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University College London – UCL

Universitat de Barcelona – UB

Stichting Liber (Association of European Research Libraries) – LIBER

Universität Wien – UNIVIE

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### The Scottish Network on Digital Cultural Resources Evaluation

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The [Scottish Network on Digital Cultural Resources Evaluation](#) (ScotDigiCH) was initiated in January 2015 and is funded for a two-year period by the [Royal Society of Edinburgh](#) in Scotland.

It brings together academics from different disciplines and professionals from Scotland's key cultural organisations in order to investigate how cultural digital resources are used by diverse user groups; how to record their impact on learning, research, and community engagement; and how to maximize their potential. It integrates different methodologies and perspectives (from digital humanities, computing science, museology, social sciences) and uses as a case study the Kelvin Hall Project in Glasgow. The [Kelvin Hall](#) project will bring together not only the collections of the three participating institutions, [The University of Glasgow's Hunterian Museum](#), [Glasgow Museums](#) and the [National Library of Scotland's Moving Image Archive](#), but also the digital records and resources related to those. Using digital technologies to bring together diverse and extensive collections, support in-depth research and scholarship, but also make them more accessible and easy to use for a wide range of users, brings up its own challenges and questions.

In order to address some of these, we set up ScotDigiCH as an interdisciplinary network of cultural heritage professionals and researchers examining issues of use, value, interpretation and evaluation of digital resources in the cultural heritage sector. Some of the questions the network is investigating are:

- Who uses the digital materials that museums, libraries and archives spend so many resources to produce?
- How do they use them and why?
- How are these resources re-used, re-interpreted, re-integrated in the users' own projects and digital networks?
- How can cultural organisations record and assess more effectively current digital use so they can plan their future digital strategies?
- How can we work more closely with different audiences to create digital collections and resources that are relevant to them and support them as individuals and members of diverse communities?

ScotDigiCH is co-ordinated by Dr Maria Economou, Joint Curator / Lecturer at the University of Glasgow ([The Hunterian & The Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute, HATII](#)) and includes, apart from the three Kelvin Hall partners, the University of Strathclyde's [Computer and Information Sciences Department](#).

The Network has organised a series of workshops and events. The first workshop organised at the University of Glasgow in May 2015 on '[Exploring Models for Digital Access](#)' looked at relevant projects in Scotland and what we can learn from them; the second at the [Lighthouse](#) and the [Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery](#) in December 2015 focused on [Crowdsourcing, Co-curation, Co-creation in the Cultural Sector](#) and was combined with a Knowledge Exchange workshop for cultural heritage professionals co-organised with [Museums Galleries Scotland](#) and their [Digital Transformation Network](#); the third in March 2016 at the University of Strathclyde titled [Evaluating Use and Impact](#) examined evaluation methodologies; finally,

Workshop 4 in June 2016 was titled '[Moving from Impact to Value](#)' and looked at the challenges involved in combining the two and the different emphasis they have.



Mia Ridge, Digital Curator at the British Library, talking about Crowdsourcing at Workshop 2, December 2015.

These have certainly given us a lot of food for thought at The Hunterian and are informing our Digital Strategy and how we take digital curation, collections documentation, exhibition interpretation and visitor engagement forward, particularly in relation to Kelvin Hall.

Our next event (in December 2016) will be an international symposium bringing together the themes from all four workshops on the use of digital resources in cultural heritage in Glasgow. This will be complimented by a public lecture by Mark O'Neill, Director of Policy and Research at Glasgow Life, who has been influential in developing Glasgow's cultural sector and is also an internationally known advocate for the value of culture and widening participation. This will be followed by an open evening at the newly opened Kelvin Hall exploring the digital collections.

Visit the [ScotDigiCH blog](#) or follow us on twitter ([@ScotDigiCH](#)) for the Call for Papers for the symposium, which will be out soon. Videos from the workshop presentations can be seen at [YouTube](#).

### FIDO for format identification

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#### About FIDO

FIDO (Format Identification for Digital Objects) is an open source, command-line tool used to identify the file formats of digital objects. Format identification is an important early step in digital preservation workflows. The format of a file informs many subsequent preservation actions, for example format validation or migration.

FIDO utilises the [PRONOM](#) format registry, which is maintained by The National Archives of the U.K. FIDO belongs to a category of open source file identification or file profiling tools, such as [DROID](#), [Siegfried](#), [Tika](#) and [file](#). FIDO is written in Python, and is designed to be run from the command line. It is well suited for quickly returning the PRONOM identifiers from single files or batches of files.

Originally developed in 2010, FIDO is stewarded by the [Open Preservation Foundation](#), and maintained by [Artefactual](#) as part of their affiliate membership of the Foundation. Artefactual are the lead developers of the [Archivematica](#) digital preservation system. FIDO is automatically installed with Archivematica, or it can be installed as a stand-alone tool for use in local digital preservation workflows.

The source code for FIDO is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/openpreserve/fido> under the Apache 2 license. FIDO is now also available via the Python Package Index (PyPI) repository: <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/opf-fido>.