Digitised Manuscripts to Europeana

September 2013 Newsletter

Dear all,

This is the September edition of the DM2E newsletter and a roundup of the last 3 months (June-August 2013) of the project.

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DM2E Digital Humanities Conference, "The Web as Literature", British Library, London

The DM2E project held its first major Digital Humanities conference on 10th June 2013. In the confines of the British Library over 80 Digital Humanists and cultural heritage professionals came to learn more about the research being undertaken as part of the DM2E project and to get hands-on training with cutting edge tools such as Pundit that the project team is developing. The highlight of the event was a scintillating talk by information technology pioneer and controversialist Ted Nelson which was supplemented by a vibrant panel on modelling the scholarly domain in the humanities, a key research theme of the project.

Read more about the event and see a recording of Ted Nelson's talk over on the DM2E blog.

New video for DM2E semantic annotation tool, Pundit

As ever DM2E project partners, Net7, have been busy working on their semantic annotation tool that enables scholars to annotate digitised manuscripts and is already being used to annotate the digitised manuscripts being made available to the project. The team in Pisa made a great video in overview of Pundit's core functionality.

[Watch the video here.](#)

Pundit wins LODLAM Challenge

In June of this year the second ever [LODLAM Summit](#) was held in Montreal, Canada. This gathering brought together Linked Open Data experts from the libraries, archives and museums space for two days of workshops, hacking and discussion. This organisers of the Summit also ran a challenge in parallel in which the best tools for working with Linked Open Data were sought. Pundit, the semantic annotation tool for Digital Humanities scholars being developed as part of DM2E, went on to win this challenge and Simone Fonda received the award in Montreal on behalf of Net7 and the project. Well done Net7 and the whole team behind Pundit!

DM2E invites associate content providers and technology partners

DM2E is always on the lookout for content providers interested in submitting content and experimenting with the workflow, infrastructure and tools being developed on the project. We've explained the process of how new content providers can join the project and what's expected of them in a workflow diagram.

Have a look at the [workflow](#) and if you are interested in joining email Doron Goldfarb on doron.goldfarb@onb.ac.at.

The DM2E Model - A specialisation of the EDM for handwritten manuscripts

In May the project finished the first operational version of its DM2E model (v1.0), a specialisation of the EDM for handwritten manuscripts. The ontology has been developed within work package 2 with a lot of input from others in the project. Especially results of extensive mapping workshops with the data providers of DM2E were integrated into the model. Metadata of various formats like TEI, EAD and MARC21 was analysed and used to create new classes and properties that specialise the current EDM.

The work on the data model goes on. Currently work package 2 is performing a reasoning test and consistency check on the data model and is especially focussing on the modelling of uncertainty in ontologies.

Have a look at the specification of the model: [http://dm2e.eu/document/# DM2EModelSpecification](http://dm2e.eu/document/#DM2EModelSpecification). We are glad to get your feedback or to hear from your own modelling experiences!

The Open Humanities Awards project progress

[The project announced the winners of the first round of the competition it was running earlier this year](#) to encourage the development of tools and services that use open data to further the humanities. The first award went to Robyn Adams of the Center for Editing Lives and Letters for a project to visualise the correspondence of Thomas Bodley. The second award went to Bernhard Haslhofer of the University of Vienna for a project to develop an open source tool for annotating old maps.

We're very pleased that the both projects are developing apace. Both winners presented at the DM2E "Web as Literature" conference and had an opportunity to share ideas with the team at Net7 who are working on the Pundit semantic annotation tool.

So far 4 project updates have been published and you can read about them on our blog.

The DM2E community of open culture evangelists is growing!

One of the key objectives of the DM2E project is to catalyse and strengthen the European community of open cultural data evangelists building on the fantastic work already undertaken by the Europeana Foundation and others. The value of the technical development on DM2E is dependent on the existence of a vibrant cultural Linked Open Data ecosystem hence the project's commitment to openness in the cultural heritage domain.

The OpenGLAM initiative, part of DM2E, is the community hub for this burgeoning network which in the last 3 months has published a set of collaboratively drafted principles for cultural institutions that want to make more of their content and data available and has put together a fantastic Advisory Board of high-profile open culture advocates who will help to promote these principles and will advise this aspect of the project.

For more information on what DM2E is doing to build a community of open culture evangelists go to OpenGLAM.org.

DM2E presentations and publications

As ever the DM2E Consortium has been busy presenting the research and technical development of the project.

Stefan Gradmann presented the ongoing work on the scholarly domain model with DM2E Digital Humanities Advisory Board member Susan Schreibman at DH 2013 which took place in Lincoln, Nebraska. Stefan Gradmann also gave a talk entitled "Metadata: from Records to Graphs" alongside a tutorial on Pundit given by Alessio Piccoli at CERN in Geneva Switzerland in June.

Simone Fonda of Net7 presented Pundit to a meeting of the German wing of the DARIAH Digital Humanities network. Steffen Hennicke of Humboldt University gave a talk on modelling the needs of archival users at the APEX-Conference held in Dublin in the Republic of Ireland.

August also saw the publication of a paper written by Alois Pilcher of the University of Bergen and leader of the Wittgenstein Incubator initiative which will see Wittgenstein scholars work with digitised Wittgenstein manuscripts held at Bergen. The paper entitled "Sharing and debating Wittgenstein by using an ontology" was published in the journal of Literary and Linguistic Computing and draws heavily on the research and work with users on the DM2E project.

To see the above presentations and keep up-to-date with future project talks, check out the DM2E slideshare account.

Stay tuned to DM2E project updates via our blog at http://dm2e.eu and follow us on Twitter @DM2Europeana!