# CAMPUS COLLECTIONS: STATUS BUILDING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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## Introduction

#### **KEY TERMS**

- Campus Collection
- Prestige
- Value

#### COLLECTIONS

- Pella at Wooster
- Special Collections
- Campus Sculpture

#### REASONING

- Work with collections
- Communicate
   value
- Not self-evident

## Literature Review

# Institutional Prestige

- Colleges/Univer sities have capital and social status
- Stakeholder expecations
- Legitimacy

# Collection Prestige

- Collections have value
- Collections as Cultural Heritage

# Special Collections

- "Social networks"
- Expenditures
- Representation

#### Statues

- Visibility
- Placemaking
- Identity and values

## Archeological Collections

- Fuflill needs/expectations
- Social networks

## Theory

## Multi-Vocal Symbols

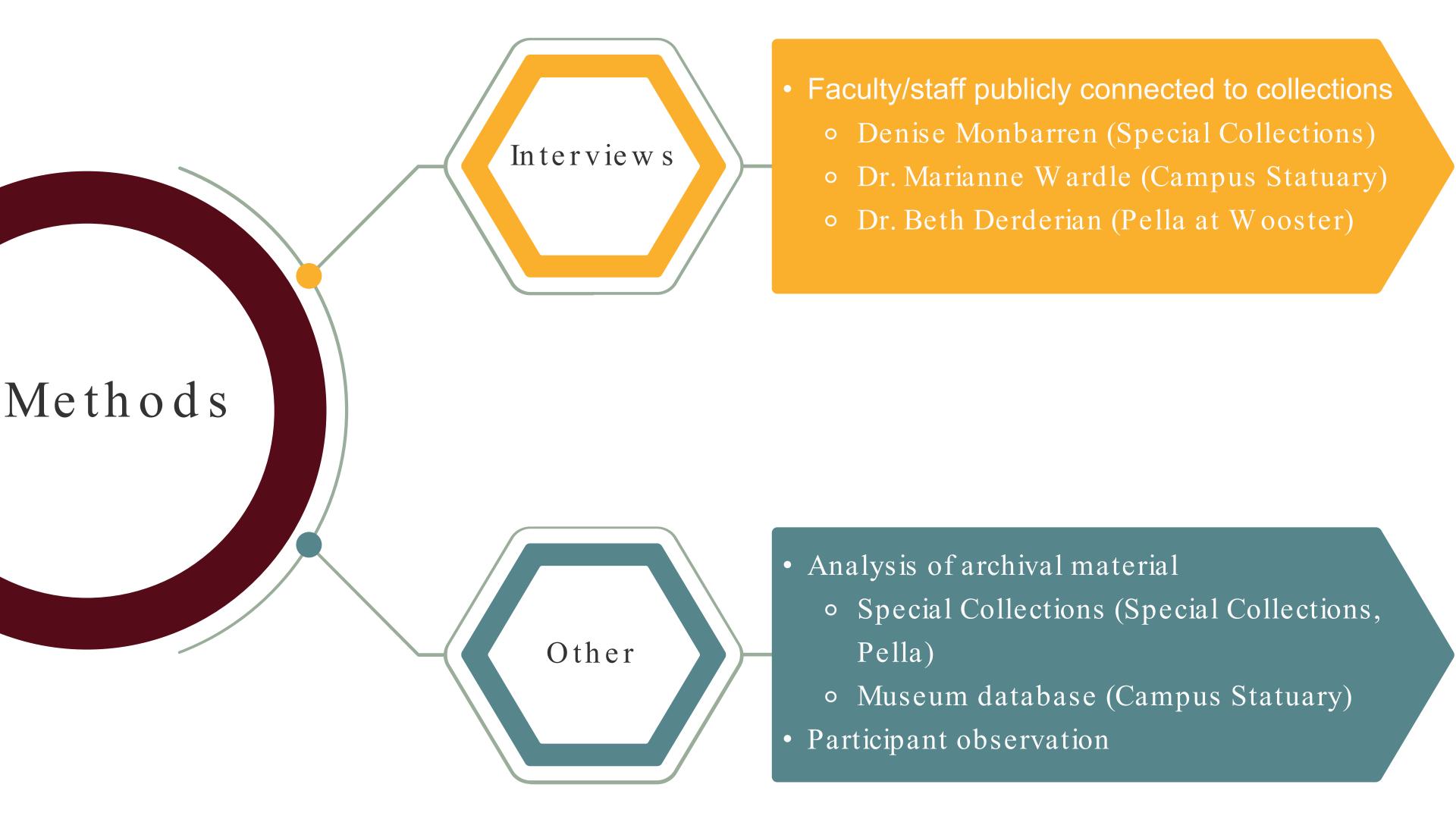
Collections are Symbols

#### Capita1

Collections
contain,
embody, deploy,
and create
capital

#### Performance

Collections as front and back stage for Campus



## Analysis



# Accessibility: "No One Re a lly Knows It's Here" (Derderian)

changing visibility

 highly physically visible, but not culturally relevant

Internally and externally visbible and accessible

- Teaches graduate qualities
- Experiential Learning

- Lack of clear integration
- Some Experiential Learning

- Directly fulfills College's mission statement
- Experiential Learning

Formsof Capital: "This is a Poor Pla ce" (Wardle)

Economic: Grants, student workers
Social: Connection to external institutions
Cultural: Heritage and identity of college
Academic: Production of knowledge,
experiential learning

[Pella] also goes to these core values of education and the liberal arts tradition.

Research and collaboration. And also a bit social and intellectual responsibility.

Formsof Capital: "This is a Poor Pla ce" (Wardle)

Economic: Grants, student workers, donor records

Social: Connections to external researchers

Cultural: History/culture of College over time

Academic: Research resource, primary sources

[Special Collections say] what makes us Wooster... it's an effort to chart the constant rebranding and evolution of our p opulation.

Forms of Capital: "This is a Poor Pla ce" (Wardle)

Economic: Donors, conspicuous spending

Social: Plaques identifying donors

Cultural: Art as culture, heritage and identity

Academic: Used in coursework

I think if you went on to a campus or you found yourself in some sort of public space and it had nothing like [statues], you would feel like, 'Oh, this is a this is a poor place.'

## Conclusion

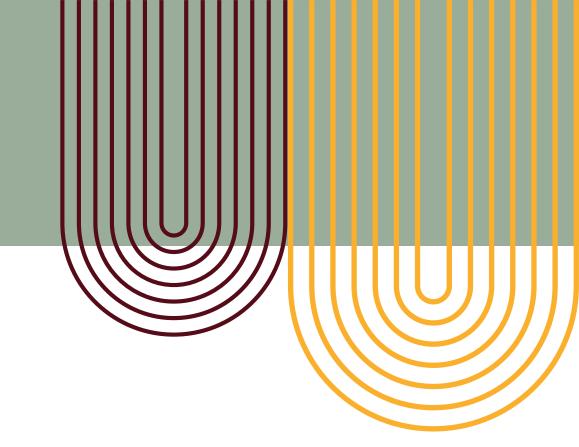
## Key Findings

- Collection value comes from use
- Accessibiltiy and alignment with missions/goals effect use
- Need to deploy all four forms of capital

## Relevance

- Museums, libraries, cultural heritage, and higher education under pressure
- Need to protect heritage
- Case study to recreate at other institutuons

The College of Wooster



## Questions?

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