IFLA-Satellite-Meeting 2017 - August 15 - 17 in Berlin

Digital Humanities – Opportunities and Risks. Connecting Libraries and Research

Report for the IFLA SC "ARL"-Meeting in Columbus - Prof. Dr. Andreas Degkwitz

(1) Abstract of the satellite meeting:
From our perspective the following issues and themes should pursued: Academic and other libraries have a integrating role playing between the researcher, the interested public and the collections not only of libraries but also of museums and archives especially where there are already strong regional cooperation or collaborations across borders established.

- How do we go beyond format shifting of analogue to digital?
- How do libraries extend maker spaces to involve the public in digital humanities and working with big data (as the public does already in relation to big data supporting humanitarian and nature conservation work)?

What can researchers learn from the new social and third-sector ways of sharing and publishing, vis-à-vis the current modes of academic publishing?

- How can museums and archives help researchers with accounting for the broader impacts of their work, given their different approaches to interacting with the public?
- How do we go beyond crowdsourcing and start inviting citizens into the process of doing research, rather than being foot soldiers for academic work emanating solely from the academy?

(2) Themes of the Call for Proposals (CfP) - will be started in August/September 2016

Theme 1: Examples and best practices of data driven research in the humanities
Digital Humanities are widely understood to signify the use of computer-aided and data-driven research methods and techniques in both the arts and humanities. Some examples of this are critical editions, lexicographical projects as well as questions regarding the historical reception of large-scale collections, whether of visual objects or literary textual corpora. A necessary element underpinning computer-aided research in the humanities is standardized metadata describing comprehensive collections of either kind, as well as named entity recognition techniques that allow further linking. These methods allow us to aggregate and analyze such collections as well as enrich them with additional sources of information, thus giving them greater contextual meaning. Research conducted on the back of curated data can lead to results that enjoy a correspondingly high degree of reliability and allow new conclusions to be reached, that could only be attained through the application of computer technology. The theme for our first session is the potential of computer- and data-based arts and humanities research, whereby we shall present some examples of concrete projects which clearly demonstrate what can be achieved. The essential element here is that the whole spectrum of the research process within appropriate projects– the research question, the methodology and its execution, and the related results – is clearly communicated to our public.

Theme 2: The tasks and the role of libraries and other institution of the cultural heritage
Academic and other libraries have a integrating role to play between the researcher, the interested public and the collections not only of libraries but also of museums and archives especially where strong regional cooperation or collaborations across borders have been established. The prerequisites for this role are services that present appropriately curated digitized materials and

provide access to them. For our second theme, we will consider therefore the following questions that both collection managers and researchers need to answer:

How do we go beyond format shifting of analogue to digital? What organizational and technical requirements would need to be fulfilled to go beyond this shift?
How do libraries extend picture and text corpora and maker spaces to involve reseachers and the public in digital humanities and working with big data (as the public does already in relation to big data supporting humanitarian and nature conservation work)?
What do researchers in the digitally enabled arts and humanities need from archives, libraries and museums, in order to improve access to and the ability to work with their digital collections and resources in more sophisticated ways?
How can archives optimally get their digital collections enriched also for the benefit of the public through academics' use of them?
How do libraries best highlight newer forms of publishing (annotations, service augmentations, code, digital editions, etc.), and help prepare a broader spectrum of academic colleagues for this type of academic output?

Theme 3: Digital Humanities and citizen science
The availability of digital humanities' research in the internet is opening up research results to broader public interest as we can observe especially in museums or in exhibitions of mediaeval manuscripts or early printed books or in archaeological or historical showcases. People are able to interact with the prepared materials and to discover specific details and connections. Digital humanities are involving the public and are enabling citizen science. The following questions have to be answered by institutions of cultural heritage and public funders: What could researchers learn from the new social and third-sector ways of sharing and publishing, vis-à-vis the current modes of academic publishing? How can archives, libraries and museums optimally get their digital collections enriched also for the benefit of the public through academics' use of them?

(3) Organizer, Hosting Partner and Program Committee
IFLA Standing Committee "Academic and Research Libraries" will host the satellite meeting together with:

- DARIAH - Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities in Europe - http://www.dariah.eu/
- LIBER - Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche – Association of European Research Libraries - http://libereurope.eu/
- BBAW - The Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities Berlin - http://www.bbaw.de/en/
- Library of the Humboldt-University Berlin - https://www.ub.hu-berlin.de/en?set_language=en

Program Committee:

- IFLA SC "ARL": Vicki McDonald, Mimi Calter, Janet Fletcher, Gerald Beasley, Leo Ma, Jan Simane
- LIBER Executive Board: Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, Jeanette Frey, Lluis Anglada
- DARIAH-EU Executive Board: Mike Mertens, Laurent Romary
- Local Organizers: Andreas Degkwitz, Wolf-Hagen Krauth, Gerald Neumann

(4) Satellite Meeting 2017 "Digital Humanities" – Draft Schedule

August 15
Senate Hall of the Humboldt University – Main Building
04:30 pm: Registration with coffee
05:00 pm: Welcome
Chair of the session: Andreas Degkwitz (Humboldt University)
-         President of Humboldt University: Sabine Kunst
-         Chair of the IFLA SC "ARL": Vicki Mc Donald
-         President of LIBER: Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen
-         President of DARIAH-EU: Laurent Romary
05:45 pm: Opening Key Note

06:45 pm: Get Together

August 16
Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Science (BBAW) - Leibniz Hall
08:45 am: Registration
09:15: Welcome
Chair of the session: Wolf-Hagen Krauth /Gerald Neumann (BBAW)
-         BBAW-President: Martin Grötschel
09:30 am: Keynote
10:30 am: Coffee break
11:00 am - 12:30 am: Discoveries and results of data driven research projects in the humanities (1st program slot - theme 1)
3 talks with 20 minutes and about 5 minutes questions

12:30 - 01:30 pm: Lunch

01:30 - 04:00 pm: The tasks and the role of libraries and other institution of the cultural heritage (2nd program slot - theme 2)
Chair of the session: Laurent Romary (DARIAH-EU)
01:30 - 02:30 pm: 3 talks with 15 minutes and about 5 minutes questions
02:30 - 03:00 pm: coffee break
03:00 - 04:45 pm: 5 talks with 15 minutes and about 5 minutes questions
04:4530 - 05:00 pm: Summary

06:30 pm: Dinner in the Leibniz Hall

August 17
Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Science (BBAW) - Leibniz Hall
Chair of the session: Mike Mertens (DARIAH-EU)
09:00 – 12:30 am: Digital Humanities and citizen science **(3rd program slot - theme 3)**
09:00 - 10:00 am: 3 talks with 15 minutes and about 5 minutes questions

10:00 - 10:30 am: Coffee break

10:30 - 12:00 am: Moderated discussion – "hot topic" style
12:00 - 12:30 am: Summaries of the discussions

12:30 am: Lunch and End of the Meeting