Digital Humanities Interest Group

2017 February 23
4:30 PM - 5:25 PM
Salon 13

Link to this document: bit.ly/2lcPwN6

**Introductions (5-7 minutes)**

**Items for Discussion**

1. Follow-up on discussion that emerged on the MLA-list related to data harvesting/rescue of federally funded performing arts data and content (NEH/NEA) on government websites. View planning document.
   - MLA liaisons might be able to reach out to their organizations
   - We will start a thread on this topic within the DHIRT group page to continue conversation and figure out next steps.
   - Should we create a work group?

2. I’m curious what institutions are doing to provide technical infrastructure (server space, cloud storage, “software as service” etc) for librarians working on DH projects. Does anyone have good solutions?
   - People who are working on DH projects and might need a place to put a PHP script or a Ruby on Rails project. Where do they put this content if the institution does not have a space?
   - MITH provides funding for staff to get an Amazon WS or a third-party server solution.
   - Who owns the content if it is done on university time? Should the university provide a place to house the content? If person leaves, would the project/content go with them?
   - There are issues of back-up that might not get addressed if you have content on non-university server space. Should the university want to preserve the data that they have invested in? [Which institution was this? CCM] An institution starting digital humanities initiatives, but hasn’t solved the problem of storage and costs. There are cost benefit analyses that can be done.
   - University of South Carolina has similar issues.
   - Combined voices may have a stronger impact.
   - Security concerns exist with servers and that requires special attention and expertise beyond our understanding (i.e. subject librarian) and systems staff may be overtaxed.
   - Infrastructure costs money -
   - Third party platforms may not always be there for us (example of geocities).
What kind of projects are these? Personal research or library initiatives - both.

At Notre Dame: conscious decision to support some content, such as digital exhibits. Specific requirements (platform, program, etc.) Problem - students want server space for experimental work, but library can’t provide server space/hosting. If it can get into the IR then it will be backed up, but not everything can get into the IR.

DH and digital scholarship is exciting, but the big picture is not always considered (lifecycle and sustainability).

Ex. of info (university/library) - U-Michigan storage options and comparison, Data Storage & Preservation on Campus (from MLibrary Research Data Services)

Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru) http://a2ru.org

Look to your community (disciplines/schools, library, etc.). What are their needs and different levels of projects that should be considered for support/funding?

Internal library proposal developed for projects that require storage/hosting

Project charters, service level agreements, MOUs are important

Project management is a skill that librarians are using in digital scholarship. See Lynn Siemens chapter on project management for humanists in Doing DH.

Google Drive Templates for Agile/Scrum/Sprints

- https://drive.google.com/a/greendoorlabs.com/templates%3Ftype%3Dspreadsheets%26q%3Dscrum%26sort%3Dhottest%26view%3Dpublic?ddrp=1#

Project management tools: Asana, Zoho (basecamp or Zoho Projects), Jira, Slack

3. Best practices for assessing impact of work done by digital humanists housed in libraries.
   - Did not have enough time to address this question.