

Evolving a Library's Transcription Project into Digital Humanities Opportunities for Students and Staff

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William & Mary at a Glance

- Second oldest institution of higher learning in America (Harvard is first)
- A "Public Ivy"
- Arts & Sciences programs and four graduate/professional schools: Business, Education, Law and Marine Science.
- Enrollment: 6,285 undergraduates and 2,455 graduate students.
- W&M Libraries: Swem Library with 3 branch libraries, Law School Law, and 3 professional schools libraries.



W&M Landscape Pre-GPP

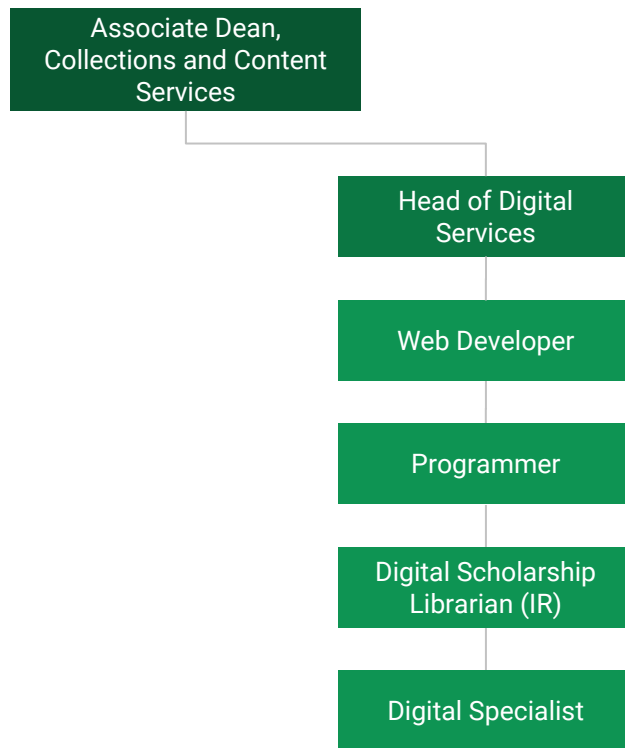
Faculty /Academics

- No formal DH program or lab on campus
- Digital Humanities|Digital Scholarship happening in pockets.
 - Williamsburg's Documentary Project:<http://wdp.blogs.wm.edu/>
 - Russian Movie Theater <http://mtp.blogs.wm.edu/>
- Undergraduate focused
- New hire: Elizabeth Losh --began Equality Lab, informal DH academics graduate students.

W&M Libraries

- Special Collections & Media Center involved with faculty.
- Library asked A LOT for help
- Digital Services unit created
 - Part of Tech Services - Traditional Tech Services!
 - Responsible for web presence and digital collections in all forms.
 - Support Libraries' initiatives, not a campus 'Digital Lab'

W&M Landscape Pre-GPP



W&M Landscape | Enter GPP...

The Georgian Papers Programme:

The Georgian Papers Programme (GPP) is a ten-year interdisciplinary project to digitise, conserve, catalogue, transcribe, interpret and disseminate 425,000 pages or 65,000 items in the Royal Archives and Royal Library relating to the Georgian period, 1714-1837. The ultimate goal of the GPP is to provide a unique digital resource that is both readily accessible to members of the public and capable of sophisticated manipulation by researchers in any discipline, and to offer academic and public programming representing fresh research and interpretation.

The GPP is a partnership between Royal Collection Trust and King's College London and is joined by primary United States partners the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture and William & Mary.

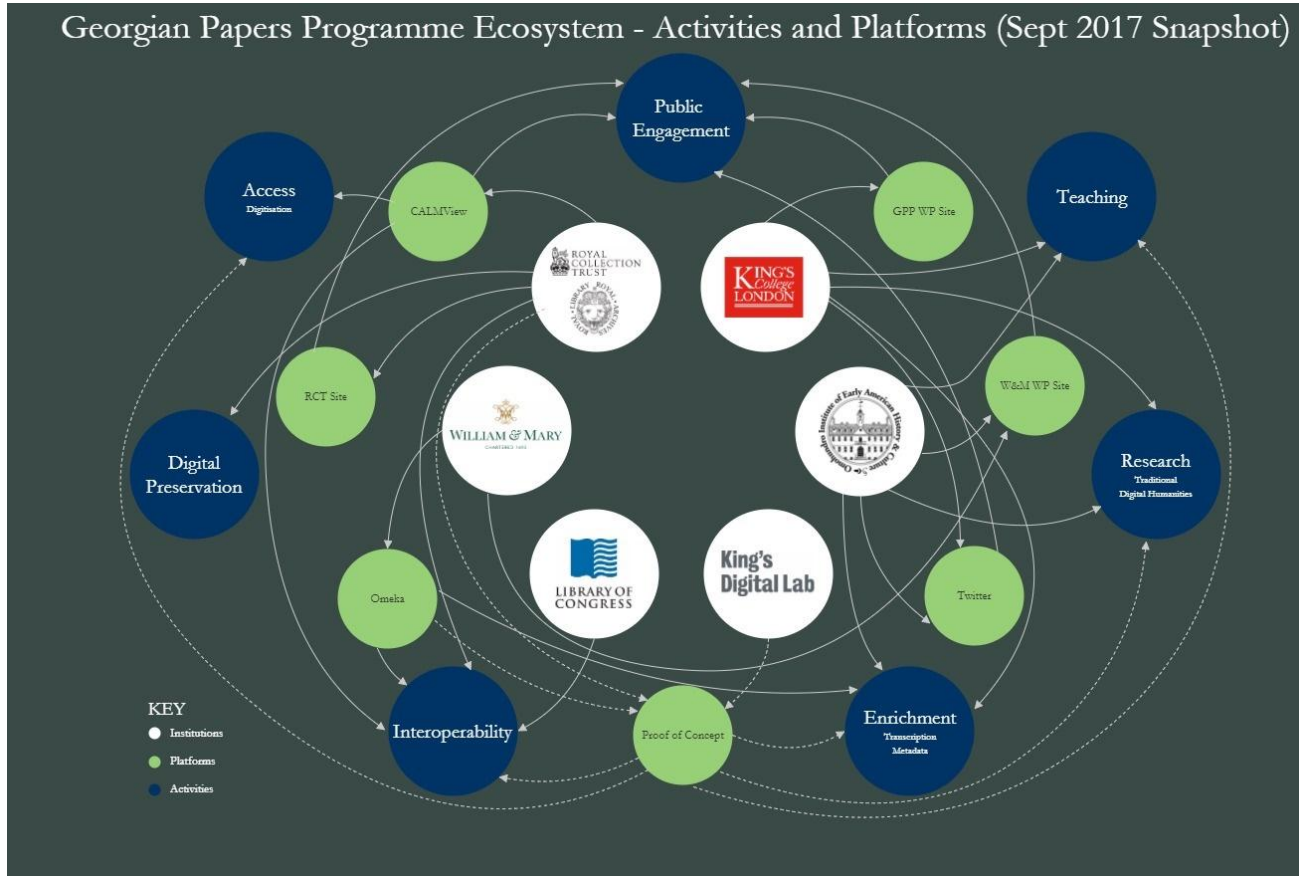
W&M Libraries = Transcription

WILLIAM & MARY LIBRARIES

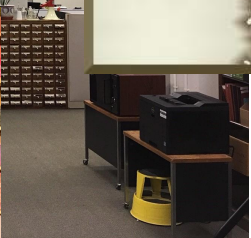


WILLIAM & MARY
LIBRARIES

W&M Libraries | GPP



W&M Libraries | GPP



Transcription Project = Opportunities | Students

Two methods for Transcription:

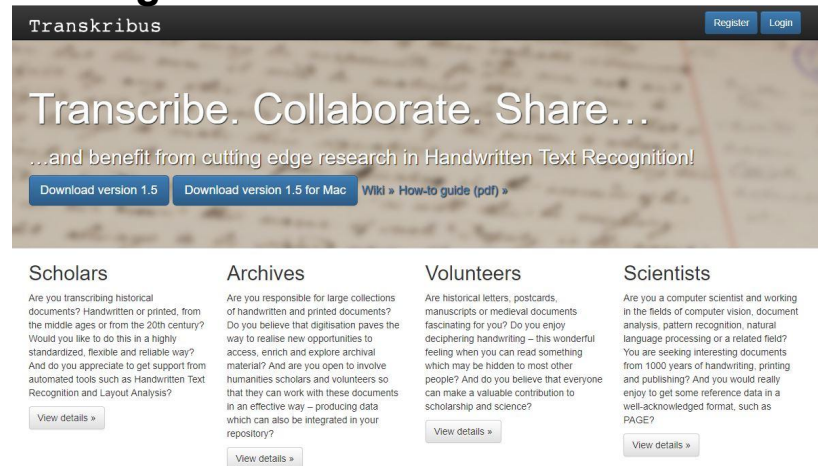
Omeka: Crowd-Sourced Website



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Georgian Papers Programme Transcription website. At the top, there is a dark red header with the logo 'Georgian Papers Programme' on the left and 'LOGIN' and 'ADMIN' links on the right. Below the header is a search bar with a 'SEARCH' button and a link to 'Advanced Search >'. A navigation menu below the search bar includes 'HOME', 'PROJECTS', 'TRANSCRIPTION - START HERE -', 'PROGRESS BOARDS -', and 'ABOUT -'. The main content area features the heading 'Transcribe the Georgian Papers' and a paragraph: 'An ongoing project with the Georgian Papers Programme partners to transcribe this historic collection of documents relating to the Georgian monarchy.' Below this text are three buttons: 'LOGIN', 'LEARN TO TRANSCRIBE', and 'BROWSE PROJECTS'.

<http://transcribegergianpapers.wm.edu/>

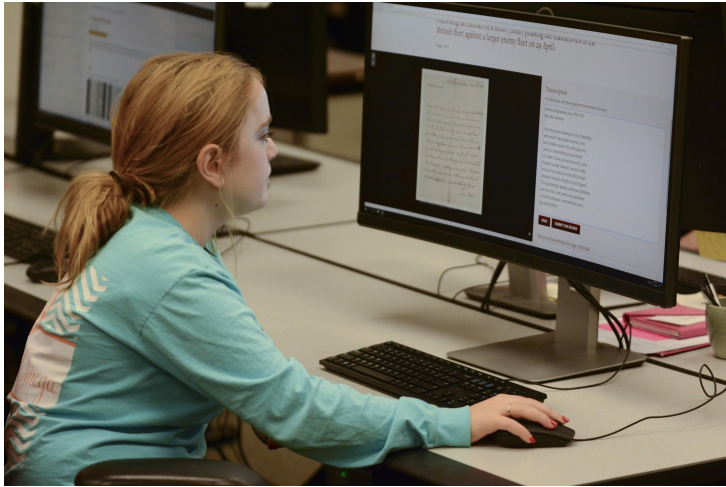
Transkribus: Handwritten Text Recognition



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Transkribus website. At the top, there is a dark header with the logo 'Transkribus' on the left and 'Register' and 'Login' buttons on the right. Below the header is a large banner with the text 'Transcribe. Collaborate. Share...' and '...and benefit from cutting edge research in Handwritten Text Recognition!'. Below the banner are three buttons: 'Download version 1.5', 'Download version 1.5 for Mac', and 'Wiki > How-to guide (pdf) >'. The main content area is divided into four columns: 'Scholars', 'Archives', 'Volunteers', and 'Scientists'. Each column contains a short paragraph describing the target audience and a 'View details >' button.

<https://transkribus.eu/Transkribus/>

DH Opportunities Students



Transcription Team:

Undergrad students hired on for paid transcriber positions.

Commit to min 8 hours per week

Work onsite or remotely

Transcription work of team focus:

- **Core time sensitive materials,**
- **Difficult materials,**
- **Beta testing of guidelines, and workflows for both crowd-source and Transkribus methods.**

DH Opportunities | Students



Transcription Team:

Graduate students

Made use of established library intern program with History | American Studies graduate program.

Created project assistant position:

- **Assists Head of Digital Services on project.**
- **Project management work**
- **Writing instructions, blogs, & web content**
- **Omeka & Transkribus management**
- **TEI and guidelines research**

DH Opportunities | Students

Trankibus v1.4.0 (22_02_2018_15:07), Loaded doc: GEO:/MAIN/52921-52932_GEO:/MAIN/52933-52935, ID: 53639, Page 1, file: GEO/_MAIN_52921_001.jpg [Image Meta info: [Resolution:400, w'h: 1400 * 1976] [current line: w'h: 959 * 161]

Server: Overview Layout Metadata Tools

Document: GEO:/MAIN/52921-52932_GEO:/MAIN/52933-52935, ID: 53639

Collection: George II - GEO:/MAIN/52997, ID: 15699

Filename: GEO/_MAIN_52921_001.jpg

Image URL: https://doi-throne.uobk.ac.ir/GetId=UBWRKLAUHAHGDKYGOY?8&fileType=Image

Transcript URL: https://doi-throne.uobk.ac.ir/GetId=CUSLVZRMKNVQZOUWVNSV

Page Transcript ID: 2547213/6361651

Open Document Manager

Thumbnail Overview of Document

1: New 2: New 3: New 4: New 5: New 6: New

7: New 8: New 9: New 10: New 11: New 12: New

13: New 14: New 15: New 16: New 17: New 18: New

19: New 20: New 21: New 22: New 23: New 24: New

25: New 26: New 27: New 28: New 29: New 30: New

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Create thumbs for local doc

In Progress

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In the Name of the holy & blessed Trinity.
We George II, by the Grace of God, King of
Great Britain, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith
Duke of Bronsvic Luneburg, Arch-Treasurer of the
holy Roman Empire & Elector &c. declare:
Whereas Our Ancestors have settled the hereditary
Succession in Our Electorate, & the Rest of Our German
Dominions, by establishing & introducing the
Jus primogeniturae; & whereas nothing certain
has been settled & agreed upon as an Appannagum
& suitable maintenance for the younger Sons
& their Families; That We therefore, according
to the Example of Our Ancestors, & especially
of Our late Grand Father, Ernest August, Duke

1/100 Done

Henry II. C-ED ADD PMS 32 (12) 01.

Henry came to the Crown with all the
advantages of birth & Character, His two first
actions rais'd him immensely with the people,
the first was dismissing all Foreigners, the
second was the choice of His Council that He
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11 He made through the Country; this produced
12 a total change; repeopl'd the Villages, &

Region: 1/2/2

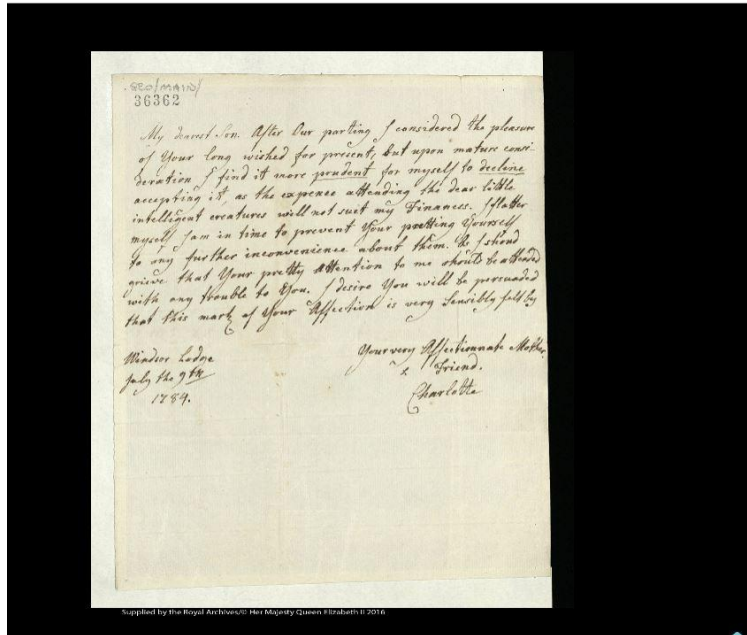
DH Opportunities | Students

Letter from Queen Charlotte to George, Prince of Wales

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[NEXT PAGE ›](#)

[ALL PAGES](#)



Logged into Scripto Cannot Protect Page

Transcription

For blank pages, enter [[blank page]] into the transcription box below.

My dearest Son. After Our parting I considered the pleasure of Your long wished for present, but upon mature consideration I find it more prudent for myself to decline accepting it, as the expence attending the dear little intelligent creatures will not suit my Finances. I flatter myself I am in time to prevent Your putting yourself to any further inconvenience about them. As I should grieve that Your pretty attention to me should be attended with any trouble to You. I desire You will be persuaded that this mark of Your Affection is very Sensibly felt by

your very Affectionate Mother
& Friend.
Charlotte

SAVE

DH Opportunities Students

Transcription Students -- Who are they?



3 Main Groups

1. **History/American Studies/Gender & Women Studies majors with DH interest.**
2. **Students interested in library/archives.**
3. **Students in Modern Languages, Classics, Global Studies, Political Science, English, and Literature. No interest in DH or libraries. These students enjoy using their language skills or subject knowledge.**

DH Opportunities Library Staff

Cultural Shift for Library:

- Places Library's Tech Services at forefront, and turned outwards.
- Project work pushes us to take risks, and seek collaborative partners in new areas.
 - NEH DH grant proposal with Computer Science faculty.
- Library involved with Digital Humanities discourse on campus.

Surprises on the Project (so far)

- Students get it! They are the best advocate for the project work!
- Remote work is possible for students.
- Costs: We are accomplishing it with a small increase to the library student worker budget.
- A library our size is capable of large scale DH/digital projects

Q&A

GPP Crowd-source transcription

<http://transcribegeorgianpapers.wm.edu/>

Georgian Papers Programme

<https://gpp.rct.uk/>

Transkribus

<https://transkribus.eu/Transkribus>

GPP Academic site

<https://georgianpapersprogramme.com/>

George III: The Genius of the Mad King
Documentary on GPP -- Netflix and
YouTube.