Let's Code! <Humanities type = "Digital"/>

50-word abstract:

This roundtable will serve as an exploration of text encoding combined with a hands-on workshop teaching discussion participants the basics in creating scholarly; digital projects. Attendees will have an opportunity to review panelists' Digital Humanities projects and participate in writing XML code, while discussing the possibilities of "going digital."

Description:

Roundtable panelists from two University of Pittsburgh campuses will interact with audience members in a workshop and discussion sharing the fundamentals of text encoding. Participants will gain familiarity with the basic tasks associated with creating Digital Humanities-projects through the exploration of student work. Text encoding permits us to "mark up" texts in a structured and systematic way, and thereby permits us to use computers to help reveal patterns we could not have recognized with our human eyes and brains alone. Computers can search trends and variations between texts, something that we cannot do alone with such ease and consistency. Using systematic markup, we can make texts dynamic, linkable in digital archives, and more widely accessible. From our markup, we can build graphs, maps, and trees to chart information and create new teaching and research tools. Panelists will explore the benefits of distant reading through the use of data visualizations and analysis tools versus the typical humanist's close reading of individual texts. Panelists will also be looking at the limitations of markup and how it may solidify a single interpretation of a text with a seemingly more permanent digital presence. The panel will introduce digital tools and XML to the audience using examples from their work with Emily Dickinson's Fascicle 16 and Nell Nelson's "City Slave Girls" exposé. Then the audience will join the panel in a live coding session of Minnesota Poet Laureate Joyce Sutphen's poem "At the Moment".

GitHub Material:

https://github.com/RJP43/STD_UPG/tree/master/2016Convention_MinneapolisMN

Participants:

- 1. Andrew Cameron Nitz, University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh), Alpha Alpha Delta, acn23@pitt.edu
- 2. Alexandra L. Krongel, University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh), Alpha Alpha Delta, alk157@pitt.edu
- 3. Rebecca Parker, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, Alpha Alpha Delta, rjp43@pitt.edu
- 4. Brooke Lawrence, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, Alpha Alpha Delta, bll37@pitt.edu

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Faculty Moderator: Elisa Beshero-Bondar, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, ebb8@pitt.edu