strategy and Research. “The time is ripe to integrate networked cultural heritage with research, teaching and learning across the disciplines.”

New Address:
Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO)
Robarts Library 7th Floor
University of Toronto
130 St George St.
Toronto, ON M5S 1A5
About AMICO

The Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO) is a growing, independent non-profit (501c3) corporation. Founded in 1997, the Consortium today is made up of over 35 major museums in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. It's an innovative collaboration - not seen before in museums - that shares, shapes, and standardizes digital information regarding museum collections and enables its educational use. Membership is open to any institution with a collection of art.

Together AMICO Members build The AMICO Library™, a compilation of multimedia documentation of works in their collections. The 2002 edition of The AMICO Library documents over 100,000 different works of art, from prehistoric goddess figures to contemporary installations; new works are added annually. More than simply an image database, AMICO Library works are fully documented and may include curatorial text, detailed provenance information, multiple views, and other related multimedia. Subscribers find The AMICO Library valuable because it combines the immediacy and accessibility of the Web with the persistence and academic weight of traditional library reference sources.

The AMICO Library is accessible over secure networks to licensed subscribers such as universities, colleges, libraries, schools, and museums. Over 3 million users on four continents include faculty, students, teachers, staff, researchers, and public library patrons. Educational subscribers receive access to The AMICO Library through one of our Distributors. A subscription to The AMICO Library provides rights to use works for a broad range of educational purposes. Potential Members and Subscribers may preview a Thumbnail Catalog of The AMICO Library, request a free trial from our Distributors, and get further information at http://www.amico.org.

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Membership is open: Join Us! See http://www.amico.org/join.html