

Methods for Library Staff Professional Development of Digital Humanities Skills

Maximum Number of Participants: 30

Date: Monday, July 7, 2014 – All Day – 09:00 to 12:00 + 13:00 to 17:00

Facilitator(s):

James Baker
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Digital Humanities Support Officer
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Overview:

This one-day workshop is an opportunity for digital humanists working with/in libraries to come together to learn from one another about current international efforts for training library staff to acquire digital skills relevant to emerging digital research and scholarship practice. The goal of this workshop is that participants will be able to systematically design an approach that works specifically for their home libraries, propose their approach successfully to library leadership, and come together as a community of practice to support future re-skilling initiatives. The workshop will begin with an introduction to five different international DH training

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initiatives for library staff. This introduction will be followed by activities focusing on leveraging the experiences and best practices shared by those initiatives in order to help each participant create a draft strategic plan for a DH training initiative within their own library. We will then come back together as a group to discuss how to take these plans and successfully pitch them to library leadership for implementation. The day will be concluded with a discussion of how the day's efforts can be made more successful with the support of community: specifically the creation or integration of these many different and varied library staff education initiatives, that exist within specific institutional contexts, into a singular, sustainable community of practice.

5. Audience:

The target audience consists of digital humanists working with/in libraries who are interested in developing opportunities for re-skilling and training in digital scholarship for library staff.

Participants are asked to prepare the following materials with them to the workshop:

1. A chart or map of your library's organizational structure;
2. A list of the needs of your library regarding digital humanities skills. This could be inspired by upcoming projects, recent initiatives outlined by library leadership, etc.
3. A list of five people within your own library who are experts in five different areas of digital scholarship. Participants are encouraged to think outside of the box regarding this. For example, is there someone in your metadata department that has experience in leveraging metadata standards? Do you have a phenomenal project manager working on digital library projects?