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| Afbeelding met tekst  Automatisch gegenereerde beschrijving | **CERL Annual Seminar****4 October 2022**Location: Neill Lecture Theatre, Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (Trinity College Dublin) |

Digitising Cultural Heritage Collections:

Lessons Learned and Forging Ahead

9:00-9:30: Arrival and coffee

9:30-10:00: Welcome & introductions. Chair: Ann-Marie Hansen, Project Manager at the Library of Trinity College Dublin, *Unlocking the Fagel Collection*

* **Helen Shenton**, University Librarian, Trinity College Dublin
* **Kristian Jensen**, Chairman, Consortium of European Research Libraries

10:00-11:00 – Session 1. Chair: Ann-Marie Hansen, Trinity College Dublin

* **Greg Prickman**, Folger Shakespeare Library: *Future Imperfect: Digitizing Needs and/or Digitizing Speeds*
* **Laura Shanahan**, Library of Trinity College Dublin: *The Virtual Trinity Library: What We Have Learned So Far*

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:30 Session 2. Chair: Arlene Healey, Digital Systems and Services (Readers' Services Division), Library of Trinity College Dublin

* **Richard Davies**, British Library: *Heritage Made Digital – The British Library’s Strategic Approach to Digitisation*
* **Anne Pasquignon**, Bibliothèque nationale de France: *The Digitisation of Pre-19th-Century Printed Books at the BnF: Review and Perspectives*

12:30-14:00: Lunch

14:00-15:00 Lightning papers. Chair: Marian Lefferts, CERL

* **Dávid Rózsa**, General Director of the National Széchényi Library (NSZL): *The present situation of digitisation in Hungary and in the National Széchényi Library*
* **Cillian Joy**, University of Galway Library: *Prof. Tomás Ó Máille Wax Cylinders: From Digitisation to Publishing*
* **Meadhbh Murphy**, Royal Irish Academy: *To See or Not to See: Making RIA Library Manuscripts Available on Irish Script on Screen*
* **Jenny Doyle**, Library of Trinity College Dublin: *Manuscripts for Medieval Studies: A Virtual Trinity Library Case Study*

15:00-15:30: Tea break

15:30-16:30 Session 3. Chair: Lucinda Jones, KB National Library of the Netherlands

* **Christopher Pressler**, John Rylands University Librarian, The University of Manchester.’: *Codices Mancuniensis: Manchester as a Source of Light in the Digital Age*
* **Jussi-Pekka Hakkarainen**, National Library of Finland: *Digitization Project of Swedish Era Literature (1488-1809). An example of transnational and local digital unification*

16:30-17:00: Closing remarks

* **Mark Faulkner**, School of English, Trinity College Dublin

20:00: Dinner for those who have registered

Fallon & Byrne, Exchequer Street, Dublin 2. The booking is for 35 people at 8.00pm. The three course menu is €52 per person.

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|  | With the support of the Trinity Centre for the Book Research Seminar | **Afbeelding met tekst  Automatisch gegenereerde beschrijving** |

Abstracts:

**Richard Davies, *Heritage Made Digital – The British Library’s strategic approach to digitisation***

*Heritage Made Digital* is the British Library’s major programme for developing a strategic approach to digitisation activity. The Library has been digitising its collections since the 1990s with hundreds of small and large projects completed over the decades. Richard Davies will talk through the vision of the programme, which started in 2017, the progress made with bringing together existing digital collections, starting new projects and the challenges of dealing with large scale, complex collections.

Richard Davies

Head of Collections Programmes

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**Jenny Doyle, *Manuscripts for Medieval Studies: A Virtual Trinity Library Case******Study***

*Manuscripts for Medieval Studies* is one of the first Virtual Trinity Library projects and was initiated as part of the Medieval Manuscripts Culture theme with the benefit of funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.  Now in its second phase, Jenny Doyle outlines how the project has progressed, the approach to digitisation of some of the unique manuscripts in the collection of the Library of Trinity College and the lessons learned.

Jenny Doyle

Digital Content Creation Manager

Library of Trinity College Dublin

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**Jussi-Pekka Hakkarainen, *Digitization Project of Swedish Era Literature (1488-1809). An example of transnational and local digital unification***

The National Library of Finland is currently executing the digitization the eldest part of Finnish national literature, the Swedish Era Literature collection (1488-1809). At the moment, out of the collection’s 18 000 titles, more than 13 000 items have been digitized and during the years 2022-2024 we aim to complete the digitization of Swedish Era Literature collection and make the items available it online.

A large amount of titles destroyed in the course of the Great Fire of Turku in 1827 and thus the National Library of Finland does not have an original copy in its collection, but they are available as low-quality paper copies, which have been acquired since the 1930s. This material is not always suitable to be digitized and therefore we have aimed to co-operate with more than 60 domestic and foreign organizations during 2022 and 2023 in order to replace the paper copy with a high-quality digital copy.

Since this project has been very different to our everyday procedures, I will discuss how we have managed to change and modify the workflows in several levels at the library, how the co-operation with the domestic and foreign institution have served the purpose and what lessons we have learned in this mission.

Jussi-Pekka Hakkarainen

Information Specialist

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**Cillian Joy, *Prof. Tomás Ó Máille Wax Cylinders: From Digitisation to Publishing***

Tomás Ó Máille (1880-1938), inaugural professor of Irish and Celtic Studies at UCG (1909-1938), was a pioneering and prolific collector of Irish language traditions. The Prof. Ó Máille Wax Cylinder Collection at the University of Galway is the largest collection of recordings created by an individual recordist working independently in Ireland from the advent of recording technology to the mid-twentieth century. This collection of 398 wax cylinders has remained in the University of Galway in its original state since the 1930s and consists of up to 33 hours of content from all counties west of the Shannon; specifically, vocal material in Irish including speech, storytelling, and song, reflecting Ó Máille's lifelong interests in linguistics, folklore, and music-collecting. This talk discusses the design approach and ambitions of the work currently underway and focuses on the digitisation of the wax cylinders in terms of audio quality, metadata, and related research methodologies.

Cillian Joy

Digital Library Developer, Open and Digital Research, University of Galway Library

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**Meadhbh Murphy, *To See or Not to See: Making RIA Library Manuscripts Available on Irish Script on Screen***

*Irish Script on Screen* (ISOS) is a project which was initiated by the School of Celtic Studies, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, in 1999. In early 2000, the Royal Irish Academy library entered discussions with the School of Celtic Studies to digitise and make available a small number of its manuscripts. Since then, we have continued to add manuscripts to ISOS with a total of 100 to date available for scholars around the world to consult and research. With over 1,500 manuscripts in our collections, it is a small fraction that have been digitised and this, in turn, can create limitations on further research. In this presentation I will discuss what those limitations are and how we hope to overcome them.

  Meadhbh Murphy

Deputy Librarian, Royal Irish Academy

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**Anne Pasquignon, *The Digitisation of Pre-19th-Century Printed Books at the******BnF: Review and Perspectives***

The Bibliothèque nationale de France has been digitising its collections of pre-19th century printed books in a significant way since 2009. The progress of scans had made it possible to digitise the original documents without the risk of damaging the books. Specific digitisation programs were launched, including the one financed by the editor ProQuest concerning the 16th and 17th century books printed in France. These projects required to define documentary choices, to improve the metadata of the catalog and to promote this offer. Today, a large part of pre-19th century printed books held at the BnF has been digitized. These collections constitute a huge reservoir of data. In 2021, the BnF inaugurated a DataLab in order to offer researchers working on digital collections tools, environments and support. The aim is to encourage research on digital themes and to complete the corpus according to the needs of researchers.

Anne Pasquinon

Deputy Director of collections for scientific and technical questions,

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**Chris Pressler, *Codices Mancuniensis: Manchester as a Source of Light in the Digital Age***

The University of Manchester Library is widely acknowledged to be one of the great libraries of the world. This presentation will discuss how the University and its partners are bringing into the research and public fora vast numbers of materials through its ground-breaking Manchester Digital Collections platform.

Manchester’s printed collections encompass almost all the landmarks of printing through five centuries: magnificent illustrated books, examples of fine printing, landmark works in typography, key historical texts and exquisite bookbindings. Manchester holds over 4,000 incunables, including the largest collection of Aldines in the world and the second largest collection of works printed by Caxton. The Library's manuscript collections cover more than fifty languages, including all the major European and Middle Eastern languages, and numerous Far Eastern ones written on virtually every medium ever employed. The subject range is vast, encompassing literary, historical, antiquarian, genealogical, biblical, devotional, ritualistic, medical, scientific, legal and administrative texts.

Our mission is to manage, develop and enhance access to our astonishing special collections, in order to inspire and nurture world-class research, teaching and learning at The University of Manchester and in the wider world of scholarship.

We also promote the use and enjoyment of the collections by diverse audiences, in fulfilment of the vision of Enriqueta Rylands. Manchester Digital Collections is as much an experiment in the future of digital access as it is an exploration via technology of much of human history as recorded in this great library.

Christopher Pressler

John Rylands University Librarian, The University of Manchester.’

Professor of Collecting Practices, Institute for Cultural Practices, The University of Manchester

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**Greg Prickman, *Future Imperfect: Digitizing Needs and/or Digitizing Speeds***

The Folger Shakespeare Library’s digital collections have been built upon a foundation of the highest quality in imaging and description, in an environment that has long prioritized the in-person research experience. But what happens when in-person access is eliminated by a construction project and a pandemic? How is digital access repositioned, and what can be learned for how to approach digitization in years to come? Lessons learned from choices made over the past two years will be presented alongside evolving thinking on the role of digitization for today’s researchers, with a look ahead to changes in practice being readied for implementation when the Folger reopens next year.

Greg Prickman

Eric Weinmann Librarian and Director of Collections, Folger Shakespeare Library

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**Dávid Rózsa, General Director of the National Széchényi Library (NSZL): *The present situation of******digitisation in Hungary and in the National Széchényi Library***

Dávid Rózsa

General Director, National Széchényi Library (NSZL)

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**Laura Shanahan, *The Virtual Trinity Library: What We Have Learned So Far***

The Virtual Trinity Library is an ambitious programme to deliver curation, conservation, digitisation, research and public presentation of the unique and distinct collections in the Library of Trinity College Dublin. Officially launched by the late, great Vartan Gregorian, in 2021, and over a decade since the first Digital Collections repository was launched in Trinity, the programme has received funding from international trusts and foundations, Irish cultural schemes and the Dutch government. It has facilitated the digitisation of some of the most significant medieval manuscripts at Trinity, has enabled the deployment of our first born-digital archiving project, and launched comprehensive cataloguing of our largest single collection of printed books in Special Collections. The programme’s content underpins the MPhil in Medieval Studies at Trinity, and teaching with artists’ works through the University’s Irish Art Research Centre. It has created close to 20 professional jobs within the Library in the last two years. However, our ambitions are great and there is much to do. Working across nine thematic areas, with the support of committed academic champions, we intend to ensure each collection theme has a major flagship project, that digital and infrastructural sustainability is routinely integrated, and that we move apace into advanced technologies with our research community.

In this presentation, Laura Shanahan, Head of Research Collections and VTL team lead for academic liaison and proposal development, will share the lessons learned through this programme, and reflect on aspirations for the future.

Laura Shanahan

Head of Research Collections, Library of Trinity College Dublin

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