Digital Scholarship: Building a Culture of Practice

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ARL Digital Scholarship Institute

- June 5- 9, 2017 at Boston College's Connors Center in Dover, MA

- 28 participants new to digital scholarship, plus instructors

- Introduction to DS

- Hands-On Workshops

Goals

- Why are academic libraries engaging in DS?

- What are the hallmarks of DS?

- What are some different methods and tools of DS?

- How can we integrate existing skillsets into those needed for DS?

- Envision DS as a collaborative endeavor.

- Establish a cohort to cultivate knowledge-sharing and skill-building.

Which one is Digital Scholarship?

- [Voyages](#)

- [The African Diaspora PhD Tumblr](#)

- [Musical Passage](#)

- [Unknown No Longer](#)

- [1853 Richmond and its Slave Market](#)

- [Slavery & Anti-Slavery: A Transnational Archive](#)

- [The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass An American Slave](#)

- [Wordseer: Slave Narratives](#)

- [The Knotted Line](#)

Hallmarks of Digital Scholarship

Digital Scholarship advances a scholarly argument, has a pedagogical thrust, offers interpretation, is collaborative, is interdisciplinary, is (ideally) open access, and/or is reusable (ability to download, manipulate, transform, query or similar).

The Question

Can it be done in print? If not, how can a digital project enhance your scholarship?

ARL DSI Workshops (Github)

- Text Analysis with **Voyant Tools**

- Archives & Exhibitions with **Omeka**

- Geospatial and Temporal Mapping with **CartoDB**

- Multimodal Online Publishing with **Scalar**

- Information Visualization with **RawGraphics**

- Scholarly Editions: Text Encoding and Publishing with TEI (using **Oxygen XML Editor**)

Librarians' Role in Digital Scholarship

- Librarians must care about the research question itself. Focus on the Reference Interview. Tools come later.

- Community and relationships are key. DS is people.

- Library as place will never really be the hub or flagship for DS.

- Librarians must be scholars and/or makers for DS to work. The Service Model does not work. We have to rethink how we view our labor.

- Minimize computing and tools. Be simple: displace complexity.

Making Scholarship Happen

Digital Scholarship is not about the tools. We must get away from "I am going to learn about X tool and then teach people X tool."

Don't build digital projects. Build a community of digital scholars (M. Posner)

- Scholarly Engagement Librarians
- Special Collections Librarians and Archivists
- Digital Initiatives and Publishing
- Technical Services
- Web Services and Tulane Technology Services
- CELT, Tulane Makerspace, and other partners
- Faculty, Graduate Students, Undergraduates

Building a Culture of Practice at Tulane

- Get interested. Get active. Learn. Create: [Tulane Reading Project Research Guide](#)

- Take a distributed approach to skill building and sharing of knowledge.

- Start having conversations, engage with faculty and students on their research topics, build workshops, webinars, and community.

Let's Start a Conversation

- What are your thoughts on digital scholarship? Interests? Doubts?

- How are you already engaged in these activities?

- What are some roadblocks that you see?