

## Photographer's guide to MediaBeacon

Required file names and metadata, updated Fri. Nov. 17, 2023

The Duke University School of Medicine is now using a Digital Asset Management system called MediaBeacon (MB) to store images, publications, and graphics.

To create a useful and efficient application for searches, each image needs to follow the guidelines below.

Yes, these are different than the Duke University naming conventions.

Please use these guidelines when working for the School of Medicine and Duke Health.

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### WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES FOR NAMING FILES?

Adhering to the file naming guidelines is essential. It allows for effective searches for people looking for your photos.

Do **not** upload photos that have file names from the camera or smart phone – such as **IMG\_123** or **Pix123**. Use file names that will assist search for stored assets by using specific words.

For example, **students\_in\_lab.jpg** is too vague. We have thousands of photos of students and thousands of photos of labs. That means a search result from searching “students” will result in thousands of photos.

A more useful, and specific file name would be **PA\_students\_SIM\_lab.jpg**.

Use this naming convention for photos of individuals:

- ✎ Klotman\_Mary\_dean\_091823\_0123.jpg
- ✎ Klotman\_Mary = last name first, use an underscore between last and first name
- ✎ 091823\_0123 = the first six numerals are the date of the shoot, followed by the frame number from the camera
- ✎ .jpg = the file format extension

**Try not to use over 35 characters in the file name** – not including file extension

- Avoid punctuation and special characters in file names altogether. For example, don't use: \ / : \* ? " < > |
- Underscores should be used in place of spaces, and do not use periods except before the format extension – “chapel\_spring\_graduation.jpg”
- When using hyphenated names use a dash (-) between the two parts of a name.  
Julia Louis-Dreyfus should appear as **Louis-Dreyfus\_Julia**
- Use middle names or initials when the name is common  
John Carter Smith should appear as **Smith\_John\_Carter**
- When you received file names like 020823\_mcelroy\_lisa020.jpg you'll need to change the file name to **McElroy\_Lisa\_tranplant\_surgeon 020823\_020.jpg**

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### HOW TO ADD METADATA TO A FILE

Before you deliver photo to your client, you **must** make sure the metadata (Dublin Core) is completed correctly.

Dublin Core is an international industry format standard for adding information/metadata to a file. The standard was created in 1995.

The metadata is a feature that allows searches to be quick and accurate. Metadata must be attached to all assets. It's imperative the metadata is completed on all files uploaded to MB.

Freelance photographers and Duke University photographers add metadata to their photos. Freelance photographers are required, as part of a working agreement with Duke University, to complete the metadata.

Photographers might want to use PhotoMechanic, or other application to apply metadata as a batch process. If you apply the same metadata to multiple photos, please be sure to go back and add the name of the people in individual photos.

In Adobe Photoshop you can view the metadata with an image by going to **File > File Info...**

- **DESCRIPTION** is a short explanation that includes the names and titles of the people in the photo, what SOM/Duke Health program, center, or department, and any other relevant information.
- **TITLE** is the file name. You don't need to add the format extension.
- **RIGHTS** is always ©Duke University, unless the photo was provided by a donor or someone who does not work for Duke University. In that case enter "unknown."
- **CREATOR** is the photographer's name.
- **KEYWORDS** are the most important information to complete. You need to add at least 5-8 keywords. The School of Medicine program, department, unit, school, and institute are the most important keywords.
- **CONTRIBUTORS** will be the writer for the project if you know it.
- **PUBLISHERS** no information needed, leave blank.
- **COVERAGE** – indicates where the image has been used – print brochure, collateral, web page, or email.
- **DATE** – date the photograph was taken
- **SOURCE UNIQUE IDENTIFIER** -- add the DHDA or SOM project number – for example 23-0509 or 23-0833

**AGE**

**DIVERSITY**

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE**

**POSITION**

group of people  
no people  
one person  
two people

administrator  
child  
doctor  
donor  
mother  
nurse

**CONCEPT / EMOTION**

care  
concentrate  
concern

**HOSPITAL PRACTICE**

Childrens Hospital

**OBJECT**

bed  
building  
cell  
computer  
construction

patient  
physician assistant  
researcher  
student  
surgeon

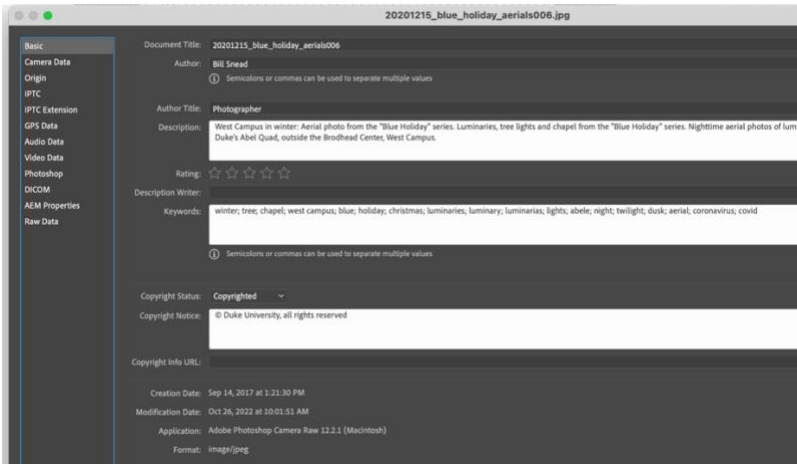
confident  
depressed  
expert  
family  
happy  
indoors  
laugh  
nature  
outdoors  
research  
sad  
serious  
teamwork

University hospital  
Durham regional  
primary care  
Raleigh hospital  
urgent care

**LOCATION**  
Duke Campus  
Durham  
Durham County  
North Carolina  
Orange County  
Raleigh  
Wake County

lab  
medication  
monitor  
ophthalmoscope  
pipette  
screen  
stethoscope  
white coat  
virus

technician  
therapist  
**TREATMENT AREAS**  
cancer  
diabetes  
Diet  
emergency  
executive health  
fertility  
fitness  
geriatrics  
gynecology  
heart  
homecare hospice  
integrative  
nursing  
ophthalmology  
orthopaedics  
pediatrics  
psychiatry  
research  
sports medicine  
stroke  
surgery  
transplant  
vein



Keywords – add a minimum of 4-6 keywords to each asset. These are only suggestions.