



Project Management Conversation

Alison Langmead
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The *Practice* of Collaboration

How are
we doing?

“A Role-Based Model for Successful Collaboration in Digital Art History”

Berg-Fulton, Tracey, Alison Langmead, Thomas Lombardi, David Newbury, and Christopher Nygren. “A Role-Based Model for Successful Collaboration in Digital Art History.” *International Journal for Digital Art History* 3 (2018): 152-80. <https://doi.org/10.11588/dah.2018.3.34297>

The best Digital
Humanities
projects are
rewarding for *all*
participants.

Four Roles/ Responsibilities

...not necessarily four different people.

- Humanist (Domain Specialist)
- Technologist
- Data Steward
- Catalyst

The Project Pipeline

1. A question is identified as being potentially answerable through computation.
2. The required information from the specified field(s) is identified and gathered.
3. This information is transformed and regularized into structured digital information, or data.
4. This data is analyzed through a computational process, producing a set of results.
5. These results are synthesized into new domain knowledge.

Differing Motivations, Differing Rewards

Disciplinarity

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“For practitioners of these disciplines to collaborate effectively, each must resist the temptation to compress the amount of knowledge, tradition, and expert practice in other disciplines. **Each discipline has its own breadth and depth that must be respected.**”

Incentives

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“However, the pressures exerted by this funding gap can be lessened if the collaborators feel that they are **working together** to address major issues in each other’s domains of knowledge... **The work offered by these other industries is rarely as engaging as that presented by Humanists**, and is often controlled by the whims of distant project managers.”

Reputational Enhancement and Professional Development

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“Such open-ended efforts are difficult for academics to justify to their institutions, much as academic publications are pushed to the edge of the Technologist’s professional reward structure.”

Inter-Disciplinary Respect

“**Technologists** cannot obtain the expert knowledge of an Art Historian by **cribbing ideas from popular texts in art history**, and **Art Historians** do not become expert Technologists by taking a **six-week programming course on the Internet** or at a DH workshop.”

Without mutual respect,
interdisciplinary collaboration will
fail to produce the **sustained dialogue
required for ambitious research.**

Now...

Who is on the project team and what are their roles?

<http://sustainingdh.net>

Module B1

What is the technological infrastructure of the project?

<http://sustainingdh.net>

Module B2

Socio-Technical Responsibility Checklist

<http://sustainingdh.net>

Module B3