

## HOW IS INFORMATION ABOUT THE MUSEUMS' COLLECTIONS CREATED AND MAINTAINED?

- ✧ **Objects in the database: 117,545\***
  - 21 collections staff (registrars, curators) across all 6 museums
  - That's an average of 5,597 objects per person
- ✧ **About 100 hours/year of IT support at Five Colleges**
  - That's about 2 hours of support per collections staff person per year

## WHO DECIDES ABOUT COLLECTIONS INFORMATION NOW?

- ✧ Each museum decides what information it records about objects in its collection, then creates, manages and maintains that information on its own
- ✧ Five Colleges, Inc., stewards the data and database system, but it is up to each museum to input, manage, and maintain their own information
- ✧ 1 collection manager from each museum makes up a database committee
- ✧ That committee makes most decisions about what categories of information are available to the public

## WHO MIGHT DECIDE ABOUT THE COLLECTIONS INFORMATION IN THE FUTURE?

- ✧ More museum staff including curators and educators
- ✧ End users like students and faculty
- ✧ People with academic knowledge or lived experience in specific cultures
- ✧ Groups of museum professionals, librarians, and others sharing data openly on the web

*\*As of August 2021*

Amherst College | Hampshire College | Mount Holyoke College  
Smith College | University of Massachusetts Amherst | Historic Deerfield

*Rachel Hartley (American, 1884-1955) Faith, Picture of Light (detail). 1936. Oil on photo paper.  
Joseph Allen Skinner Museum, Mount Holyoke College. MHSK 2006.1898.INV.*