

Digital Arts & Humanities Initiatives

A collaboration between The Institute of Arts & Humanities and The Library

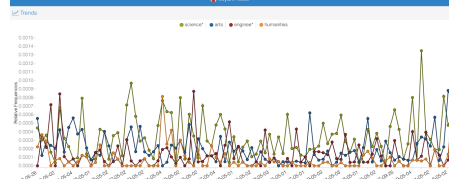
Introduction

In collaboration with the Library, the Institute of Arts & Humanities (IAH) has been carrying out a variety of Digital Arts & Humanities Initiatives as a way of imparting humanist students and scholars with the technical skills and interest, rhetorical fluency, and political literacy necessary for exploring and critically engaging digital technologies from a humanistic standpoint.

Through training workshops, talks, consultations with faculty, students, and staff, interdisciplinary research groups, digital resources, and collaborative projects, these initiatives are geared towards building an inclusive, collaborative, and accessible digital humanities community on campus. Workshops are designed to introduce participants of every skill level to new digital methods such as computational analysis, digital publishing and archives, networked participatory scholarship, geographical analysis, and data visualization. Other activities, such as talks and research groups, encourage critical, interdisciplinary research on historical, philosophical, aesthetic, and intellectual aspects of these technologies.

Talks

The IAH and the Library have brought a number of speakers to discuss critical topics pertaining to the digital humanities and digital pedagogy, such as the use of new digital forms and platforms for producing and sharing knowledge, critical gender, race, and labor issues related to computation, and participatory and democratic modes of knowledge production. Recent speakers include Tara McPherson, Associate Professor of Critical Studies at the USC's School of Cinematic Arts and Mark Marino, Associate Professor of Writing at USC, and Director of Communication at the Electronic Literature Organization.



Visualization of a text analysis of pronoun use in the UCSD student newspaper *The Guardian* by Erin Glass, Associate Director of the Digital Arts & Humanities Initiatives of IAH, for a demo of Voyant at the DH Research Group.

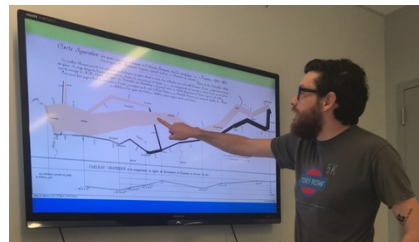
Visiting speakers



Dr. Pamela Lach, Digital Librarian at San Diego State University, delivering her talk on building support for digital humanities in academic libraries, and Dr. Tara McPherson, Associate Professor of Critical Studies at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts, delivering her talk on *Scalar*, a digital platform for publishing new forms of humanistic research

Workshops & Research Groups

In collaboration with a variety of campus organizations, the IAH and the Library have sponsored, facilitated, or hosted a number of workshops devoted to training participants in new digital tools for potential use in humanistic research and teaching. Additionally, IAH sponsors two research groups directly involved in digital scholarship: the Digital Humanities Research Group, where participants discuss readings and their projects related to digital humanities, and the Race, Gender, Nation, and Empire in Digital Scholarship, which focuses on critical issues related to digital scholarship and the use of the *Scalar* publishing platform.



Gabi Schaffzin, Ph.D. student in Visual Arts, presents on the history of information visualization at the DH Research Group.

Software workshops and training



Participants learn how to use SUAVE, a data visualization tool developed at UC San Diego by Ilya Zaslavsky and his lab, for analyzing collections of cultural materials.

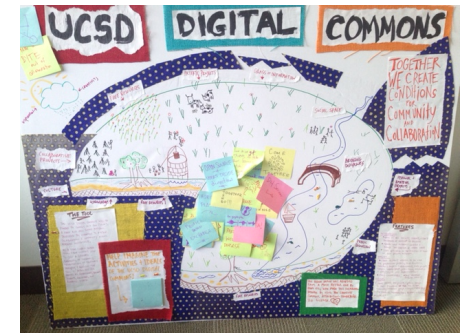
KNIT, A Digital Commons

Re-launching in Spring 2017 with the support from Educational Technology Services, KNIT--A Digital Commons for UC San Diego--will offer all campus members a rich suite of digital publishing, collaborating, and networking tools for research, teaching, and campus communication needs.

Powered by the academic-developed open source platform Commons in a Box, KNIT is geared towards expanding channels of peer-to-peer communication across disciplinary, divisional, and institutional boundaries, facilitating cross-campus networking and community building, elevating the visibility of campus research and teaching, and aiding students, faculty, and staff to create public-facing digital scholarship and resources.

As part of the \$2.59M Mellon Grant "Activating the Humanities in the 21st Century," KNIT will also be used to provide San Diego Community College students a space to build professional academic websites and network with the UC San Diego community. Plans are underway to expand KNIT to all institutions of higher learning in San Diego as a means of fostering cross-institutional collaboration and community.

KNIT, the UC San Diego Digital Commons



A poster of KNIT, a Digital Commons for UC San Diego and the local higher learning community. KNIT is set to relaunch on knit.ucsd.edu at the end of May 2017.

Consultations & Collaborative Projects

There are a number of projects underway at the IAH and the Library that contain digital components, including the \$2.59M Mellon Grant "Activating the Humanities in the 21st Century: A Collaborative Path for Transfer Students from Community College to Research University and Beyond," the San Diego Oral History project, the *Mi Familia, Mi Historia* Project, and the *Tell Us How You See IT: Living Archive* project.

As Associate Director of Digital Arts & Humanities Initiatives for the IAH, and Digital Humanities Coordinator for the Library, Erin Glass provides one-on-one consultations for faculty, students, and staff looking to explore digital humanities methods for research, teaching, or grant projects. **For more information on any of these projects, or to schedule a consultation, please email her at erglass@ucsd.edu.**



A participant of DigiCamp, an all-day training workshop in digital methods hosted by IAH and the Library, displays 3-d printed replicas of ancient Roman coins. These replicas were made in the Digital Media Lab in the Library for Dr. Edward Watt's history course with the guidance of Digital Media Lab Manager Scott McAvoy. For more information about the Digital Media Lab and its services, please contact Scott at smcavoy@ucsd.edu.