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Project Management and Sustainable Revenue Models in the Digital Humanities

Maximum Number of Participants: 20

Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2014 – 13:00 to 16:00

Facilitator(s):

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Overview:

In comparison to traditional academic research projects, projects in the Digital Humanities face even greater challenges concerning management and sustainability. Close co-operation between researchers, learning and teaching staff, libraries, IT departments and legal advisory services are essential to cover all aspects of DH endeavors. However, experience shows that academics tend to plan them based on a research-centered and a supply-side mentality. Aspects of user-orientation and both financial and technical sustainability are often considered only very late in the process – if at all. Project leaders are often overburdened, which has a negative impact on the realization of the full potential of such projects. Furthermore, especially in Switzerland, there is a lack in openness to collaborate with qualified partners, e.g. librarians and archivists who could contribute significant skills and experiences.

The workshop will be divided in two parts:
In the first part there will be Learning Cafés on different organizational aspects of DH project management as given by the specific set-up of such projects. These include:
DH projects in research, DH projects in learning and teaching, role of libraries, DH

Labs. Selected conference participants have been
invited to prepare and host these Learning Cafés. Results of the teams will be
presented to the group.
In the second part of the workshop selected participants will be invited to speak
about their experiences of successful management and sustainable revenue models.
Speakers will be invited to share success stories and lessons learnt. Speakers will
include Heike Neuroth, Göttingen State and University Library (Germany), a
representative from DARIAH (Tobias Blanke), a representative from the US (Office
for Digital Humanities, National Endowment for the Humanities), a representative
from the Austrian Center for Digital Humanities (Hubert Stigler).

5. Audience:

The workshop aims to help project leaders and other staff involved in DH activities to
improve project management skills, to develop sustainable revenue models and to
bring different stakeholders together. The audience will be asked to participate
actively in the first part, where they will have the opportunity to share experience and
know-how in smaller groups which will be focused on specific topics within the overall
theme.
The second half of the workshop will comprise short presentations giving an inside
view of some of the major DH projects in Europe and the US. Here the focus will be
on best practice, ensuring that participants can learn from success stories and pitfalls
of others.