

## Aspects of Sustainability in Digital Humanities

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The three papers of the proposed session, “Aspects of Sustainability in Digital Humanities”, examine the increasingly important topic of sustainability from the point of view of three different fields of research: library and information science, cultural heritage management, and linguistics.

Practically all disciplines in science and the humanities are nowadays confronted with the task of providing data collections that have a very high degree of sustainability. This task is not only concerned with the long-term archiving of digital resources and data collections, but also with aspects such as, for example, interoperability of resources and applications, data access, legal issues, field-specific theoretical approaches, and even political interests.

The proposed session has two primary goals. Each of the three papers will present the most crucial problems that are relevant for the task of providing sustainability within the given field or discipline. In addition, each paper will talk about the types of digital resources and data collections that are in use within the respective field (for example, annotated corpora and *syntactic treebanks* in the field of linguistics). The main focus, however, lies in working on the distinction between field-specific and universal aspects of sustainability so that the three fields that will be examined – library and information science, cultural heritage management, linguistics – can be considered case studies in order to come up with a more universal and all-encompassing angle on sustainability. Especially for introductory texts and field – *independent* best-practice guidelines on sustainability it is extremely important to have a solid distinction between universal and field-specific aspects. The same holds true for the integration of sustainability-related informational units into field-independent markup languages that have a very broad scope of potential applications, such as the TEI guidelines published by the Text Encoding Initiative.

### **Following are short descriptions of the three papers:**

The paper “Sustainability in Cultural Heritage Management” by Øyvind Eide, Christian-Emil Ore, and Jon Holmen discusses technical and organisational aspects of sustainability with regard to cultural heritage information curated by institutions such as, for example, museums. Achieving organisational sustainability is a task that not only applies to the staff of a museum but also to education and research institutions, as well as to national and international bodies responsible for our common heritage.

Vital to the sustainability of collections is information about the collections themselves, as well as individual items in those collections. “Sustaining Collection Value: Managing Collection/Item Metadata Relationships”, by Allen H. Renear, Richard Urban, Karen Wickett, Carole L. Palmer, and David Dubin, examines the difficult problem of managing collection level metadata in order to ensure that the context of the items in a collection is accessible for research and scholarship. They report on ongoing research and also have preliminary suggestions for practitioners.

The final paper “Sustainability of Annotated Resources in Linguistics”, by Georg Rehm, Andreas Witt, Erhard Hinrichs, and Marga Reis, provides an overview of important aspects of sustainability with regard to linguistic resources. The authors demonstrate which of these several aspects can be considered specific for the field of linguistics and which are more general.