

KETRC Talk

Computing for the Humanities

Meeting Room, Five floor of the Integrated laboratories building, West Campus, Liaocheng University, No.34 Wenhua Road

Tuesday 17th, April 2018 – 3:00pm-4:00pm

Dr. Maria Papadopoulou – KETRC (China) & Condillac (France)



Digital Humanities (DH) is “a newly emerging interdisciplinary area at the intersection of Computer Science and the Humanities (including but not limited to art, geography, history, language, literature, music). Its main aim is to develop and implement digital tools to Humanities research. One of the fundamental questions in DH is how datasets from the Humanities can be represented digitally in such a way that both humans and machines can process and exchange them on the Web” (from KETRC website).

Previously known under different names, such as Humanities Computing, Literary, Social or Cultural Computing, this new field was born in 1949, when R. Busa, in collaboration with IBM, started working on a concordance of mediaeval Latin in the works of Thomas Aquinas in both print and digital format. In recent years the field has grown exponentially.



Despite the exponential increase in digital humanities research, the gap between traditional humanists and computer scientists persists and can be partly attributed to the fact that computer science is mainly interested in automating content processing, corpus mining, visualizations, etc., rather than in the content itself. On the other hand, because manual processing is standard practice in humanistic research, humanists cannot always fully appreciate the benefit of automatically generated results. The aim of this presentation is to help bridge the gap between the two intersecting fields by showing how computing can combine with the humanities to beat new and interdisciplinary knowledge paths. This talk is aimed at computer specialists interested in finding out about ways in which computational methods and tools can be used for humanistic research (big data, clustering, linked and open data, semantic web), as well as how these new knowledge instruments define new ways of approaching the humanities: *humanists are today also data scientists*.

This talk will present illustrations taken from two European projects, Europeana (<http://europeana.eu/>) and DARIAH (<https://www.dariah.eu/>).

The DH activities of the KETRC are embedded in the **OCAM** initiative which aims to combine Knowledge representation (Ontology) and Terminology for Humanities disciplines (<http://ketrc.com/digital-humanities>).

The talk will conclude by presenting in detail the ontoterminology of ancient Greek dress built with the ontoTerminology editor (Tedi).

