

Wolbach UX

August 2011 Update

[Project website](#)

The project is making significant strides since May after enlisting the aid of James Chin, a recent graduate from Brown University and Andries van Dam's computer graphics group. James Chin and Justin Daoust developed prototypes for two use cases and presented at the Library Lab showcase on August 4th. Recent work by the group is focused on developing beta apps for the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO) and the Chandra X-ray Observatory Outreach to be used in museum, library and conference scenarios. A [project website](#) has been created using Open Scholar and there are plans to write an article on the project for a library journal.

May 2011 Update

A number of milestones have been achieved in the project so far by the student, Justin Daoust. The [prototype LADS software](#), developed by Brown University, has been installed on the John G. Wolbach Library's development workstation. Digital objects from both Harvard and the Smithsonian have been loaded into the LADS system for demonstration purposes. Significant strides have been made in learning how to modify the LADS user interface (UI) which involves C# and XML programming. A [sample UI](#) is ready for an upcoming early demonstration to a group of Harvard librarians on June 2nd. Development priorities have been discussed but a further meeting with LADS developers Donald Kendall and Alex Hills is needed to identify what is achievable and what aligns with the LADS team's plans. Our current plan is to include greater search capabilities beyond the current filters, to find a more efficient method for importing digital objects and to incorporate annotation functionality with the ability to email work done in LADS to oneself and/or others.

April 2011 Update

Our student-driven project is underway after the hiring of Justin Daoust, a student at the Harvard Extension School. We received initial assistance and guidance from Microsoft Research and have obtained the Surface 2 software development kit (SDK) via their EAP program. We have formed a collaborative partnership with Andries Van Dam's computer graphics group at Brown University where they have offered us assistance and their touch software called LADS. Our student developer has already started working with the LADS lead developers, Donald Kendall and Alex Hills, and has discussed wireframes and project goals. We updated the initial goal to demonstrate the benefits of gesture technology in the library setting to solely touch based on available resources. Our aim now is to demonstrate two scenarios: access to collections and improving awareness. In addition to the software mentioned above, the development environment that we setup includes a Dell Precision T3500, touch screen ST2220T monitor and Microsoft Visual Studio. Concurrently, we gathered digital objects from the Smithsonian Institution and Harvard University to showcase during the first of two demonstrations to the Harvard community (set for the early summer). The student is now learning by

doing, programming Surface 2 applications to address the first scenario while receiving guidance from the LADS team.