Call for Proposals
Network Detroit 2018 Conference
Digital Humanities and Activism: Communities in Motion

Conference date: Friday, September 21, 2018
Location: Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Proposal due date: June 30, 2018

We invite proposals for the 6th annual Network Detroit Conference on Digital Humanities (DH) at Wayne State University, a research University in the heart of midtown Detroit. Network Detroit 2018 will be a one day conference dedicated to bringing together DH scholars and practitioners, coders, humanists, activists, students, and community members. This year’s conference theme is DH and activism with a focus on communities.

Activism may be viewed broadly as the use of disruptive tactics to challenge and shape public policy. Community and advocacy groups are leveraging digital tools to transform their organizational structures and outreach practices, thereby influencing the local and global impact of their activism. Digital humanists and scholars seek to understand the impacts of digital technologies on activism, organizing, protest, and social change. "Organizing" typically refers to the somewhat difficult work of gathering signatures, raising awareness, reaching out to people,
having conversations, pounding the pavement, knocking on doors, and getting grassroots support for a political cause or idea. Digital technologies provide more means for communication and rallying support, but have also been criticized as enabling "slacktivism" and "clicktivism"-support from people who aren't willing to otherwise work for a cause. There is also recent interest in examining community-based online media practices, online organizing, and digital representation. Digital and print collections are an integral part of digital humanities work, and relevant in the context of activism because they include access to and preservation of community archives, documenting and preserving online social activism and social justice work, and community documentation.

In exploring ideas of activism, we encourage proposals from a wide variety of disciplines on topics including but not limited to:

- Digital pedagogy
- DH technologies (e.g., mapping, text-mining)
- DH project design/management
- Data collection and resources
- Institutional DH partnerships and project-based collaborations
- Community-based online media practices
- Online organizing
- Digital representation
- Digital and print collections
- Preservation of community archives, documenting online social activism and social justice work

Successful proposals will demonstrate a connection to the theme of the conference, namely how DH can facilitate or drive activism within communities. Proposals should include a one paragraph abstract of about 200-300 words along with the name(s) of the presenter(s) and institutional affiliations. Presentation formats include

- Lightning talks (3-5 minutes)
- Papers/Presentation (15 minutes)
- Panels (30-60 minutes)
- Posters
- Workshops (60-90 minutes)


Conference information will be posted as it becomes available on [www.detroitdh.org](http://www.detroitdh.org). If you need further information please send an email to networkdetroit@wayne.edu. Follow us on social media: Twitter@detroitdh, Facebook@detroitdh.