UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Digital Curation Innovation Center Hosts Computational Archival Science Symposium

College Park, Md. – On April 26-28, the Digital Curation Innovation Center (DCIC) at the University of Maryland's College of Information Studies (iSchool) convened a Symposium in collaboration with King's College London. This invitation-only symposium, entitled *Finding New Knowledge: Archival Records in the Age of Big Data,* featured 52 participants from the UK, Canada, South Africa and the U.S. Among the participants were researchers, students, and representatives from federal agencies, cultural institutions, and consortia.

This distinguished group of experts gathered at Maryland's iSchool to discuss and define computational archival science: an interdisciplinary field concerned with the application of computational methods and resources to large-scale records/archives processing, analysis, storage, long-term preservation, and access, with the aim of improving efficiency, productivity and precision in support of appraisal, arrangement and description, preservation and access decisions, and engaging and undertaking research with archival material.

 The objectives of the Symposium were to:
* address the challenges of big data for digital curation,
* explore the conjunction of emerging digital methods and technologies,
* identify and evaluate current trends,
* determine possible research agendas, and
* establish a community of practice.

"This event, co-sponsored by myself**,** Mark Hedges from King's College London and Michael Kurtz from UMD's iSchool, brought together thought leaders in this emerging CAS field: Maria Esteva from the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC), Victoria Lemieux from the University of British Columbia School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS), and Bill Underwood from Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI). There is growing interest in large-scale management, automation, and analysis of archival content and the realization of enhanced possibilities for scholarship through the integration of 'computational thinking' and 'archival thinking.'" – Richard Marciano, iSchool Professor and Director of the DCIC.

To capitalize on the April Symposium, a follow-up workshop entitled *Computational Archival Science: Digital Records in the Age of Big Data*, will take place in Washington DC at the 2016 IEEE International Conference on Big Data. For information on the upcoming workshop, visit: http://dcicblog.umd.edu/cas/ieee_workshop/.

For more information about the recent Symposium, visit: http://dcicblog.umd.edu/cas/. A list of participants can be found at http://dcicblog.umd.edu/cas/attendees/.

The College of Information Studies, Maryland's iSchool, transforms the way individuals, organizations, and communities connect with information. Our tight-knit learning community is driven by the pursuit of big ideas and new discoveries, to imagine how we can empower citizens, inspire communities, energize economies and sustain democracies. For more about the iSchool, visit ischool.umd.edu*.*