



# Research Data Sharing without barriers

## Digital Practices in History and Ethnography IG

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group (DPHG-IG) works to advance data standards, practices and infrastructure for historical and ethnographic research, contributing to broader efforts in the digital humanities and social sciences.

### Goals

- Advance development of digital infrastructure for historical and ethnographic research through engagement with concrete scholarly practice and projects (such as Open Folklore, the Nunaliit Atlas Framework, the Platform for Experimental and Collaborative Ethnography and Indiana University's Mathers Museum of World Cultures).
- Advance conceptualization of the special characteristics and digital potential of humanities and qualitative social science data, including conceptualization of ethnographic and historical research data as "big data."
- Advance capacity to share, integrate, visualize and act with different kinds of data and analyses, including qualitative data and the kinds of analyses produced through historical and ethnographic research.

### Planned Outcomes & Benefits

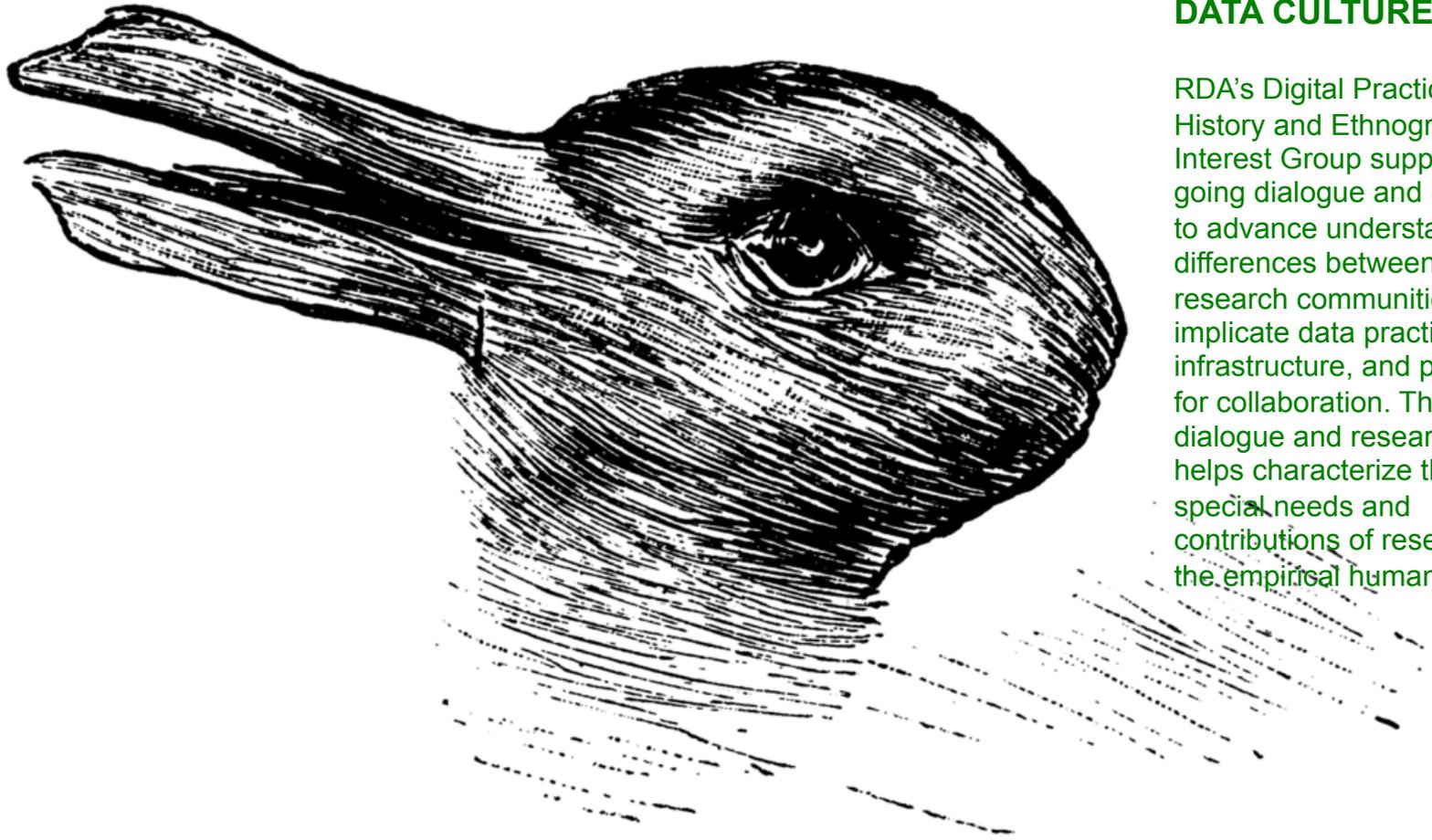
- Build a global network of people involved in the development of data infrastructure for historical and ethnographic research, providing opportunities to share digital tools and project development experience. Monthly, call-in "project shares" since summer 2013 contribute to this.
- Link people involved in development of data infrastructure for historical and ethnographic research to data scientists and technologists, and to people in other research domains involved in data infrastructure development (leveraging the connections provided by RDA). Call-in "issue shares" support this.
- Characterize and recommend best-practice data management for the empirical humanities.
- Develop an ethnographic project to document and analyze data practices, infrastructures and culture in different research communities. The comparative knowledge created by the project can undergird deep collaboration across diverse fields, and can help specify the data practices and infrastructure challenges of the empirical humanities.

### Who

Membership in the DPHG-IG includes historical and ethnographic researchers working in diverse fields and settings, including folklore, Arctic Studies, Ancient Studies, and Science and Technology Studies, in universities, museums, national labs, and corporate labs. Membership also includes librarians, software developers and data scientists interested in the humanities and qualitative social sciences, as well as advocates for open data and systems in these fields.

**Chairs:** Mike Fortun and Kim Fortun (Department of Science and Technology Studies, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)  
Jason Baird Jackson (Mathers Museum of World Cultures, Indiana University)

# Welche Thiere gleichen ein- ander am meisten?



## DATA CULTURES<sup>10</sup>

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group supports ongoing dialogue and research to advance understanding of differences between research communities that implicate data practices, infrastructure, and potential for collaboration. The dialogue and research also helps characterize the special needs and contributions of research in the empirical humanities.

Kaninchen und Ente.

**A project to develop digital collection, storage and distribution strategies for multimedia anthropological information from the Himalayan region**

The Digital Himalaya project was designed by Alan Macfarlane and Mark Turin as a strategy for archiving and making available ethnographic materials from the Himalayan region. Based at the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, the project was established in December 2000. From 2002 to 2005, the project moved to the Department of Anthropology at Cornell University and began its collaboration with the University of Virginia. As of July 2014, the project is in the process of relocating to the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

**News**

**The Journal of the International Association for Bon Research (January 2014)** is a new yearly publication devoted to the study and promotion of research on the Tibetan Bön religion. Digital Himalaya is delighted to have been chosen by the journal's online home.

**The Raven (October 2013)** is Bhutan's premier socio-political and current affairs magazine. Digital Himalaya is

**Collections**

- **Census of Nepal**
- **Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf**
- **Films**
- **Journals**
- **Maps**
- **Music**
- **Naga Videodisc and Database**
- **Rare Books**
- **Thak Archive**
- **Thangmi Archive**
- **Frederick Williamson**

**Annotation Studio**

| Project | Pedagogy | Community |
|---------|----------|-----------|
|         |          |           |

Sign up or sign in



**PROJECT SHARES**

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group hosts monthly call-in "project shares" during which an emerging or showcase digital project in the empirical humanities is presented.

*Annotation Studio is a web-based annotation tool under development at MIT.*

**Read**

Engage and reflect more critically upon texts instead of passively reading them

**DARIAH-EU** | Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities

- About
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- Activities
- Library
- News

**What is DARIAH?**

DARIAH, the Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities, aims to enhance and support digitally-enabled research and teaching across the humanities and arts. [Read More](#)

**Our Partners**

DARIAH is a network of people, expertise, information, knowledge, content, methods, tools and technologies coming from various countries. [Read More](#)

## Metadata IG



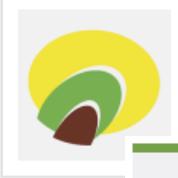
Status: Recognised & Endorsed

The Metadata IG will concern itself with all aspects of metadata for research data. In particular it will attempt to coordinate the efforts of the WGs concerned with metadata to produce a coherent approach to metadata covering metadata modalities of description, restricti

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## Research Data Provenance



The Research Data Provenance Interest Group focuses on the comparison and evaluation of models for data provenance. It is concerned with questions of data origins, maintenance of identity through the data lifecycle, and how we account for data modification.

## Repository Platforms for Research Data



Institutions, developers, and other members of the research data community struggle to

## Data Fabric IG



Several RDA groups are working on core components supporting a basis for a Data Infrastructure for reproducible science. These include: PID IG, PIT WG, DTR WG, PP WG, MD WG and IG, Provenance IG, Brokering IG, DFT WG and others. Some of these groups are Working Groups and will finish in 2014. Yet we miss an overarching concept & discussion framework for most of these groups to relate the components with the overall data lifecycle landscape and identify gaps, obstacles and possible incompatibilities.

[READ MORE](#)

## ISSUE SHARES

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group hosts call-in "issue shares" that provide opportunities for interaction with other RDA groups.



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## Digital Practices in History and Ethnography IG

## WORKING GROUP SPIN-OFFS

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group is organizing a spin-off Working Group on Empirical Humanities Metadata. The goal is to characterize and recommend best-practice meta-data standards for researcher-created primary data (field notes, recorded interviews, etc.) in history and ethnography. In the future, the DPHE-IG will advance Working Groups to characterize and recommend user agreements, citation practices, digital exhibition protocols, and other mechanisms that will facilitate sharing and public availability of historical and ethnographic data and analyses.





# PECE

Platform for  
Experimental  
Collaborative  
Ethnography



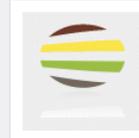
Disaster  
STS Network

# THE ASTHMA FILES

## RDA ADOPTION PROJECTS

RDA's Digital Practices in History and Ethnography Interest Group has supported the adoption of recommendations by RDA's Practical Policies [for data management] Working Group in the Platform for Experimental, Collaborative Ethnography, under development at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, USA.

### Practical Policy WG



Status: Recognised & Endorsed

The Practical Policy Working Group will assemble a collection of production and research policies, analyze the submitted policies to identify best practices, and promote the formation of policy-based data management systems. Categories of computer actionable policies will be defined to simplify policy-based interoperability, with the goal of identifying a minimal desired set for policies for each category that can be used as a starter kit.