Evaluating Digital Work in the Humanities for Tenure and Promotion

Geoffrey Rockwell (geoffrey.rockwell@ualberta.ca www.geoffreyrockwell.ca)

Check List

- Did the creator get competitive funding? Have they tried to apply?
- Have there been any expert consultations? Has this been shown to other for expert opinion?
- Has the work been reviewed? Can it be submitted for peer review?
- Has the work been presented at conferences?
- Have papers about the project been published?
- Do others link to it? Does it link out well?
- Is it accessible to the community of study?
- If it is an instructional project, has it been assessed appropriately?
- Is there a deposit plan? Will it be accessible over the longer term? Will the library take it?

Find an Expert

- Find a Computing and <your field> association
- Start at ADHO and contact association officers
- Join TEI Consortium and ask for technical review
- Ask granting council
- Ask MLA ICT committee
- Search HUMANIST archives

Best Practices

- Appropriate content (What was digitized?)
- Digitization to archival standards (Are images saved to museum standards?)
- Encoding (Does it use appropriate markup like XML or follow disciplinary guidelines?)
- Enrichment (Has the data been annotated, linked, and structured appropriately?)
- Technical Design (Is the delivery system robust, appropriate, and documented?)
- Interface Design (Is it designed to take advantage of the medium?)
- Usability (Has it been assessed? Has it been tested? Is it accessible?)
- Online Publishing (Is it published from a reliable provider? Is it published under a digital imprint?)
- Demonstration (Has it been shown to others?)
- Linking (Does it connect well with other projects?)
- Learning (Is it used in a course? Does it support pedagogical objectives? Has it been assessed?)

Links

MLA Guidelines for Evaluating Work in Digital Humanities and Digital Media
www.mla.org/guidelines_evaluation_digital

MLA Evaluation Wiki
wiki.mla.org/index.php/Evaluation_Wiki

MLA Profession on Evaluating Digital Scholarship
http://www.mlajournals.org/toc/prof/2011/1

Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO)
digitalhumanities.org

Text Encoding Initative (TEI)
www.tei-c.org

New Criteria for New Media
newmedia.umaine.edu/interarchive/new_criteria_for_new_media@m.html

MLA Guidelines
www.mla.org/guidelines_evaluation_digital

Rotunda (UVa Digital Imprint)
rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/

Credibility of Electronic Publishing
web.mala.bc.ca/hssfc/Final/Credibility.htm

HUMANIST discussion list
www.princeton.edu/~mccarty/humanist