



Digital.Humanities@Oxford Summer School 2011

Getting funding: quality, impact, sustainability

David Robey

formerly Director of the Arts and Humanities Research Council's
ICT in Arts and Humanities Research Programme

<http://www.ahrcict.reading.ac.uk/>



oerc



Digital.Humanities@Oxford Summer School 2011

Focus on UK Research Council practice

- Grants for projects with digital outputs mostly made in general Research Grants schemes
 - A few in special ICT-related schemes
- AHRC pages: <http://www.arts-humanities.net/ahrc>
- See also Report
- arts-humanities.net: guide to digital humanities & arts
 - General considerations for all research project applications first
 - Then special considerations for projects with digital research resource outputs



Digital.Humanities@Oxford Summer School 2011

General considerations

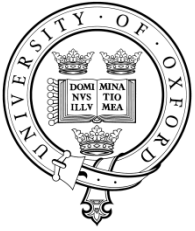
- Who are you writing for?
 - Specialist in a field close to yours
- Make it interesting!
- Key points up-front
- Descriptive rather than evaluative language
- Sound objective!
- Not too much detail
- But make clear that you know what you are talking about!
- Not too technical



Digital.Humanities@Oxford Summer School 2011

More general considerations

- Project conception and design:
 - Research context
 - Aims, objectives
- What's the point? What will be achieved?
 - Research questions and methods
 - Outcomes, outputs
 - Workplan, milestones
 - Project management
 - Impact



Digital.Humanities@Oxford Summer School 2011

Special considerations for projects with digital resource outputs

- Quality and optimization
- Standards
- Quality assurance, user testing
- Re-usability
- Expertise underpinned by institution
- Impact and visibility
- Naming!
- Toolkit for the Impact of Digitised Scholarly Resources
<http://microsites.oii.ox.ac.uk/tidsr/>
- Preference for open access and open source



Digital.Humanities@Oxford Summer School 2011

More special considerations

- Sustainability
 - Vs preservation
 - Time period
- Value for money
 - AHRC 2008 average costs with and without digital outputs
 - £413,838 vs £324,703 (full cost including overheads)
 - Don't underestimate!
- Scholarly benefits
- Potential vs planned