

Correspondence from Interested Parties

While you have been working on your evaluation of Professor Perez's materials, you have come across information relevant to your decisions from a variety of sources ...

Water Cooler Conversation (Overheard)

The Curator of Photography and the Architecture Librarian are shocked and appalled to learn Professor Perez wants \$100,000 for the collection. They wouldn't spend that much on the collection. The Library should negotiate with the professor to reduce the price. The collection is useful but not unique.

Letter of Support

From: Professor Gupta, Urban Planning

Subject: Perez Collection

My students and I have been direct beneficiaries of Prof. Perez's outstanding work documenting the use of public spaces in the developing world. His thoroughness and attention to detail make this collection particularly valuable. Also, unlike commercial photographers who present vacant spaces with ideal lighting, his photographs show how spaces are actually used. They include plazas teeming with street vendors and not the sanitized views of a postcard. I recommend his web site to all of the student in my undergraduate classes.

The photos are especially useful in comparing spaces pre-Google maps to current street views. I've had 4 graduate students use these in their theses and I know of 2 dissertations that were written using his older materials in his garage. More faculty and students would use the collection if it were available in the library and online. I have spent many a pleasant Saturday afternoon with Professors Perez and Smith going through photographs from their garage.

I strongly support the digitization of this collection. It has been an invaluable research collection for my students and me.

Letter of Support

From: Urban Planning Alumni

Subject: Perez Collection

As undergraduate and graduate students we used Professor Perez's web site for our research. We've raised \$10,000 to help you move the content on campus, so it will be available when he retires.

Carry On!

Notes from Phone Call with University Counsel

- Concerns about how Professor Perez defines "public spaces."
 - Interiors of private commercial spaces may not be "public" depending on context.
 - May need to get permission of building owners, people in photographs for interior shots of commercial "public" spaces before placing on Web.
 - Counsel needs to further investigate notion of "public" spaces outside the U.S.
 - Third party rights: clearly identifiable individuals who may not want picture online.
 - Concerns about Professor Smith's will
 - Professor Smith has children who may have rights to the material.
 - Need to identify owner of commercial studio and heirs.
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Notes from Conservator

The roof on Professor Perez's garage leaks. 10 % of the boxes in collection have water damage. Fortunately, the way that the boxes are packed has limited damage to the photographs. Prints may

have mold spores. Recommendation: Irradiate them to kill mold. Rehouse in archival boxes. Cost estimate to be included in total budget.

Unfortunately the negatives are starting to exhibit vinegar syndrome and cannot be housed with the rest of the photographic collections. Recommendation is that they be stored off site with other problem materials and digitized immediately. Discard badly damaged negatives immediately. Discard all vinegar syndrome negatives after digitization.

Notes from Library IT

The ingest of digital images and newly digitized materials will be relatively straightforward although the born digital files will have to be converted to tiff for archiving. We have the tools.

The current digital library system does not have a QTVR viewer included in the software and does not support this format. We need to investigate effort required to integrate this with our current system, but it isn't a showstopper.

Letter of Funding Support

From: Seymour Munnie, Director Grants and Advancement

Subject: Possible Funding Opportunity

I've identified a couple of possible funding opportunities for your project.

- *NEH Preservation and Access Grant*
- *CLIR Cataloging Hidden Collections*