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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION
FOR DIGITAL HUMANITIES

From ALLC to ADHO to EADH and its AOs

European Digital Humanities on the road

Prague 24th of April 2018

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INTRODUCTION

- I feel very honoured to have been invited to this important event taking place in this beautiful City of Prague to talk about the European Association for Digital Humanities and its experiences in digital humanities.
- As 20 minutes is a very short time, I will limit my talk to the most important historical events which have brought EADH to where it stands now and which show, in my eyes, also much about the development of Digital Humanities.
- For the actual situation I would like to refer you to [EADH's Website](#) where you find a lot of information.

INTRODUCTION

- My conclusion will be devoted to some principles which according to me should not be forgotten, because they have turned Digital Humanities not only into the thriving, vibrant and diverse field and community it is now, but have given it also a voice on the national, regional and European level when it comes to scholarly recognition and funding.

EADH

- The European Association of Digital Humanities (EADH) brings together and represents the Digital Humanities in Europe across the entire spectrum of disciplines that research, develop, and apply digital humanities methods and technology.
- But where does EADH come from?



WHERE DOES EADH COME FROM?

- The *European Association for Digital Humanities* (EADH) started out as *Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing* (ALLC), which was officially founded in 1973 at King's College London
- The founding was preceded by two meetings / conferences
 - 1970 March: meeting on literary and linguistic computing organized by Roy Wisbey and Michael Farrington - University of Cambridge (UK)
 - 1972: second conference – University of Edinburgh, Scotland



WHERE DOES EADH COME FROM?

- The purpose was in those days to support the application of computing in the study of language and literature.
- Founding members were among others: Antonio Zampolli and Susan Hockey.
- Antonio Zampolli was later to become the president of ALLC (1983-2003), he was very influential and active on the European level and secured a lot of funding for very important projects from the European Commission.
- Those of you who are interested in language resources should go to the website of [ILC](#) and look at the terminated projects starting by the [last page](#).

WHERE DOES THE JOURNAL COME FROM?

- 1980 – 1985 ALLC published
 - a Bulletin three times a year
 - a Journal twice a year
- 1986 *Literary & Linguistic Computing* (LLC) was founded by merging bulletin and journal
- From then on individuals became a member of the *Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing* by taking out a subscription of *Literary & Linguistic Computing* (LLC)
- the journal was owned by the ALLC – the revenue it created went to the ALLC



my first
exemplar
of the
journal

ISSN 0268-1145

LITERARY & LINGUISTIC COMPUTING

Journal of the Association for Literary and
Linguistic Computing

Volume 3 · Number 3 · 1988

Editor: Gordon Dixon

Oxford University Press

LITERARY AND LINGUISTIC COMPUTING

- did not only contain articles in English
- instead there were also contributions in
 - English
 - French
 - Italian
 - German

AN EXAMPLE



LITERARY & LINGUISTIC COMPUTING

Journal of the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing

Volume 4 · Number 2 · 1989

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Reports from Colloquia at Tübingen

Protokoll
des 42. Kolloquiums über die Anwendung der EDV in den Geisteswissenschaften am 13. Februar 1988

Zu Beginn wurde mitgeteilt, daß TUSTEP inzwischen auch in einer PC-Version (noch ohne die SATZ-Programm) zur Verfügung steht. Es kann auf IBM PC, AT und XT (und den dazu kompatiblen PCs) mit 640 K Speicherarabau und Festplatte eingesetzt werden. Dr. Ott referierte sodann kurz den Inhalt der *Empfehlungen des Wissenschaftsrates zur Ausstattung der Hochschulen mit Rechenkapazität in den Jahren 1989-1994* und ging besonders auf die darin zum Ausdruck kommende Verknemmung des Rechnerbedarfs für die Geisteswissenschaften ein. Diese Fehleinschätzung beruhe im wesentlichen darauf, daß der Computereinsatz in diesem Bereich mit 'Textverarbeitung' (d.h. einfacher Manuskripterstellung) gleichgesetzt wird, für die einfache PCs vorgesehen sind. Dr. Ott betonte dagegen, daß für 'wissenschaftliche Textdatenverarbeitung' ebenfalls vollwertige Arbeitsplatzrechner notwendig seien und darüber hinaus der Zugang von solchen Arbeitsplatzrechnern aus zum leistungsfähigen Universalsrechner ebenso wichtig sei wie für die Naturwissenschaftler der Zugang zum Höchstleistungsrechner.

Friedrich Beck, Tübingen: "Bibliographie französischer Übersetzungen aus dem Deutschen 1487-1944, von L. Bihl und K. Epting. Erfahrungen bei der Anwendung des Tübinger Bibliographie-Programms"

1. Die Bibliographie
Bibl. Liselotte: *Bibliographie französischer Übersetzungen aus dem Deutschen: 1487-1944 = Bibliographie de traductions françaises d'ouvrages de langue allemande*
Liselotte Bihl; Karl Epting. In Verbindung mit Kurt Was brig. von d. Univ.-Bibl. Tübingen—Tübingen: Niemeyer—Bd. 1—2—1987—XVIII, 1311 S.

Abstract
L. Bihl and K. Epting: 'A Bibliography of French Translations from German, 1487-1944': An Application of the Tübingen Bibliography Program

Basing his labours on the holdings of the *Bibliothèque Nationale* in Paris, Karl Epting began to collect the material for the Bibliography in 1944. Work was to be done transferred to Tübingen University, where it was finally completed by Liselotte Bihl between 1979 and 1987. The bulk and complexity of the project presented a challenge to the Tübingen Bibliography Program, exclusively utilizing TUSTEP routines. (The program was first presented at the 26th Colloquium, 20 November 1982.)

Die vorzustellende Bibliographie ordnet sich in den Rahmen der Übersetzungsbibliographien ein; diese haben den Zweck, den literarischen Einfluß einer Sprachgemeinschaft auf eine andere zu dokumentieren und damit

Grundlagen für einschlägige Detailforschungen zu schaffen. Diese Bibliographie verzichtet vollständig auf Umfang und Bedeutung alle den Bearbeitern zur Kenntnis gekommenen Werke aus dem Bestand der *Bibliothèque Nationale* in Paris, die aus dem Deutschen in das Französische übersetzt sind. Hinzu kommen Übersetzungen von Werken, die deutschsprachige Autoren in anderen Sprachen—besonders Latein—verfaßt haben; ausgeschlossen sind dagegen von deutschsprachigen Autoren ursprünglich französisch verfaßte Werke. Die aus praktischen Gründen notwendige Beschränkung auf Bestände der *Bibliothèque Nationale* ist vertretbar, da diese Bibliothek die bei weitem bedeutendste des französischen Sprachbereichs ist und seit 1556 das Pflichtexemplarrecht besitzt. Die Signaturen der *Bibliothèque Nationale* sind immer angegeben, so daß der Zugriff auf die verzeichneten Werke gesichert ist.

Die Bibliographie ist nach historisch-politischen Epochen mit den Grenzjahren 1789, 1815, 1830, 1848, 1870, 1918 in sieben Perioden gegliedert, die jeweils in sechs systematische Bereiche unterteilt sind (1. Belletristik und Philologie, Kunst- und Musikgeschichte, Archäologie; 2. Geographie, Geschichte; 3. Theologie, Philosophie; Psychologie, Pädagogik; 4. Mathematik, Naturwissenschaften, Anthropologie, Medizin, Sport; 5. Rechts- und Staatswissenschaft, Politik, Soziologie, Militärwissenschaft; 6. Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Technik, Landwirtschaft), innerhalb derer die Eintragungen jeweils alphabetisch geordnet sind.

Die Sammlung des bibliographischen Materials wurde bereits 1944 von Karl Epting (1905-1979) begonnen, der damals Leiter des deutschen Kulturinstituts in Paris war und die Kataloge der *Bibliothèque Nationale* durch Hilfskräfte auf Übersetzungen deutscher Autoren durchsehen ließ. Epting übergab seine Zettelansammlung 1958 der Universitätsbibliothek Tübingen. Der Tübinger Romanist und Komparatist Kurt Was setzte in den folgenden Jahren Hilfskräfte zur Weiterbearbeitung ein, die allerdings mit seiner Emigration (1975) ihr Ende fand. 1978 griff der damalige Leiter der Universitätsbibliothek Richard Landwehrmeyer das Projekt wieder auf; er trat an Frau Dr. Liselotte Bihl, Germanistin und Romanistin, Oberbibliotheksrätin i. R., mit der Bitte heran, sich des Zettelmanuskripts anzunehmen. Sie erklärte sich dazu bereit, bearbeitete das gesamte Thelmatmaterial völlig neu, erweiterte es beträchtlich und führte in 9 Jahren (1979-1987) ehrenamtlicher Tätigkeit die Bibliographie zu ihrem publikationsreifen Abschluß.

2. Das Tübinger Bibliographieprogramm

Für die Herstellung der Bibliographie wurde das seit 1982 unter ausschließlichen Einsatz von TUSTEP-Bausteinen entwickelte und erstmals hier bei 26. Kolloquium am 20. November 1982 dargestellte Tübinger Bibliographieprogramm (vgl. Protokoll des 26. Kolloquiums in ALLC Bulletin 11 (1983) Nr. 2, S. 41f.) eingesetzt. Es ist charakterisiert durch ein differenziertes

SISTER ASSOCIATION IN THE US

- 1966 Journal *Computers in the Humanities* (CHUM) was founded
- 1975 First annual International Conference on *Computing in the Humanities* (ICCH) took place
- 1978 *Association for Computers and the Humanities* (ACH) – was founded
- *Computers in the Humanities* (CHUM) became its official journal
- 1985-1995 [Nancy Ide](#) was ACH President
- She was one of the driving forces for the setup of the [TEI](#) (see the meeting at [Vassar College in November 1987](#))

FROM EUROPEAN / US TO BI-CONTINENTAL



JOINT CONFERENCES ALLC AND ACH

- 1988 *Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing* (ALLC) agreed a protocol with the *Association for Computing in the Humanities* (ACH) for co-sponsorship of joint international conferences
 - joint conferences were to alternate between Europe (ALLC / ACH) and North America (ACH / ALLC)
 - 1989 first joint conference - University of Toronto (Canada)
 - 2005 last joint conference – University of Victoria, British Columbia (Canada)



JOINT CONFERENCES ALLC AND ACH

- Conference Webpages <http://eadh.org/conferences> (you should take a look)
- my first conference was Siegen 1990
 - I discovered a whole new world
 - an international community
 - much less hierarchical than I had been used to
 - I was a newcomer but not isolated
 - there where many women
 - even the chairs of the ALLC and ACH were women: [Susan Hockey](#) (1984-1997) and [Nancy Ide](#) (1985-1995)



JOINT CONFERENCES ALLC AND ACH

- personal explanation
 - my background is Romance linguistics
 - I grew up in West-Germany
 - one of the first in West-Germany to create a corpus of Italian newspaper language and to analyse it applying computational methods
 - I was always told by professors
 - “I have a head, I do not need a computer”
 - “women who want children should become school teachers”

FROM BI-CONTINENTAL TO GLOBAL



FOUNDATION OF ADHO

- Discussions about an umbrella started at the latest in 2002
- in July 2002 a joint workgroup of the ACH and ALLC, called ADHOC (ADHO committee) was established by a joint association committee meeting
 - and charged with examining possibilities for closer collaboration between the two organisations and within the field of digital humanities more widely
 - the committee was supposed to present recommendations at the annual ACH / ALLC conference at the University of Georgia in May 2003



FOUNDATION OF ADHO

- Members of the ADHO committee were (alphabetical)
 - Elisabeth Burr (ALLC)
 - Julia Flanders (ACH, TEI)
 - Espen Ore (ALLC)
 - Geoffrey Rockwell (ACH, TEI)
 - Harold Short (ALLC, TEI)
 - John Unsworth (ACH, TEI)
 - Invited additional members
 - David Green - National Initiative for a Networked Cultural Heritage (NINCH)
 - Richard Finneran - Society for Textual Scholarship (STS)
- the recommendations were presented at ACH / ALLC 2003 Georgia (Athens)



FOUNDATION OF ADHO

- a long and difficult transition phase followed and the name of the umbrella changed various times until it was agreed that it should be called ADHO, i.e. *Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations*
- June 2005 Steering Committee meetings in Victoria
 - ACH and ALLC approved governance and conference protocols
 - ADHO SC MLMC was set up – I directed it until 2014, then Maurizio Lana took over
- in July 2006 the 1st ADHO Conference DH 2006 was celebrated at the Sorbonne in Paris
- **journal** is still owned by ALLC / EADH (very important!), but the revenue it creates is since the revenue of all members of ADHO

ADHO COS



- Over the years more and more Associations became constituent associations of ADHO
 - European Association for Digital Humanities (EADH, formerly ALLC)
 - Association for Computers and the Humanities (ACH)
 - Canadian Society for Digital Humanities / Société canadienne des humanités numériques (CSDH / SCHN)
 - CenterNet
 - Australasian Association for Digital Humanities (aaDH)
 - Japanese Association for Digital Humanities (JADH)
 - Humanistica. L'association francophone des humanités numériques / digitales (Humanistica)
 - two more have applied last year: Taiwanese DH and Southern Africa DH

FROM GLOBAL TO REGIONAL / LOCAL

EUROPEAN REGIONALISATION / LOCALISATION OF DH

- Only a few years after ADHO had been founded, a process of regionalisation or localisation started (similar to what was happening in other domains):
 - In 2011 *L'Associazione per l'Informatica Umanistica e la Cultura Digitale* was founded in Florence
 - In 2012 the international association *Humanidades Digitales Hispánicas* (HDH) was officially founded in Elche
 - In 2012 at DH 2012 there was the founding Unconference of *Digital Humanities im deutschsprachigen Raum* - Digital Humanities in German Speaking Regions (DHd). It's official founding happened in 2013
 - In 2014 *Digital Humanities Benelux* had it's first conference
 - In 2015 *Digital Humaniora i Norden* - Digital Humanities in the Nordic countries was formed in Oslo

CHANGING FIELD – CHANGING NAMES

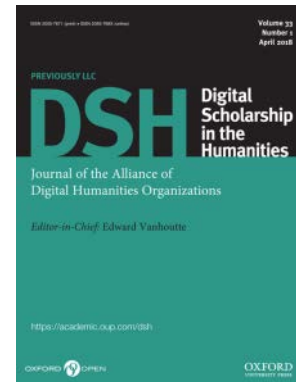


- Over the years the field had undergone important changes
- 2012 ALLC decided to change its name to *European Association for Digital Humanities* (EADH)
 - in order to represent the significant widening of scope which has occurred over the years: not only text analysis and language corpora, but also history, art history, music, manuscript studies, image processing and electronic editions
- 2015 also the name of the journal was changed from *Literary & and Linguistic Computing* to *DSH: The Journal of Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*

DSH: THE JOURNAL OF DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP IN THE HUMANITIES



- Journal still published by Oxford **University** Press
 - OUP deducts the production costs of the revenue created by the journal
 - a significant part of the revenue goes to EADH



EADH - A NEW UMBRELLA

- EADH developed into a new umbrella of AOs
- the first and up to now only one of its kind
 - Italian organization AIUCD - *Associazione Informatica Umanistica e Cultura Digitale*
 - German language based DHd - *Digital Humanities im deutschsprachigen Raum*
 - Nordic organization DHN - *Digital humaniora i Norden*



EADH - A NEW UMBRELLA



- 2 European Associations became officially AOs in the last 6 months:
 - end of 2017 *Czech Digital Humanities Initiative* (CZDHI)
 - beginning of 2018 *Russian Association for Digital Humanities*
- 1 Partner Organization
 - Digital Humanities Benelux

EADH - A NEW UMBRELLA



- many benefits for members of AOs
 - to be part of a national scientific organisation which has a voice and represents the scientific, infrastructural and political interests of the DH community
 - to be part of the international scientific Digital Humanities community and network globally
 - members of each national / regional AO are members of EADH and have passive and active voting rights
 - members of EADH are members of ADHO
 - reduced conference fees at all conferences of ADHO COs and EADH AOs
 - eligibility for bursaries, event & project grants, prizes, etc. (see also <https://eadh.org/sites/eadh.org/files/eadhao2-pager.pdf>)

EADH - A NEW UMBRELLA

- Exec Committee of EADH
 - is elected by its membership
 - its composition changed over the last years
 - very diverse
 - many Englishes
 - very different cultural backgrounds
 - a lot of sensitivity and respect is needed
 - it is a real European venture or better adventure



EADH - A NEW UMBRELLA

- EADH AO Forum
 - representation of the AOs
 - Each AO nominates a representative
 - Forum decides on the use of the surplus revenue from the journal
 - at the moment
 - about 50% used to fund activities of common interest – *journal federator* which should make available the table of contents of journals based in different European countries in one place
 - about 50% redistributed to AOs by reducing the quota they owe EADH for the following year (avoidance of bank charges)



EADH AND NEW FORMATS

- EADH is experimenting with new formats
 - 1st EADH day - HDH 2015 – Madrid UNED - 08.10.2015
 - 2nd EADH day – DHd 2016 – Leipzig - 08.03.2016
 - 3rd EADH day - 6th AIUCD Conference – Rome – 25.01.2017
 - Experiment was started with the objective to raise awareness for DH research activities beyond the local / regional conference context.
 - Its format is designed to facilitate exchange and networking initiatives among European DH research communities and in particular to foster the participation of early career scholars to local DH conferences around Europe.
 - EADH day is attached to a local or regional conference



EADH AND NEW FORMATS

- EADH decided to have a congress every three years / in the year when the ADHO conference is held neither in Europe nor in North America to give people, who cannot afford to go to the DH conference, the chance to meet on the international level
- The 1st EADH Congress will be held in Galway, Ireland from 7-9 December 2018
 - Call for reviewers went out the 18th of March 2018
 - The publication of the call for proposals is imminent

SUMMING UP

- Humanities Computing and the Digital Humanities could never have gotten off the ground as they did, locally. There were only very few people and they were scattered across countries and regions
- Humanities Computing and Digital humanists as well as the field as such
 - profited enormously from the making of an international and global community and from the crossing of country and continent borders
 - from getting to know the culturally and historically based disciplines, questions, methods, and academic structures
- DH was borne globally whereas most (all?) disciplines were born locally / nationally

SUMMING UP

- After some time the feeling
 - that individual languages and cultures needed more attention
 - that global exchange and discourse in English were not doing justice to the Humanities “at home” and were not helping to get the field of the ground where people actually worked and lived
- led to an urge
 - to bring those scholars together who in one's own country or region had become interested in the field
 - create a local or regional community
 - try to change the academic setting which hindered the development of the Digital Humanities

SUMMING UP

- Important outcomes of this process are, according to me:
 - that we can now speak, think and write about the Digital Humanities in many languages,
 - can give the knowledge which we create back to the community in its own language,
 - can talk to our friends, families and peers about Digital Humanities in our common language,
- By localisation and regionalisation *Digital humanities* was thus further enriched and diversified

SUMMING UP

- We could have stopped here
- We could just think about careers and about the money we could save by not belonging to a more overarching scholarly structure like EADH
- But this would not seem to be the way many Digital Humanists want to go
- Instead local associations strive to become AOs of EADH

SUMMING UP

- For me what is happening with EADH – and this is the only regional or continental example we have today – would seem to show that there is some urge for unity in diversity and a feeling that bringing our culturally and language based questions, methods and knowledge together and confronting ourselves with the differences and communalities, will make us stronger, open up our minds and help us to create a much better and grounded knowledge than we have been able to create before.

SUMMING UP

- Digital Humanities is after all not a mere bundle of technologies, methods and tools, but a new epistemology which implies a different knowledge system with respect to the Humanities and a profound conceptual change when it comes to the practice of knowledge creation
- I hope that EADH helps to foster the idea
 - that the local and the global in terms of unity in diversity are inherently linked and can only grow together
 - that submission and hegemony have nothing to say, if we look at the local, its cultures and languages with the same respect as the one we concede to the more overarching structures

SUMMING UP

- Last but not least
 - having a European Association of Digital Humanities gives us a voice also on a higher, more political and cultural level
 - EADH is after all one of the founding members of the European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities (EASSH)
 - EASSH is lobbying for a bigger budget for Social Sciences and Humanities in FP 9 (see position papers)
 - EASSH is lobbying for a strong SSH presence in the design of the European Open Science Cloud
- If we care for DH it is thus in our own interest to safeguard the unity in diversity we have managed to create perhaps for the first time in history.



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THANK YOU VERY MUCH

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