RDA + Digital Humanities = ?
The Research Data Alliance (RDA) builds the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing of data.

The RDA vision is researchers and innovators openly sharing data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society.

The current global research data landscape is highly fragmented, by disciplines or by domains, from oceanography, life sciences and health, to agriculture, space and climate. When it comes to cross-disciplinary activities, the notions of “building blocks” of common data infrastructures and building specific “data bridges” are becoming accepted metaphors for approaching the data complexity and enable data sharing. The Research Data Alliance enables data to be shared across barriers through focused Working Groups and Interest Groups, formed of experts from around the world – from academia, industry and government. Participation in RDA is open to anyone who agrees to its guiding principles of openness, consensus, balance, harmonisation, with a community driven and non-profit approach.

The Research Data Alliance (RDA) was launched as a community-driven organization in 2013 by the European Commission, the United States National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Australian Government’s Department of Innovation with the goal of building the social and technical infrastructure to enable open sharing of data.

With close to 4,200 members from 110 countries (June 2016), RDA provides a neutral space where its members can come together through focused global Working and Interest Groups to develop and adopt infrastructure that promotes data-sharing and data-driven research, and accelerate the growth of a cohesive data community that integrates contributors across domain, research, national, geographical and generational boundaries.
Digital Practices in History and Ethnography IG

About

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group (DPHP-IG) works to advance data standards, practices and infrastructure for historical and ethnographic research, contributing to broader efforts in the digital humanities and social sciences.

Goals

- Advance development of digital infrastructure for historical and ethnographic research through engagement with concrete scholarly practice and projects (such as Open Folklore, the Nunaliit Atlas Framework, the Platform for Experimental and Collaborative Ethnography and Indiana University's Mathers Museum of World Cultures).
Seventh Plenary
Hosted and co-organised by the Japan Science and Technology Agency under the theme “Making data sharing work in the era of Open Science” the 7th RDA Plenary meeting took place in Tokyo, Japan from the 1st to the 3rd of March 2016.

Sixth Plenary
The 6th RDA Plenary meeting, with the main theme being Enterprise Engagement with a focus on Research Data for Climate Change, took place in Paris, France from 23-25 Sept 2015

Fifth Plenary
The 5th RDA plenary meeting, with the main theme being Adopt a Deliverable, took place in San Diego, US from 8-11 March 2015

Fourth Plenary
The fourth RDA plenary meeting, with the main theme being Reaping the Fruits, took place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 22-24 September 2014.

Third Plenary
Australia, in close partnership with Ireland, hosted the Third Plenary for the Research Data Alliance in Dublin, Ireland on March 26 to 28, 2014 focusing on The Data Sharing Community

Second Plenary
The Second RDA Plenary meeting was held at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC from 16-18 September 2013 and its theme was Building Global Partnerships

First Plenary and RDA Launch Event
The first plenary meeting and official launch of RDA was held in Gothenburg, Sweden from 18-20 March 2013.
A project to develop digital collection, storage and distribution strategies for multimedia anthropological information from the Himalayan region

The Digital Himalaya project was designed by Alan Macfarlane and Mark Turin as a strategy for archiving and making available ethnographic materials from the Himalayan region. Based at the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, the project was established in December 2000. From 2002 to 2005, the project moved to the Department of Anthropology at Cornell University and began its collaboration with the University of Virginia. As of July 2014, the project is in the process of relocating to the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

About the Project

Collections
- Census of Nepal
- Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf
- Films
- Journals
- Maps
- Music
- Naga Videodisc and Database
- Rare Books
- Thak Archive
- Thangmi Archive
- Frederick Williamson

Annotation Studio

Annotation Studio is a suite of collaborative web-based annotation tools currently under development at MIT.

Read
Engage and reflect more critically upon texts instead of passively reading them.

Annotate
Bring the millennia old humanistic tradition of annotation into contemporary electronic media in the digital humanities.

Share
Create discussion classes and communities of practice around texts.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE DATA LANDSCAPE

What data cultures and practices characterize historical and ethnographic research?

- Can these be described with the Data Practices and Curation (DPC) Vocabulary referenced by Carol Palmer?

What workflows characterize historical and ethnographic research? What blocks or creates opportunities for collaboration in these workflows? *When* – at what stages in the research process – do historians and ethnographers think it appropriate/valid/useful to share research data and findings?

- In her RDA plenary, Carol Palmer pointed us to Harry Collins 1998 paper comparing gravitational wave research groups in Italy and the US – emphasizing the differences in what counted as a publishable result.

What data systems, platforms and tools have historians and ethnographers relied on in the past, and what has been developed in recent years, leveraging digitization?

What data types do historians and ethnographers collect, archive, analyze and potentially share?
Critical Data Practice for the Humanities
SPECIAL DATA SHARING CHALLENGES IN THE HUMANITIES

Despite these benefits, in the USA in 2010, just

0.45% of federal research money went to the Humanities

Between 2007 and 2013, European Commission Funding to the Social Sciences and Humanities was just

1.06% of their total research budget of £55.51 bn
Welche Thiere gleichen einander am meisten?

Kaninchen und Ente.
SPECIAL DATA SHARING CHALLENGES IN THE HUMANITIES
Sorting things in: Feminist knowledge representation and changing modes of scholarly production

Susan Brown a,*, Patricia Clements b, Isobel Grundy b

a School of English and Theatre Studies, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1G 2W1
b Department of English and Film Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2E3

Abstract

A feminist web-based research initiative must make electronic publication an integral part of the research design. We are at a critical juncture in the production of scholarly tools in electronic form, as we move from the production of archives that seek to reproduce existing collections of primary material towards more mediated contextual materials, such as the newly published Orlando: Writing in the British Isles from the beginnings to the present or the proposal for fusing primary and secondary materials in the projected Feminists and Print Culture, 1830–1930 project. This discussion takes the Orlando Project as an example of what can be gained by the customized application of semantic markup language to originally digital materials in order to address some crucial issues raised by large-scale humanities computing work. Feminist scholars must participate in the highly politicized processes of knowledge organization to have a shaping impact on humanities research and dissemination, and this shift in our mode of production has major impacts on what scholarly work involves, how it is resourced, how it is conducted and by whom, and how it is credited.

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The Curious Identity of Michael Field and its Implications for Humanities Research with the Semantic Web

Susan Brown  
University of Alberta / University of Guelph  
Implementing the New Knowledge Environment/Text Mining & Visualization for Literary History  
Edmonton, Canada  
susan.brown@uoguelph.ca

John Simpson  
University of Alberta  
Implementing the New Knowledge Environment/Text Mining & Visualization for Literary History  
Edmonton, Canada  
john.simpson@ualberta.ca

Abstract—This paper uses the case of author Michael Field, the shared writing identity of two late Victorian women, to consider the implications of embracing the semantic web for humanities research. It is argued that the ontologies prevalent in this domain hold potential for improving access to the vast and complex worlds that fragmented information in humanities collections describes. Further, the paper concludes that humanities researchers should consider the uptake of linked open data standards and semantic web technologies for humanities research. This uptake is expressed in three sorts of contributions: aggregations of humanities and text information, specialized archives, and tool developments.
RDA and the Digital Humanities enabling kaleidoscopic
# DATA SHARING IN THE (EMPIRICAL) HUMANITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meta</strong></td>
<td>supporting discourse (about open science)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Macro</strong> (funding)</td>
<td>supporting law, policy (copyright)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meso</strong></td>
<td>supporting organizational structures (collaboration governance, attribution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Micro</strong></td>
<td>practices, methods, study designs (expression of tacit knowledge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Techno nets</strong></td>
<td>metadata, platforms, repositories, data (borrowing and best practices)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data</strong></td>
<td>algorithms, structures, architectures, URIS (ontologies, humanities computing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nano</strong></td>
<td>culture, language ideology, education (data literacy)</td>
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