CAA-GR 2021 SESSIONS

"Open Digital Archaeological Content in the Connected World: Curation and Stewardship"

April, 16th 2021

The **Greek Chapter of the Computer Applications & Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA-GR)** in collaboration with the **ARIADNEplus** consortium (Advanced Research Infrastructure for Archaeological Dataset Networking in Europe – plus), the **SEADDA** network (Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age) and the **CARARE** association (Connecting Archaeology and Architecture in Europe), cordially invites you to attend an online roundtable session on Open Archaeological content curation and stewardship.

The event builds on the outcomes of last year's CAA-GR October sessions on the "**Current Status and the Future of Digital Archaeology in the Eastern Mediterranean**[1]". A recurring theme that emerged during these discussions has been the overall management of digital archaeological content.

The online roundtable session will extent this discussion, addressing issues related to the accessibility of digital archaeological content, and the effort required by heritage professionals and researchers to manage, structure, secure over the long term so as to make heritage digital assets available to the wider community at both local and international levels.

The invited speakers will have the opportunity to share their own experience on archaeological data stewardship and the Open Science strategy. They will further describe the current landscape of policies and best practices towards digital content curation and showcase ongoing international research on archaeological data archiving, dissemination and reuse through the gradual integration of separate institutional and national archaeological data repositories and into larger content aggregators at the European and global level.

As archaeologists and heritage professionals are increasingly becoming digital data producers and users, the theme of digital curation is relevant to daily practices with respect to sustainable, transparent, open and reusable resources in the connected world. The intention is to highlight problems and present potential solutions, set up know-how transfer networks and facilitate transnational collaborative activities to address digital obsolescence. The presentations will be followed by a roundtable discussion, including a Q&A for the audience.

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[1] https://gr.caa-international.org/2020/09/24/caa-gr-2020-sessions-greece-cyprus-turkey/

Registration

The CAA-GR 2021 online session event will use the GoToMeeting technology. The links for the session will be provided to registered participants only. Pre-registration is required. Registration details will be posted on the CAA-GR website (https://gr.caa-international.org/).

Organizing Committee

Athos Agapiou, Cyprus University of Technology
Markos Katsianis, University of Patras
George Pavlidis, Athena-Research and Innovation Center in Information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies
Dorina Moullou, Ephorate of Antiquities of East Attica / Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports
Tuna Kalayci, Leiden University
Stella Sylaiou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

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April, 16th 2021
Time: 18:00 EEST (Athens Time Zone)

- Opening (*5 mins*)
- Part 1: Presentations (*60 minutes*)
  - Agiatis Benardou, *Digital Curation Unit, ATHENA R.C. and AUEB, Greece*
  - Holly Wright, *Archaeology Data Service, University of York, UK*
  - Kate Fernie, *2Culture Associates, UK and CARARE, Ireland*
- Part 2: Roundtable with Q&A for the audience (*40 minutes*)

Presentation Abstracts

In order of appearance in the program

Agiatis Benardou

Curating digital archaeological data: ensuring access, use and openness.

Datasets concerning Archaeology and the Historic Environment have long been the object of debate regarding access, use and openness. The "look but don't photograph/copy/touch/repurpose" mentality of previous decades pertaining to the licensing regimes of archaeological collections - physical and/or digital - has lately been largely readdressed. Infrastructures, research groups and individuals are increasingly propounding Creative Commons open licenses (that is, CC-BY, CC-BY-SA and CC0) that are well known and internationally recognised as marking content that is readily usable for any purpose, as well as FAIR principles for archaeological data. This talk will discuss the importance of open data in Archaeology, focusing on Greek initiatives such as HEAL link and the National Open Science Plan, and relating them to the broader European ecosystem.

Holly Wright

Thematic Networks and Infrastructures in Archaeology: The ARIADNEplus infrastructure for open data and the SEADDA COST Action for stewardship and best practice.

Archaeology uses a broad range of digital methods and data types, and is therefore an excellent exemplar for how any complicated, heterogeneous data may be approached and made FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable). At the same time, Archaeology is unusual. Archaeological interventions such as excavation are non-repeatable, resulting in primary data which must be preserved beyond its life within any specific software, app, or infrastructure. This presentation will discuss the work of ARIADNEplus (https://ariadne-infrastructure.eu), a large-scale aggregation infrastructure for archaeological data, and Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age (SEADDA - https://www.seadda.eu), a COST Action focused on the long-term stewardship of archaeological data, and the relationship between the two initiatives.

Kate Fernie

Connecting Archaeology datasets in Europe: background, challenges and possibilities

Connecting datasets is especially relevant for Archaeology as past cultures and modern boundaries rarely coincide. Just as people have migrated, traded and exchanged goods in the past, archaeologists today work across broad regions. Archives and collections relevant to a culture are often distributed between institutions and researchers from different regions. Individual researchers and research teams follow methods and use equipment selected for their project, which in long running projects may change over time. These differences present some challenges for initiatives that seek to connect datasets to enable users to search across data from different sources. This presentation will discuss the challenges and the opportunities for improving the interoperability of your datasets by increasing the use of Linked Open Data, clear labelling of languages, rights and access permissions, focussing on CARARE's work (http://www.carare.eu) with institutions sharing datasets with Europeana.

The Speakers
In order of appearance in the program

Agiatis Benardou

Agiatis Benardou is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Informatics, Athens University of Economics and Business and a Senior Research Associate at the Digital Curation Unit, ATHENA R.C. She has held posts as Research Associate at the Departments of Information Science and Critical Studies, University of Glasgow, and Visiting Scholar at the Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California Berkeley. Agiatis has served as Teaching Fellow in Digital Curation at the Department of Media and Culture, Panteion University, and is co-ordinating an MA course on Applications of Digital Methods in the Humanities at the Department of Informatics, Athens University of Economics and Business. Agiatis holds a PhD in Ancient History and Classical Archaeology from King's College London.

Holly Wright

Dr Holly Wright combines a prior career in the arts, graphic design, Web design and community building through the arts, with a current career in Archaeology and digital methods, specialising in visualisation in Archaeology and Semantic Web technologies, open data management, and equity of data access. She is currently International Projects Manager for the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) in the UK, managing a range of research projects where ADS is a partner, contributing to the sector at large as well as ADS policy direction. Primary projects currently include ARIADNEplus and SEADDA. Both projects include over 40 partners representing over 20 countries.

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Kate Fernie

Kate Fernie has a professional background in archaeology, museums, information management, standards and digitisation in the cultural heritage sector. She is currently director of 2Culture Associates Ltd and operations manager for the CARARE association. Kate manages CARARE's involvement in international projects including Europeana, ARIADNEplus, the research infrastructure for archaeological datasets, and 4CH, the competence centre on conservation of cultural heritage. Her experience includes producing on-line learning resources, editing best practice guidelines on digital heritage and leading the Europeana Network Association's task force on 3D content in Europeana amongst other activities.