

Center of Digital Humanities Research (CoDHR, "coder")

began as the Initiative for Digital Humanities, Culture, and Society, in 2011. Founding Director and Presidential Impact Fellow, Professor Laura Mandell. Associate Director and Co-PI of Syriaca.org, Associate Professor Daniel Schwartz.

CoDHR Grant Funding:

Grants received:

The Carlyle Letters Online, from Duke University Press/NEH, \$64,010, 2022

Hagler Institute for Advanced Study Fellow at CoDHR Dr. Lena Cowen Orlin, including a graduate student HIAS Fellow beginning 2020-2021;

Linked Infrastructure for Networked Cultural Scholarship (lincsproject.ca), Canadian Foundation for Innovation, \$150,000, 2021

Digital Publication of *The New Variorum Shakespeare*, Modern Language Association, \$115,660

"ARCScholar: A Digital Publishing Cooperative," National Historical Publications and Records Commission / Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, \$75,000, 2018-2019

"Reading First Books: Multilingual, Early Modern Optical Character Recognition for Primeros Libros," NEH, \$215,000, 2015

Partner in "Text Mining the Novel: Establishing the Foundations of a New Discipline," SSHRC Partnership Grant, \$120,000 2014-2020

"ARC: Research and Student Engagement in the Digital Humanities," College of Liberal Arts Strategic Development Grant \$67,858, 2013.

"eMOP: the Early Modern OCR Project," Mellon Foundation, \$734,000, 2012-2015.

Syriaca.org, multiple agencies, primarily NEH, \$339,498, 2011-2017.

Grants under consideration and due 2023:

Syriaca.org, NEH Digital Humanities Advancement Grant, Level III, submitted: \$350,000

Variorum Reader (backend development) NEH DHAG, Level II, due Jan. 2023: \$150,000

NEH Digital Infrastructure Challenge Grant to permanently sustain digital projects. NEH

Challenge Grant Office responded to our query: if the program continues, due date will be May or September 2023; up to \$4 million.

Other Income Sources:

BigDIVA.org subscriptions: \$58,500 to date (all IP issues secure; passed review by TAMU Commercialization Office and the VPR

Programming for Humanists Webinar (free to TAMU faculty, staff, and students):

2019: \$19,000.00 revenue earned

Spring: Digital Editions: Start to Finish, 41 participants (15 TAMU, 26 external)

2020: \$33,150.00 total

Spring: Digital Editions: Start to Finish, 43 participants (26 TAMU, 17 external), \$8,700.00
Spring: Python, 60 participants (19 TAMU, 41 external), \$15,900.00
Summer: Gephi, 73 participants (14 TAMU, 59 external), \$8,550.00
2021: \$22,250.00
Spring: Python, 51 participants (26 TAMU, 25 external)

2022: \$51,550.00 total
Spring: Python: Crash Course, 79 participants (17 TAMU, 62 external), \$24,950
Fall: Digital Editions: Start to Finish, 50 participants (10 TAMU, 40 external), \$26,600

Selected CoDHR Projects:

The Advanced Research Consortium (ar-c.org)

- Members of the Consortium include the Networked Infrastructure for Nineteenth-century Electronic Scholarship ([NINES](#)), [18thConnect](#), the Medieval Electronic Scholarly Alliance ([MESA](#)), Modernist Networks ([ModNets](#)), and Studies in Radicalism Online ([SIRO](#)). On staging servers, not yet released: Early Modern Drama Research Interface (EMDRI), Networked Early American Scholarship (NEAR, containing metadata from the American Antiquarian Society), Digital Disability Studies (DigitDS), and Music Scholarship Online (MuSO; grant application underway at Glasgow University). A member that will incorporate ARC's Islandora plugin: the Canadian Writing Research Conservatory ([CWRC](#)).
- The only peer-reviewing organization for digital resources produced by scholars in the US: there is one other org. that publishes reviews, *Reviews in DH* (ed. Roopika Risam, Dartmouth Univ., with whom ARC has a contract). ARC pays peer reviewers, 67 technical reviewers enlisted via a call on Humanist
- Hosts websites and provides technical support for 6 field-specific peer-reviewing communities
- Hosts catalog of metadata and links to projects that pass peer review, providing seven online finding aids for those projects (one visual interface, [BigDIVA.org](#)). This metadata encompasses more than 2 million cultural objects from across the globe, with more added each week.
- ARC is participating with the LINC project, PI Bryan Tarpley: in the process of transforming internal identifiers into URIs, contributing approximately 6 million triples to the LINC Data Store, developing Corpora Data Studio (see below), and relaunching BigDIVA as a Rich Prospect, Linked Open Data Browser -- ideally a "generous" interface ([Whitelaw](#))
- NEH Infrastructure grant application about ARC offering to host peer-reviewed projects (see below).

Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, in Srophé, an interface and eXist DB.

- a collaborative digital research project between Vanderbilt University, Texas A&M, and Marquette University
- a cyberinfrastructure that links together and organizes current and future research related to sources in Syriac;
- displays online Uniform Resource Identifiers for persons, places, literary works, manuscripts, and bibliographic items relevant to Syriac studies, and is now in the process of adding a corpus of 350 translated literary texts originally written in ancient Syriac
- has received grant awards, between 2010 and 2017, totaling \$947,361 in federal and foundation funding of which CoDHR's Assoc. Director Dan Schwartz was awarded \$339,498; a grant proposal submitted by TAMU for \$350,000, Dan Schwartz PI, CoDHR staff budgeted, is currently under consideration at NEH.
- CoDHR has 3 signed MOUs for hosting Syriaca.org, eGEDSH (*The Gorgias Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage*), and the Digital Syriac Corpus; \$350,000 NEH grant with TAMU as lead under consideration.

The Corpora Data Studio:

- Corpora is the data entry and task-running interface used by all faculty DH work supported by CoDHR, the NVS, the Carlyle Letters Online, and ARC.
- developed by CoDHR's employee Dr. Bryan Tarpley, recently promoted to Associate Research Scientist in Critical Infrastructure Studies (that position/title was generated by CoDHR and the previous Dean in 2021);
- funding for further development of Corpora comes from the [LINCS project](#) which will be using it as part of their backend infrastructure and released open source with complete documentation, January 2023;
- further development of Corpora budgeted into the current Syriaca.org NEH grant under consideration.

The New Variorum Shakespeare (newvariorumshakespeare.org; NVS):

- Our bid to the MLA for digitally publishing the NVS, open access, was successful
- With designer Anne Burdick (book designer for N. Katherine Hayles, *Writing Machines*), CoDHR created the Variorum Reader
- In addition to the MOU with MLA which enabled us to hire Project Manager Dr. Katayoun Torabi, we currently have 19 active contracts with editors, and more pending to a total of 26.
- Already published: *The Winters Tale*, *A Midsommer Nights Dream*; *King Lear* to be released Dec. 2022.
- Data model / TEI encoding schema developed by Julia Flanders.

Summary with links:

CoDHR hosts 75 websites, faculty projects ranging from Beowulf to Edgeworth in Lit, as well as projects in Art History, and History. Center projects:

The Advanced Research Consortium (ARC)

Corpora Data Studio

The digital *New Variorum Shakespeare* (NVS)

Duke University Press's *Carlyle Letters Online*: the Press wants to make a big announcement in the next few months over CoDHR taking this on.

Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal

The Award-winning (MLA) *Digital Donne Variorum*

REDES: Networks Connecting Initiatives to help Migrants "returning" to Mexico

The Early Modern OCR Project, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

In process:

Digital Disability Studies; The Texas Art Project

Book series with TAMU Press: *Coding for Humanists*

Most recently, *XQuery for Humanists* (2020), Clifford Anderson, Joe Wicentowski

Forthcoming: *XSLT for Humanists*, David Birnbaum

Forthcoming: *Starting from Mess: 'Plain' Text to XML for Humanists*, Elise Beshero-Bondar

Outgoing **Dean's evaluation, August 2022**, excerpts:

Center Assessment:

"CoDHR is internationally recognized for the infrastructure and digital scaffolds that it developed. These are used by multiple centers worldwide and will be adopted by others. The importance and utility of constructing this multi-purpose digital infrastructure virtually guarantees that CoDHR will have a continued visibility."

Individual Director Performance:

"Your commitment to building a cutting-edge, world-class center for digital humanities research is apparent in everything you do. You are entrepreneurial, seeking external funding wherever appropriate, and purposefully working in a multitude of ways to advance the digital humanities. These pieces come together in ways that continually advance the interests of the center."

Outside Letter from *Distinguished Professor Alan Liu*, Univ. of California Santa Barbara:

"When I look at the record of the projects, grants, and other initiatives that CoDHR has brought to Texas A&M, either in whole or in part – e.g., ARC (Advanced Research Consortium), Syriaca.org, LINCS (Linked Infrastructure for Networked Cultural Scholarship), and The Corpora Data Studio; and, of course, all the local Texas A&M faculty research websites and projects that CoDHR supports – I see a U.S. equivalent of the national (and in many respects) world-leading DH center in the United Kingdom: the King's Digital Lab (<https://kdl.kcl.ac.uk/>). The King's center, of course, is located in London and thus has the advantage of drawing on and collaborating with the gathered might of its nation's top-of-the-system galleries, libraries, archives, and museums. CoDHR does not have those advantages, which makes even more remarkable the digital infrastructural and other work it has achieved."