Big Data, Remote Processing and Fast Networks in Digital Humanities
Quick Overview of Digital Humanities

Digital Humanities

- Julia Flanders
- http://dayofdh2012.artsrn.ualberta.ca/dh/

“Digital Humanities is the critical study of how the technologies and techniques associated with the digital medium intersect with and alter humanities scholarship and scholarly communication.”
UITS
- Computing Power
- Visualization
- Storage
- Science-Oriented

IDAH
- Outreach
- Research
- Pedagogy
- Arts & Humanities

Libraries
- Collections
- Curation
- Consultations
- Multi-disciplinary

Supporting Digital Humanities @IU
Institute for Digital Arts & Humanities
A research center of the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Indiana University Bloomington

MISSION + PEOPLE  DEGREES + TRAINING  FUNDING + PROJECT SUPPORT  FELLOWS + SCHOLARS  NEWS + EVENTS

MAPPING MATERIALITIES 2019-2020
IT Support for Digital Humanities

• Leverage investment in IT – research, administration, teaching

• Leverage relationships between key areas – library, archives, research centers

• Trust in the expertise of each area
IT Support @IU

100 Petabyte deep archive

Trust the people

Supercomputing supporting near 200 disciplines

Library on cutting edge of software development

Trust the people
Thoughts on deep collaboration for DA

mindset

funding model

understanding
Two Example Projects

• Getty Center 3D Scanning
• Media Digitization and Preservation Initiative
Media Archiving

Media Digitization and Preservation Initiative (MDPI)
2013 State of the University Announcement
Why MDPI?
2013 State of the University Announcement
Media Digitization and Preservation Initiative (MDPI)

Three fundamental missions of universities:

1. The creation of knowledge (research and innovation)
2. The dissemination of knowledge (education and learning)
3. The preservation of knowledge
MDPI Overview

- Digitally preserve all significant audio and video
- Complete by IU Bicentennial in 2020
- University-wide initiative
Planning

Commencing

Phase 1: AV

Completed:
- 325,000 A/V
- 18,000 Film

Phase 2: Film

Scholarship

Collections & Access

Digitization Process
MDPI Digitization Strategy

• Paradigm shift: partnership with a private company – Outsourced inhouse effort
• Sony Memnon
• Key to realizing goals around cost and timeframe without sacrificing quality
Begin with an inventory
A batch is delivered to Sony/Memnon for digitization
IU Studios work on rare formats and damaged items
Post-Digitization File Workflow
Access Repository
Access: Avalon Media System

- Co-developed by IU and Northwestern University
- Funding from IMLS, Mellon
- In production at multiple institutions
- Uses Samvera/Fedora technologies
- Leverages institutional streaming infrastructure
- LYRASIS pilot of Hosted SaaS
Avalon at IU: Media Collections Online

http://media.dlib.indiana.edu
Tying it back.....

- Significant IT Support is required for digital humanities
  - Big data, high performance computing and large network pipes
- Collaboration is key
- Content is king
Adapting to Covid-19.

Operations suspended while Indiana (and local county) under stay-at-home directive.

Enabled activity that could be performed at home.

- Quality Control
- Process and operations management

Developed needed project to deal with DAT that would not have happened.

Connected expertise with other areas of university that needed it.
Adapting to COVID-19 - Our time @home has proven the importance of remote access cultural and scholarly artifacts

If we cannot go to the museum/library/archive then ....