Participant Profiles

CNI Digital Scholarship Centers Workshop
Spring 2014

Name of Institution: University of Kansas

Participant I Name: Brian Rosenblum
Participant I Email: brianlee@ku.edu
Participant I Title: Head, Center for Faculty Initiatives, KU Libraries
Participant I Role in Digital Scholarship Center: Co-director of KU's Institute of Digital Research in the Humanities

Name and URL associated with your digital scholarship center:
Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities
http://idrh.ku.edu

If you have a mission statement or some similar description of your center, please share it here:
The Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities (IDRH) provides resources and training in the practices and tools of the digital humanities, facilitating interdisciplinary academic collaborations and innovative externally-funded research. Founded in 2010, IDRH is supported through a partnership of KU Libraries, the Hall Center for the Humanities, and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

The goal of IDRH is to prepare and support faculty and graduate students as they explore and use computing technology to advance humanistic scholarship across disciplines. IDRH will enhance the possibilities that digital technologies present to humanities research by:

Providing opportunities for faculty and graduate students to learn about the use of technology for humanistic inquiry, and stimulating ongoing discussions about relationships between technologies and human experience;
Supporting the development or novel use of digital tools and practices for innovative humanities research, including collaborative and interdisciplinary research;
Assisting scholars to explore new and emerging models of digital research, publishing, and peer-review;
Providing a knowledge base and the training for faculty to successfully pursue external grant awards, particularly in computationally-assisted research;
Working with faculty, departmental leadership, promotion and tenure committees, and KU administration to generate a series of dialogues about the transformation occurring in humanities scholarship, and the implications for digital research contributions and their evaluation; and
Providing a forum for scholarly innovation, as well as for discussions between faculty, departmental leadership, promotion and tenure committees, and KU administration about the implications of the transformations in digital scholarship on their evaluation.

What kinds of spaces are included in your Digital Scholarship Center? Select all that apply:
Staff offices
Public workstations
Collaboration spaces

Consultation areas
Seminar/workshop/classroom spaces
Other (please specify): Note: the above spaces are general shared spaces located within the Libraries, not exclusive to our digital humanities institute.)

What services does your center support?
Consultation on digital technologies
Consultation on digital project management
Digital preservation/curation consultation
Workshops
Other: seed grants, course development grants, annual digital humanities conference, monthly seminars

Services offered (additional items) – select all that apply
Grant writing assistance
HASTAC scholar stipends for graduate students
Consultation in pedagogy/instructional technologies

What type of staff is involved in the center?:
Librarians
Faculty from academic departments
Graduate students
Undergraduate students

Do you have **instructional technologists** on your staff? No

Please provide a URL or describe (in a few sentences) one digital project that has had support of the center:
In 2013 we awarded a digital humanities seed grant to Associate Professor Crispin Williams (East Asian Languages & Cultures) for the project described below.

Project Title: From the brushes of ancient scribes: an online database and intuitive visualization interface for research into the fifth-century BC Wenxian Covenant Texts

Description: The grant will fund the construction and initial data entry for an online database critical to realize the full research potential of the Wenxian Covenant Texts. The website's sophisticated search options and intuitive visualization interface will reveal complex relationships between these texts, their media, provenance, script, scribes, and language. Software will include MySQL, PHP, XHTML with CSS, HTML5. The pilot study will attract external funding, ensuring the project's completion. This will result in publications, a public website, and a new Open Source visualization interface.

Please provide pointers to additional materials that may be helpful in understanding the structure and work of the center (journal articles, book chapters, web pages, reports, etc.):
http://hdl.handle.net/1808/10340
Task Force on Digital Directions in the Humanities:
This 2010 task force report that recommended the creation of IDRH contains much

information about the findings and thinking that led to the creation of IDRH, as well as information about the administrative structure, and the state of digital scholarship on the KU campus at that time.

In addition, more information about the center can be found on our website at http://idrh.ku.edu/about%20IDRH

Would you like to include visuals in your profile? If so, please send them as attachments and submit to CNI along with this profile document.

If you have **additional information** to add to this profile, please insert here:

During the workshop there was discussion of **definitions** for digital scholarship centers as compared to, or in relation to, other similar programs, such as digital humanities centers. Please share any suggestions or ideas you may have regarding this question: