

Participant Profiles

CNI Digital Scholarship Centers Workshop Spring 2014

Name of Institution: Columbia University

Participant I Name: Jeffrey Lancaster

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Participant I Title: Emerging Technologies Coordinator

Participant I Role in Digital Scholarship Center: Leads the Digital Science Center; serves as representative of Science and Engineering Division to the Digital Centers Working Group, which coordinates activities among Columbia University Libraries/Information Services various digital centers.

Name and URL associated with your digital scholarship center:

Digital Social Science Center: <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dssc.html>

Digital Humanities Center: <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dhc.html>

Digital Science Center: <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dsc.html>

Center for Digital Research and Scholarship: <http://cdrs.columbia.edu>

If you have a mission statement or some similar description of your center, please share it here:

- Digital Social Science Center: The Digital Social Science Center (DSSC) located in Lehman Library provides a wide range of information and technology assistance for students and faculty. DSSC brings together people, equipment, and information resources in an environment where users can work collaboratively, individually, or in consultation with a librarian and/or technology specialist.
- Digital Science Center: The [Digital Science Center](#) in the [Science & Engineering Library](#) fulfills the vision of Columbia Libraries to consolidate and redefine library spaces for the 21st century. Working with the University Science departments, the Libraries have defined a set of services to meet the research and teaching needs of University science programs, serving [Biology](#), [Chemistry](#), [Physics & Astronomy](#), [Mathematics](#), [Geology](#), [Geosciences](#), [Psychology](#), and [Engineering](#). The Digital Science Center incorporates state-of-the-art [technology](#), high-end [software](#) and research data sets for scientific analysis and visualization, and professional, discipline-specific consulting and support.
- Digital Humanities Center: The Digital Humanities Center (DHC) in Butler 305, a part of the Humanities and History Division (H&H), is one of three divisional or subject-oriented digital centers at Columbia Libraries.
 - The DHC brings together technology and research support to serve Columbia students, faculty, and staff working in the humanities and history. Users can come, individually or in groups, to identify, learn, and use the latest digital resources and technologies, often in combination with resources they create themselves or with resources and technologies acquired from other sites.
 - The DHC aims to provide at least basic support for all digital formats of relevance to a given user, full support for those materials collected by the History and Humanities Division, and referrals to other library or campus departments for training on or more expert assistance with specific tools.
 - The DHC serves as a space in which H&H librarians can provide their digitally-based reference, consultative, and instructional services in conjunction with

print collections. The DHC aims to integrate its work closely with that of the general public service efforts of the Humanities and History Division. It increasingly functions as an integrated H&H reference, research, and technology center.

- It is also a site for formalized close collaboration and interaction among the players on the University's information team—especially the Libraries' Digital Program, the Library IT Office, CCNMTL, CDRS, CUIT — as well as other departmental computing units on campus. The DHC will act as a point of first contact with the Columbia information system, building upon the respective expertise of each of those groups or providing referrals to them, and providing a venue for the demonstration, implementation, and evaluation of their digital products as well as a space in which staff of those groups can also work as needed
- Center for Digital Research and Scholarship: Our mission is to increase the utility and impact of research produced at Columbia by creating, adapting, implementing, supporting, and sustaining innovative digital tools and publishing platforms for content delivery, discovery, analysis, data curation, and preservation. In pursuit of that mission, we also engage in extensive outreach, education, and advocacy to ensure that the scholarly work produced at Columbia University has a global reach and accelerates the pace of research across disciplines.

What kinds of spaces are included in your Digital Scholarship Center? Select all that apply:

Staff offices
Public workstations
Collaboration spaces
Service point/desk
Consultation areas
Seminar/workshop/classroom spaces
Visualization lab
Other (please specify)

What services does your center support?:

Consultation on digital technologies
Consultation on digital project management
Consultation on data discovery, use, and interpretation
Intellectual property consultation
Digital preservation/curation consultation
Workshops
Media production studio
Other: 3D printing

Services offered (additional items) – select all that apply

Grant writing assistance
Data services
Graduate student fellowships
Consultation in pedagogy/instructional technologies

What type of staff is involved in the center?:

Information technology professionals
Multimedia professionals
Librarians – both subject and skill specialists
Information technologists
Graduate students
Digital Center interns

Do you have **instructional technologists** on your staff?

Instructional technologists at Columbia are primarily part of the Center for New Media Teaching and Learning, though staff of the digital centers are involved in technology, pedagogy, and training as well.

Please provide a URL or describe (in a few sentences) one digital project that has had support of the center:

Legacies of Aime Cesaire, a joint project of the Digital Humanities Center and the Center for Digital Research and Scholarship (with contributions from many others):

<http://cesairelegacies.cdrs.columbia.edu/>

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.

Visuals, including images of the Columbia digital centers, available on our websites:

- <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dhc.html>
- <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dsc.html>
- <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dssc.html>

We're happy to send photos if you'd like to host a copy of them there, too.

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

A full list of the software on the workstations in the digital centers can be found here:

<http://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/?&datasource=catalog&q=965DCsoftware>

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: