

Full Summary – “Digital Humanities Workshops”

When referring to averages, 1 = best/most desirable response, 5 = worst/least desirable response

North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (UNC, CH) ran a series of digital humanities training and exchange programs led by Matthew A. Cook. These programs were designed in two parts, the first taking place in Pakistan in March 2019 and the second in North Carolina in May 2019. Survey results from the post-program and six-month evaluations have been summarized.

The results from the post-program surveys for the "Digital Humanities Workshop Series: Part I" showed high levels of satisfaction and effectiveness of the program. We received fifteen responses to the post-program survey. Not only were the workshops fulfilling for participants, but the information was also pertinent to their work and interests. When asked about their overall satisfaction with the program, all fifteen participants responded that they were “extremely satisfied.” Participants gave an average of 1.11 when asked how informative and applicable the workshop was to their profession.

In the open-ended questions, many of the participants mentioned the applicability of the workshop and/or mentorship to their professional endeavors and how this program was especially useful since there are not many opportunities to learn about Digital Humanities (DH) in Pakistan. A few examples of the positive feedback and relevance to their professions are listed below:

“This was a great effort in introducing the DH in Pakistan. Extended and Elaborate work is needed almost in all Universities of the country.”

“It allows me to see my courses and discipline in a new and innovative way.”

“Made me aware about new tools to make teaching more interactive and interesting.”

This workshop also challenged Pakistani scholars’ preconceived notions about DH, as seen by these responses:

“I thought DH would be difficult to use in large classrooms. But this workshop addressed my misconception and I am pretty sure that I will still use DH tech in my class setting.”

“Digital Humanities is something that was just for computer-buffs, as far as this misconception is concerned, it has been dispelled!”

All participants who have been in contact with the US scholars responded that they would be "extremely comfortable" contacting them again in the future for academic-related reasons. Similarly, most of the participants also gave responses between 1 and 2 when asked how comfortable they would be contacting other workshop participants for academic purposes. As the connections built through this program continue, so too will the exchange of information between the scholars in each of the countries. Through this continued exchange, the program can informally continue into the future as participants and leaders remain in contact.

Six participants responded to our six-month follow-up survey of the “Digital Humanities: Part I” workshop series. All six respondents indicated that the workshop sparked ideas for future research projects, and four scholars have started working on a new research project all/partly due to the training received from the workshop.

The knowledge received from the Digital Humanities workshop has expanded well beyond the participants; as indicated by the six respondents, they have passed on the training to approximately 186 instructors and 135 students. It can be presumed that the reach of this program will continue on as the Pakistani scholars facilitate their own DH programming.

Participants also described the impact this program has had on their curriculum and course development, as seen in the comments below:

“Due to word press I am not giving hand notes to student, and almost all students including the shy students also contacting me directly through these tools.”

“I am currently in conversation with my department about developing a course on Digital Humanities and introduce in the University.”

“All digital tools are providing a way to present the old concepts in a new way in my classrooms and students are taking more interest in class. Digital humanities bridge the gap between humanities and technology.”

Overall, this program was well received by all involved. Participants gave several positive remarks, and a few are featured here:

“It was an effective programme and life changing experience.”

“It was a very beneficial program. This program gave many ideas about new techniques of teaching style and we got much awareness about the American culture and history which we never read somewhere in history books.”

For more information on the Digital Humanities program and how it has impacted the US and Pakistani scholars, please [watch this short video](#).

These comments best reflect the original content from the participants’ surveys. However, due to variances in English language proficiency, grammatical errors and compilation purposes, direct responses have been paraphrased and/or edited for readability. Whenever possible, direct quotations were used and will be marked by quotation marks.