DEAR PARTICIPANTS!

On behalf of the Volkswagen Foundation I am pleased to welcome you to our Herrenhausen Conference on “(Digital) Humanities Revisited – Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Age”!

As the largest private research funder in Germany we would like to establish our Herrenhausen Conferences as a platform for a lively and inspiring dialogue on timely and socially relevant research questions. There can be no doubt that the Digital Age poses a lot of challenges for the Humanities while by the same token offering manifold opportunities. We are very much looking forward to discussing the implications of the new, empirically driven mode of knowledge production for the various disciplines subsumed under the term humanities, their methods and research objects, and for the role the Humanities should and could play in society. What kind of knowledge can we expect? What could be lost when relying solely on digitally driven methods? And what could be gained?

It is our goal to bring together protagonists who embrace digital tools and those following and sustaining more traditional approaches, and we very much hope for a lively exchange of views and ideas between both parties. Our conference program allows ample time for discussion, and we offer workshops on December 6 to debate these issues in more detail. Please join the debate! To foster an exchange, we will summarize the conference in a report that will also be made available to the research community at large after the conference.

Dear participants! It is a pleasure to have you here in Hanover, and to welcome you to Herrenhausen Palace. I do look forward to interesting debates on the challenges and opportunities of the Digital Age.

Yours sincerely,

Wilhelm Krull
Secretary General, Volkswagen Foundation
THURSDAY

DECEMBER 5, 2013

PROGRAM

2:00 P.M. WORDS OF WELCOME
AUDITORIUM
Wilhelm Krull, Secretary General, Volkswagen Foundation

2:15 P.M. KEYNOTE
KNOWLEDGE DESIGN
Jeffrey T. Schnapp, Harvard University

3:00 P.M. SESSION 1
DIGITAL HUMANITIES – WHAT KIND OF KNOWLEDGE CAN WE EXPECT?
CHAIR Gerhard Lauer, University of Göttingen

THE BIG DEAL ABOUT BIG DATA
Viktor Mayer-Schönberger, University of Oxford

LOSS AND GAIN ARE BROTHERS TWAIN:
LARGE-SCALE TEXT PROCESSING FOR DIGITAL HUMANITIES
Iryna Gurevych, Technical University Darmstadt,
German Institute for Educational Research, Frankfurt

FROM RECORDING THE PAST TO PREDICTING THE FUTURE?
ON THE ROLE AND RELEVANCE OF LINGUISTIC ABSTRACTION FOR
CORPUS-BASED ANALYSIS
Detmar Meurers, University of Tübingen

All academic titles have been omitted.
We will offer simultaneous translation from German to English.
VISUAL ANALYTICS FOR THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES:
COMBINING ANALYTICS AND VISUALIZATIONS FOR GAINING
INSIGHTS INTO LINGUISTIC DATA
Daniel A. Keim, University of Konstanz

5:00 P.M. COFFEE BREAK
FOYER

5.45 P.M. COMMENTING STATEMENTS
AUDITORIUM
Thomas Anz, Philipps-University Marburg
Horst Bredekamp, Humboldt University Berlin

6.30 P.M. LIGHTNING TALKS

7.15 P.M. POSTER SESSION
FOYER
AND APERITIF

8.00 P.M. CONFERENCE DINNER
FESTSAAL

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6, 2013

9:00 A.M. SESSION 2
AUDITORIUM

FROM ART TO DATA – WHAT’S THE IMPACT OF GOING DIGITAL?
CHAIR Anke Lüdeling, Humboldt University Berlin

LOOKING AT ONE MILLION IMAGES: HOW VISUALIZATION OF BIG
CULTURAL DATA HELPS US TO QUESTION OUR CULTURAL CATEGORIES
Lev Manovich, City University of New York

ART, DATA, AND FORMALISM
Julia Flanders, Northeastern University

10:00 A.M. COFFEE BREAK
FOYER

10:45 A.M. LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE HUMANITIES:
THE CHALLENGE OF TEXT UNDERSTANDING
Manfred Pinkal, Saarland University

CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN DIGITAL MUSIC STUDIES
Eleanor Selfridge-Field, Stanford University

12:00 P.M. LUNCH
FESTSAAL
1:30 P.M.  WORKSHOPS
SEMINAR ROOMS

3:00 P.M.  LIGHTNING TALKS
AUDITORIUM

3:50 P.M.  POSTER SESSION
FOYER AND COFFEE BREAK

4:40 P.M.  PRESENTATION OF THE WORKSHOP RESULTS /
PLENARY DISCUSSION

5:45 P.M.  DINNER
FESTSAAL

7:00 P.M.  PUBLIC DISCUSSION
AUDITORIUM
Für alle, von allen und vor allem jederzeit –
Kultur im digitalen Zeitalter
(in German, translation to English available)

DISCUSSANTS
Bettina Wagner-Bergelt, Bavarian State Ballet
Mercedes Bunz, Leuphana University Lüneburg
Peter Weibel, Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe
Jürgen Kaube, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
HOST
Jürgen-M. Edelmann, Deutschlandradio Kultur

SATURDAY  DECEMBER 7, 2013

9:00 A.M.  SESSION 3
AUDITORIUM
DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND THE PUBLIC
CHAIR Hubertus Kohle, University of Munich

Luis von Ahn, Carnegie Mellon University

STANDARD LICENSES AS A PATCH, BUT NOT A FIX
TO A COPYRIGHT SYSTEM UNSUITABLE FOR THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES
John H. Weitzmann, Creative Commons Germany, iRights.Lab

THE HUMANITIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY
Gregory R. Crane, Leipzig University

10:30 A.M.  LIGHTNING TALKS

11:15 A.M.  POSTER SESSION
FOYER AND COFFEE BREAK
12:15 P.M. CLOSING PANEL DISCUSSION
AUDITORIUM
Christoph Cornelißen, University of Frankfurt; Member of the DFG Senate
Gregory R. Crane, Leipzig University
Manfred Nießen, German Research Foundation (DFG)
HOST
Wilhelm Krull, Secretary General, Volkswagen Foundation

1:30 P.M. LUNCH AND END OF CONFERENCE
FESTSAAL

SPEAKERS & DISCUSSANTS
THOMAS ANZ
HORST BREDEKAMP
CHRISTOPH CORNELIßEN
GREGORY R. CRANE
JULIA FLANDERS
IRYNA GUREYCH
DANIEL A. KEIM
LEV MANOVICH
VIKTOR MAYER-SCHÖNBERGER
DETMAR MEURERS
MANFRED NIESSEN
MANFRED PINKAL
JEFFREY T. SCHNAPP
ELEANOR SELFRIDGE-FIELD
LUIS VON AHN
JOHN H. WEITZMANN
Thomas Anz, born 1948, studied modern German literature, linguistics and sociology. He was awarded a doctorate in 1976, and in 1987 submitted his post doctoral dissertation in Munich. From 1990 till 1998 he was Professor for Modern German Literature and Literature Communication in Bamberg. In 1998 he was appointed Professor for Modern German Literature in Marburg. From 2004 till 2007 he acted as Chairperson of the Deutscher Germanistenverband (Association of experts in German Area Studies). In winter semester 2009/10 Anz was a visiting professor in the excellence cluster Languages of Emotion at the Free University of Berlin. Main research interests: literary modernity, contemporary literature, history of literature, history of medicine, and post-18th century history of psychology, psychological esthetics, theory of Literature, and literature critique. Since 1999 he is editor of the online journal literaturkritik.de, which he founded, and leader of the TransMIT-Zentrum für Literaturvermittlung in den Medien. He edited Handbuch Literaturwissenschaft (3 volumes), which appeared in 2007.

Horst Bredekamp, born 29 April 1947 in Kiel, Germany, studied art history, archaeology, philosophy and sociology in Kiel, Munich, Berlin and Marburg, where he received his Ph.D. in 1974. Since 1993 he has been a tenured Professor of Art History at the Humboldt University of Berlin and a permanent fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study in Berlin (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin). Among his awards are the Sigmund Freud Award from the German Academy for Language and Poetry in Darmstadt, Germany (2001), the Aby M. Warburg Award from the City of Hamburg, Germany (2005), and the Fritz-Winter Prize (2012). He is a member of several European academies and founder of the department “The Technical Image” at the Hermann von Helmholtz Zentrum für Kulturtechnik, Berlin as well as The Collegium for the Advanced Study of Picture Act and Embodiment, Berlin. Among his numerous publications on pictorial sciences is his “Theorie des Bildakts” (2010).
CHRISTOPH CORNELIßEN
UNIVERSITY OF FRANKFURT

Christoph Cornelißen is Professor for Contemporary History (history of Europe since 1918) at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt a. M.; previously Professor for Modern and Contemporary History at the University of Kiel (2003-11) and the University of Düsseldorf (2011). Among the many offices he holds, he is Co-Chairman of the German-Czech and German-Slovakian Commission of Historians and a member of the Senate and Central Committee of the German Research Foundation. His most recent publications include: (as editor) Geschichtswissenschaft im Geist der Demokratie. Wolfgang J. Mommsen und seine Generation, Berlin 2010; Il decennio rosso. Contestazione sociale e conflitto politico in Germania e in Italia negli anni Sessanta e Settanta (co-editors Brunello Mantelli and Petra Terhoeven), Mailand (Il Mulino) 2012.

GREGORY R. CRANE
LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY

Gregory Crane is Alexander von Humboldt Professor of Digital Humanities at the University of Leipzig. He also teaches Classics at Tufts University. He has been engaged in the applications — and implications — of digital technologies for the study of the past since 1982. He is also the Editor-in-Chief of the Perseus Digital Library.

THE HUMANITIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

We have only just begun to process the shift from print to digital technologies — we live very much in an incunabular society where our practices in a digital space still often reflect the limitations and possibilities of a print world. In such a world, to speak of Digital Humanities can be deceptive and deeply problematic, for the term can be used to isolate digital phenomena in a separate niche where it is distinct from, and may even appear marginal to, the rest of the Humanities. In fact, we all live in a digital world and all students of human literature, art, music, and culture must rethink from the ground up how we can now advance the lived intellectual life of society. How do we propose to deepen our understanding of the human record, to educate one another, and to disseminate our ideas? How can we better realize our obligations to society? We need a new culture of learning, one that integrates traditional, humanistic, humane, and human interactions between people with every useful technology and method available to us. We need a society that fosters life-long learners hungry to understand not only their own but all human cultures. We need new business models by which to create dynamic and sustainable publications to a global, hyper-lingual world. We need a new culture of learning that is both more open and more rigorous than that which we inherit from print — a handful of advanced researchers and library professionals, even when armed with the most advanced automated methods, cannot read, much less analyze and document the billions of documents from the human record already available on-line.
JULIA FLANDERS
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Julia Flanders is the Director of the Digital Scholarship Group and a Professor of the Practice in English at Northeastern University, where she also directs the Women Writers Project. She holds AB degrees from Harvard University and Cambridge University and a PhD from Brown University. She has served as President of the Association for Computers and the Humanities, and Chair of the TEI Consortium, and is the editor in chief of Digital Humanities Quarterly. Her research focuses on scholarly text encoding, digital modes of representation, and the politics of scholarly work.

ART, DATA, AND FORMALISM
The easy opposition of art and data places artificial limitations on digital humanities research. What happens if we consider art and data not as antagonists but as contrasting theories about the formal nature of information? This talk will explore the ways in which, in moving our representational systems into the digital medium, we have an opportunity to re-examine our methods of formalization: the purposes they serve, and the theoretical inheritance they carry with them. How do core research concepts in the humanities such as genre, fidelity, and descriptive adequacy now inform the digitization practices and technologies that shape digital representations and our interactions with them? As we design schemas, descriptive vocabularies, analytic algorithms, and user interfaces, how can we draw insight about formalism from both “art” and “data” without being limited by caricatured versions of these terms?

IRYNA GUREVYCH
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY DARMSTADT
GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH (DIPF), FRANKFURT

Iryna Gurevych is Lichtenberg-Professor in Computer Science at the Technische Universität Darmstadt and at the German Institute for Educational Research (DIPF) in Frankfurt, Germany. She has served as Principal Investigator of collaborative national projects, such as the Hessian LOEWE Center of Research Excellence “Digital Humanities” (DH) and the BMBF-funded DH projects DARIAH-DE and CLARIN, and worked closely with scholars from the fields of linguistics, philosophy, literature, historical and information sciences. Since 2012, Iryna Gurevych is Director of the Information Center for Education at DIPF and leads a long-term large-scale effort on bringing knowledge processing methods to the domain of education. This includes knowledge discovery in scientific literature, contextualized information processing in the Web, research data center and services, technology-based assessment, and educational technology.

LOSS AND GAIN ARE BROTHERS TWAIN:
LARGE-SCALE TEXT PROCESSING FOR DIGITAL HUMANITIES
The talk discusses large-scale text processing in Digital Humanities (DH) and educational research, and educational information as one particular example thereof. So far, this domain has not yet been deeply penetrated by data-driven methods. Their introduction needs to support a wide variety of tasks and diverse user groups, such as (i) digital librarians, i.e. people concerned with manual information processing for the community of educational research, and (ii) end users, i.e. the educational researchers themselves or the general public, e.g. parents. The talk analyzes the approach to introducing large-scale text processing in a new DH domain, defines use-cases and methodologies to bridge the gap between conventional information processing and the novel, data-driven methods. Finally, the gains and the risks, lessons learned and open questions are summarized.
Daniel A. Keim is a tenured professor and head of the Information Visualization and Data Analysis Research Group in the Computer Science Department of the University of Konstanz, Germany. He is actively involved in data analysis and information visualization research for digital humanities applications. He is principle investigator in a number of digital humanities projects, such as the BMBF-funded VisArgue project, in which he works closely with researchers from linguistics and political science. He is coordinator of the German Strategic Research Initiative (SPP) on Scalable Visual Analytics and was the scientific coordinator of an EU Coordination Action on Visual Analytics.

VISUAL ANALYTICS FOR THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES: COMBINING ANALYTICS AND VISUALIZATIONS FOR GAINING INSIGHTS INTO LINGUISTIC DATA

Never before in history has linguistic data been generated and collected in such high volumes as it is today. As the volumes of digital data available to scientists and the public increase, their effective use becomes more challenging. In most digital humanities applications, automated data analysis methods are not sufficient to unveil the full potential of the data. Humans and their background knowledge as well as their assessment of the findings are indispensable in gaining insights into the data.

The field of visual analytics seeks to integrate the analytic capabilities of the computer and the abilities of the human, allowing novel discoveries and empowering individuals to take control of the analytical process. Visual analytics enables unexpected and hidden insights, which may lead to beneficial and profitable knowledge. The talk presents the challenges of visual analytics and exemplifies them with several digital humanities application examples, illustrating the exciting potential of current visual analysis techniques but also their limitations.

Lev Manovich is the author of Software Takes Command (Bloomsbury Academic, 2013), Soft Cinema: Navigating the Database (The MIT Press, 2005), and The Language of New Media (The MIT Press, 2001), which is described as “the most suggestive and broad ranging media history since Marshall McLuhan." Manovich is a Professor at The Graduate Center, CUNY and a Director of the Software Studies Initiative at CUNY and California Institute for Telecommunication and Information (Calit2).

LOOKING AT ONE MILLION IMAGES: HOW VISUALIZATION OF BIG CULTURAL DATA HELPS US TO QUESTION OUR CULTURAL CATEGORIES

How do we use data mining of massive cultural data sets to question our cultural assumptions and biases, and “unlearn” what we know? How can we do research with massive visual collections of user-generated content containing billions of images? What new theoretical concepts do we need to deal with the new scale of born-digital culture? In 2007 I established Software Studies Initiative (softwarestudies.com) to begin working on these questions. I will briefly present the techniques we developed for exploratory analysis of massive visual collections, and show examples of our projects including analysis of 1 million pages from Manga books, 1 million artworks from deviantArt (online community for user-created art), and 2.3 million Instagram photos. I will also discuss how computational analysis and visualization of big cultural data sets leads us to question traditional discrete categories used for cultural categorization such as “style” and “period.”
VIKTOR MAYER-SCHÖNBERGER
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Viktor Mayer-Schönberger is Professor of Internet Governance and Regulation at the Oxford Internet Institute / Oxford University. In addition to the best-selling “Big Data” (with Kenneth Cukier), Mayer-Schönberger has published eight books, including the award-winning “Delete: The Virtue of Forgetting in the Digital Age” and is the author of over a hundred works on the information economy. Mayer-Schönberger studied in Salzburg, Harvard and at the LSE. In 1986 he founded Ikarus Software, a company focusing on data security and developed the Virus Utilities, which became the best-selling Austrian software product. His work has been featured in (among others) New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, The Economist, Nature, Science, NPR, BBC, The Guardian, Le Monde, El Pais, Die Zeit, and WIRED. He is also on the boards of foundations, think tanks and organizations, and advises governments, businesses and NGOs on new economy and information society issues.

THE BIG DEAL ABOUT BIG DATA
There is a lot of hype around big data, and some of big data’s proposed qualities are quite obviously epiphenomenal. But beyond the hype, what is labeled “big data” can amount to a rather fundamental shift in how we go about explaining the world around us. This talk will look at the defining qualities of big data vis-à-vis sense-making and understanding of reality, and hint at how this may impact the humanities.

DETMAR MEURERS
UNIVERSITY OF TÜBINGEN

Detmar Meurers is tenured professor of Computational Linguistics at the Universität Tübingen and an adjunct professor at the University of Tromsø, following eight years at The Ohio State University. His work addresses the role of linguistic modeling in basic research and applications, with a particular focus on the computational analysis and tools in Second Language Acquisition research and Foreign Language Teaching - from Intelligent Language Tutoring Systems to Visual Input Enhancement of the Web. He is a consultant for Cambridge University on the largest learner corpus currently available (EFCAMDAT), a PI in the SFB 833 “The construction of meaning”, and a board member of the LEAD Graduate School on empirical educational research funded by the Excellence Initiative, highlighting the interdisciplinary connections of educational research with psychology, computer science, and linguistics.

FROM RECORDING THE PAST TO PREDICTING THE FUTURE?
ON THE ROLE AND RELEVANCE OF LINGUISTIC ABSTRACTION FOR CORPUS-BASED ANALYSIS
The availability of large corpora of written and spoken language has significantly enriched the empirical foundation of linguistic research. At the same time, it arguably is refocusing language-related research towards questions which can readily be addressed by observing surface evidence, such as which words (co)occur, with which frequencies, in which contexts. To step from an investigation of past language use towards predictions generalizing across language tasks and domains, the annotation of corpora with abstract linguistic properties serves an important role. The talk explores the role and relevance of systematic corpus annotation using case studies from the analysis of learner corpora, records of language produced by second language learners.
MANFRED NIESSEN
GERMAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION (DFG)

Manfred Niessen holds a PhD in Educational Studies. He taught at Trier University before joining the European Coordination Centre for Research and Documentation in the Social Sciences in Vienna (Austria). He coordinated pan-European comparative research projects as well as initiated and implemented a UNESCO-sponsored series of training courses in the methodology of cross-national comparative research. He has numerous publications in the fields of the sociology of education and the methodology of international comparative research. Since 2001 Manfred Niessen has been director of the Division for Humanities and Social Sciences at the German Research Foundation (DFG), a major national funding organization. He has served on policy committees of ESF, COST and ISSC and is currently member of the ERA-Net NORFACE Network Board, of the Governing Board of the German-Italian Centre Villa Vigoni as well as of the Executive Committee of ISSC. He has initiated and implemented bilateral and multilateral joint funding schemes with various partner organizations in Europe, North America and West Africa.

MANFRED PINKAL
SAARLAND UNIVERSITY

Manfred Pinkal studied German philology, philosophy, linguistics, and computer science at the universities of Bochum and Stuttgart. He has taught linguistics and computer science in Düsseldorf, Austin (Texas), and Hamburg, and holds a chair for computational linguistics at Saarland University since 1990. While he has contributed to several different subfields of computational linguistics and language technology, the consistent focus of his work has been natural language semantics. He has addressed the task of semantic processing with a variety of methods, including deep knowledge-based analysis and data-intensive statistical modeling. Pinkal was awarded the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize of the DFG in 2000.

LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE HUMANITIES:
THE CHALLENGE OF TEXT UNDERSTANDING

Language Technology offers useful tools for accessing and exploiting textual data, e.g., automated methods for structural analysis and for the handling of diachronic, domain- and genre-specific variation. However, reliable access to the content encoded in texts is a challenge. Understanding a word means identifying one of its senses as contextually appropriate, and comprehending a sentence implies understanding how it is related to the preceding discourse. Until recently, this interpretation problem formed an almost insurmountable barrier. In the past decade, the availability of large digitalized text corpora, as well as the almost unlimited access to textual data on the Web, have opened up the possibility of more reliable access to the content level through machine learning techniques. I will illustrate both the potential and the limitations of currently available solutions, with examples taken from the areas of lexicography and discourse processing, and speculate about their impact on research in the Humanities.
ELEANOR SELFRIKE-FIELD
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Eleanor Selfridge-Field, musicologist, is Consulting Professor of Music and Symbolic Systems at Stanford University. Co-director (1994) of the Center for Computer Assisted Research in the Humanities, she is the author of six books on music history (one the winner of a Modern Language Association book prize) and sixteen on digital musicology. She holds degrees from Drew and Columbia Universities (US) plus a D.Phil. from Oxford University.

CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN DIGITAL MUSIC STUDIES
From its founding in the nineteenth century, the discipline of musicology has embraced both historical and systematic work, with later accretions from ethnomusicology and cognitive studies. Music applications are digitally complex, for ideally sound (temporal), notation (spatial), and underlying structure (logical) should be synchronized.

While music applications are value-neutral in principle, a tidal wave of digital resources has so enriched the field in recent years that working without them seems ill-advised. Digitally enabled analysis in music is qualitative rather than quantitative. Exciting methods of visualization now enable those with no knowledge of written music to comprehend structural and procedural concepts with ease.

Sound-based studies are confronted by legal obstacles. While much printed music is available in editions on which copyright has lapsed, most recorded music is under copyright protection. In contrast to the vast commercial market for music downloads in fixed forms, the mutability of music interests musicians and scholars. Music that exists only digitally poses one set of problems, music that has been digitized from pre-existing sources another. Academic licenses permitting institutional streaming are beyond the financial means of most institutions. Film-music studies are the most critically affected by copyright problems.

JEFFREY T. SCHNAPP
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Before moving to Harvard in 2011, Jeffrey T. Schnapp occupied the Pierotti Chair of Italian at Stanford University, where he founded the Stanford Humanities Lab in 1999. A cultural historian, designer and curator, his most recent books are The Electric Information Age Book (Princeton Architectural); Modernitalia (Peter Lang); and Digital_Humanities (MIT), co-written with Anne Burdick, Johanna Drucker, Peter Lunenfeld and Todd Presner. Forthcoming in 2014 with Harvard University Press is The Library Beyond the Book, co-written with Matthew Battles. He is director of metaLAB (at) Harvard and co-director of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society.

KNOWLEDGE DESIGN
The phrase Knowledge Design describes the situation in the contemporary humanities that most engages me as a “digital humanist”: the fact that the form knowledge assumes can no longer be considered a given. The tools of humanistic inquiry have become as much objects of research and experimentation as have modes of dissemination. Statistical methods press against one edge of the qualitative human sciences; graphic and information design press up against another. Laboratories arise with a team-based ethos, embracing a triangulation of arts practice, critique, and outreach, merging research, pedagogy, publication and practice. The once firm boundary line between libraries, museums, archives, and the classroom grows porous as scholarship, deprived of its once secure print-based home, starts shuttling back and forth between the stacks and the streets. In my keynote, I will provide an overall mapping of this situation and single out some key nodes: the re-mediation of print, data portraiture, bridging the analog/digital divide, and the redesign of knowledge spaces from classrooms to museums.
Luis von Ahn is the A. Nico Habermann Associate Professor of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University. He is working to develop a new area of computer science that he calls Human Computation, which aims to build systems that combine the intelligence of humans and computers to solve large-scale problems that neither can solve alone. An example of his work is reCAPTCHA, in which over one billion people have helped digitize books and newspapers. He has been named one of the 50 most influential people in technology by silicon.com, and one of the “Brilliant 10 Scientists” by Popular Science Magazine.

Construction of the Empire State Building: 7 million human-hours. The Panama Canal: 20 million human-hours. Estimated number of human-hours spent playing computer solitaire around the world in one year: billions. A problem with today’s computer society? No, an opportunity. What if billions of people collaborated to solve important problems for humanity? My work aims at a general paradigm for doing exactly that: utilizing human processing power to solve computational problems in a distributed manner. In particular, I focus on harnessing human time and energy for addressing problems that computers cannot yet solve. Although computers have advanced dramatically in many respects over the last 50 years, they still do not possess the basic conceptual intelligence or perceptual capabilities that most humans take for granted. By leveraging human skills and abilities in a novel way, I aim to solve large-scale computational problems and begin to teach computers many of these human talents. To this end, I treat human brains as processors in a distributed system, each performing a small part of a massive computation. In this talk, I will describe my work in the area of Human Computation, as well as the future direction of my research.

John Weitzmann studied law with a focus on IP law. He works as a lawyer and journalist for iRights in Berlin. He is also Legal Project Lead for Creative Commons Germany and has been appointed Regional Coordinator for the European Creative Commons Projects. If time allows he publishes on the relation of technology and law and is active as a founding member of the Digital Society Association. In fall 2013 he received the Dieter Meurer Award in Law and Informatics.

STANDARD LICENSES AS A PATCH, BUT NOT A FIX TO A COPYRIGHT SYSTEM UNSUITABLE FOR THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES

All in copyright was good and balanced, before the number of its addressees skyrocketed with the creation of mankind’s most powerful copying device to date, the internet. Initially meant as a somewhat intricate discipline for very few professional key players, copyright law became an arena for all parts of society, and this within a decade. The Digital Humanities are both a child and a victim of this shift. Because as much promise digital technology may hold for scholarly work today, as little has copyright law been changed to reflect and re-balance the situation. To the contrary: New and extended monopolies are made by legislators even though they increasingly hinder the frequently invoked ‘knowledge society’ without any substantial net gain for society to justify this. One of the most prominent examples was the introduction of sui-generis database rights in Europe. They cast a layer of additional legal protection over matters that were never needed any protection in the first place: facts. Standard licenses are an attempt to ease this absurd outcome, but they can only be seen as a patch. They are not a fix, the legislators must act and suitable ideas are on the table. These include a more flexible setup of exceptions and limitations to copyright, enforceable for those who are meant to benefit from them.
Hubertus Kohle, born 1959, studied art history, philosophy, romance and urban studies in Bonn, Florence and Paris. He wrote his doctoral dissertation in 1986 on Denis Diderot’s theory of art, and from 1987 to 1997 he was a research assistant in Bochum, where he submitted a post-doctoral thesis on Adolf Menzel’s Friedrichbildern; from 1997 to 1999 he was a lecturer in Cologne, and since 2000 he is professor at the LMU, Munich. He has published on French and German art history from the 18th to 20th century as well as digital art history. Most recent book publication: Digitale Bildwissenschaft, Glückstadt 2013
GERHARD LAUER
UNIVERSITY OF GÖTTINGEN

Gerhard Lauer, 1962, is Professor of German Literature at Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, where he is currently also director of the Göttingen Centre for Digital Humanities. His main research interests are literary history, digital humanities, and cognitive literary studies. He is also co-editor of the “Journal of Literary Theory”. His academic career took him from the University of Saarland to Tübingen and Munich (M.A.), the University of Princeton, the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and the University of Munich (Dr.phil./habil.). He held visiting positions at the universities of Bergamo, Coimbra, Delhi, St. Louis, Trieste. His current research makes use of computer and cognitive approaches to elucidate the relation between literary techniques and cognitive principles.

HENNING LOBIN
UNIVERSITY OF GIESSEN

Henning Lobin (born 1964) studied philosophy, German Studies, and computer science. After receiving his doctorate from the University of Bonn in 1991, his post-doctoral dissertation was submitted at the University of Bielefeld in 1999. In 1999 he was appointed to the Chair for Applied Language Studies and Computer Linguistics at the University of Gießen, where he became Vice-President and for six years was Chair of the Association for Language Technology and Computer Linguistics. Since 2007 he is principle investigator at the Center for Media and Interactivity, and he is spokesperson for several collaborative research groups, some of which funded by the Volkswagen Foundation and BMBF within the scope of the program “E-Humanities”. In addition to more than 60 articles, Lobin has authored six monographs (the most recent being “Inszeniertes Reden auf der Medienbühne”, 2009, and “Die wissenschaftliche Präsentation”, 2012) and published a number of edited volumes (most recent being “Kulturwissenschaft digital”, 2012, and “Lesen, Schreiben, Erzählen im digitalen Zeitalter”, 2013).
Norbert Lossau, read Finno-Ugrian philology and Scandinavian studies at the Universities of Bonn and Göttingen. He worked for his doctorate at the Finno-Ugrian department of Göttingen University in the framework of Collaborative Research Centre 309, “Literary Translation”, where he completed his dissertation in 1991. In 1994 he entered higher training in academic librarianship, completing this successfully in 1996. In 2001 Norbert Lossau became the first “Head of the Oxford Digital Library” at the University of Oxford, before being appointed Director of the Library of Bielefeld University in 2002 and subsequently Director of the State and University Library, Göttingen, in 2006. Since 2013 he serves as full-time Vice-President of Göttingen University. Within the university directorate, he is in charge of the Faculty of Mathematics, the Faculty of Geoscience and Geography and Computer Science; he is also responsible for research, information infrastructure, and facility management.

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