International Scientific Conference
"Digitalization of Cultural and Scientific Heritage, University Repositories and Distance Learning"
University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philology,
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The International Scientific Conference „Digitalization of Cultural and Scientific Heritage, University Repositories and Distance Learning" was held from the 29th September to 2nd October 2011. The University of Belgrade Faculty of Philology organized 11th international scientific conference in collaboration with Emporia State University (USA), University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (Bulgaria), University Library "Svetozar Markovic", Belgrade, Matica Srpska Library, Novi Sad, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Belgrade, National and University Library of Republika Srpska, Banja Luka and Faculty of Philology, Moscow. Over 200 participants from fifteen countries participated in the conference. For the first time, the Conference was also attended by the LIS students from USA and Bulgaria.

This year, for the first time a special pre-conference program has been organized (on 29th of September). This program included very interesting workshops where the participants, through practical work, discussion and questions, were able to

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share experiences and to gain new knowledge.

The practical development details of digitization were discussed in the following workshops:

- "Digital repository of Belgrade University - PHAIDRA: the characteristics, uploading of objects and copyright protection" (storage of digital objects in a digital repository and management of digital objects)
- "Modern methods of using metadata in science libraries: ESE and Yahoo! Pipes" (presentation of the the Europeana Semantic Elements model of metadata, and Yahoo! Pipes - aggregator of web sites, information and services)
- "Popular interactive systems and the possibility of their use for educational purposes"
- "Creative Commons licences - digitization of copyright" .

Distance learning, through practical work and achieved results, was presented through the following workshops:

- "Professional Life Management (ProLifeMG-MT)" (lecture covers issues of interest in different stages of professional life after graduation, using the experience of several Nobel Laureates)
- "Moodle 2.1 - new version, new possibilities" (making an online course in the new version, setting up the basic types of resources and activities)
- "Creativity and innovation suported by technology usage – what is and what is not defined as 'electronic learning' (e-learning)" (processing of a teaching unit using different computer programs and web 2.0 tools)
- "Tools for peer teaching and assessment" (working on the Moodle platform, making headings in Wikipedia, posting comments on

the forums).

In the main program of this year's conference, two basic themes were presented through the science, research and theoretical papers:

1. the future of digitalization of cultural and scientific heritage
2. the current status of distance learning.

In the area of the future of digitalization, the following topics were discussed:

- digitalization of valuable books, periodicals and unpublished scientific papers as a form of protection and promotion of cultural heritage;
- the importance of digitalization of cultural heritage for the development of science, culture and education;
- digitalization of textbooks and the establishment of faculty and university repositories;
- open-source scientific journals;
- connecting related research and higher education institutions with the aim of globalizing and increasing the quality of education;
- providing general access to scientific and professional papers in subject areas;
- transparency and availability of digital teaching materials;
- digital archiving of multilingual texts and contents;
- procedures and principles (technical, legal and professional) for ensuring a proper transformation of traditional collections into digital ones;
- selection of literature for digitalization and care of its proper implementation;
- education of lecturers, librarians and technical staff for performing tasks related to digitalization;
- standardization and quality control of digita

lization;
- world literature and digitizing.

The current status of distance learning was presented through papers on the following topics:
- learning everywhere;
- language distance learning: social and cultural concerns;
- development of curriculum for e-learning;
- digital literacy development;
- the best practices: new trends and successful policies
- digital library platform for e-learning
- copyright in e-learning (rules and practice)
- mixed e-learning and its implications in pedagogy, technology and organization;
- preservation of e-learning materials and cost models for digital preservation.

The presentations and lectures were organized in the framework of plenary and several parallel sessions at the Faculty of Philology. At the plenary session, on 30th of September and the 1st of October, the renowned experts presented their invited lectures. I would like to point out the following:

-"Lessons from the mass digitization project: The Gilbert and Sullivan Archive" - Andrew Smith

Digitization of joint archive of theater artists V. S. Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan was an interesting project of collaborating of two institutions on a common project. As the artists worked together on theater productions, societies that take care of the archives of these two artists joined forces on a project of digitalization. First the materials related to the performance itself, and then the criticism and visual materials were digitized. The collaborative nature of the project resulted in both positive and negative

consequences. The problems related to unequal resolution of scans were noticed. However, the navigation system has been carefully designed so as to allow the ease of use. There are multiple navigation paths that lead to a single artifact. This project demonstrates that digitization can be carried out in stages, and that materials can be organized within a central digital archive.

-„21st century digital humanities : researching and writing a web-based dissertation on the history of science" – Roger Brisson

The author has spent the major part of his career as a digital librarian. His intention, while writing a doctoral dissertation on anthropological sources in Germany in the 18th and 19th century, was to use his experience to maximize proportion of digital research and using of computer technology in the writing and publishing of dissertation. The dissertation has been written in the form of a web presentation on the Internet. Using Google Books and Amazon Kindle projects, research and writing of the dissertation have been fully implemented in an electronic environment. The texts that accompanied the research and the work on the dissertation have been published on the Internet and thus made available to a wide audience. Thanks to the interactivity that accompanied the dissertation, it was on top of Google search lists and hundreds of users accessed it in a single month. The conclusion is that the technology reduced the time necessary for researching and publishing results of the scientific work.

-„Electronic resources (digitalized and digital born) and challenges in the curriculum of LIS education at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski""- PhD Alexander Georgiev Dimchev, MSc Milena Milanova

The authors gave an overview of new technologies incorporated in the curriculum of LIS studies

at the University of Sofia. They put an emphasis on the need for students to learn the skills of development, search and retrieval, creation and presentation of digital documents and digital library funds. Students of LIS studies, according to the research carried out, showed the highest level of information literacy of all students at this university. As a part of the implementation of new technologies in educational process, authors presented a model of distance learning. Valuable experience in the application of new technologies in teaching library and information science have led to the plan to implement these technologies in all educational programs at the University.

-"Online courses in medical education– experiences of Belgrade University School of Medicine" - Doctor Miloš Bajčetić et al.

Since 2004, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, uses the Moodle application for distance learning. Using Moodle in the educational process in several subjects of medical school enabled interactive classes and better level of communication between participants in an online course, as well as a more precise evaluation of student participation and their results. From 2004 to the present several studies that were related to students' attitudes toward online instruction have been conducted. The results showed that students value such organized education with the highest ranks - the lowest score by one course in general was 4.73 of 5. As an advantage of such approach, students point out easier access to information, better communication with teachers and colleagues, higher motivation, and easier understanding of learning materials. For final exams, students who follow the hybrid education achieved 15-20% better score than the control group of students.

After these interesting invited lectures, at parallel sessions, their rich experience and a very

diverse theoretical papers on digitization of cultural and scientific heritage, university repositories and distance learning were presented by professors and associates of University of Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš, as well as the University of Vienna, Sarajevo, Ljubljana, Maribor, Athens, Sofia, librarians of national, university, public and special libraries, master and PhD students of Faculty of Philology, and employees of media companies and institutions for software development. So far, this conference was the largest of its kind, brought together and connected researchers in various fields, and has outgrown the interest of exclusively library and information technology environment.