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A Journey through the Development of a DH Program for Undergraduates

R.C. Miessler
Gettysburg College

Clinton K. Baugess
Gettysburg College

John Dettinger
Gettysburg College

Kevin Moore
Gettysburg College

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A Journey through the Development of a DH Program for Undergraduates

Abstract

In institutions that do not actively integrate DH into the curriculum, introducing undergraduates to DH tools and methods can be difficult. However, Gettysburg College has facilitated a summer research experience for undergraduates. This interactive workshop will introduce participants to the Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship program and provide a high-level overview of its development and implementation. Workshop leaders will provide guidance on developing a summer program tailored to participants' institution's needs and aspirations. Participants will come away with strategies for identifying stakeholders and partners, developing program goals, selecting digital tools, designing workshops, and methods to incorporate aspects of assessment and sustainability.

Keywords

digital humanities, Musselman Library, digital scholarship, Gettysburg College, summer research, undergraduate research

Disciplines

Digital Humanities | Information Literacy | Library and Information Science

Comments

This presentation was given at the Bucknell University Digital Scholarship Conference in Lewisburg, PA on October 12, 2019.

The presentation is available to download as the main file. Please see the additional resources as well. All resources are covered by the Creative Commons CC-BY-NC 4.0 license.

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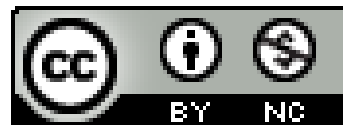
A Journey through the Development of a DH Program for Undergraduates

Clint Baugess, John Dettinger, R.C. Miessler, Kevin Moore

Gettysburg College

Bucknell University Digital Scholarship Conference

October 12, 2019, 2pm-3:30pm



@GburgColLibrary // #budsc19 // #wsb

Workshop Outline

- Overview of the Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship
- Program goals
- Support systems
- Curriculum development
- Assessment and sustainability
- Successes, challenges, and the future (Q&A)

Library Digital Scholarship Committee



- Clint Baugess, Research & Instruction Librarian
- John Dettinger, Assistant Director of User Services
- Mary Elmquist, Scholarly Communications Librarian
- Amy Lucadamo, College Archivist
- R.C. Miessler, Systems Librarian
- Kevin Moore, Research & Instruction Librarian

Guiding Question (Reflection)

How does your institution define
Digital Humanities/Scholarship?

#dssf

- High-impact summer experience for undergraduates
- Student fellows choose their own research question
- Curriculum designed to introduce them to a wide range of digital tools and DH methods
- Values-based, with focus on critical examination of DH
- Approaches DH from a discipline-agnostic perspective



Meet #DSSF19: Hoang Anh Just, Michaela Crow, Emma Poff, Emmarie Toppan, Eric Carneal, Maci Mark

Defining DH



Really, Defining DH at Gettysburg

Digital Humanities encompasses **any humanistic inquiry facilitated by digital technologies**. Digital humanists use tools for mapping, data visualization, text analysis, online exhibits, digital collections, storytelling, and more to **interpret, analyze, and present** research across all disciplines to a broad audience.

Digital Humanities work is characterized by **collaborative approaches, public engagement, openness, and transparency**. We value process and **experimentation** as well as **scholarly outcomes**.

Follow-Up Questions (Discussion)

How is DH valued and/or practiced at your institution?
If it isn't, what do you aspire to do in the next year?

Program Goals

- Exploring a research question through a digital scholarship lens
- Understand DH and its tools and methodologies
- Through the cohort model, participate in a larger community of practice through the program, campus, and other undergraduate programs
- Being able to support student, faculty, and administrator projects during the academic year



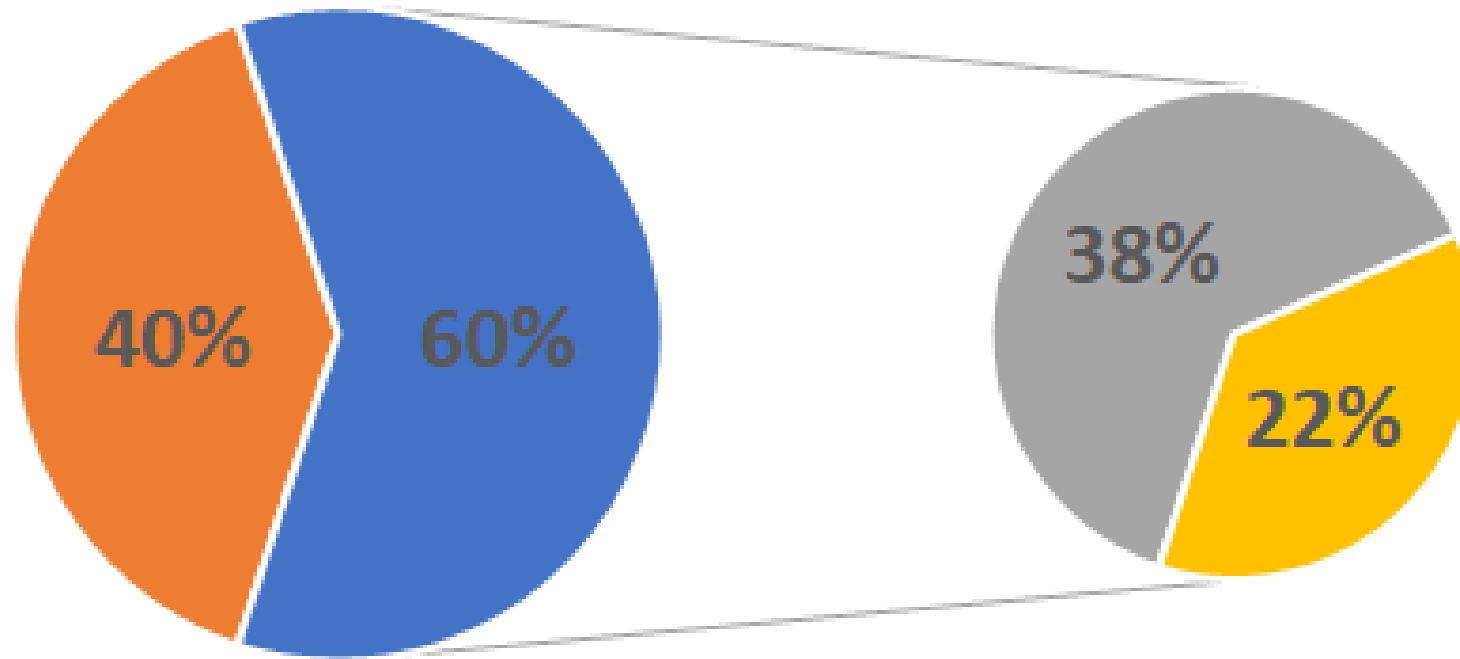
Lauren White presents at #budsc16 (photo: Bucknell University)

Guiding Question (Reflection)

What would be the primary goals at your institution?
Consider goals for students, program facilitators,
and other partners.

Support Systems

DSSF '19 - 42 Group Sessions



- Need a Presenter
- No Presenter
- Committee Presenter
- Non-Committee Presenter

Committee

Library Staff

Faculty

Educational Technology Office

Garthwait Leadership Center

Other Schools

Alumni

Madison Senseney

Sarah Morris (Lafayette College)

Greg Lord (Hamilton College/Navteca)

Prof. Ian Isherwood

Prof. Divonna Stebick

Prof. Chris Oechler

Prof. Jill Titus

Prof. Chuck Kann

Donna Skekel

Molly Reynolds

Catherine Perry

Amy Lucadamo

R.C. Miessler Kevin Moore

Kerri Odess-Harnish

Ronalee Ciocco

John Dettinger Clint Baugess

Courtney Paddick (Bucknell)

Carrie Pirmann (Bucknell)

Mallory Jallas

Carolyn Sautter

Janelle Wertzberger

Mary Elmquist

Chris Barnes

Robin Wagner

Eric Remy

Paul Miller

Carrie Szarko

Sharon Birch

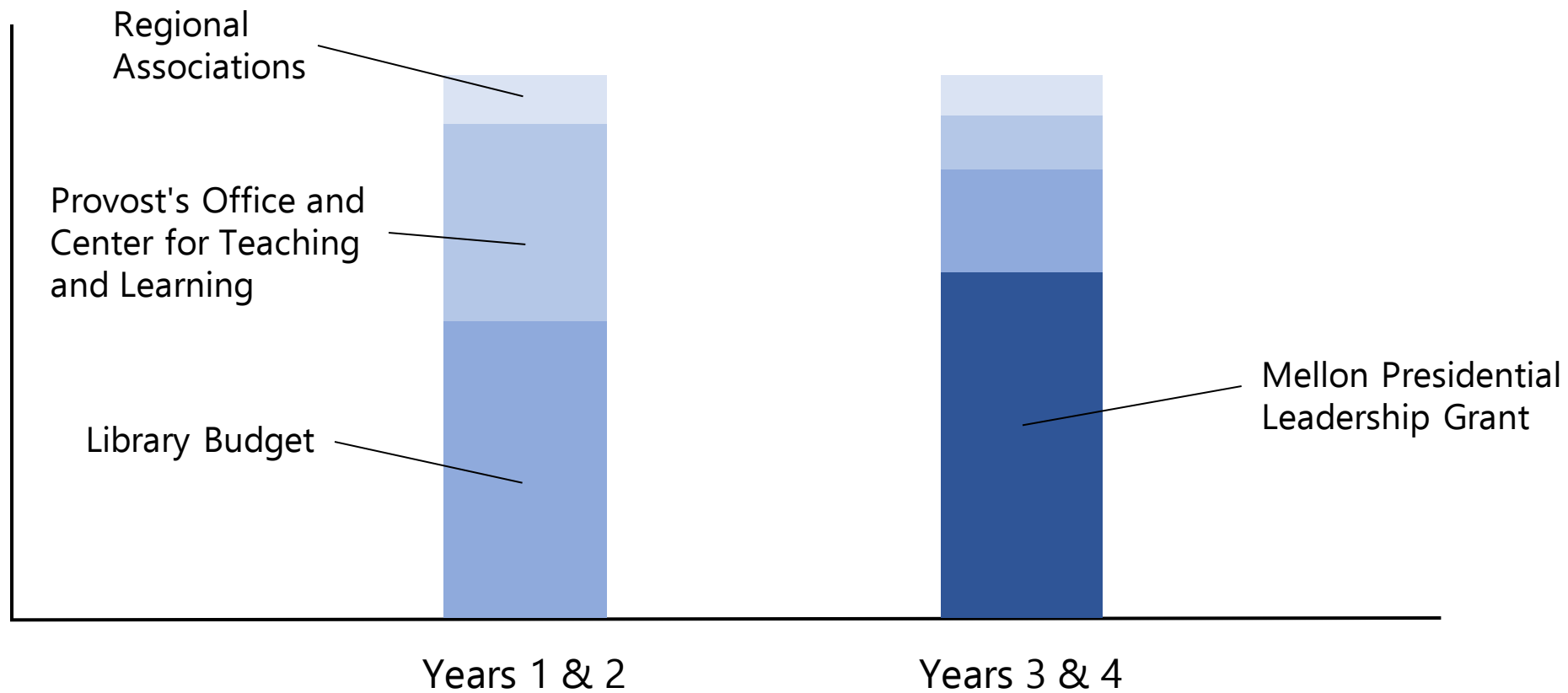
Diane Jakacki (Bucknell)

Courtney Hugo (Bucknell)

Guiding Question (Reflection)

Who are your potential supporters (present and future)?
Share your support system with your group.

Funding



Guiding Question (Discussion)

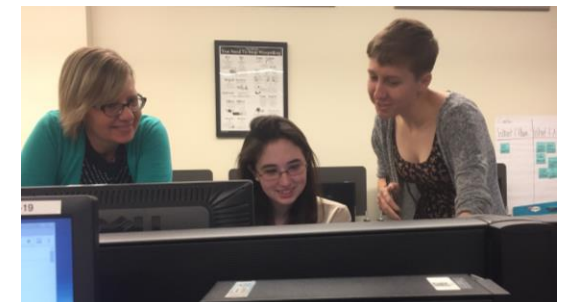
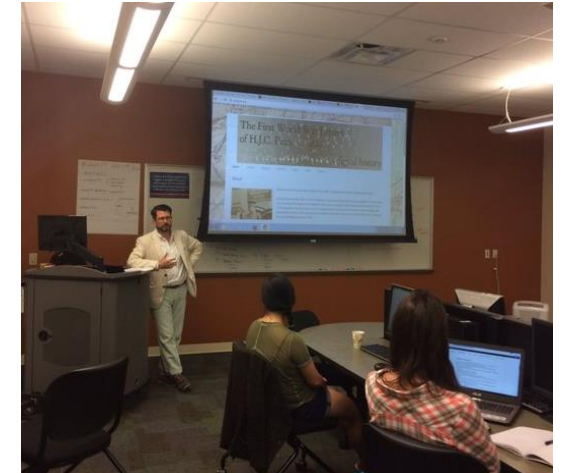
How is DH pedagogy practiced at your institution?

Curriculum Development

- Designed to give a broad introduction to DH tools and methods
- Developed in-house with inspiration from DH classes at other institutions
- Generally broken down into three tracks:
 - Project management
 - Technology
 - Presentation
- Includes workshops, lunch discussions, reflective essays
- [DSSF 2019 curriculum](#)

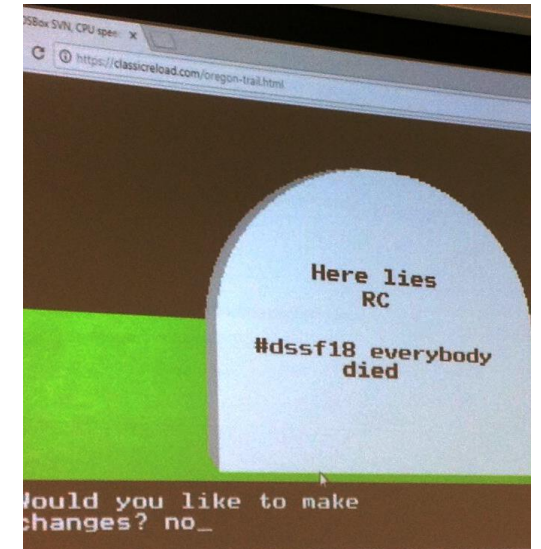
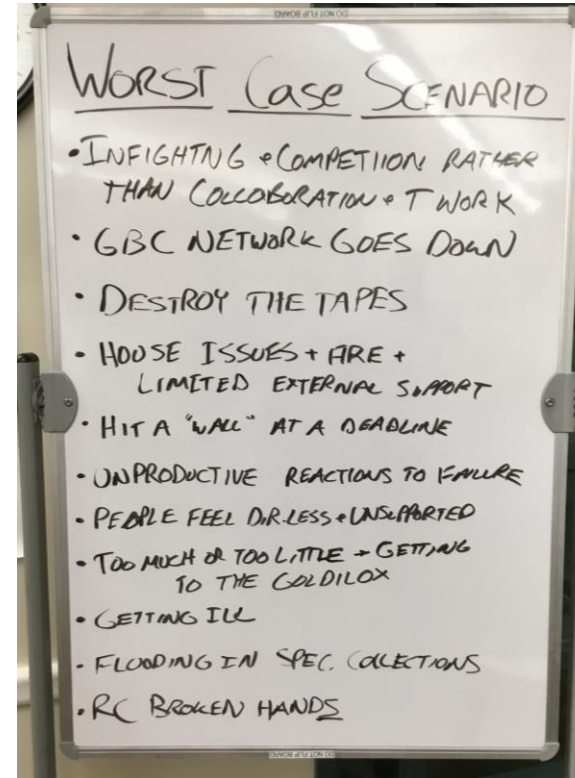
Workshops

- Generally librarian-led and discipline-agnostic
- 1-2 "homework" readings for background information with focus on critical examination of DH
- Concepts are introduced, tools are demonstrated, students have time to experiment



Challenges

- Frequency and duration of workshops
- Broad introduction to digital tools vs. providing skills specific to projects
- Human resources – planning, leading, supporting



Follow-Up Question (Reflection)

Drawing upon your goals and support systems,
what DH tools & methods do you want students to learn?

Guiding Question (Reflection)

Thinking about your earlier goals,
how would you know if you were successful?
Share your goals and strategies with your group.

Assessment

	Summer	Academic Year
Formative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First day activity• One-on-one weekly meetings• Group sharing/planning sessions• Weekly reflective essays• Weekly reading discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly check-ins with supervisors
Summative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final presentation• Final project• Final check-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IOWA Grow questions• Official course evaluations• Supplemental course evaluation

Sustainability

- Defined broadly to include funding, staffing, time, workspace, etc.
- Examples of changes we have made:
 - Shortened the summer fellowship
 - Cut some summer workshops from the schedule
 - Shortened summer workshop lengths
 - Fewer check-ins for summer fellows

Follow-Up Questions (Discussion)

What are possible limiting factors for your institution?
What opportunities exist to overcome them?

Sustainability Going Forward

- Find alternatives to Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funding
- Evaluate impact on staff time during summer and academic year
- Seek ongoing professional development for librarians
- Continue developing faculty champions
- Increase involvement without taking ownership of digital literacy

Q&A (Open Conversation)



Clint Baugess
@LibraryClint



John Dettinger



R.C. Miessler
@iconodule



Kevin Moore

- Successes?
- Challenges?
- The future?

Links

Summer Programs

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2016>

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2017>

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2018>

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2019>

Presentation (with materials)

<https://cupola.gettysburg.edu/librarypubs/123>

Digital Scholarship Support Page

<https://www.gettysburg.edu/musselman-library/services/faculty-course-services/digital-scholarship-support>

DSSF Application

<https://www.gettysburg.edu/musselman-library/about/employment/digital-scholarship-summer-fellows>