ECU Entities Join Forces, Present First DISSH Symposium

GREENVILLE, N.C. (March 4, 2015) — In its inaugural event, East Carolina University soon will host a symposium that will explore digital projects across disciplines and focus on collaborative research and education, hallmarks of a 21st-century university.

The Digital Innovation and Scholarship in Social Sciences and Humanities (DISSH) Symposium will be held from 2 – 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, in Joyner Library. ECU Provost Ron Mitchelson and Dean of the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences William Downs will provide opening remarks.

During the keynote presentation, David Lee Miller, from the Center for Digital Humanities at the University of South Carolina, will address the question “What’s Happening in the Humanities?” He will discuss what digital humanities consist of, digital humanities experiments, how it is collaborative and interdisciplinary, how digital media drives change, and how traditional forms of scholarship and teaching can thrive in a digital era.

Other featured speakers include David Staley, director of the Goldberg Center, Ohio State University; Natalie Kononenko, Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography, University of Alberta; Jolanda-Pieta (Joey) van Arnhem, digital scholarship and services at the College of Charleston Libraries; and Paul Jones, of the School of Media and Journalism, and the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In addition, a lightning-round of presentations will feature individuals already engaged in digital work from ECU and the surrounding region.

“Together, the speakers who will inaugurate this annual symposium point to the promise and potential of digital projects to bring people together from across the university setting, creating synergies across academic computing, libraries, departments and interdisciplinary programs,” said Dr. Benjamin Fraser, DISSH symposium committee member and chair of the ECU Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

ECU faculty, staff and students may attend the DISSH symposium for free, but should register for the event at https://ecu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eUUZX42xqZljsGx. The public is also invited to attend for $10 and may register by visiting http://cpeprograms.ecu.edu/CourseStatus.awp?&course=DISSH15.

Many individuals and units across campus worked together to create the event. Sponsors of the DISSH symposium include ECU’s Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education, Division of Academic Affairs, J.Y. Joyner Library, Information Technology and Computing Services, Office for Faculty Excellence and the Office of International Affairs. Committee members include Fraser; Kevin Baxter, associate dean of the Honors
College; Dr. Lida Cope, associate professor of English; Joyce Joines Newman, instructional consultant for the Office for Faculty Excellence; Ginny Sconiers, from Information Technology and Computing Services; Dr. Kirk St. Amant, professor of technical and professional communication and international studies; and Dr. Jill Twark, associate professor of German.

For additional information about the DISSH symposium and full program details, visit http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/DISSH. Questions also may be addressed to Fraser at 252-328-0104 or via email at fraserb14@ecu.edu. Individuals requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the events.

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