



7-14-2017

Developing a Community of Practice Among Undergraduate Digital Scholars

R.C. Miessler
Gettysburg College

Janelle Wertzberger
Gettysburg College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://cupola.gettysburg.edu/librarypubs>



Part of the [Digital Humanities Commons](#), and the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Share feedback about the accessibility of this item.

Recommended Citation

Miessler, R.C. and Wertzberger, Janelle, "Developing a Community of Practice Among Undergraduate Digital Scholars" (2017). *Musselman Library Staff Publications*. 68.
<https://cupola.gettysburg.edu/librarypubs/68>

This open access conference material is brought to you by The Cupola: Scholarship at Gettysburg College. It has been accepted for inclusion by an authorized administrator of The Cupola. For more information, please contact cupola@gettysburg.edu.

Developing a Community of Practice Among Undergraduate Digital Scholars

Abstract

In the summer of 2016, Gettysburg College's Musselman Library piloted the Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship (DSSF), a library-led, student-centered introduction to digital scholarship. For 10 weeks, a cohort of three undergraduate student fellows were introduced to digital tools, project management, research skills, and the philosophy behind digital scholarship, with the culmination the creation and presentation of a digital scholarship project. While the DSSF program is a library initiative, it drew support from partners from across campus, leveraging instructional support and the experience of digital scholarship practitioners from multiple departments to implement a broad curriculum in digital scholarship. The partners—who included the Educational Technology department, the Civil War Institute, and Gettysburg College faculty with a history of using digital pedagogy techniques in the classroom—worked with librarians to teach digital tools, discuss digital scholarship concepts, and help the student fellows realize the potential of their digital projects.

The fellowship was a success, and the work of the Digital Scholarship Fellows continued into the fall and spring semesters as they acted as peer mentors, supporting digital scholarship work in the classroom by leading workshops, providing one-on-one consultations, and assisting with project management. Cross-departmental support for digital scholarship continued beyond the summer program, as librarians and educational technologists worked closely with faculty during the academic year to support digital classroom assignments when the fellows were supporting a class.

Librarians R.C. Miessler and Janelle Wertzberger discuss the program, now in its 2nd year, with an emphasis on the ways in which the digital scholarship community of practice has been strengthened on the Gettysburg College campus through collaborative partnerships, student mentoring, and increased awareness of the value of digital scholarship activity in the classroom.

Keywords

digital humanities, digital scholarship, undergraduate research, Gettysburg College, learning community

Disciplines

Digital Humanities | Library and Information Science

Comments

Presented at the [Keystone DH 2017](#) conference in Philadelphia, PA

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License](#)



Developing a Community of Practice Among Undergraduate Digital Scholars

R.C. Miessler & Janelle Wertzberger
Gettysburg College

Keystone Digital Humanities Conference
July 13, 2017

@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a

Who we are

R.C. Miessler



Systems Librarian

Janelle Wertzberger



Assistant Dean and Director of
Scholarly Communications

Gettysburg College



Gettysburg, PA
~2,600 undergraduates

@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a

Origin story




ILiADS
Institute for Liberal Arts
Digital Scholarship



DSSF Digital Scholarship
Summer Fellowship

@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a



Do you want a small set of superstar faculty with awesome projects? Or do you want a community of people who learn together, support each other, and trust each other? My preference is for the latter, even though it is not as shiny. **You don't get NEH start-up grants for showing people how to build Omeka exhibits and make maps, but why on earth are we building these tools if we don't want people to use them?**

- Miriam Posner

Successes

Intentional, and
Unintentional



Julia Wall @wall_jules · 29 Oct 2016

"Wouldn't give my cohort up for the world" @iconodule @mappingthestars @keira_koch9 #BUDSC16 #dssf16 #s2c



@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a

Digital Scholarship Summer Fellows 2016

Musselman Library, Gettysburg College

Welcome

Schedule/Syllabus ▾

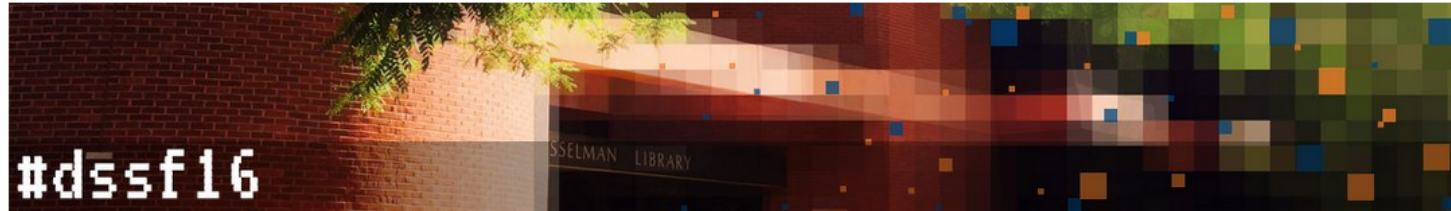
Blog ▾

Cohort

Digital Scholarship Resources ▾

Projects

About ▾



Welcome

The work of digital scholars can be paradoxical, nebulous, and challenging; however, our contributions to scholarship are rewarding, because we are creating something that is flexible, extensible, and public-facing. Our contribution to scholarship allows those outside the bounds of Gettysburg College to see our work, and also build off of it.

CONTACT

Email the Digital Scholarship Working Group:
LibraryDS@gettysburg.edu

Twitter Hashtag: [#dssf16](https://twitter.com/dssf16)

dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2016

[@iconodule](#) | [@jlwinpa](#) | [#s3a](#)

“Cohort, I think this is the beginning of a beautiful fellowship”



Keira Koch

July 29, 2016

Week 10

[Leave a comment](#)

So it's the end of the Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship 2016. This is a very bitter sweet movement; I am both happy and incredibly sad. I am happy to be going home to air conditioning but I am sad to be leaving behind such wonderful and incredible people I have bonded with over the past 10 weeks. Although it is the end of the summer, I would like to think that it is just the end of the beginning. The fellows and I have already established that fact that we fully intend to come back in the fall. We have already started to make jokes about using the Keurig in the staff room and visiting R C in his new office.



@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a



Rob Sieczkiewicz @RobScz · 29 Oct 2016

It's almost standing room only at #s2b **#BUDSC16** as everyone wants to hear about student DH work at @GburgColLibrary and Lafayette College



Sarah Morris @oficklefreckled · 29 Oct 2016

Really excited about upcoming panel with @LafLib , @iconodule and @gettysburg students on models for undergraduate DH. Come! **#BUDSC16**
#s2c



#dssf16 #dssf17

@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a



Hello Coed!

A 1950s History of Gettysburg College Women

by Keira Koch

Begin with "About"



Your Friend and Classmate: Following the West Point Class of June 1861 Through the American Civil War

Begin with "About"



This is Why We Fight: Student Activism at Gettysburg College

Begin with "About the Project"

2016 projects available at

dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2016/projects/

@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a



Keira Koch '19 plans to research women's experiences at Gettysburg College through different time periods using primary sources from Special Collections. She intends to use Scalar to create an interactive narrative/story book to tell the story using various media.



Julia Wall '19 wants to work with the 1861 West Point photo album in Special Collections. Her project will be to create a digital "yearbook" that compiles information about members of the class of 1861 (especially what happened to them after they left the academy). She also wants to incorporate a digital timeline and map.



Lauren White '18 is majoring in English and Environmental Studies. She wants to create a digital project that documents the history of social justice movements at Gettysburg College and links them to broader social movements. She is also interested in timeline tools.



@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a



@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a



Expanding #ArchivesForBlackLives to
Traditional Archival Repositories (Drake
2016)

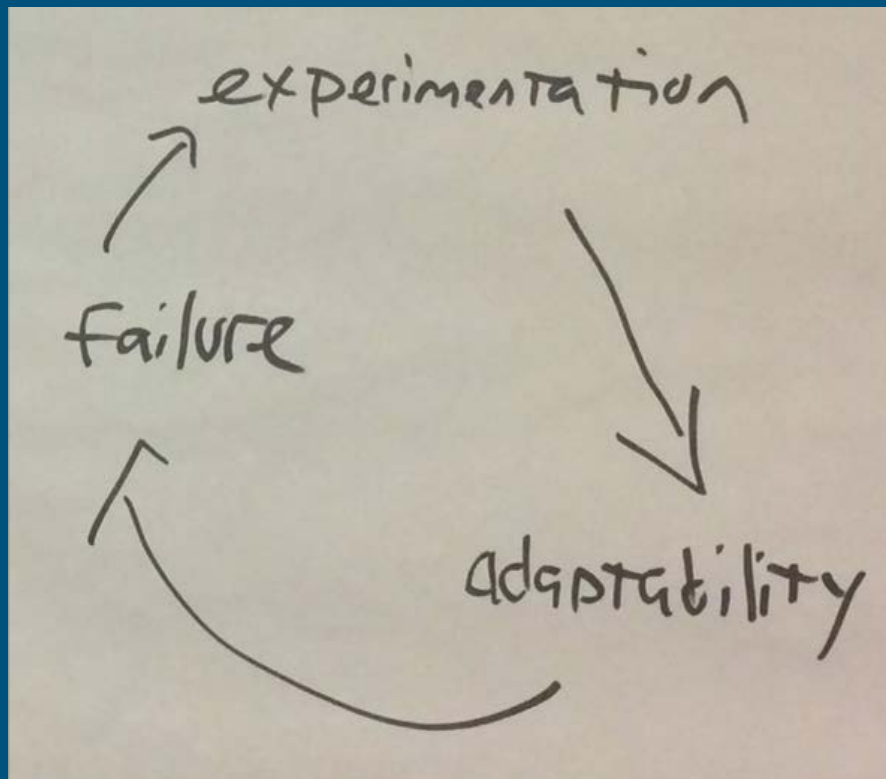
All the Digital Humanists are White, All of
the Nerds are Men, but Some of Us are Brave
(Bailey 2011)

Teaching Teachers in the Age of Trump
(Risam, 2016)



< SUCCESS

(or, not yet awesome)



#dssf17 VALUES (2.0)

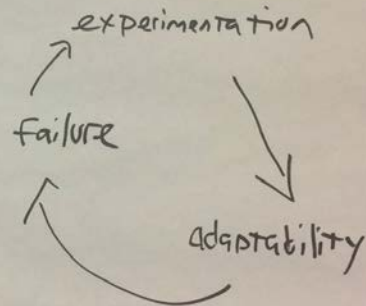
- OPENNESS

- COMMUNITY

- collaboration
- connectedness
- collegiality

- engaged diversity - accessibility

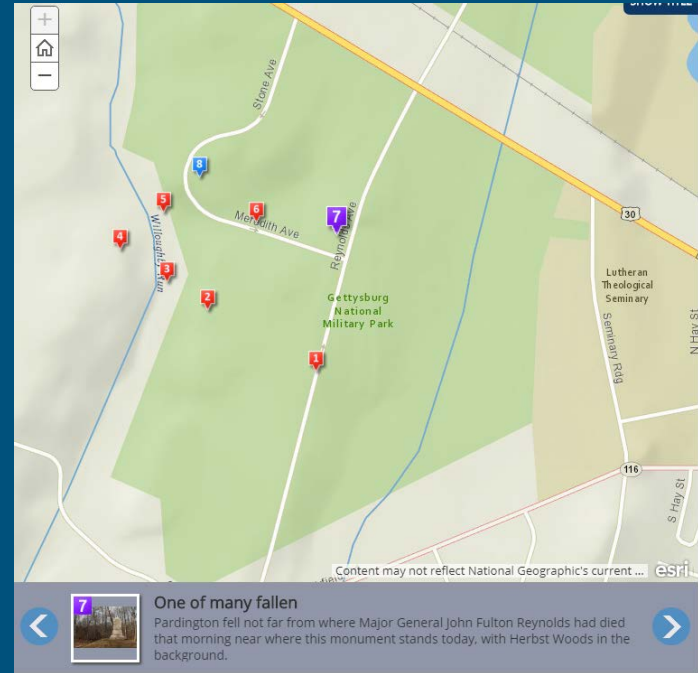
- experimentation cycle -



- dedication

- have fun 😊

Supporting DS classroom assignments



Continuing student DH work

What We Did Here: Activism at Gettysburg College

[Home](#)[Browse](#)[Contribute](#)[Projects](#)[About](#)[Musselman Library](#)

What We Did Here: Activism at Gettysburg College is a crowd-sourced digital collection, created in partnership with Musselman Library and Special Collections and College Archives, devoted to documenting the discourse that has occurred on campus surrounding issues of race, gender, sexuality, political affiliation, religion, and class. Students, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to submit written testimonies or various media that are representative of campus' response to these topics. Examples of media submissions are club posters, or pictures, videos, and audio of events or campus responses. This documentation is not limited in its scope; all submissions from all identities and viewpoints will be handled with equal gravitas.

[Help us gather and preserve](#) the different perspectives and experiences of the Gettysburg College community.

musselmanlibrary.org/activism

[@iconodule](#) | [@jlwinpa](#) | [#s3a](#)



Scaling up community

$\#dssf17 \neq \#dssf16 + 1$

Big moving conclusion



@iconodule | @jlwinpa | #s3a