The Digital Liberal Arts

Greetings and a warm welcome to the DLA mailing list!

Through this mailing list, we will share news of upcoming events and workshops related to or hosted by the DLA in addition to useful information about the larger worlds of the digital liberal arts and digital humanities. Much of the information listed in this email is also available on the DLA's website at [go/dla](go/dla).

In this issue:

"Digital is not Better —Just Different"

Join Andrew Abbot on **March 15th, 4:30-6:00 P.M. in Axinn 219** for a talk that reviews the causes, impact, and future of the changes in "digital scholarship" in the Humanities and the Social Sciences in the last twenty years. Careful theoretical analysis reveals that there are both strengths and weaknesses to the new forms of scholarship, and that most

of the claimed strengths are illusory, at least at the advanced research level.

Andrew Abbott is the Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Sociology and the College at the University of Chicago. Known for his ecological theories of occupations, Abbott also pioneered algorithmic analysis of social sequence data. He is the author of seven books and eighty articles and chapters. This event co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Digital Liberal Arts Initiative.

"How Digital Methods Transformed Our Work"

Join Ellen Prokop and Carrie Anderson on **March 16th, 12:15-1:30 P.M.** in a discussion about how digital methods, including digital mapping and GIS, changed the ways they approached scholarship and teaching. They will share lessons learned from adapting multidisciplinary approaches (like GIS) to their work, collaborating with other scholars and students on digital projects, and what they wished they'd known before venturing into new digital territories. Lunch will be served, so please RSVP here.

Ellen Prokop is Associate Photoarchivist at the Frick Art Reference Library and an art historian who specializes in Spanish art of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Carrie Anderson is Assistant Professor of History of Art/Architecture at Middlebury College, specializing in seventeenth-century Dutch Art.

"A Modern Old Master? Using Historical GIS To Chart El Greco's Influence on the French Avant-Garde"

Ellen Prokop will also be giving a lecture titled "A Modern Old Master? Using Historical GIS To Chart El Greco's Influence on the French Avant-Garde" on **March 16th, at 4:30 P.M. in MCA 126**. This lecture will demonstrate how geospatial technologies and analytical techniques offer a compelling means to explore El Greco's contested legacy and discover

new perspectives on the enduring issue of his influence. *Sponsored by the Department of History of Art and Architecture and the Johnson Enrichment Fund.*

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Intro to Visualizing Data with Plot.ly

Are you new to working with data? Ryan Clement, Data Services Librarian, will lead a workshop on how to create effective and informative visualizations with data on **March 18th, from 1:30-3:00 P.M. in the Wilson Media Lab (LIB 220)**. He'll cover some of the basic theory of visual communication, including how to choose the best visual representation for your data, and best practices for preparing visualizations for print, the web, or presentations. You'll then work with a web application called Plot.ly to design your own visualizations. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today by signing up here.

Video Available of Dan Cohen's Lecture

Dan Cohen's February 19th talk "How the Digital Public Library of America is Changing Historical Research" is now available on the DLA website. New large-scale digital collections such as the Digital Public Library of America bring together millions of items from libraries, archives, and museums, and can form the basis for new kinds of research. Understanding how these collections are assembled, and how their data is structured and made available, is essential for envisioning such new uses and the scholarship that might now be possible. Watch Dan's talk here.

"Unlocking the Digital Humanities" Video Series

"Unlocking the Digital Humanities," a new Open Research Series, organized by the Tufts Department of Classics and by the University of Leipzig, is being recorded and broadcasted live through May of 2016.The next session in the series, "Valid and Verified Undergraduate Research" airs on March 10th at 4 PM (EST). Recordings and a full schedule are

available [here.](#)

Save the Date: Julia Flanders visits on April 28th-29th

Julia Flanders, Professor of the Practice in English and Director of the Digital Scholarship Group at Northeastern University, will be speaking on "The Shape of Data: A Research and Teaching Agenda for Digital Humanities" on **April 28th at 4:30 P.M.** and will be leading a lunchtime roundtable on **April 29th**. Watch this space and the DLA website for more details.

Apply for DLA Funding

The DLA is currently accepting applications for the Digital Enhancement Fund, which is intended to support faculty projects, in research or teaching, based on digital methods. Unlike some other DLA programs, the Digital Enhancement Fund is available to all faculty, whatever their home department, program, or disciplinary background. The general purpose of this funding program is to encourage faculty to try new methods, learn new skills, or master advanced skills that will enhance their research or teaching. Proposals for under $3000 may be submitted at any time and will be considered on a rolling basis. The next deadline for proposals over $3000 is **May 15th**. For more information, and to apply, go to the [funding tab](#) on the DLA website.

Project Spotlight: Layers of London

The Institute of Historical Research has announced a new and ambitious project called "Layers of London" that will map London's collective history. A collaboration between many local and national heritage organizations, the site will link data to "present the most comprehensive snapshot of London's diverse history in one resource, and is unique in enabling the creation of new content by online users and volunteers, who will learn new skills and be encouraged to start new local heritage projects of their own." Learn more about the project [here](#).

How to unsubscribe

You have been signed up for this list because you have expressed interest in the DLA. We hope that you will find the contents of our emails useful, but if you would like to unsubscribe from this list:

1. Go to http://go.middlebury.edu/lists

2. Type your email address into the **Member ID Finder**

3. Follow the instructions that were sent to your email address

If you have any questions about the DLA mailing list, or if you would like to add an event, please contact Alicia Peaker at apeaker@middlebury.edu. For general questions about the DLA, contact Jason Mittell (jmittell@middlebury.edu) or Alicia Peaker.

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