



Classical Philology Goes Digital Working on Textual Phenomena of Ancient Texts

February 16-17, 2017

Universität Potsdam

Editorial

Digital technologies are constantly changing our daily lives, including the way scholars work. As a result, also Classics is currently subject to constant change. Greek and Latin sources are becoming available in a digital format. The result is that Classical texts are searchable and can be provided with metadata and analyzed to find specific structures.

An important keyword in this new scholarly environment is “networking”, because there is a great potential for Classical Philology to collaborate with the Digital Humanities in creating useful tools for textual work.

During our workshop scholars who represent several academic disciplines and institutions gathered to talk about their projects. We invited Digital Humanists who have experience with specific issues in Classical Philology and who presented methods and outcomes of their research. In order to enable intensive and efficient work concerning various topics and projects, the workshop was aimed at philologists whose research interests focus on specific phenomena of ancient texts (e.g., similes or quotations). The challenge of extracting and annotating textual data like similes and text reuses poses the same type of practical philological problems to Classicists. Therefore, the workshop provided insight in two main ways: First, in an introductory theoretical section, DH experts presented keynote lectures on specific topics; second, the focus of the workshop was to discuss project ideas with DH experts to explore and explain possibilities for digital implementation, and ideally to offer a platform for potential cooperation. The focus was explicitly on working together to explore ideas and challenges, based also on concrete practical examples.

As a result of the workshop, some of the participants agreed on publishing online their abstracts and slides in order to share them with the community of Classicists and Digital Humanists. The publication has been made possible thanks to the generous support of the Open Science Office of the Library of the University of Leipzig.¹

We are also very grateful to the Volkswagen Foundation for supporting the workshop.²

Monica Berti and Karen Blaschka

¹ <https://www.ub.uni-leipzig.de/open-science>

² <https://www.volkswagenstiftung.de>