

DIGITAL HUMANITIES IN THE LIBRARY: MUSIC LIBRARIANS AS COLLABORATORS

Program Report, MLA 2014 Atlanta

Submitted by Patty Falk

This session was held on Friday, February 28, 2014 in the Grand Ballroom I/II at the Grand Hyatt in Atlanta and was co-sponsored by the Emerging Technologies and Services Committee and the Bibliographic Control Committee. The speakers included Anna Kijas (University of Connecticut-UConn), Robert Simon (University of Notre Dame-ND), and Stephen Henry (University of Maryland-UM). Each panelist was given five questions to answer in regards to digital humanities in their libraries. The questions are listed below, along with a summarized answer from each panelist.

1) How would you describe digital humanities in your library?

UConn has website dedicated to digital humanities and resources on and off campus (<http://scholarscollab.uconn.edu/>); UM has MITH (Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities) (<http://mith.umd.edu/>); ND has a Center for Digital Scholarship (<http://library.nd.edu/cds/>)

2) How are digital humanities projects supported at your institution and what is your role in providing support as a librarian?

ND has a virtual presence with equipment centralized to offer expertise and support; UM has research data services; MITH has its own support; has subject specialists and ad hoc support; UConn has Scholars' Collaborative space and data management services; collaboration with graduate students and faculty.

3) Are other librarians/staff being re-skilled to support or collaborate on digital humanities projects? How? What skills do you believe music librarians have to offer to digital humanities projects?

UM-librarians are being re-skilled and are adding to collection development duties; UM offers professional development including workshops and immersion programs; UConn offers workshop series for librarians and resources, including a LibGuide (<http://classguides.lib.uconn.edu/digschol>); ND is shifting personnel to research center and adding ad hoc expertise when needed; ND also offers workshops for librarians to add skills.

4) Provide examples of recent project (or if no current projects, part of the process that is underway).

UM-Working on music theatre online and work with Alan Lomax materials; UConn has supported three Ph.D. student projects, including Virtual Hartford, 19th century Paratexts, and Studying Judith; ND has created Seaside research and Medieval Carthanian vespers project.

5) How do you suggest music librarians with an interest in supporting digital humanities projects get involved?

All suggested talking with colleagues and faculty, attending workshops and other professional development opportunities including THATCamp (<http://thatcamp.org>); ND-look for digital humanities opportunities already on campus.

Some of the questions raised at the end of the session included sustainability issues and how creating digital scholarship would work for faculty working towards tenure or promotion.