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DIGITAL ANTIQUITY

a new world of Archaeological Preservation, Innovation, and Research

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tDAR

*Building, Improving, and
Maintaining the Digital
Archaeological Record*

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Thank you for reading eNews, the bi-monthly newsletter about all things Digital Antiquity and tDAR. In the last issue of eNews, we announced a **workshop in Washington, DC**, discussed updates to the tDAR software and **website** as well as our presence at the **Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology**, and informed our readers of the **Digital Antiquity-tDAR Grants Program status**. Last month, we continued the workshop series with a review of the Arizona Archaeological Council on-site collaboration and a Denver-based colloquium, revealed Grants Program results, evaluated SAA Meeting outcomes, and announced a major partnership with Washington State University on the Dolores Archaeological Program data ingest project. This month, we add to that news the last two major updates to the tDAR software. Brief overviews of these items are presented here, as listed in the Contents menu, with full stories available on the **tDAR** and **Digital Antiquity** websites.

On-Site Workshop with Arizona Archaeological Council

On May 13, 2011, Digital Antiquity hosted the **Arizona Archaeological Council** at our Tempe offices for an on-site workshop to introduce members to the Digital Archaeological Record (tDAR). A series of demonstrations prepared for participants highlighted the research and analysis capabilities of tDAR, as well as allowing attendees to "test drive" the software in a supportive environment where their questions could be answered. Hands-on, interactive and cooperative learning are just some of the ways Digital Antiquity encourages new users to become familiar with tDAR; for example, any internet user can search the repository, and a simple, free **registration** is the only requirement to **browse** and download unrestricted resources.

Denver Workshop on Digital Information Management

Following on successes in DC and Tempe, the workshop series continued May 24-25, 2011 in Denver, Colorado. We were joined by an important selection of representatives from a variety of backgrounds:

- Tribal archaeology (Delaware Tribe of Indians, Gila River Indian Community)
- Tribal historic preservation (Gila River Indian Community, Navajo Nation)
- US Federal agencies (Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service)

- State archaeology and historic preservation
- National cultural resource management firms

Among other activities, attendees discussed the potential impact of tDAR on their own work, then drafted an action plan enumerating the additions or modifications they viewed as necessary to improving functionality and increasing the likelihood of use. We were pleased to receive this feedback, and as always, we encourage your **comments** and suggestions.

Digital Antiquity-tDAR Grants Program Results

We are very pleased to announce that after a short review period, Digital Antiquity-tDAR Grants Program awardees have been determined. The proposals were all very interesting, and congratulations are in order to the following principal investigators based on their especially meritorious submissions:

- **Ms. Lori Reed** of the National Park Service
- **Dr. Gregory Brown** of the Comparative Archaeological Study of Chesapeake Culture Project
- **Drs. Stephen Mrozowski and Christa Beranek** of the Fiske Center for Archaeological Research (University of Massachusetts, Boston)
- **Dr. Jennifer Haas** of the Great Lakes Archaeological Research Center
- **Dr. David R. Abbott and Mr. M. Scott Thompson** of Arizona State University and **Dr. Cory Breternitz** of PaleoWest
- **Mr. Eric Ingbar** of Gnomon, Inc. and **Mr. Robert G. Elston**
- **Drs. Pearce Paul Creasman and Jeffrey S. Dean** of the Laboratory of Tree Ring Research (University of Arizona)
- **Drs. Matthew T. Boulanger and Michael D. Glascock** of the Archaeometry Laboratory at the University of Missouri Research Reactor
- **Dr. Stephen Reichardt** of Ecoplan Associates and **Dr. Thomas H. Guderjan** of the University of Texas at Tyler
- **Ms. Alycia Hayes and Mr. Derek Toms** of the National Park Service
- **Dr. Michael Nassaney** of Western Michigan University
- **Dr. James Roscoe** of the Humboldt State University Cultural Resources Facility

To see the complete list, including grant submission titles, check out the tDAR [News](#) page.

Digital Antiquity and tDAR at the SAA

This year, Digital Antiquity representatives attended the 76th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Sacramento. Staff maintained a booth in the Exhibit Hall to demonstrate tDAR, while a variety of Digital Antiquity affiliates presented in three separate forum discussions on managing digital archaeological data, using tDAR for management and research, and building a database of extant Southwest mortuary data to counteract the decline in archaeological investigations after NAGPRA.

Whether you attended a forum, stopped by the booth to try out tDAR or speak with representatives, or just said hello in the hallway, we were happy to see you at SAA and look forward to returning next year. If you were unable to come this year, you can **add** yourself to our mailing list or visit the **Digital Antiquity** and **tDAR** websites to learn more.

tDAR Software Updates: Debitage and Eolian

In late March and early June, Digital Antiquity released the most recent updates to the tDAR software. The first release, dubbed 'Debitage,' concentrated on modifications and additions to advanced search and browsing features, but there were also significant changes to storage infrastructure. Of note are the completion of the Transatlantic Archaeological Gateway (**TAG**), and enhanced support for Access databases. Users who commonly use RSS or ATOM to keep up with regularly updated information can add tDAR search results to their feeds.

The second release, 'Eolian,' focused on adding important new ingest and data management tools as well as increasing the usability of the interface. Some of the features of this update include the new Sensory Data resource, the Batch Upload tool, and the ability to replace files within a resource. Increased usability is supported by improved page loading and display, autocomplete addition to all keyword fields, and improved validation and help text. Check out the full articles on the tDAR **News** page and as always, don't forget to send us your **comments**!

Digital Antiquity and WSU Partner to Add Dolores Archaeological Program Digital Data to tDAR

Digital Antiquity is excited to begin its partnership with Washington State University (**WSU**), through Principal Investigator Dr. Timothy Kohler, on the ingest of digital data from the Dolores Archaeological Program (**DAP**), the largest public archaeology project ever undertaken in the United States. This is an extremely important collection of data from the Four Corners area of southwestern Colorado, a region which is submerged beneath the McPhee Reservoir due to the construction of the eponymous dam. This collection is a remarkable acquisition for tDAR in terms of both its scope and depth; these data have been foundational to scholars studying ecological, historical, and social relationships among ancient populations in the northern Southwest. For more information and to read the full article, check the **tDAR** and **Digital Antiquity** websites.

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