

Digital Humanities Quarterly, 2008 Annual Report

Summary

During its second year of publication, DHQ accomplished the following:

- Published two issues (1.2 and 2.1)
- Migrated its publication system from OpenCMS to Cocoon
- Applied for and received an ISSN and listing in the Directory of Open-Access Journals (DOAJ)
- Added an RSS feed and installed TaporWare tools as part of the interface

The following activities are under way and approaching completion:

- Development of workflow management system with version control
- Publication of version 1.0 of the DHQ markup language as a TEI customization
- Add commenting and blog features

We are still experiencing challenges, most significantly in the management of the journal's work flow and in managing the flow of incoming articles so that issues appear at more regular intervals. In addition, a significant percentage of incoming materials are submitted as part of special issues, which reduces our flexibility in bringing articles out as they are ready.

During the past fiscal year we received 44 submissions, of which 20 were submitted as part of a special issue proposal. Of these, one was declined and two were accepted without significant revisions; the remainder were returned to the author for moderate to substantial revision. This approach differs from standard journal practice, in that it seeks to maximize the quality and range of materials DHQ publishes by working with the author until the article is of acceptable quality, rather than rejecting materials that are submitted in an unacceptable form. So far the author response has been excellent; authors have been very willing to revise and have in some cases rewritten articles more or less from scratch with excellent results. Author feedback also suggests that authors are grateful for the detailed responses and advice they receive.

Our major project for the coming year is to create a bibliographic management system that will permit centralized management of bibliographic citations. This will greatly reduce the work of article encoding and copyediting, and will also provide a basis for more powerful citation analysis and searching. During summer and fall 2008 we will be performing the data conversion, and in fall 2008 we will apply for an NEH Digital Humanities Startup Grant to fund the technical development of the management system and interface tools for authors and readers.

Financial

The accompanying spreadsheet shows the financial details of the journal's operation for the 2008 fiscal year.

ACH contributed \$6500 and ADHO contributed \$6000 this year towards the journal's operation. Because of the use of volunteer effort in the first years of its development, the journal has

accumulated a surplus of funding. We are planning a significant project for FY2009 to migrate our bibliographic references into a centralized management system, which will involve significant labor by the Managing Editor. In addition, Indiana University now has set up the Technical Assistant position as a graduate assistantship, with a financial contribution from IU to match DHQ's funding. This will enable us to get much more consistent work from the TA, and will also involve a greater expenditure. Over the next two years we will be spending our funding surplus and we anticipate our funding and expenditures being much closer.

The journal also benefited from considerable donated effort and materials in 2008. We include in this category paid effort by people other than the editorial staff, contributed by an institution, and also contributed resources and materials such as brochures, advertising space, and the like.

Donated effort and materials for 2008 include:

Indiana University	systems administration and web site management
LLC	advertising space
University of Illinois	technical development (Amit Kumar)
Brown University	graphic design for LLC advertisement (Erik Resly)