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הרצאת פתיחה



Living Archives and the Challenges of Doing Digital Public History in Real Time

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Abstract:

Historical research and the production of historical narratives relies on archives. With the digital turn, both the notion and the function of archive have changed. The practices of selection, curation, and interpretation of archival sources have been deeply affected by new scientific virtues such as accessibility, sharing, and participation. Web 2.0 technologies and the Internet gave rise to a new type of archive resulting from real time "capture culture" and "event crawls". This ideological shift from long-term conservation to instant accessibility and online sharing in archiving challenges the doing of public history in the digital age. This lecture will look at recent memory-bank projects and discuss if they can be interpreted as a democratization of historical knowledge production and promotion of shared authority between professionals in the field of cultural heritage and academic history and citizens. What are the epistemological implications of "writing" history in real time and how does the construction of "living archives" impact on future narratives of history? The lecture proposes the concept of "digital hermeneutics" as a conceptual framework for doing of digital public history in a multi-vocal perspective and aims at exploring the opportunities and limitations of sharing authority in transmedia storytelling.

About:

Since 2016, prof. Andreas Fickers is the director of the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH), 3rd interdisciplinary center at the University of Luxembourg and head of its Digital History Lab. He studied history, philosophy and sociology and is currently Professor for Contemporary and Digital History at the University of Luxembourg. He took his PhD in 2002 at RWTH Aachen University and worked as Assistant Professor for television history at Utrecht University (2003-2007) and Associate Professor for comparative media history at Maastricht University (2007-2013).

He's head of the FNR funded Doctoral Training Unit "Deep Data Science of Digital History" (D4H) and coordinates the Trinational doctoral school together with Prof. Dr Dietmar Hüser (Universität des Saarlandes) and Prof. Dr Hélène Miard-Delacroix (Université Paris-Sorbonne). He's also principal investigator of the projects DEMA, Popkult60, LuxTime and BUREU. Furthermore, he is the editor of the Journal of Digital History and co-editor of the book series 'Studies in Digital History and Hermeneutics' published by De Gruyter Oldenbourg.