Wadsworth Atheneum
(Hartford, CT)

A Furman Engaged Presentation
By Elizabeth Fox ‘16
The Museum

- Oldest operating art museum with 50,000 artworks; underwent 5-year $33 million renovation project

- Decorative Arts: arts concerned with the design and creation of high-quality objects with historical and/or artistic significance as well as aesthetic use

- Shift from American to European Decorative Arts
Roles as Curatorial Intern

- Historical and Provenance Research
- Editing Object Checklists with label descriptions/tombs tones
- Label Writing
- Reinstallation of Objects
Installation of objects

Curator Linda Roth hard at work!

Gallery Reinstallation Blueprint (Morgan Building)

Objects in Storage

Packing Objects (observe the snakes below)

Packing Materials (Tyvek, volara, tissue paper)
Gallery Transformation

Morgan Great Hall (above)
Problems and Challenges

- Disorganization of labels
- Coping with museum’s old-fashioned techniques
Discoveries and Accomplishments

3 goals that were accomplished:

- Gain expertise and skills in researching and handling decorative art and other genres of artworks
- Learn how objects and artworks should be placed in an exhibition
- Understand the overall, daily tasks required of a museum curator

- Solidified my focus of curatorship towards decorative arts