

NEDIMAH Cross workings group meeting, Bucharest, 1-3 November 2012

**Organiser: Maria BOSTENARU DAN, „Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism
Steering committee member for Romania**

Summary

Key representatives from at least two working groups of NeDiMAH, a European Science Foundation (ESF) funded Research Networking Programme, will bring together the experiences and knowledge from the workshops being arranged during 2012. By doing so we can start structuring the taxonomy of methods and ICT-tools in digital humanities which is important objective part of the NeDiMAH-network. The work will be a button-up approach using the experiences from the workshop and then mapping methods, procedures, tools, criticism, awareness, challenges and solutions to the eras covered by Time and place working group as well as the Information Visualization working group. This work requires competences and experiences from different fields.

Outputs from the meeting were presented to the steering group of NeDiMAH in November 2012 in Dublin, Ireland.

There is mutual interest among the active persons at the host organization to take part of this activity as well as sharing it own experiences. The meeting will be a 3 full day's meeting mainly containing collaborative work but also some rooms for presentations to a wider audience in the Academia. The host in Bucharest also invited key persons to participate in the meeting, according to the attached list.

Apart of the NeDiMAH funded working group leaders, members and the steering committee member who organised it we had two further international participants: Tincuta Heinzl from Germany and Daniela Calciu from the USA (online). The Romanian participants were mainly from the host university but not only (there were participants from other universities and from the Romanian Academy as well). From the university we attracted participants from the urban planning and from the design department (where the co-convener was from). The co-convener also involved her students in the presentation and discussions. The invited NeDiMAH members presented the progress so far within the network and possibilities of involvement. The presentations of the meeting will be published, electronically and on traditional support, in peer reviewed Romanian and international journals.

A questionnaire has been developed to additionally assess the state of the art in Europe, in addition to the mapping of the state of the art in Romania which was the subject of the public presentations. It will be distributed before the next WG meeting, at the begin of the next year.

A web page has been developed to better organise the information on the event to a level of detail this report does not allow (<http://nedimah.uauim.ro/>). The event enjoyed wide outreach activities, in the university (<http://www.uauim.ro/events/nedimah/>), being also added to the activities of the research centre, and in the media (magazines, newsletters, radio).

Several possibilities of further collaboration and investigation of the issues raised have been identified, including application for different funding (national, COST) but also other instruments of the NeDiMAH network.

Description of the scientific content of and discussion at the event



Foto: Discussions for the questionnaire

In the first two days concentrated work of the NeDiMAH WG leaders and members led to the development of a questionnaire.

Questions for Survey

Objective : "To have an understanding of how Digital Arts and Humanities scholars are conceptualising and using data and visualisation in their research"

In the Arts and Humanities 'everything is dynamic, attested, contested and researched' digital tools and methods in the Arts and Humanities are evolving to address a variety of research questions in multiple domains. This questionnaire is designed to assess the use of the variety of Digital Methods in the contemporary discourse.

- How do you prioritise the following key concepts in your work? Please rank them:
Collaboration
Interoperability
Open Access
Transparency
Reuse
Multidimensionality
Shareability
Interdisciplinarity
Standards
Legibility
Accuracy
- What is the place of data in your research process?
- How do you document your critical assessment of both tools and methodologies?
- Which criteria are to be applied in order to decide what data to include and what to exclude?

- Which criteria are to be applied in order to decide what data to include and exclude in the visualization?

How do you handle fuzziness and deliberate ambiguity?

- How do you ensure data quality/integrity?

Peer review o

Ensuring reproducibility

Other - please specify

- Which issues have you encountered in the use of your visualisations? Please rank them in order of importance to your work:

simplification

abstraction

aggregation

ambiguity

overabundance of data

lack of data

lack of access to data

uncertainty

other

- How have you overcome the most important of these issues for you?

- How important are standards in your research process?

- What standards do you use?

CIDOC-CRM

TEI

The London Charter

FRBR

UNESCO

FRBR-OO

OGC

Other

Please specify:

- How do you deal with multiple formats ? Elaborate on the nature of the question as you see it.

- Have you considered other non-visual approaches to your research?

- What does visualisation bring to your work?

Does it

Communicate the research previously done

Repurpose research previously done

find better ways of doing the research

find better ways of representing the research

explore new research questions

stand alone - or do you use it with other methods

Other - please specify

- How do you build transparency into your processing?
- How does temporality inform the nature of the data you work with?
- What advantages does multidimensionality afford your scholarship?
- How do you capitalise on these additional dimensions, movement, trajectory, momentum, velocity of events and ideas?
- How important is the use of narrative in audience interpretation of the visualisation?
- How do you provide for static versus fluid versus dynamic entities within your process?
- What level of interactivity do you allow users to explore your visualised dataset?
- What level of participation do you allow users with your dataset?

Logistics

- Targeted audience: DH researchers that we have heard of and have already faced problems. Practices are we interested in? 3D/data modeling, data visualisation, graph analysis, GIS, text mining
- Tool: SurveyMonkey
- Time of the year: workshop at the Humlab - March 2013
- Goal: creating a report / rule of thumbs / guidelines for DH tools/methods. Publish it. Finding an institution interested in sharing this knowledge beyond the project.
- After we receive the responses to the first survey we go through a refinement for construction of self-judged


Public talks

In the third day of the meeting 22 participants (4 participants not being speakers, and the speakers listed in the attached programme) presented and discussed their work in the wider field of Digital Arts and Humanities (not only connected to the WG). It was a rare possibility for Romanian participants who couldn't attend a NeDiMAH workshop abroad to present their work in the field.

The presentations of the NeDiMAH WG leaders, members and the steering committee member were divided between morning and afternoon, half of them taking place in the first and half in the second, to provide a good mixture with the Romanian presentations. The international presentations of the invited speakers included reports on the previous workshops, to two of them in Hamburg in July we had Romanian participants, apart of the steering committee member, who unfortunately could not attend this time. Romanian presentations were mainly from two fields, namely landscape planning and architectural design, for the speakers coming from the host institution, with four different presentations, two regarding digital methods in the representation of natural disasters, by a speaker from the University of Bucharest and the organiser herself, as well as respectively digital methods in industrial design (Tincuta Heinzl), a cultural project, and in history of architecture (Daniela Calciu). The digital methods in architecture and landscape thus involved two different scales. There was an important apport of the teaching dimension, in both cases, with one presentation on digital methods

in teaching of landscape design and, for the architectural design part, the involvement of students presenting their designs rendered digitally. The presentations were widely discussed, with links to related research (ex. Iannis Xenakis was a pioneer of new media in architecture), and suggestions for further work (representing landscape not just as another 3D model but as historic evolution with specialised tools).

Abstracts and presentations are being gradually uploaded to the webpage developed for the meeting by the steering committee member who organised it: <http://nedimah.uauim.ro/>



Workshop, 1-3 nov. 2012


Home general agenda public talks venue invited speakers committees **WG1 & WG2 reports** proceedings media related events ESF videos

WG1 & WG2 reports

WG1. Space and Time
Group Leader: Leif Isaksen, UK

As high-level, cross-cutting concepts, Space and Time provide important reference points that transcend disciplinary boundaries. ICT approaches to representing and analysing these dimensions include GIS, statistical distribution metrics, dynamic webmapping, geo-referencing, network analysis, mobile computing, augmented reality and semantic annotation of places, periods and events. Geospatial technologies are increasingly widespread in the arts and humanities, often in partnership with cultural heritage and memory organisations. ICT methods for dealing with time have an equally high potential of opening up new avenues of research.

WG1 report 2012 workshop
[Second workshop of the "Space and time" WG at the DH2012 in Hamburg, Germany](#)



WG2. Information Visualisation
Group Leaders: Fredrik Palm, Sweden and Orla Murphy, Ireland

The webpage (pointing to a google sites development)



Public presentations round table (see attached programme for details)

Assessment of the results and impact of the event on the future direction of the field

The event contributed towards two goals of the NeDiMAH network, namely

- A map visualising the use of digital research across Europe;
- A collaborative, interactive online forum for the European community of practitioners active in this area.

The involvement of Romanian scientists who couldn't have otherwise participated in this number to a NeDiMAH workshop provided them with a collaborative forum and their contributions will be online as presentations and abstracts on the webpage as well as full papers in DHQ and in DAACH, where the journals already expressed interest. It is about digital humanities in the arts, having a creative component and not only the investigation of historical resources, most of the participants being involved rather in design than in the latter. Mutual knowledge of Romanian development and of the European development presented by the invited speakers (other than the international speakers who are Romanians living abroad) will allow the mapping of digital research in this country and be maybe a first road map event in Eastern Europe. The questionnaire will allow mapping in Europe, including Romania.

The organisation of the workshop itself allowed the organiser to better know key persons in the area and apply for national funding for extending the network gathered with this occasion. This will lead to further collaboration, as explained below.

It was looked for organising the event connected to other larger scale events, to give more opportunities to the invited persons.

Publication

Selected papers will be published in

Digital Applications in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (Elsevier)

Full papers are due at the begin of 2013 and will be published both print and digital.

They will be published by the "Ion Mincu" University Press *Analele Arhitecturii*.

Electronic version in

Digital Humanities Quarterly which doesn't require reprint permissions.

Expected are 5-6 pages of text, in Romanian and English (images included in the total of 10-12 pages). It is envisaged to print in colour.

Proposals are being written on the basis of the received expressions of interest.

Discussions are being held if maybe the publication can be in Springer, *Lecture Notes in Computer Science: Information Systems and Applications*, incl. Internet/Web, and HCI

Media

Radio Romania Cultural

a short interview with convener Maria Bostenaru was on air on the 20th of November 2012 in the programme (13:15-14:00):

"Stiinta in cuvinte potrivite" (Science in matching words) cu Dan Manolache si Corina Negrea

Reports will be published in the following architecture magazines:

- Zeppelin
- Igloo habitat și arhitectură

An interview is planned with the AlumniKaTH news, the magazine of the absolvents of the University of Karlsruhe, the organiser being one of those.

Related events

Artists in Industry. The Role of Design in the Digital Age

International Conference organised by Tincuta Heinzl

"Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest, Romania, November 1 – 2, 2012
the organiser presented at this conference a related paper and Jean Christophe-Plantin attended some evening talks.

10th Romanian Architecture Biennale BNAB 2012

Exhibition of projects participating to the competition 15th of October - 15 of November 2012
featuring 1st of November 2012

16:00-20:00 Book launch (the organiser participated to the book section)

Further collaboration

Further collaboration with attending WG leader Orla Murphy includes common involvement in related COST actions such as „Colour and space in cultural heritage” (probably an STSM as Romania already signed the MoU) and genderSTE. Orla Murphy is management committee member in both. The main part of the Romanian participants to the meeting were women, so a participation to genderSTE is welcome; however, the organiser will adhere on behalf of the Marie Curie Fellows Association, where she is colleague with the network coordinator.

A further workshop focusing on the role of digital methods in the arts has been applied for to take place in Bucharest, taking further the idea of this workshop but involving also countries which have not signed up for NeDiMAH yet, such as Austria and Egypt. The proposal is still under evaluation and will include reporting of this event. Portuguese participants to the workshop will held skype meetings with the WG members who participated in Bucharest and who will organise the next WG1 meeting. Tincuta Heinzl is on the list of proposed international participants.

A Short Term Visit is being planned to take place to learn about digital methods in architecture in another NeDiMAH country (Switzerland), this being a real instrument for research. It is hoped that also further collaboration with Germany and applications will result into subsequent workshop participations. Ex. during the vacation a book on the digitalisation of a historic manuscript will be finished by the coordinator and could be launched at such a workshop.

A number of participants to the workshop signed their interest to join NeDiMAH working groups, now being checked at NeDiMAH administrative level where there are still places.

The host institution is interested, despite of the bureaucracy involved in such an organisation, in hosting another NeDiMAH events in other years, maybe a steering committee meeting in 2014.

Final programme of the meeting

1-2 November closed session of talks of the invited guests at the Centre for Architectural and Urban studies, Mihail Moxa 3-5

1. November

Reporting and sharing of selected presentations from workshops in both Working groups

Coffee break

Discussion and identification of common questions, special interest area "taxonomy"

Lunch

Prioritizing and discussion of how to organize work

Work with common result/discussion

Summary of results of the day

Social programme (dinner at Hanu Berarilor)

2. November

Discussion and identification of common questions, special interest area "methodology"

Coffee break

Prioritizing and discussion of how to organize work

Lunch

Work with common result/discussion

Summary of results of the day

Preparation of common result to be presented on Day 3.

Presentation for the Taxonomy meeting in London on 13/14th of November.

Preparation of common result to be presented at Steering Group meeting in Dublin 26-27 of November.

Social programme (dinner at Caru cu Bere)

public talks

3 November 2012

Morning session

Moderators: Maria Bostenaru and Fredrik Palm

10:00-10:15 Presentation of participants

10:15-10:30 Maria Bostenaru, UAUIM

Overview of the NeDiMAH network and relationship with other European networks

10:30-10:45 Daniel Alves, Nova University, Lisbon, Portugal

WG1 overview

10:45-11:00 Fredrik Palm, Umea University, Sweden

WG2 overview

11:00-11:15 Cofee break

11:15-11:35 Oana Caplescu, UAUIM

New media in architecture

11:35-11:55 Diana Gheorghe, University of Bucharest

Flood risk assessment using GIS, Study case from Romania (Bistrita)

11:55-12:15 Andreea Popa, UAUIM abstract Popa

Readability of the landscape with modern techniques

12:15-12:35 Tincuta Heinzl, University of Sorbonne

The role of the digital component in cultural projects "Artists in industry" project

12:35-12:55 Cristina Enache, UAUIM

Landscape in the age of information technology

13:15-13:35 Mihaela Harmanescu, UAUIM

The educational dimension of digital methods in parametric design in urban planning

13:35-13:55 Sergiu Petrea, UAUIM

Dacical castles in Orastie mountains

13:55-14:55 Lunch

Afternoon session

Moderators: Maria Bostenaru Dan and Marina Mihăilă

14:55-15:10 Shawn Day, Digital Humanities Observatory, Irland

Commentary on previous WG1 workshops

15:10-15:25 Orla Murphy, University College, Cork, Irland

Commentary on previous WG2 workshops

15:25-15:40 Jean-Christophe Plantin, Université de Technologie de Compiègne, France

Conclusions on discussions in Bucharest

15:40-16:25 Marina Mihăilă, UAUIM

3D modeling in architectural design

Students:

- Sorina Vlăiescu

Origami

- Andreea Nițu

Urban pavillion

- Cătălin Caragea

Cultural route on Calea Victoriei

16:25-16:55 Maria Bostenaru, UAUIM; Thomas Panagopoulos, Universidade do Algarve, Portugal

The impact of the 1755 Lisbon earthquake digitally represented

16:55-17:55 Discussion

on skype Daniela Calciu, University of Cincinatti

Digital representation of lost patterns of turn of the century housing

Dinner at "Chez Marie"