

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE  
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE  
GERMAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION (DEUTSCHE  
FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT e.V., DFG)  
ON COOPERATION IN THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF SCHOLARLY  
RESEARCH**

This is a Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter "Memorandum") between the National Endowment for the Humanities (hereafter "NEH"), an Executive branch agency of the United States of America, and the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V., DFG) (hereafter "DFG"), a self-governing research funding organization established in Germany, collectively referred to herein as "the Participants."

NEH is an Executive branch independent grant-making agency of the United States of America dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. NEH accomplishes this mission by providing grants for high-quality humanities projects to cultural institutions, such as museums, archives, libraries, colleges, universities, public television, and radio stations, and to individual scholars.

The DFG is the central, self-governing research funding organization that promotes research at universities and other publicly financed research institutions in Germany. The DFG serves all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects and facilitating cooperation among researchers.

Recognizing their shared objective to foster interchange of information and scholarly research in the humanities, the Participants intend to achieve this objective in the manner set forth below.

- I. The Participants intend to conduct activities under this Memorandum in accordance with applicable laws and regulations in their respective countries and subject to the availability of funds for each entity. Within this framework, the Participants are to make every effort to promote favorable conditions for the fulfillment of this cooperation.
- II. The Participants intend to cooperate as set forth below.
  - a. The Participants are to co-sponsor joint programs and symposia in the area of Digital Humanities (hereafter "Joint Programs and Symposia")..
    - i. To this end, NEH and DFG are to issue guidelines for Joint Programs and Symposia that have been jointly developed and

approved by both Participants and to provide assistance to applicants during the application process. Such guidelines should require that submissions have at least one U.S. partner and one German partner that form a collaborative partnership. The collaborating partners should submit identical copies of their proposals to both DFG and NEH. The application should contain a separate budget request from each participant. DFG and NEH are to consult on the selection of peer reviewers and to cooperate in the peer review of the applications. DFG and NEH are to work together to inform potential applicants about this grant program.

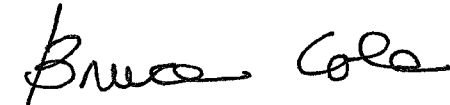
- b. By this Memorandum, the Participants are encouraged to collaborate on and pursue additional activities, projects, and joint initiatives that foster interchange of information, the development of innovative digital resources, and scholarly research in the humanities. Any such activities, projects, and/or initiatives should advance the goals of both Participants as set forth in this Agreement and are to be subject to the written approval of the Chairman of NEH and the DFG Joint Committee in further memoranda. The Contacts, as set forth in Section V below, with the assistance of grants staff and relevant legal staff, are to consider other potential joint and collaborative projects, activities, and initiatives, which may include specific grant and contract programs, projects, conferences, and training sessions. The Participants are to ensure proper review of any and all activities, projects, and initiatives proposed and conducted pursuant to this Memorandum and to commit funds as appropriate subject to Section IV below and the approval of the Chairman of NEH and the DFG Joint Committee respectively.
- III. In carrying out this Memorandum, the Participants in particular intend to
    - a. encourage humanities scholarship of high quality;
    - b. encourage collegial interaction between scholars, librarians, curators and other relevant staff in the United States and Germany;
    - c. demonstrate their commitment to collaboration in the delivery of innovative digital resources for the research and higher education communities.
  - IV. Each Participant is to bear the costs of its participation within this joint partnership.
  - V. The lead DFG contact for this Agreement is the joint Program Officer for Libraries and Information Services, and for Humanities and Social Sciences. This is currently Dr. Max Voegler. For joint programs related to cultural heritage, it is the Program Director for Cultural Heritage. This is currently Dr. Ralf Goebel. For joint programs on cooperative visits of scientific partners and bilateral symposia it is the Director for North America. This is currently Dr. Aglaja Frodl.

The NEH contact for this Agreement is the Chief Information Officer and Director of the NEH Digital Humanities Initiative. This is currently Brett Boley.

- VI. This Memorandum of Understanding serves to record the understandings between the Participants and does not create any legally binding obligations on the Participants.
- VII. Cooperation under this Memorandum is to begin upon signature and continue for three years or until either Participant chooses to end its cooperation under this Memorandum. In such case, that Participant should provide at least three months written notice to the other Participant of its intent to end its cooperation.

Signed on the respective dates as noted below, in duplicate.

FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE HUMANITIES OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:



Date:

3/27/2008

FOR THE DEUTSCHE  
FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT e.V.  
(DFG):



Date:

14. April 2008