Project Endings Meeting Notes

28 August 2017

Present: Carlin, Czaykowska-Higgins, Goddard, Holmes, Jenstad, Newton

Janelle proposed that the Internet Shakespeare Editions become an Endings project, given the emphasis on ending and archiving in the ISE’s new iteration. All agreed that this is a great idea, given the synergies between ISE and Project Endings.

We briefly discussed the Endings-related conference papers presented by Joey, Martin, and Lisa during the summer.

The focus of the hour was on preparing the HREB application so that our surveys can be performed beginning this fall. Claire prepared the draft application with Ewa’s help, based on the first, multiple-choice survey. The group was able to refine some aspects of the application, especially the sections on access and data storage: given the Project Endings focus, we would like the survey data to be preserved “for the life of the HCMC.” With regard to survey software, we plan to use FluidSurveys as this is the favoured instrument of UVic, though the contract between UVic and FluidSurveys is set to expire at the end of February 2018. The idea of a small pilot to test the survey was brought up again, and it was suggested that John and Corey be among the testers as they were perhaps less involved in formulating the questions than the rest of us.

In order to save time with the HREB process in the long run, it was decided that the HREB application should cover both this survey and its follow-up qualitative interview of 20-25 of the respondents from the multiple-choice survey. This leaves quite a bit of additional work to do on the HREB application, especially the formulation of the interview questions. (The survey questions must be submitted as appendices to the HREB application.)

Elizabeth, as the lead on these surveys, will work on finalizing the HREB application. Using GoogleDocs, we can all assist her with the questions for the second survey. It should be noted that no one has followed up on our plan to consult Geri Van Gyn about our survey questions, given her extensive experience with surveys, but waiting until we have draft interview questions may make the consultation more valuable. Elizabeth will also be able to consult the Ethics office prior to submission if there remain questions about their expectations. We hope that the application will be ready for submission in advance of the September 25 meeting.

We also discussed dissemination of the results of our surveys: a small report from each should be made available to survey participants. White papers on each survey are also possible, with a peer-reviewed article an important output once we have all of the results.

The next meeting will take place on Monday September 25 at 1pm following the data management focus group to take place at noon around the HCMC conference table. Jentery Sayers has expressed interest in Project Endings and has been invited to both meetings.

Claire will be away that day but will present a detailed report on the budget on October 30. In the meantime, it was agreed that Joey and Sarah will continue to be employed this fall.