Catch up with what's new with Digital Antiquity and tDAR

DIGITAL ANTIQUITY
dedicated to access, preservation, and use of archaeological information

tDAR The Digital Archaeological Record
A SERVICE OF DIGITAL ANTIQUITY

Building, Improving, and Maintaining the Digital Archaeological Record

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thanks for joining us for the latest issue of Digital Antiquity *eNews*. We have several recent news items to share with you this month:

- AAA endorses tDAR for digital archiving of archaeological records
- An announcement of our formal Memorandum of Agreement with ASU Libraries
- Digital Antiquity welcomes a new staff member
- Digital Antiquity attends the ACRA Conference in Seattle, Washington
- We encourage you to use tDAR to publish datasets for NSF Biographical Sketches
- Adam Brin presents on digital archiving at the FAIMS conference in Australia
- Reminder: Uploads for individuals are free through the end of the year!

AAA Recommends tDAR for Depositing Archaeological Data

The American Anthropological Association (AAA) has recommended tDAR as a digital repository for archaeological data archiving. In the September 2012 issue of *Anthropology News*, Robert Hahn, chair of the Grey Literature subcommittee of the Resource Development Committee wrote:

> AAA…encourages archaeologists to deposit data and the related publications that make that data meaningful in the Digital Archaeological Record (tDAR) Available at www.tdar.org, tDAR is an international digital archive and repository that houses data about archaeological investigations, research, resources and scholarship. It has a plan for long-term preservation and ongoing access to digital data.

If you have archaeological data you'd like to upload we encourage you to visit tDAR today! Becoming a registered tDAR user is easy, and allows you to upload to and download from our extensive collections of archaeological information. Now is a great time to contribute your archaeological records to tDAR as upload fees are waived for individuals through the end of the year.

Agreement to Sustain tDAR's Digital Records

Digital Antiquity was founded with two basic goals in mind: (1) provide broad and easy

access to archaeological data and documents and (2) ensure the long-term preservation of digital archaeological information for future use. In July Arizona State University Libraries and Digital Antiquity signed an agreement to ensure that tDAR's records would remain accessible and be preserved even in the event that Digital Antiquity is unable to continue to support tDAR's development and maintenance. This formal Memorandum of Agreement reinforces our commitment to provide a sustainable digital repository dedicated to serving the information access and preservation needs of the archaeological community.

DA welcomes new Sales and Marketing Coordinator

Digital Antiquity is pleased to announce that Leigh Anne Ellison joined our staff this month as Sales and Marketing Coordinator. In this new role, Ellison will advocate globally for Digital Antiquity and the use of tDAR for the long-term preservation of and broad, easy access to archaeological data. Working on new client account development, she will be the primary liaison between Digital Antiquity's clients and customers for communications and product and service delivery. Prior to accepting this position, Ellison worked as a Digital Curator with DA and is familiar with tDAR's use in research, data management, and specialized digital curation programs.

Ellison's previous professional experience includes work as a Field Archaeologist with the Center for Desert Archaeology in Tucson, AZ, conducting condition assessments of late prehistoric archaeological sites on Tonto National Forest, and serving as Project Director in fieldwork in Honduras and Mexico. Ellison worked as an Archaeologist with Scientific Consultant Services in Kula, Hawaii, and as a Teaching Associate at Arizona State University.

Ellison holds a Master's degree in Anthropology from Northern Arizona University and a bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Art History from Wellesley College.

ACRA Conference

Digital Antiquity brought tDAR to the American Cultural Resources Association's 18th annual conference from September 6-8, 2012 in Seattle, Washington. Digital Antiquity's Director of Technology Adam Brin was on hand in the exhibit hall to demonstrate how to use tDAR and discuss how tDAR is useful in the management and preservation of digital records with dozens of ACRA conference participants. You can locate information on using tDAR on our website anytime at www.tdar.org.

Publish Your Data Sets in tDAR

Take advantage of tDAR's powerful interface to upload and archive your archaeological data sets. In addition to the long-term preservation of and easy access to your archaeological data, your data set, when entered in tDAR will be issued a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) that can be cited in your National Science Foundation Biographical Sketch. The National Science Foundation is making changes to the language of the

Biographical Sketch portion of the grant proposal application that may be of interest to current and future tDAR users. Specifically, the "publications" section of the Biographical Sketch will be renamed "products". This new title is meant to clarify the types of scholarly work applicants should highlight, and can include traditional publications, data sets, software, patents, and copyrights. This fall is a great time to get your datasets uploaded to tDAR's archives—upload fees for individuals are waived through the end of 2012! We also recommend that you use tDAR when you are planning for digital curation as part of your NSF Data Management Plan. Please visit www.tdar.org today to learn more about how to digitally archive all of your archaeological information using tDAR.

tDAR in Australia

Adam Brin, Director of Technology for Digital Antiquity, was an invited guest and participant in the Federated Archaeological Information Management Systems (FAIMS) Project workshops in Sydney, Australia, August 16-19, 2012. Brin, who serves on the advisory panel of the FAIMS Project, participated in three panel discussions: Sustainability Strategies, Problems and Issues Concerning Interoperability, and Online Repositories. During these sessions, participants worked towards the goal of setting forth the minimum standards for recordkeeping practices, data, and metadata standards, generating the documentation necessary for the development of the FAIMS infrastructure.

The FAIMS Project is charged with assembling a comprehensive information system for archaeology in Australia, with the goal of developing a suite of compatible tools accessible to archaeologists through a single portal. These tools are designed to enhance collaboration and comparative study by facilitating the production and dissemination of compatible archaeological data. The Project is led by the University of New South Wales and is funded by the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR) program, an Australian Government initiative to build new infrastructure for Australian researchers.

Following the conclusion of the FAIMS Project workshops, Brin attended the August 21st, 2012 launch in Melbourne of the Australian Historical Archaeology Database (AHAD). AHAD uses a version of Digital Antiquity's tDAR, software.

Upload Fees for Individuals Waived through December 2012

Dear Readers: We want to remind you that this fall is an excellent time to add your archaeological documents, data sets, images, and other data files to tDAR and save yourself hundreds of dollars. Through the end of 2012 upload fees are waived for individuals who contribute archaeological information to the repository.

To explore tDAR and upload your files, visit www.tdar.org and register as a tDAR user. Registration is a simple procedure that requires that you create a password for log-ins and that you agree not to misuse any of the information you obtain from records and documents/data in tDAR.

Once you are registered you can create a tDAR record and upload files of various sorts as part of filling in a user-friendly tDAR record form. This is a great opportunity to digitally archive your personal archaeological files for FREE! Of course, searching tDAR's extensive archives is always free. We encourage you to contact us at comments@tdar.org with any questions or comments.

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