Annual Report 2012
Digital Humanities SIG

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Leadership: Coordinator: John Taormina, Duke University
Vice-Coordinator: Jenni Rodda, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University

During August-September 2012, with John Taormina coordinating, a small working group initiated the formation of the Digital Humanities SIG (DH SIG):

• Greta Bahneman (University of Minnesota)
• Stephanie Beene (Lewis and Clark College)
• Trudy Jacoby (Princeton University)
• Jenni Rodda (Institute of Fine Arts, New York University)
• John Taormina (Duke University)

The mission statement of the DH SIG was proposed as follows:

The purpose of the Special Interest Group on Digital Humanities will be to provide interested members the opportunity to engage in discussion, create an online reading group, develop an expanding bibliography, and perhaps periodically sponsor a session at the annual conference about Digital Humanities.

As inspiration the group used the definition of Digital Humanities published in "The Promise of Digital Humanities: A White Paper" (March 1, 2009), co-authored by Todd Presner (Professor, Germanic Languages and Comparative Literature, UCLA) and Chris Johanson (Assistant Professor, Classics and Digital Humanities, UCLA):

Digital Humanities is an umbrella term for a wide array of practices for creating, applying, and interpreting new digital and information technologies. These practices are not limited to conventional humanities departments, but affect every humanistic field at the university including history, anthropology, arts and architecture, information studies, film and media studies, archaeology, geography, and the social sciences. At the same time, Digital Humanities is a natural outgrowth and expansion of the traditional scope of the Humanities, not a replacement or rejection of humanistic inquiry. In fact the role of the humanist is critical at this historic moment, as our cultural legacy migrates to digital formats and our relation to knowledge, cultural material, technology, and society is radically re-conceptualized.

During the mid-year Executive Board meeting in September 2012, the DH SIG received approval. On September 18, Taormina posted a message to ARLIS-L announcing the formation and approval of the new DH SIG.

In February 2013, Taormina created a WordPress site for the DH SIG and the URL was sent to Nedda Ahmed for a link on the ARLIS/NA SIG page: http://arlisdhsig.wordpress.com/. The DH SIG will proceed to populate the site to support its mission statement.