

# Unifying Cultural Memory

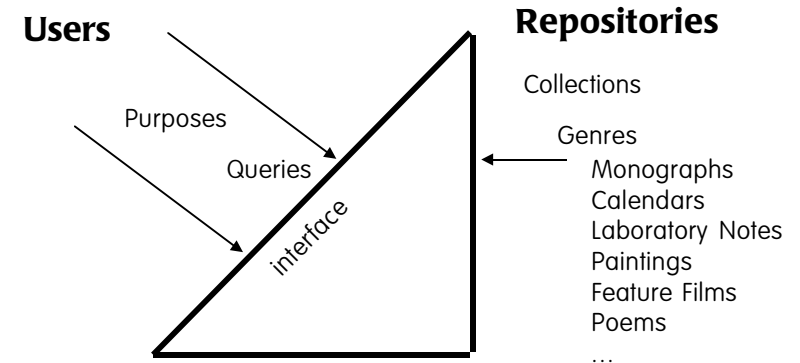
Information Landscapes for a Learning Society  
UKOLN, July 1, 1998

David Bearman and Jennifer Trant  
Archives & Museum Informatics  
[www.archimuse.com](http://www.archimuse.com)

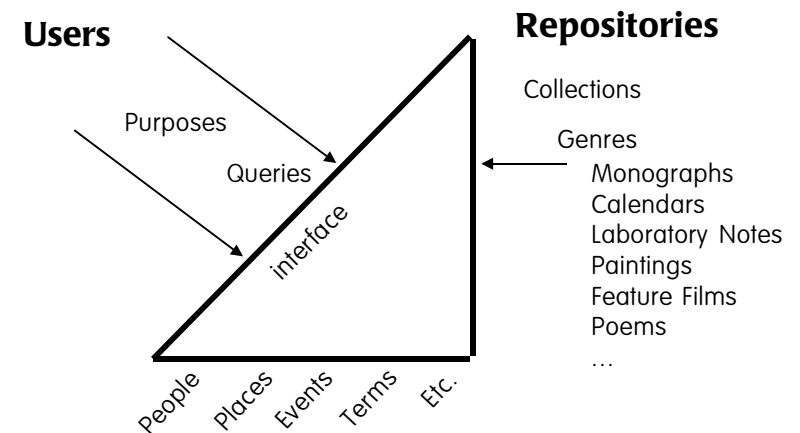
## Barriers to Unified Cultural Resources

- Intellectual
- Social
- Economic and Political

## Intellectual Barriers

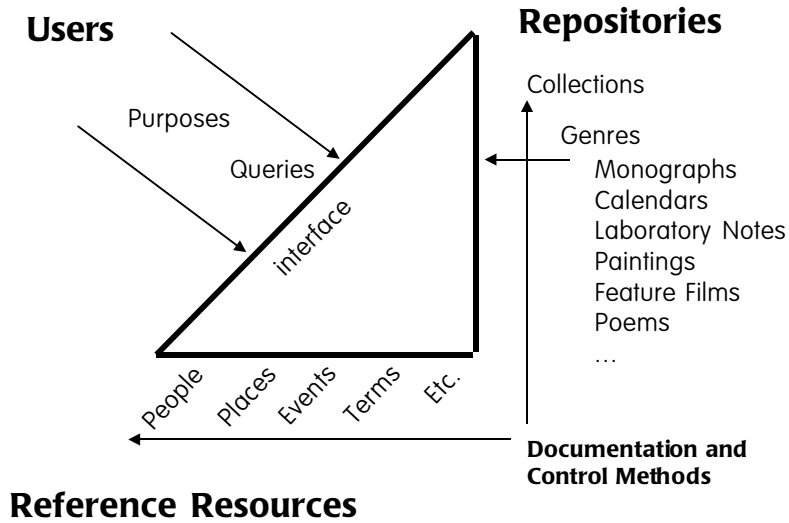


## Intellectual Barriers

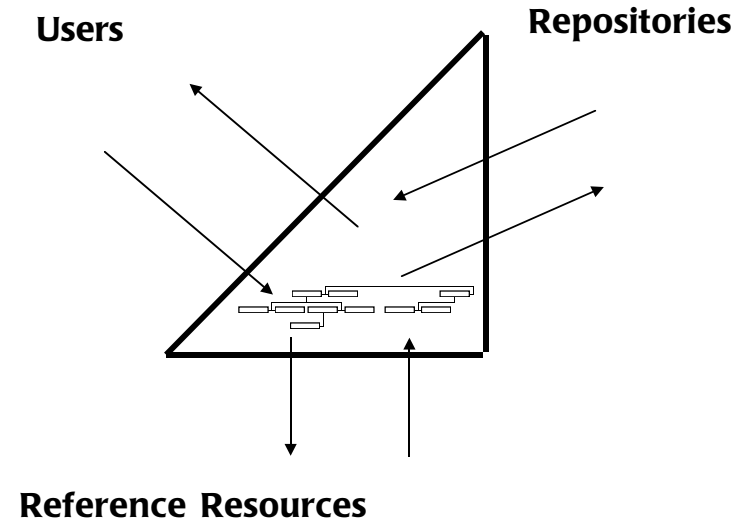


Reference Resources

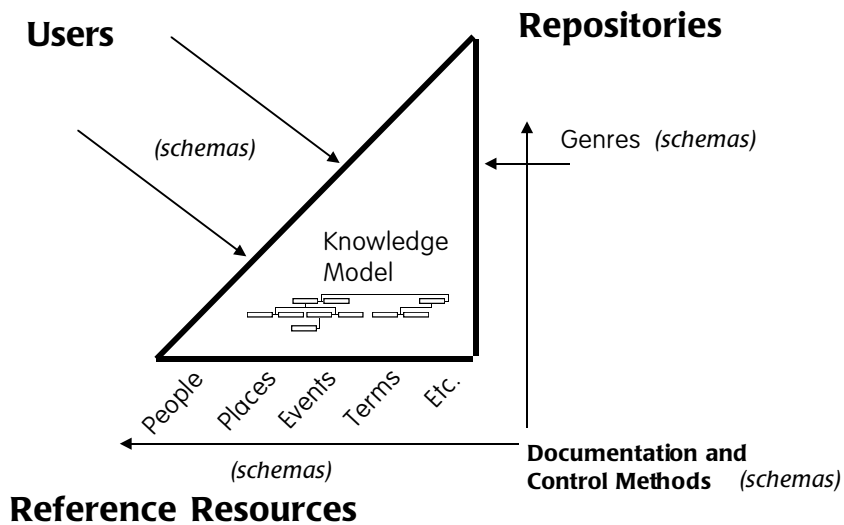
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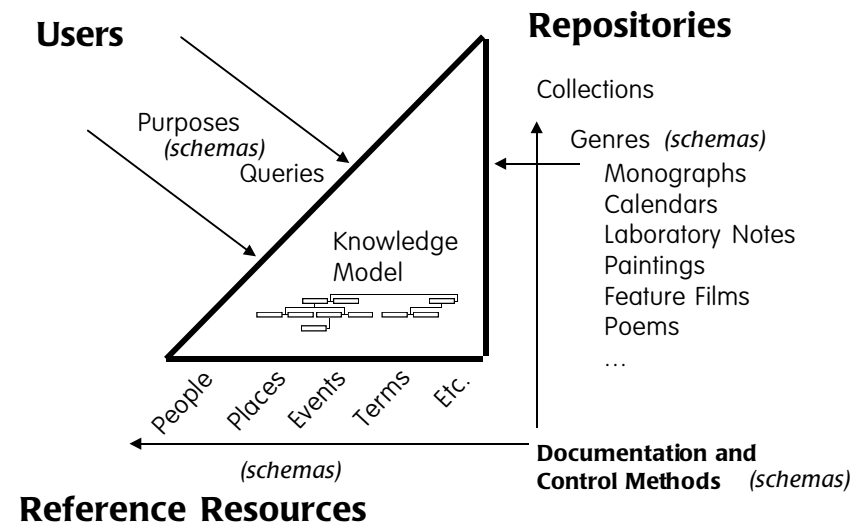
# Intellectual Barriers



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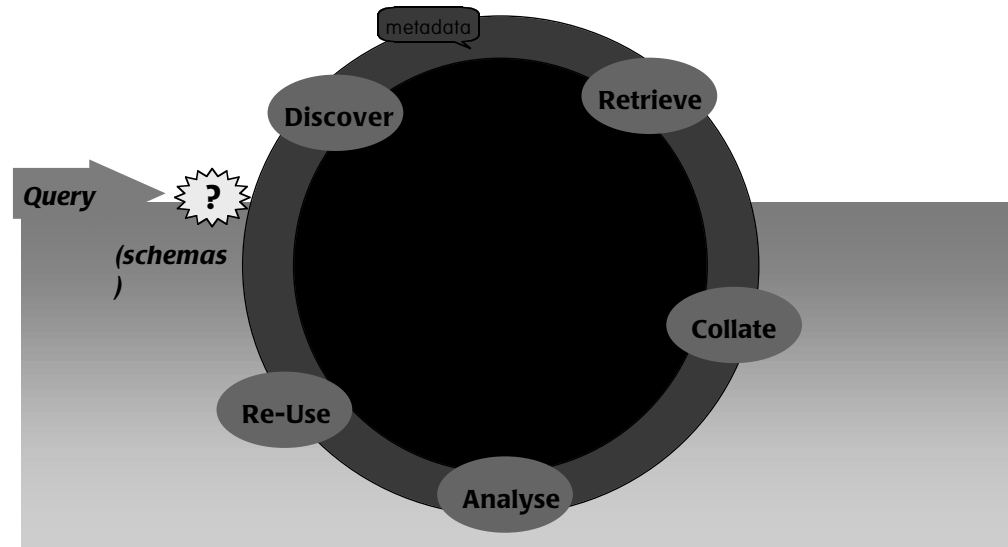
# Intellectual Barriers



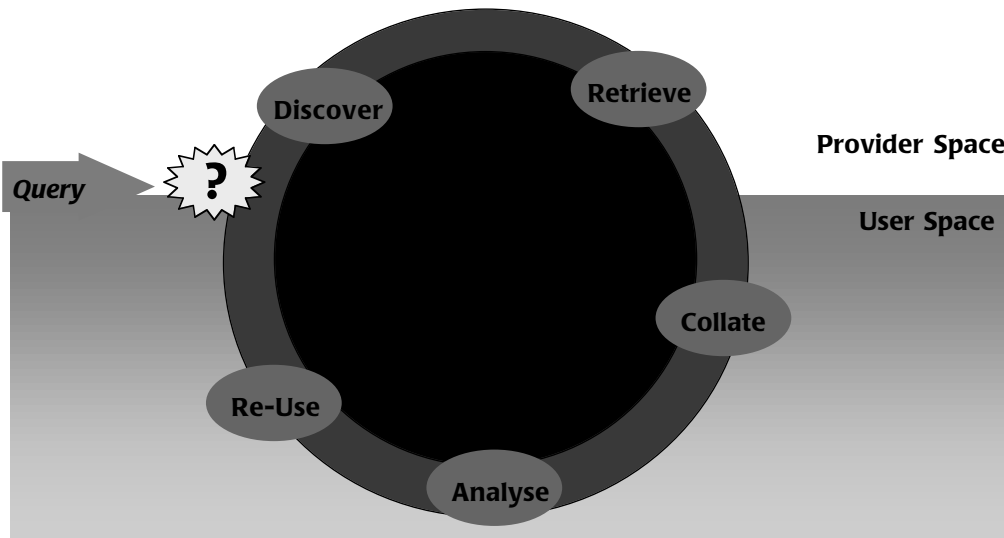
# Intellectual Barriers

- People with purposes pose queries
- Repositories impose methods for management
- Reference Resources abstract knowledge
- A common Knowledge Model enables people to use diverse resources to satisfy their purposes

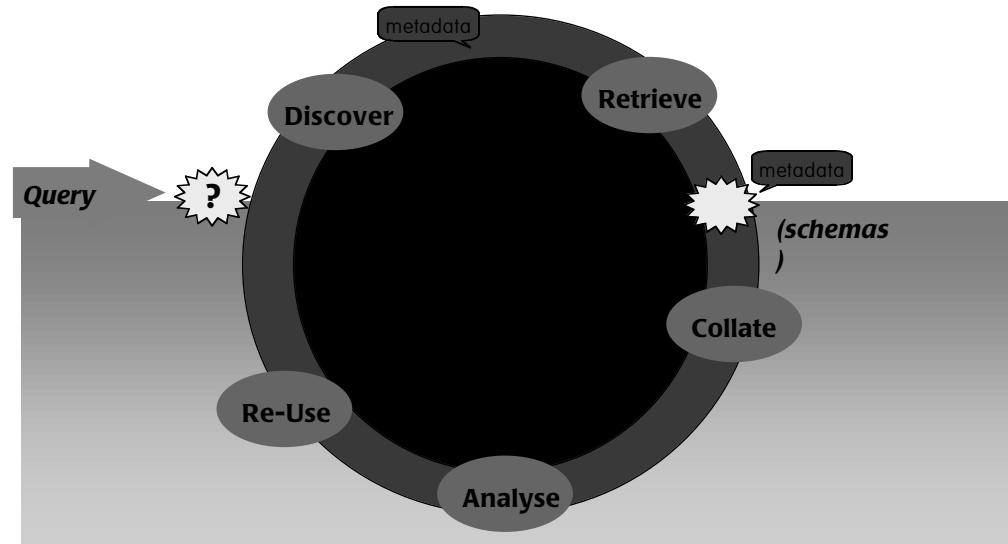
# Supporting Social Processes



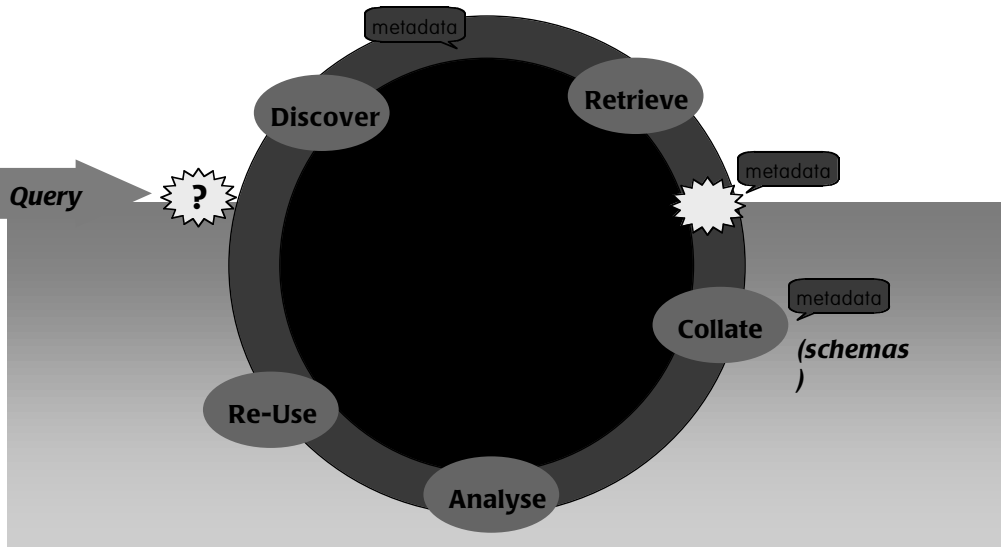
# Social Barriers



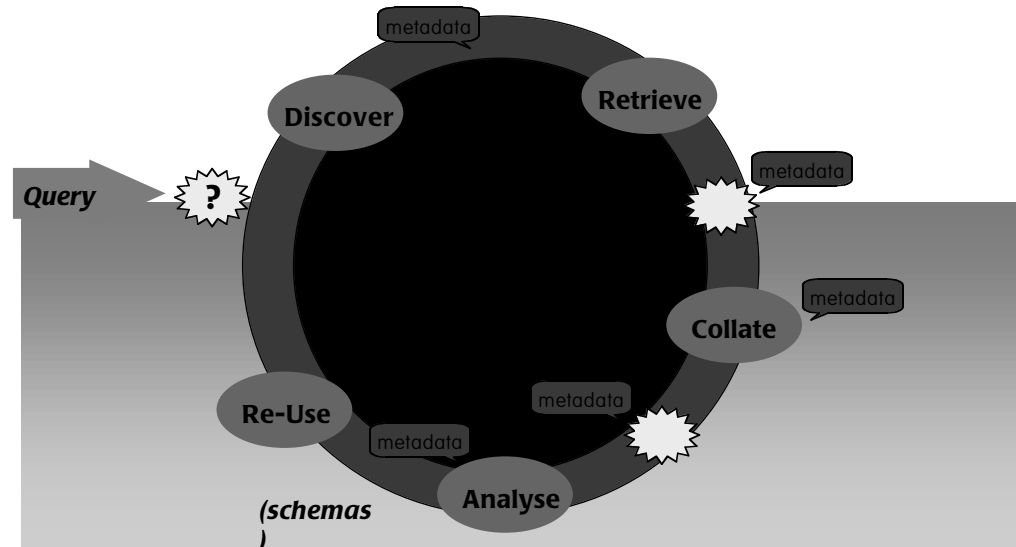
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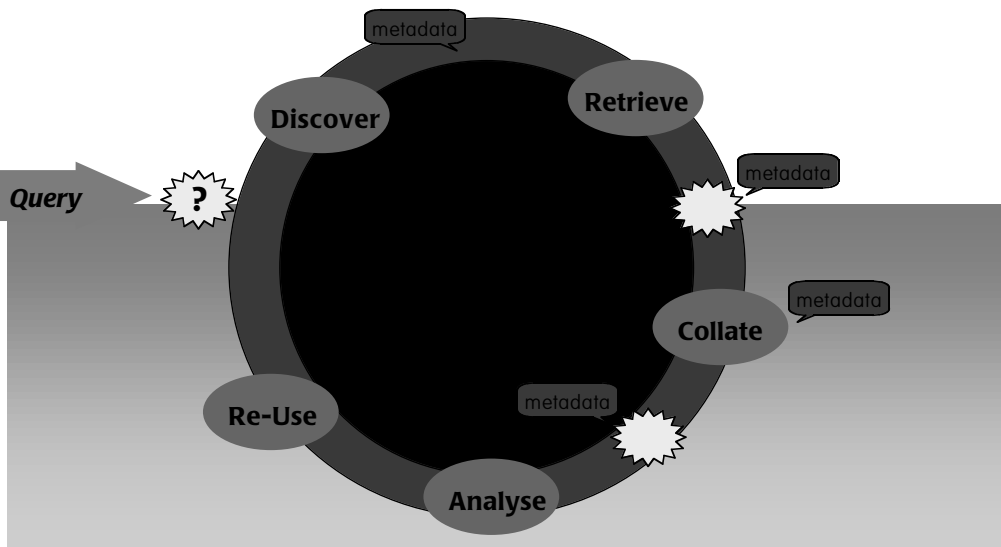
# Supporting Social Processes



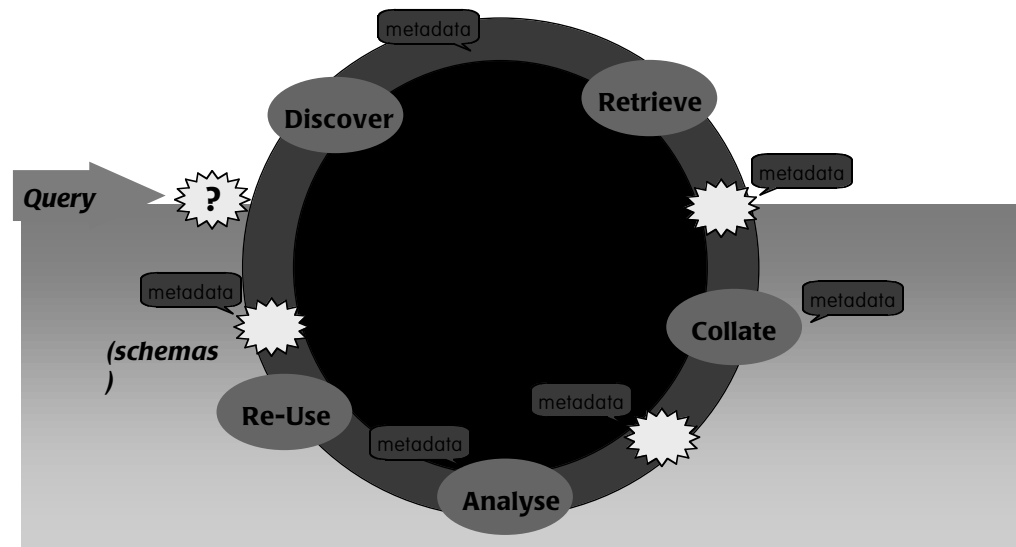
# Supporting Social Processes



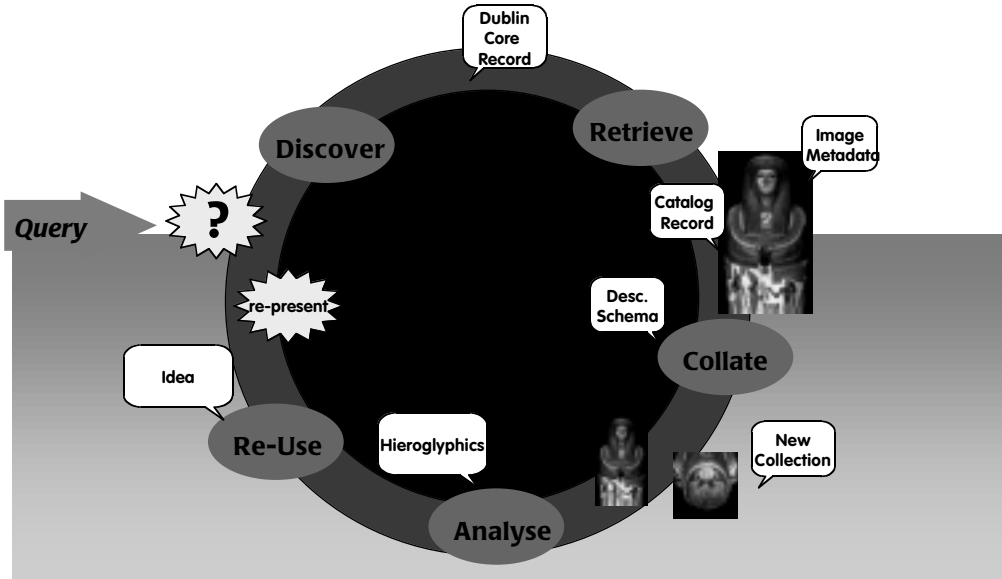
# Supporting Social Processes



# Supporting Social Processes



# Supporting Social Processes



# Economic/Political Barriers

- Limited resources
- Vested interests
- Old processes in new spaces
  
- Creating new economic and legal systems with existing resources and institutions

An example - AMICO

# Supporting Social Processes

- Most activity takes place in User Space
- Entire Process embodies Users' schemas
- The "Stuff" is a digital representation
- Each process creates or acts upon new metadata
- Doing things with data produces new representations
- Process is cyclical
- Using information produces new information

# Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO)

- Enabling educational use of museum multimedia
- Existing law and technology
- Existing funding - reallocated
- Traditional partners in new roles
- New social and economic relationships

# Repositories

- Create authentic representations
  - best practice guidelines
- Ensure authenticity
- Acquire rights
  
- Produce content

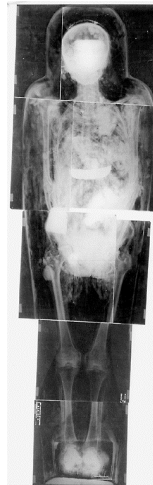


# Not for Profit Distributors

- Deliver Library to specific client groups
- Structure service to meet needs of clients
- Build tools to support work processes
  - may cross-license to other distributors
  
- Provide service and tools

# Not for Profit Consortium

- Collate data from various repositories
- Enhance through editorial and quality control
- Enable access through thesaural resources
  - synonymy / explosion
  - hierarchy / navigation
- Link through common knowledge models
  - public, open and extensible
  - inclusive across media / genre types
  
- Publish reusable information objects



# Educational Institutions

- Subscribe to Library
- Terms and conditions of use reflect practices
- Unlimited use by authorized users
- Not site-dependent
- Control not technological
- Enforcement through codes of conduct and academic sanctions
  
- Integrate with existing resources and processes

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## Users

- Integrate content into existing resources
- Customize to support working methods
- Share experiences with other users
- Communicate with AMICO members
  - functional requirements
  - content needs
  - discoveries about content
- Become authors and a source of expertise for repositories
  
- Exploit and create knowledge

## Further Details

- Art Museum Image Consortium  
[www.amico.net](http://www.amico.net)
- Archives & Museum Informatics  
[www.archimuse.com](http://www.archimuse.com)
- David Bearman and Jennifer Trant  
[dbear@archimuse.com](mailto:dbear@archimuse.com)   [jtrant@archimuse.com](mailto:jtrant@archimuse.com)

## Bridging Diversity?

- Recognise conceptual frameworks and management practices
  - common, open, explicit, knowledge models
- Fit applications to process and enable use
  - appropriate metadata to the task at hand
- Enable different institutions to play distinct roles
  - each committed to jobs it can do