

# MDID @ UALR

## About MDID—General

Developed by [James Madison University](#) (JMU), the MDID (Madison Digital Image Database) is, in overly-simplified terms, a digital slide library. According to MDID's Web site ([www.mdid.org](http://www.mdid.org)):

The Madison Digital Image Database is an online image database and multimedia instructional system designed to create and show Internet-based lectures using digitized images.

The system permits instructors to remotely generate "slideshow", which can be annotated, placed online for student study, or archived for testing or future use.

MDID is an ongoing development project at James Madison University, which recently released version 2.0. Members of the development team, who are all talented and helpful, continue to develop and enhance the MDID based on user input and discussions on the very active listserv.

## About MDID @ UALR

In May, Laura Grace and Dr. Jane Brown approached Chad Garrett for technical assistance to pilot a digital image database project. Laura had heard great things about MDID from colleagues and thought it would be an asset for faculty and students at UALR.

Since this project was a pilot, Chad suggested that we look for alternatives to spending \$7,000 on a server. Using one of the Multimedia Technology Center's backup classroom computers, Chad set up a trial version of Windows Server 2003 and an instance of the open source MySQL database application.

After a good deal of trial and error, Chad was able to install and run the latest version of the MDID. Since that time, he and Laura have worked closely to learn about the MDID and develop a methodology for scanning and uploading slides from UALR's collection to give faculty assets to use to vet the product in the pilot.

## More Information

The main MDID Web site provides good overview information. While light on technical and user information, the site is alive and grows each day. Visit [www.mdid.org](http://www.mdid.org) for more.

Two items available on the site (under Papers and Presentations) are especially helpful for understanding the product and its functionality on a very high level:

- Overview ([www.mdid.org/papers/nmc2005/index.html](http://www.mdid.org/papers/nmc2005/index.html))
- Self-running Demo ([www.mdid.org/papers/nmc2005/demo.htm](http://www.mdid.org/papers/nmc2005/demo.htm))

## Demo Access to MDID@UALR

The UALR pilot will last until the first of December. You can access it by visiting [mdid.ualr.edu](http://mdid.ualr.edu). For demo access, use the limited test account: **\*\*Contact [Chad Garrett](#)\*\***

## Faculty Access to MDID@UALR

To participate in the pilot and gain faculty-level access, contact [Laura Grace](#) in the Art Department.