

SSIRG Speaker Series:



LOCATING THE LITERARY HISTORY OF WORD PROCESSING:

A Discussion About Media Archaeology, Computer History, and the (Digital?) Humanities

Abstract:

This seminar-style discussion will address the challenge of conducting research at the intersection of computer history and other humanities/historically-oriented fields, in this specific case literary history and my current work on word processing. We will pay particular attention to the emerging project of media archaeology and its relation to computer history, as well as practical methods imported from digital forensics. Questions to be discussed include: what is the relationship between computer history and other cultural heritage communities? How do we plan for the stewardship of the born-digital cultural record? What are the future needs of researchers, and what specialized skills will they require? And how does all of this relate to the "digital humanities" phenomenon?



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Professor Kirschenbaum has selected four papers for discussion by participants in this seminar. They are his own *"Operating Systems of the Mind: Biography After Word Processing (The Example of Updike)"*, *"Operating Media Archaeology: Wolfgang Ernst's Material Media Diagrammatics"* by Jussi Parikk, *"File not Found: Rarity in the Age of Digital Plenty"* by Doug Reside and *"The Tears of Donald Knuth: Has the History of Computing Taken a Tragic Turn?"* by Thomas Haigh. **Please read these prior to the event.** UWM participants can access these using their PantherIDs from <https://pantherfile.uwm.edu/thaigh/workshop>. Others should email thaigh@computer.org for copies.

Please join us for this related event sponsored by UWM's Center for 21st Century Studies

SAND TABLES: A Granular History of a Speculative Form Dr. Matthew Kirschenbaum

Friday, April 17, 2015 • 3:30pm • Curtin Hall, Rm 175