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### Editorial

## The role of digital humanities in library activities

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Digital humanities (DH) is a field of study that lies at the interconnection of the humanities and digital or computer technologies. In the humanities, it encompasses both the methodical utilisation of digital materials and the examination of their implementation.

Library functions are changing to include new knowledge transmission and preservation techniques in an era marked by rapid technological breakthroughs. The interdisciplinary area of digital humanities, which combines digital tools and approaches with conventional humanities, has become a revolutionary force in this process. As knowledge stewards, libraries are uniquely positioned to use digital humanities to improve their programs and offerings. The following highlights the important functions that digital humanities play in library operations.

### Enhancing Accessibility and Preservation

Digital humanities allow libraries to digitize unique manuscripts, archives, and cultural artefacts, making them available worldwide. Libraries guarantee the preservation and accessibility of historical and cultural artefacts by establishing digital repositories and utilising advanced technologies such as optical character recognition (OCR) and metadata tagging. These initiatives make information accessible to all, overcoming geographical and financial obstacles.

Libraries additionally utilize digital humanities to safeguard delicate materials that could deteriorate as time passes. State-of-the-art scanning methods and digital restoration processes enable libraries to produce high-quality digital copies of physical materials, preserving them for future generations. Moreover, by combining cloud storage with blockchain technologies, libraries can guarantee the integrity and durability of their digital collections.

### Enriching Research Opportunities

By integrating digital tools for the humanities, libraries can support innovative research methods, text mining, data visualisation, and geospatial data analytics, opening new avenues for scientific inquiry. Researchers can analyze patterns, relationships, and trends in large datasets that would be nearly impossible using traditional methods. Libraries can act as hubs for these activities, providing resources and training on digital tools.

For instance, libraries can assist analysts in constructing topical advanced chronicles or make intuitive stages where clients can investigate information in multidimensional ways. These collaborations upgraded investigative results and enhanced libraries' deceivability and significance in scholarly and open spaces.

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## Supporting Collaborative Learning

Advanced humanities advance collaboration among researchers, understudies, and library experts. Libraries can have computerised humanities labs or producer spaces with high-performance computing devices, 3D scanners, and advanced narrating or virtual reality programs. These spaces cultivate cross-disciplinary ventures and empower the sharing of thoughts and assets.

Crowdsourcing activities assist in improving collaborative learning where libraries lock communities in labelling, interpreting, or enhancing computerised collections. Such ventures make a sense of shared proprietorship and develop an open interest in information creation.

## Redefining Collection Development

As digital materials become more prevalent, libraries must adapt their collection strategies. Digital humanities encourages libraries to manage multimedia resources, datasets, and digital archives alongside traditional print collections. This expansion increases the range of materials available for scholarly and public use.

Additionally, libraries can use artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning algorithms to analyse user behaviour and preferences to guide the development of collections that better meet audience needs. This data-driven approach keeps library resources relevant and impactful.

## Engaging Communities through Public Humanities

Digital Humanities enables libraries to reach broader audiences through interactive exhibits, digital storytelling projects, and virtual tours. Libraries can use web and augmented reality (AR) platforms to create engaging programs that bring history and culture to life, fostering deeper connections with local and global communities.

Libraries can also collaborate with local schools, cultural institutions, and organisations to design projects that reflect and celebrate community identity.

## Building Digital Literacy

As digital humanities become integral to academic and cultural institutions, libraries play a crucial role in building digital literacy. Offering workshops, tutorials, and resources on topics like coding, data management, and digital ethics empowers users to navigate and contribute to the digital landscape effectively.

By training in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and blockchain, libraries ensure that users are equipped to address the challenges

and opportunities of the digital age. Libraries also act as mediators, helping users critically assess digital content and its sources.

## Challenges and Future Directions

While integrating digital humanities in library activities offers numerous benefits, it is not without challenges. Funding, technological infrastructure, and staff training require strategic planning and investment. Furthermore, ethical considerations surrounding data privacy and intellectual property must be addressed to ensure responsible practices.

Looking ahead, libraries must embrace the potential of digital humanities to remain relevant in a digital-first world. By aligning their missions with the evolving needs of scholars, students, and the public, libraries can continue to serve as vital institutions for knowledge creation, preservation, and dissemination.

In conclusion, the intersection of digital humanities and library activities heralds a new chapter in the history of libraries. As gateways to information and culture, libraries have the opportunity to harness digital humanities to expand their impact and redefine their role in the 21st century.

The latest issue of our journal explores various aspects of recent technological reforms. It showcases top-notch articles and case studies that will empower our esteemed readers to enhance their skills and enrich their personal knowledge. The articles cover various topics, including the Impact of Chabot, AI in Library operations and information retrieval, Library automation, Application of ICT in University Libraries, Electronic resources management and Scientometric analysis, etc. We extend our gratitude to our esteemed contributors and our publisher, editorial board and reviewer board members for their dedicated efforts in curating this valuable information collection. It is presented to our esteemed readers to provide them with high-quality research inputs for expanding their knowledge base. We sincerely appreciate your valuable thoughts, suggestions, and contributions, which will enable us to continue offering these enriching resources regularly.

## Conflict of Interest

None.

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