Researcher CV

Name: Andreas FICKERS

ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6541-228X

Personal Statement (maximum 150 words):

My career as a scholar has taken several turns throughout the years. I started as a historian of technology with a keen interest in technologies of communication, then moved into the field of media history (bridging my interest in the materiality of communication technologies with the socio-cultural history of media), and finally turned into a digital historian (reflecting on the methodological and epistemological challenges of doing history in the digital age). During all the phases of this intellectual journey, two main ambitions have characterized my academic endeavours: first, to think and do history in both an interdisciplinary and transnational fashion; second, to develop and promote new research agendas by setting up new research networks and realizing innovative research projects. BUREU both builds on my expertise in studying the "hidden integration" and takes a fresh look at EU office spaces ("hardware") as materializations of ideas from the field of management ("software").

Personal details – Individual narrative profile (maximum 250 words):

Since my study of history, philosophy, and sociology at the RWTH Aachen University, I have been fascinated by exploring the complexity of past realities by combining the rigorous methods of historical science with theoretical and conceptual reflections. Combining epistemological reflections with a curiosity-driven exploration of new research methods and tools has been at the heart of my development as a scholar and teacher.

My professional trajectory has allowed me to study, work and learn in different disciplinary (History, Media Studies, Science & Technology Studies) and national contexts (Belgium, Germany, France, Netherlands, Luxembourg). This multiple disciplinary identity and my language skills have enabled me to act as a bridge-builder and networker, initiating and managing a number of important European research networks, such as the *European Television History Network* or the *Tensions of Europe* network. These activities resulted in a number of important collaborative research projects and publications, combining intellectual agenda-setting with asolid experience in project management and extensive scholarly output at international level.

Since my nomination as Director of the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C^{2}DH) in 2017, my ambition is to turn the C^{2}DH into a "trading zone" for hands-on experimentation with new digital research tools and infrastructures and critical digital hermeneutics. With a strong commitment for public history outputs and creative forms of transmedia storytelling, I've recently been experimenting with new forms and formats of scholarly storytelling online aiming at training the next generation of historians in both critical thinking and digital storytelling.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements (maximum 200 words per item):

Contributing to the generation of knowledge

Since my Practical Course at the Deutsches Museum I've been interested in studying material heritage as historicalsource. Both the topic of my MA thesis (on the transistor radio) and my PhD thesis (on thestandardization of colour television in Europe) had their origin in material artefacts beingdisplayed at Deutsches Museum Bonn. Combining the study of the complex functionality oftechnical objects and infrastructures with an investigation of their symbolic meanings andsocial and/or political uses has been at the heart of several research projects. As BUR*EU* isfocusing on interior design of office spaces as "mediating interface" between the "hardware"of architecture and the "software" of managerial ideas, my work on the history of design ofradio receivers is especially useful as conceptual/methodological inspiration. See: "Design als 'mediatinginterface'. Zur Zeugen- und Zeichenhaftigkeit des Ra dioapparates", in *Beiträge zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte* 30 (2207) 3: 199-213; „Visiblyaudible: The Radio Set as Mediating Interface, in: T. Pinch / K. Bijsterveld (eds.): *The OxfordHandbook of Sound Studies* (Oxford University Press 2012: 411-439).

Contributing to the development of individuals

The supervision and promotion of youngtalents has been a major ambition ever since I started my teaching career as Assistant at RWTH Aachen University. Experimenting with project-based teaching formats aiming at making students participate in the iterative process of doing historical research and producinga great variety of narrative forms (exhibitions, podcasts, video-essays, web-documentaries, films, virtual exhibitions). Doctoral education is at the core of my activity as professor and headof the interdisciplinary research centre C^{2}DH: producing "creative uncertainty" serves as my pedagogical credo, combined with a strategic coaching approach. I'm a member of the Management Board of the Doctoral School in Humanities and Social Sciences (DSHSS) of the University of Luxembourg and Head of the FNR- funded Doctoral Training Unit (DTU) "Digital History & Hermeneutics" in which the acquisition of digital skills and competences is key. Together with Prof. Dietmar Hüser (Universität des Saarlandes) and Prof.Hélène Miard-Delacroix (Université Paris-Sorbonne) I coordinate the tri- national DoctoralSchool "International History Interdisciplinary", funded by the French-German University. In allactivities, active involvement of the doctoral students in teaching, organization of workshops and conferences, and multi-lingual communication skills are stipulated and supported.

Contributing to the wider research community

In the framework of Tensions of Europe-network, I have been involved in a number of research projects focusing on the role of technical infrastructures as important agents of "technocratic internationalism" and "hidden integration" of Europe. In the co-edited volume *Europe Materializing: Transnational Infrastructures and the Project of Europe* (Palgrave-MacMillan 2010), Alexander Badenoch and myself have outlined a conceptual framework for the study of transnational infrastructuresby stressing their multi-level nature as discursive, material, institutional constructions. In the co-authored monograph *Communicating Europe: Technologies, Information, Events* (Palgrave-MacMillan 2019) which is one of the 6 volumes of the "Making Europe" bookseries, Pascal Griset and myself have further explored the analytical potential of the concept of European techno-diplomacy to study how techno-scientific experts, politics, and institutional actors have been involved in the co-construction of technical hard- and software. This approach has also informed the latest book I've co-edited with Gabriele Balbi *The International Telecommunication Union (ITU): Transnational techno-diplomacy from the telegraph to the Internet* (Berlin: De Gruyter 2020), analysing the ITU as arena, actor and antenna for a global regulatory regime in the field of telecommunications.

Individual Narrative Profile

Name: Florentina Armaselu

ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2386-6889

Personal Statement:

If I have to choose a word defining my professional trajectory, this would be *hybridity.* Hybridity may represent a feature but also a goal for a digital humanities (DH) researcher. It refers to an ability of combining skills, topics and critical perspectives, and imagining multiple solutions and paths for discovery. It also implies openness and flexibility, and a predilection for experimenting, learning on the way and exploring boundaries, and connecting disciplines. However, hybridity should not be understood in isolation but along with tasks, time, levels of depth and field of possibilities to be considered, before making a decision. A new trail instead of a deeper exploration of an existing one may not always lead to a meaningful end.

Personal details – Individual narrative profile:

My hybrid journey started with studies in computer science, and language and literature at the University of Craiova, Romania. These two branches of studies had created the basis for what was to become a constant in my work, the combination of technical and humanistic backgrounds and areas of enquiry. As an analyst programmer in the early 90s, I got in contact with computational methods applied in industry and their impact on an emerging digital world.

My work as a technical editor at the "Universitaria" publishing house added experience in academic publishing and word processors. This proved to be helpful in my activity as an assistant lecturer at the Faculty of Letters of the University of Craiova, in editing my own textbooks and designing computer-assisted language learning lessons. Teaching offered the opportunity to combine technical (word processing, Web design, programming, data bases) and humanistic matters (language learning, culture and civilisation, terminology).

My Master's and PhD years in computer science and comparative literature at the University of Montreal, Canada, in the early 2000s, paved the way to new experiences. These included research areas such as computational linguistics, natural language processing (NLP), artificial intelligence (AI), human-computer interaction (HCI), and traditional and computer-based literary analysis, and a new multicultural academic and professional milieu. Within a team of AI specialists, graphic designers and artists at an R&D company in Montreal (North Side Inc.), I was in charge of building the database for a conversational system human-computer. In parallel, my PhD readings and research contributed to the conception of my z-text (zoomable text) model and z-editor interface, and to experiments in literary criticism and creative writing.

A new phase started in 2010, after my PhD defence and re-location in Germany, with a period of independent research dedicated to the z-text model and its Website (zoomimagine), and participation in workshops and conferences within the DH community.

My Luxembourgish experience has begun in 2012 with the Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE). My task was the design and implementation of an XML-TEI-based model and interface for digital editions, combining text encoding, corpus linguistics, and European integration history. I was also involved in supervising and evaluating undergraduate (4) and master's (1) students' internships (5) and "mémoire d'ingénieur" (1) in collaboration with the TELECOM Nancy, Université de Lorraine, France, and the University of Pisa, Italy.

Since 2016, at the University of Luxembourg and the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH), within a multidisciplinary team of experts and PhD students, I have been involved in digital history. My research and teaching agenda has included areas of enquiry such as computational text analysis and text interpretation, human-computer interaction and the study of scale in digital history and humanities. It has also implied collaboration and cooperation prospects with colleagues from other institutions abroad, in various fields such as NLP, AI, Semantic Web, linguistics, history of concepts and oral history.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements:

Contributing to the generation and communication of new ideas, hypotheses, tools, or knowledge. Starting from the z-text model, I have initiated Zoomland. The project is intended to: (1) expand the model with text mining and global-micro history and literary analysis; (2) create a space of reflection on the concept of scale in digital history and humanities, and involve international scholars in writing an edited volume. The book will be published in 2023 at De Gruyter within the C²DH's *Studies in Digital History and Hermeneutics* series.

I have also initiated HISTORIAE, a use case project within the Nexus Linguarum COST Action (CA18209, 2019 - 2023). It aims at bridging two research strands, the detection and representation of semantic change with linguistic linked open data (LLOD), to trace the history of concepts in multilingual diachronic corpora (doi: 10.4230/OASICS.LDK.2021.34).

My previous work on interfaces for digital editions (TEI-Transviewer) includes an open source version (Open TEI-Transviewer). Elaborating on it, I also devised methodologies for an aesthetics of user response and production (rather than product only) bringing together elements of text analysis and usability testing (doi: 10.1093/llc/fqab069), and genetic criticism (inspired by the study of literary manuscripts) and interface design (doi: 10.16995/dscn.8095).

Based on my course of computational text analysis and text interpretation at the University of Luxembourg for the *Bachelor en Cultures Européennes*, I defined a pedagogical method that considers the hybrid character of teaching in digital humanities as a crossing of paths between various themes, methodologies, skills and disciplines (doi: 10.17613/P3Z7-4C05).

Contributing to the development and sustainability of research teams and individuals. My current projects include research and editorial initiatives (Zoomland, authors from 10 countries) and team leading (HISTORIAE, participants from 7 countries).

Since 2020, I have been coordinating the team for training the C²DH's staff and PhD students. My approach was to transpose the "trading zone" metaphor (Fickers and van der Heijden, 2020) into a "learn from each other" training concept. The 2021-2022 pilot included training in various areas (history and historiography, DH, archival and data science, computer science, digital media). The model was assessed as in line with the spirit of a "community of practice" and it may be integrated into a project for professional development at the University level.

I have also initiated the network Oral histoRies on the fAll of The irOn curtain (ORATOR) (participants from 11 countries) and a COST Action (currently under evaluation) combining elements from oral history, AI, citizen science and spatial humanities.

Contributing to the wider research and innovation community. My contributions include participation in steering committees (DH Benelux conference) and as a main organiser or member of the organiser team for conferences (DH Benelux 2022, Tensions of Europe 2019) and workshops (Zoomland 2022, ORATOR 2019). I have also been involved as a reviewer for DH annual conferences and international journals such as Digital Humanities Quarterly, Digital Scholarship in the Humanities, DH Benelux Journal and Oral History Review.

Researcher CV

Name:

Frédéric CLAVERT

ORCID:

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0237-2532

Personal Statement (maximum 150 words):

Historian of the 20th and 21st centuries, I am currently investigating digital methods applied to the study of the past without forgetting the necessary rigour that I have learnt during my PhD in good old archive centres. Based on digitized and born-digital primary sources, my current research is focusing on how artefacts of collective memory can be studied on current (twitter, Facebook, etc) and past (newsgroups, 1990s forums) social media. I have been involved in the DH community since 2008, when I have joined a former Luxembourgish institution that maintained a Digital Library on the history of the European integration. I have had a non-linear career, altering between "alt-ac" and regular researcher positions. I see this as a richness, as it encourages me to practice history in original and rather new ways.

Personal details – Individual narrative profile (maximum 250 words):

I am an assistant professor in contemporary history at the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C^{2}DH, University of Luxembourg). After studying politics in Strasbourg (Institut d'Études Politiques, IEP) and Leeds, I obtained a PhD from the University of Strasbourg about Hjalmar Schacht, one of Hitler's president of the Reichsbank and minister of the Economics. After my PhD I focused on the history of central bankers, mainly in relation to the history of European integration. At the same time, as a member of the former *Centre Virtuel de la Connaissance sur l'Europe*, I started to explore the possibilities of Digital Humanities applied to history and started to do research in this field.

I turned in 2014 to the use of social media as primary sources for the historian. I explored different kind of big data-oriented methods, from social network analysis to text and data mining. I am now investigating, through collaborations with colleagues from computing, the use of machine and deep learning to explore born digital data such as newsgroups. During the Centenary of the First World War, I have collected 9 million tweets, using the DH and big data methods I have learned since 2008 to analyse them. Started as research engineer when I was at Paris Sorbonne (LabEx EHNE), and pursued in Lausanne (2015-2017) and then Luxembourg, this research project on the collective memory and commemoration of WW1 led me to the memory studies field.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements (maximum 200 words per item):

Contributing to the generation of knowledge

Since 2008, I have significantly contributed to the digital history field. I organised two conferences in Luxembourg around digital history (2009 and 2012) and co-organised several THATCamps (including in Paris in 2010, 2012 and 2015). Those events helped the making of the French-speaking DH field and the creation of the French-speaking DH association, *Humanistica*, of which I am a founding member and a member of its board. One of the main outputs of this community-building effort, which was at the same time a contribution to the advancement of knowledge, was the publication of the book *Contemporary history in the digital era / L'histoire européenne à l'ère numérique*, (co- edited with Serge Noiret, 2013, Bruxelles: PIE-Peter Lang). This book was then supplemented by different articles, chapters and a blog. I have been practicing digital history in parallel, thanks to the use of text mining and social networks analysis during my research on the echoes of the WW1 commemoration on Twitter, that led to several publications. More recently, I became managing editor of the *Journal of Digital History* (https://journalofdigitalhistory.org) an innovative academic journal that aims at helping digital historians write "multi-layered" (narration, code, data) data-driven articles.

Contributing to the development of individuals

I am a committed teacher, who strongly appreciates to supervise students, at all level. I have learned to be a teacher since my first teaching in 2005 and have thought at the University of Strasbourg, Paris 1 – Pantheon- Sorbonne, the EPFL and the University of Lausanne and, of course, the University of Luxembourg. I try to innovate in terms of pedagogy – for instance by using counter-factual history or by using project-based teaching when leading a digital history course, without ever forgetting that the aim of teaching is to help students structure their thinking and learn new knowledge at the same time. I am currently supervising different master theses related to European history of the 20th century. Since November 2020, I am co-supervising (with a colleague from Sorbonne Université) a PhD candidate who will base her work on massive datatoo. My role is to accompany her in the acquisition of the necessary methods to analyse her primary sources.

Contributing to the wider research community

While investigating the potential of born- digital sources and massive data, I have, together with Caroline Muller (Université Rennes 2), investigated what is the "allure" of the archive in the digital era. This research, that focuses on the different uses of computing – from the simplest to the most complicated ones – by historians, was thought at the beginning as a sort of rewriting of the classical book by Arlette Farge (*Le goût de l'archive, 1989*, translated into English: *The allure of the archive*, Yale University Press, 2015). As main output, we co-edited an online book, *Le goût de l'archive à l'ère numérique* (https://gout-numerique.net), that was written in public and open to comment. We submitted an INTER proposal (*ie* a French (ANR) – Luxemburgish (FNR) call for projects) to extend this research to investigate the discrete transformations of the profession of historian that are undergoing for a couple of decades through the intensive but sometimes invisible use of computers by our colleagues. This research has also been the occasion of strong discussions with archivists, including with the *Association des archivistes français* and a contribution to the scheduled 2021 annual conference of the *Veräin vun de Lëtzebuerger Archivisten*.

Researcher CV

Name:

Gerben ZAAGSMA

ORCID:

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5978-9769

Personal Statement (maximum 150 words):

My work can be broadly divided in two, partially intersecting, strands: with a background in modern and contemporary history, I have worked on the social, political and cultural aspects of 20th century Jewish history (including music, politics, migration, Holocaust history & memory, and Yiddish Studies). Along the way, I have simultaneously developed a keen interest in the methodological and epistemological implications of using new technologies in historical research and writing. This interest in how the digital turn affects historical research practice has led to two current research projects that investigate the politics of digitisation and the history of digital history as well as a variety of web-based projects in the past 15 years that address informational challenges for historians. Finally, on the intersection of Jewish and digital history my work charts the ways in which the field of Jewish history is developing in the digital age.

Personal details – Individual narrative profile (maximum 250 words):

Before embarking upon my PhD at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, I worked as a researcher at the Public History Research and Consultancy Center of the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. I then studied Yiddish at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Following completion of my PhD in September 2008, I was a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, University College London.

Subsequently, I worked as an editor, web developer & researcher at the Huygens Institute for the History of the Netherlands, Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences where I developed an online community portal for Dutch history. Between 2013-2017, I worked as a research fellow in the project *The diaries of Anne Frank. Research—Translations— Critical Edition* at the Lichtenberg Kolleg, the Institute of Advanced Study at the University of Göttingen, where I was responsible for the annotations of a new critical scholarly edition of the diaries and conducted research on Jews in hiding in the Netherlands.

I joined the C²DH in August 2017 and was Head of the Research Area Digital History & Historiography until December 2020, when it merged with the center's DHARPA team headed by Sean Takats. Importantly, this trajectory means that since completing my PhD, I have worked in various capacities, not only as a researcher, but also as editor and web developer, in and on a variety of projects.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements (maximum 200 words per item):

Contributing to the generation of knowledge

In the realm of digital history, I have actively contributed to conceptualising the digital turn in historical research, among other things, through introducing the notion of 'hybridity' (combining traditional/analogue and new/digital approaches in historical research practices). More recently my work has contributed to putting on the scholarly agenda two related questions and topics that frame (or should frame) debates about the digital turn in history: one is about the politics of digitisation and the ways in which the latter shapes historical research, seen from within a global context. The second engages the history of digital history, and explores the manifold ways in which new technologies shape and have shaped historical practice over the past century. This ongoing work is feeding into two peer reviewed articles and has led to several invited talks on both topics.

Contributing to the development of individuals

Between August 2017 and December 2020, I was Head of the Research Area Digital History & Historiography and member of the C²DH management team. In that function I helped to shape the direction of the center in its early stages. More broadly speaking, since October 2017 I have been a member, vice-chair and am the current Chair of the University of Luxembourg's Ethics Review Panel. In that role, I am responsible for the proper functioning of the university's ethics review process and am currently overseeing the revision of its ethics research guidelines.

Contributing to the wider research community

Over the past years, through conference planning, talks, publications and project leadership of the #DHJewish website, I played an active role in discussing the future of Jewish Studies in the Digital Age. I co-organised an expert workshop on Jewish Studies and Digital Humanities in 2017 (with the Rothschild Foundation and the Institut für die Geschichte der Deutschen Juden) where I provided opening remarks. In January 2021, I organised the first international conference #DHJewish - Jewish Studies in the Digital Age (online due to covid19) in which more than 60 colleagues presented papers and several hundred followed the sessions online. Current, I lead the project to create the web portal #DHJewish which will bring together information about digital Jewish Studies projects, news, events, and other scholarly information.

Researcher CV

Name:

Marten DÜRING

ORCID:

https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7411-771X

Personal Statement (maximum 150 words):

I am historian by training and have been working on the intersection between historical research methodology, social network analysis, computer science (mostly Natural Language Processing) and software design for more than 10 years. Computational methods applied to digitised historical sources are bringing fundamental change to historical research and publication practices. My research merges historical thinking and computational methods expressed in software design. I strongly believe in the added value of interdisciplinary research which targets a shared goal to break new ground but leaves sufficient room for discipline-specific research. Mutual respect and trust independently of disciplinary background or rank allow researchers to leave their comfort zones and are preconditions for original interdisciplinary research outputs. My future research will continue to enable interdisciplinary encounters and conduct experiments which translate historical research practices into data-driven analyses but also challenge them using statistical reasoning.

Personal details – Individual narrative profile (maximum 250 words):

My BA and MA degrees in cultural history provided me with training in traditional historical research practices. Work on my PhD in a team with social scientists and historians introduced me to qualitative data analysis (QDA) as well as social network analysis and allowed me integrate data collection and (visual) analyses into a traditional historical research workflow. My PhD project developed a workflow which used QDA methods for data collection and network visualisations for the critical exploration of such data in combination with close reading. In my time as a postdoctoral researcher at Radboud University Nijmegen I became familiar with text mining applied to humanities research in particular and with computer science research culture more generally. Both prepared me for later interdisciplinary collaborations.

As Researcher at the Centre virtuel de la connaissance sur l'Europe (CVCE) I supported the interdisciplinary research project CubRIC in my capacity as historical advisor on the creation of the first HistoGraph prototype, a graph-based system for the exploration and annotation of a corpus of documents surrounding the European integration process since 1945. In parallel, I have sought to broker interdisciplinary exchange through a number of publications as well as in my role as co-organiser of the workshop series HistoInformatics (2013-2016) which brought together computer scientists and historians.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements (maximum 200 words per item):

Contributing to the generation of knowledge

Since 2009 I have been active in the development of the Historical Network Research Community (https://historicalnetworkresearch.org/) and co-founded and -organised a long-running workshop (*2009) and conference (*2013) series, an open access journal (*2017) and a research bibliography as main outputs. HNR activities originally served historians who soughtto adapt social-scientific practices in network analysis to the needs of historians. Over the years, HNR became an attractive meeting ground also for researchers from neighboring disciplines who work with historical data. Today, the HNR activities attract historians, digital humanists as well as social, computer and information scientists who share an interest in network-related methods for the analysis of the past.

Contributing to the wider research community

During my time at CVCE I acted as historical consultant during the development of histograph, a tool for the graph-based exploration and crowd-based indexation of large-scale multimedia document collections (based on the previously mentioned prototype "HistoGraph"). The tool was developed around a dataset of 17.00 documents linked by metadata and co-occuring disambiguated named entities. A custom-built interface offers a close-reading perspective on the document, allows users to annotate named entities and to fix mistakes which occur during the automated entitydetection and linking. A distant-reading graph visualisation reveals higher-level patterns in the data, offers path queries within the graph and the seamless switch between close- and distantreading views. Targeted at a user audience with low digital skills, histograph has the goal to make powerful automated processing and data visualisation accessible for lay audiences with low degrees in digital literacy.

Contributing to broader society

The interdisciplinary research project impresso. Media Monitoring of the Past (https://impresso-project.ch) operated with a similar mindset and brought together scholars in Digital Humanities and Computational Linguistics from EPFL Lausanne and the University of Zurich as well as a team of historians, designers and developers based at C2DH which I led. impresso (2017-2020) aimed to open up digitised collections of multilingual historical newspapers for data-driven content search, discovery anddata criticism. The project created a corpus of Swiss and Luxembourgish newspapers and developed a technical architecture to facilitate data storage, enrichment and access. The project received 1.5 million EUR in funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation as part of their Sinergia program and was supported by the National Libraries of Switzerland and Luxembourg alongside *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Le Temps* and other partners. The main contribution the impresso interface makes to the current status quo in interface design for historical newspapers is an iterative query-building workflow across multiple interlinked components which is driven by semantic enrichments generated during the project. This workflow encourages users to weave together insights gathered through advanced search, the exploration of ngram frequencies, named entity, topic distributions, text reuse, image similarity detection and article recommendations.

Researcher CV

Name:

Sean TAKATS

ORCID:

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7851-5069

Personal Statement (maximum 150 words):

Trained as a social scientist and with deep experience in the technology sector, I have spent the past two decades conducting research at the intersection of traditional academic study and cutting-edge software, and also advancing the state of the field by leading and participating in teams that develop some of the world's top tools for researchers. As a senior researcher fortunate enough to have most of the traditional goals of university promotion behind me, I am now able to concentrate fully on the aspects of my career that have proven most rewarding along the way: developing high-risk experimental research projects and building and mentoring diverse teams of researchers and technicians who launch exciting research initiatives in their own right.

Personal details – Individual narrative profile (maximum 250 words):

I have an educational and occupational background that distinguishes me from most humanities professors. I studied economics as an undergraduate and developed an affinity for quantitative methods that I have carried forward to my humanities research. Self-taught in early web programming, I joined IBM after my BA, where I developed software prototypes and learned and deployed server-side scripting languages and systems architectures.

After three years at IBM I returned to academia to pursue a PhD in history, though I continued to work as a software developer for a fintech start-up. My PhD research outwardly focuses on traditional European cultural history, with close reading of texts; behind the scenes, however, I wrote code to help meprocess source material at scale. After completing my dissertation, I took a post with traditional publication and teaching expectations; I simultaneously worked in a lab where I applied my technical and quantitative skills, first as a solo researcher, soon as leader of projects involving the creation of production-grade software, and eventually as research director and co-founder of a non-profit corporation that sustains the development of mission-critical open-source research tools.

After earning tenure in the USA, I was recruited to Luxembourg where I have expanded the scope of my lab as a transatlantic enterprise that draws on the complementary strengths of American and European systems. Today my focus is on establishing what comes easily to me – translating between the worlds of technology and academic research – as a normative practice among students, technicians, researchers, and faculty.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements (maximum 200 words per item):

Contributing to the generation of knowledge

The centerpiece of my current research program, the Digital History Advanced Research Projects Accelerator (DHARPA) assembles a team of diverse backgrounds – technicians, researchers, students – who work together closely develop new research software and share their expertise with outsiders seeking assistance in their own humanities research programs. DHARPA's software deliverables provide the framework for the project's most ambitious goal: to offer professional development opportunities for all team members to launch successful careers of their own. Postdoctoral fellows offer group feedback on each other's grant proposals; students and researchers rotate through the public-facing roles (e.g. outreach) to raise their professional profiles; all team members participate in hiring decisions. DHARPA marks the formal institution of the informal practices I have followed for well over a decade: offering junior researchers the opportunity to serve as co-PI on existing grant-funded projects to build their CVs to enable graduating" to full PI in a subsequent funding round (e.g. *PressForward*, *Tropy*); creating deputy leadership positions to offer leadership experience opportunities; encouraging technicians to develop their own ideas into successful research proposals.

Contributing to the development of individuals

Between August 2017 and December 2020, I was Head of the Research Area Digital History & Historiography and member of the C²DH management team. In that function I helped to shape the direction of the center in its early stages. More broadly speaking, since October 2017 I have been a member, vice-chair and am the current Chair of the University of Luxembourg's Ethics Review Panel. In that role, I am responsible for the proper functioning of the university's ethics review process and am currently overseeing the revision of its ethics research guidelines.

Contributing to the wider research community

My core intellectual output is centered around the development and dissemination of research software. I have been PI on over USD 9 million of research grants, most of which have funded the creation of software aimed not just at humanities scholars but the general research community. The most successful of these research projects is Zotero (https://zotero.org), with over 7 million users worldwide, almost 2 billion research objects uploaded by users, and over 3 million public and private collaborative research groups. Since 2007 Zotero has served as the reference in the market despite intense competition from commercial publishers, and it currently drives innovation in the entire sector: technology that Zotero introduced is used by over 50 competing tools, lowering the barrier to entry for new research software. Zotero is fully open source, with an application programming interface (API) enabling direct integration into the entire research ecosystem. Zotero is itself software used by researchers to consume and produce their own research; the network effects are incalculable. More recently my team created Tropy (https://tropy.org), a more specialized tool for archival research; since its launch in 2017, Tropy has gained thousands of users and is the leading software platform for archival research.

Researcher CV

Name:

Valérie SCHAFER

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Personal Statement (maximum 150 words):

From infrastructures and standards to social media and web archives, the history of the Internet, the Web and digital cultures is constantly developing, as is my research. I have contributed to the development of these fields over the past 15 years, and there is still a lot to collectively achieve with the huge number of web archives available, the emergence of methodologies based on distant reading and computational tools, the need to better understand (and teach) born-digital heritage as a source and to ensure the sustainability of digital studies. Having been involved in interdisciplinary centres since 2010 (CNRS, C^2DH), I strongly believe in hybridisation of methodologies, reflexivity, constant renewal, sharing of expertise and collective intelligence. This is one main reason for my participation in the DTU Pride project, since it gives me the opportunity to exchange expertise with computer scientists, improve data literacy and stimulate innovative research.

Personal details – Individual narrative profile (maximum 250 words):

I taught history and geography at secondary school level for 10 years while working on a PhD in the history of innovation at Paris-Sorbonne University, which I defended in 2007. In 2010 I joined the CNRS as a researcher and developed a strong interest in the potential of web archives as new sources and in digital humanities.

I obtained my *Habilitation à diriger des recherches* (HDR) in 2015 and in February 2018 I joined the University of Luxembourg to pursue my twofold vocation for research and teaching as a member of the C^2DH, a centre with a focus on digital history that fits perfectly with my research areas. As a Professor in Contemporary European History with specific expertise in the history of media and technology, I'm also keen to develop collaborative research at European level (current WARCnet project or Mercator Fellow with the University of Siegen), while striving to maintain an effective work-life balance (I have 3 children, including a disabled teenager).

I have developed my expertise through regular cooperation with web archivists and industry (member of Orange and Afnic Scientific Councils). My publications reflect my interest in digital cultures, both from a historical perspective and in relation with contemporary issues (Wikipedia, Net neutrality). I have also explored the history of IT in conjunction with gender history and have incorporated these issues into my teaching. I'm currently increasingly interested in digital sustainability, a key challenge with repercussions for our past, present and future.

Key outputs, contributions, and achievements (maximum 200 words per item):

Contributing to the generation of knowledge

In 2015, my HDR was one of the first studies to make full use of web archives. I have been able to make a pioneering contribution to this process in several ways: as a member of the RESAW European network; with the co-creation of the journal *Internet Histories* in 2017; by leading research projects such as Web 90 and ASAP on the born-digital heritage related to the 2015 terrorist attacks in France; through my publications; and also, by regularly co-editing special issues of journals and books. This enabled me to contribute a perspective on a less US-centric history of networks, looking at the cultures of engineers and users and exploring alternative avenues (for example Minitel) and transnational approaches. The 2016 INA award for my HDR and the Mahoney Prize the same year for an article I co-authored with A. L. Russell, together with the various grants obtained, serve as an encouragement to continue developing my research, presenting the results in publications, at international conferences and also furthering knowledge by organising conferences (ToE 2019, RESAW 2021, etc.) and developing virtual guided tours through web and audiovisual archives (at the BnF and Ina).

Contributing to the development of individuals

As head of the Contemporary European History team (app. 18-20 scholars) and a member of the management team at the C^2DH, I am committed to my centre and the University of Luxembourg. I am Deputy Course Director of the Master in European Contemporary History, a member of the jury for internal promotions and part of the UNIVERSEH European teaching project. I participate in the organisation of research seminars (including the VIRAL seminar at the C^2DH). I currently supervise 2 PhD students and I will shortly be taking on a third with a DFG-FNR funded project, Popkult. I also supervise 2 postdoctoral researchers and 3 Master's student assistants. I am actively involved in teaching activities and I regularly update my course material, having taught history of media and technology at Sorbonne University (Bachelor level), communication studies at Paris 2 Panthéon- Assas (Bachelor level) and history of gender, history of computing and European historiographies at the UL, where I also currently conduct a research seminar on Digital Europe, running over 3 semesters. I was a referee for academic promotions in the US and the UK in 2021 and part of a selection committee in Denmark in 2021.

Contributing to the wider research community

I have always tried to lead joint projects (e.g. Web90 and ASAP at the CNRS, WARCnet (as co-PI) and HIVI at UL) or participate in such projects (OPERAS-P, UNIVERSEH, etc.) and to encourage joint publications (special issues for *Internet Histories*, *Le Temps des Médias*) and co-edited books (*Women, Gender and ICTs*; *Digital Roots* (recently published), etc). Some of these publications are related to academic events I co-organised (recently the Tensions of Europe conference in 2019 at UL or the 4th RESAW conference in 2021, both funded by the FNR). I contribute to the research community as a vice-chair of the ECREA Communication History Section, a General Secretary of the French Society for Media History, a long-standing member of the RESAW network, a member of the Scientific Council of the Orange Group and a member of the advisory board for the European project HEXA-X, an editor of the academic journal *Internet Histories*, a member of the editorial boards for *Le Temps des Médias* (in charge of the Publications section), *Flux* (in charge of Varia) and the *Journal of Digital History*, or a jury (2021-2024) of the Mahoney Prize (SIGCIS).