The Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship Collaborative
A Joint Partnership
University of Cincinnati Libraries and
The McMicken College of Arts and Sciences

In May 2014, the University of Cincinnati Libraries launched a [Strategic Plan](). Our vision, that UC Libraries will become **the globally engaged, intellectual commons of the university,** will see us positioning ourselves as the hub of collaboration, digital innovation and scholarly endeavor on campus. As an outcome of the collaborative strategic planning process, ten strategic initiatives were identified to be undertaken in the 2014/15 academic year, the first year of the Strategic Plan. ***Exploring Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship (DH/DS)*** was one of these ten initiatives.   In 2015/16 the DH/DS Strategic Initiative will continue to build momentum and deepen the collaborations with colleges and other academic units moving the DH/DS agenda forward at UC.

In the first year of the DH/DS Strategic Initiative, UC Libraries played a pivotal leadership role as connector, facilitator and catalyst in the exploration of digital humanities and digital scholarship at UC. As a key step in community building, the [Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship Strategic Initiative Group]() was formed in fall 2014. This group has become an exemplar of cross-disciplinary collaboration at UC with highly engaged and enthusiastic faculty, students and staff members from many UC departments, colleges and initiatives, and is now the singular group at UC with a sustained inter-disciplinary focus on digital humanities.   Through research and engagement, the members of this group have worked collaboratively to develop a fuller understanding of DH/DS scholarship and digitally- inflected pedagogy underway at the University of Cincinnati.

The development of outstanding learning opportunities was also a focus in 2014/15. The Digital Humanities Speaker Series facilitated engagement and awareness of DH/DS at UC with events featuring internationally recognized DH scholars: Dr. Lee Skallerup Bessette, University of Kentucky, Dr. Alex Gil, Columbia University, and Dr. Raymond Siemens, University of Victoria.   UC Libraries also developed and hosted THATCamp UCincinnati 2015, a first-ever THATCamp unconference event for UC and the region. All of these events have contributed to putting UC Libraries and UC on the DH "map" and have raised awareness of what is happening here.

With strong community building as a foundation, we will take the DH/DS Strategic Initiative to a new height in 2015/16. UC Libraries will launch a structured DH/DS Collaborative.   This collaborative is a joint partnership between the College of Arts and Science and UC Libraries.   We will work with faculty, students, and academic departments to identify and coalesce around DH/DS projects and programs. Engaging with stakeholders at the university and beyond, we will focus on developing academic programs while continuing our development of DH/DS space and infrastructure in Langsam Library for faculty and students.   All of these developments present unique and exciting opportunities for leadership and a chance to help shape and reshape a strategic vision for the humanities and digital scholarship at UC.

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University of Cincinnati Libraries