LIBER Webinar: Open a GLAM Lab

HOST

Caleb Derven

Head of Technical and Digital Services

University of Limerick

Caleb.Derven@ul.ie

@calebderven

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SPEAKERS

Sophie-Carolin Wagner

Project Manager of ÖNB Labs, Austrian National Library

sophie.wagner@onb.ac.at

Sarah Ames

Digital Scholarship Librarian, National Library of Scotland

S.Ames@nls.uk

@semames1

Mahendra Mahey

Manager, British Library Labs (BL Labs)

Mahendra.Mahey@bl.uk

@mahendra_mahey

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NOTES

- **The webinar is being recorded.** All participants will receive a link to the recording later today.
- **Slides are on Zenodo:** See the chat box for the link.
- **Questions?** Put them in the chat box. We'll put questions to the speakers at the end of the webinar.

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Overview

Chair and introduction - Caleb Derven (Head of Technical and Digital Services, University of Limerick) - 5 minutes

GLAM Labs community and why ‘booksprint’ - Mahendra Mahey (BL Labs Manager, British Library) - 10 minutes

Booksprint method to create ‘Open a GLAM Lab’ - Sophie-Carolin Wagner (Project Manager, ONB Labs, Austrian National Library) - 10 minutes

A look inside ‘Open a GLAM Lab’ book and impact - Sarah Ames (Digital Scholarship Librarian, National Library of Scotland) - 10 minutes

Question and Answer - 15 minutes

Slides available from: http://tiny.cc/Open-a-GLAM-Lab-200119

What is a (digital) GLAM Lab?

- Space in a GLAM to experiment and innovate *online* or *onsite* with digitised and / or born digital collections and data
- Needs ‘Labber’ type people to run it
  - open, experimental, trying new things out, taking risks, overcoming barriers (sometimes institutional), formalised disobedience, change makers, transformers, need to be trusted, can be contagious ☺ - seek your inner ‘Labber’!

Inside a GLAM Lab…

…there are digital maps, photographs and manuscripts, 3D virtual objects of Egyptian heads and vases, digitised books from the 17th century with pictures of strange animals next to the originals, sound recordings of machines and violin music, old TV programmes, millions of pages of text from newspapers, video games from the 1980s, websites which no longer exist, and computer programs which worked on machines that no one makes any more. There are people coming in and out; to chat, to tinker, to transform, and to share.

Excerpt adapted from 'Open a GLAM Lab' page 34

Running since March 2013

- Supported over 175 projects in 6 years with researchers, artists, entrepreneurs, educators and British Library staff
- Competitions, Awards and Projects
- Helping to build global community of Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM) Labs

British Library Labs

Experiment with our digital collections

http://www.bl.uk/projects/british-library-labs

Previously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and now the British Library

GLAM Labs can address the following challenges

- **Return on investment on digitising / capturing digital**
  – how are they being used, what value and impact they are having, especially when opening collections for all.

- **What digital collections can be used openly and onsite?**
  - how to tell people online and physically, go to them, they won't necessarily come to you!

- **How we are and should be supporting our users when they want access and experiment with digital collections manually and computationally?**
  - right access, discovery to digital collections / data, advice, guidance, technical support, training. Are GLAMs providing the right services, tools and processes?

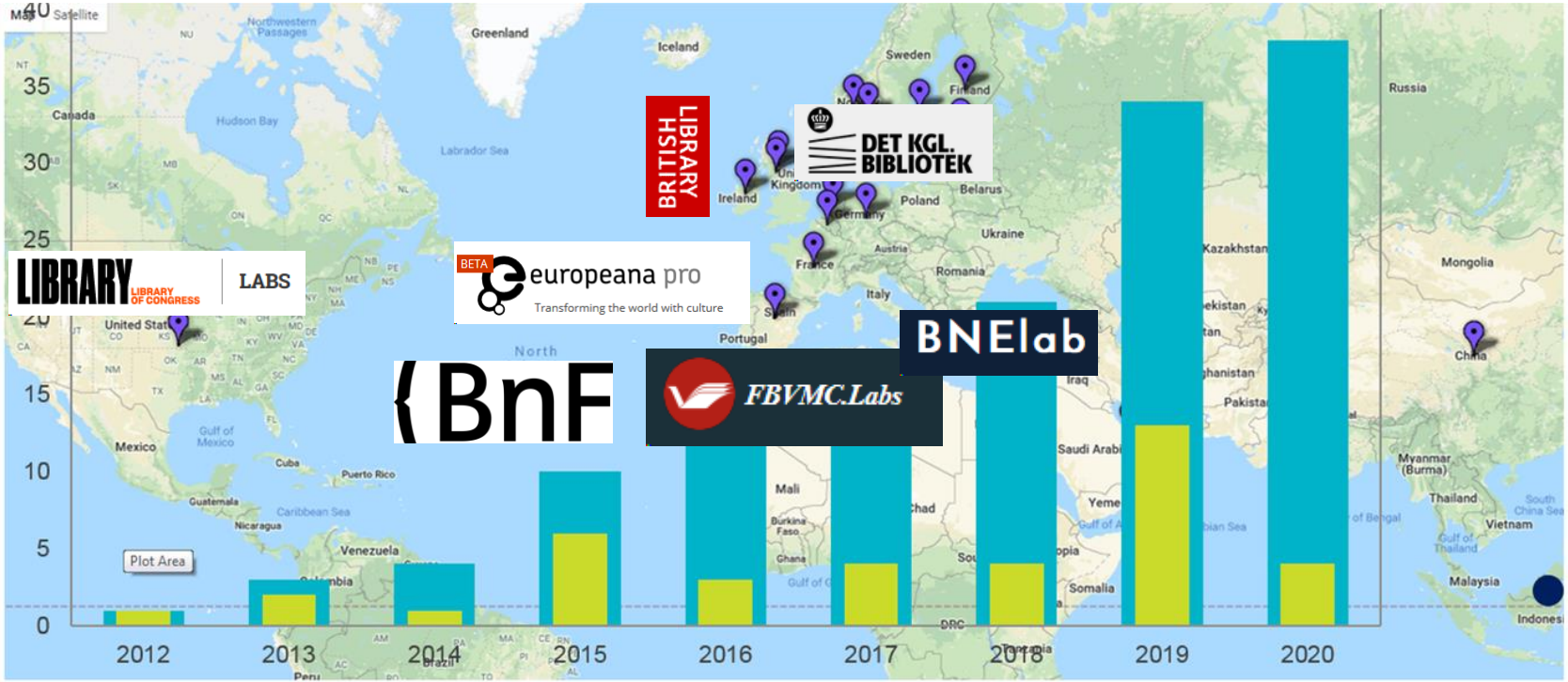
- **Explore the 'feel', 'shape', 'patterns' 'needles in haystacks' of collections at scale**
  - especially using computational methods, GLAM Labs sometimes found in digital scholarship (e.g. digital humanities) departments

- **Circular value - find, explore, augment discovery in often 'messy' cultural heritage data and put that data back (help improve the GLAM)**
  - often without public computational access (requires considerable investment)

- **Discover, celebrate old culture, research and remix to create new culture for inspiration & joy to make relevant**

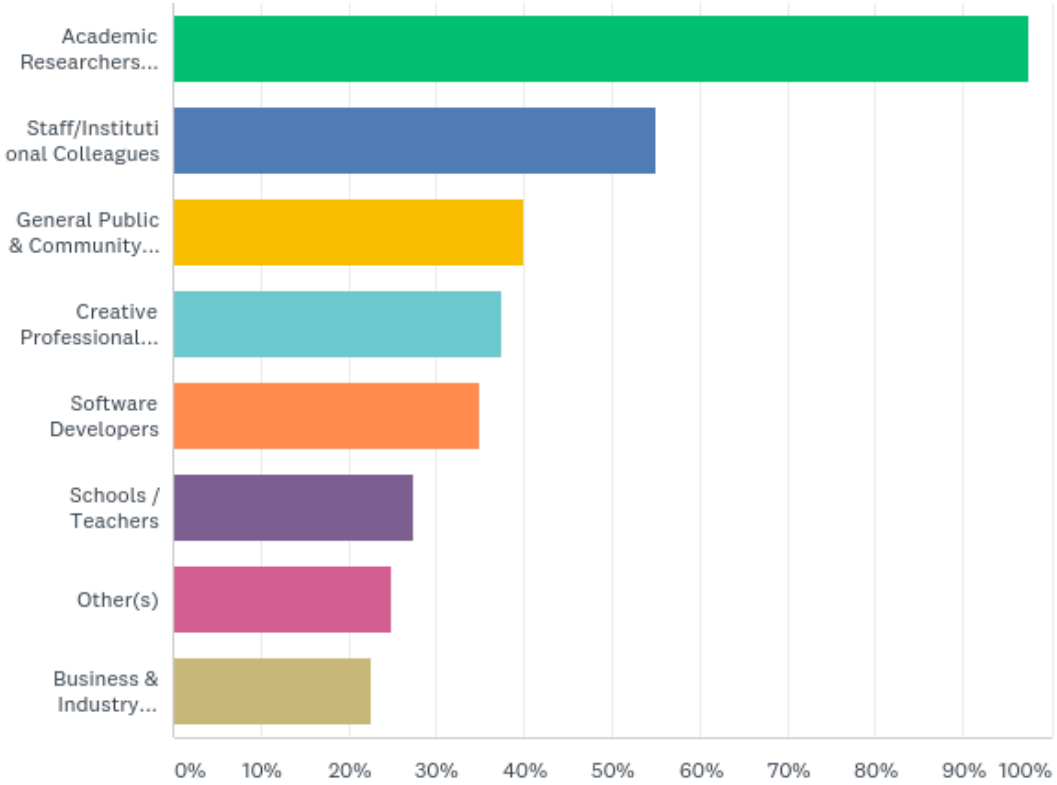
Growing GLAM Labs International Community

Data from Building Library Labs Survey - Jul - Sep 2018

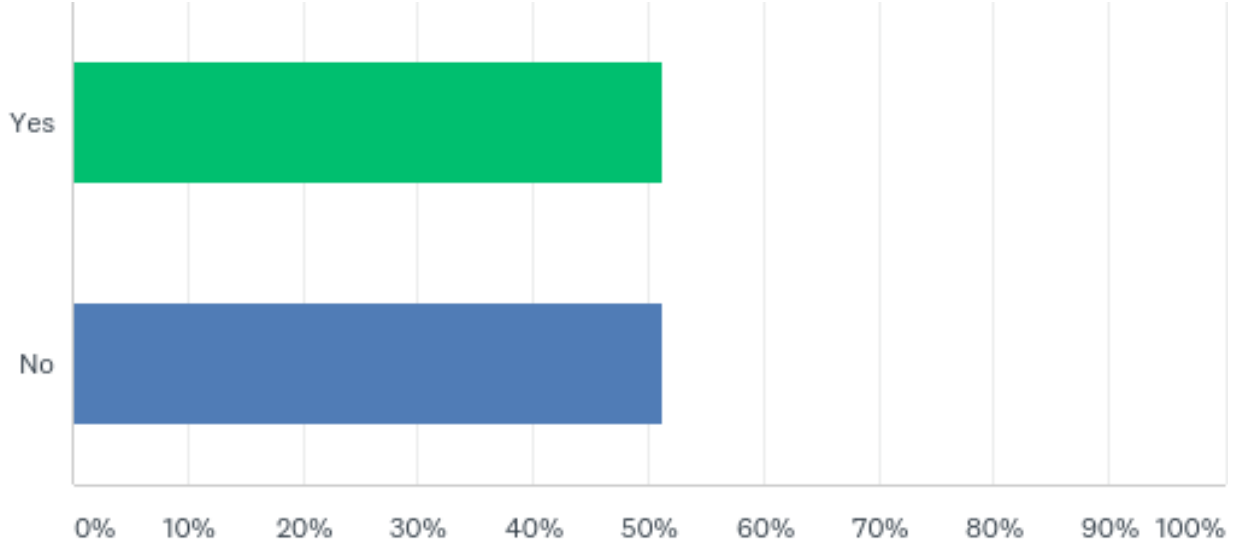


Get data here: https://goo.gl/66icov (you will need a google account)

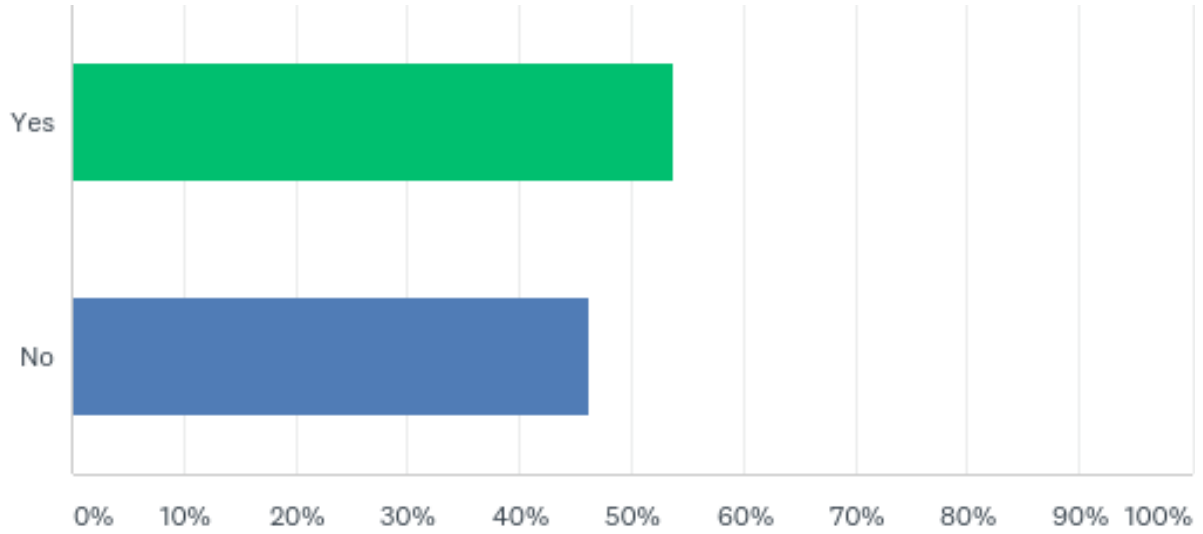
Who does your Lab primarily aim to serve?



Does your Lab have a dedicated physical space?

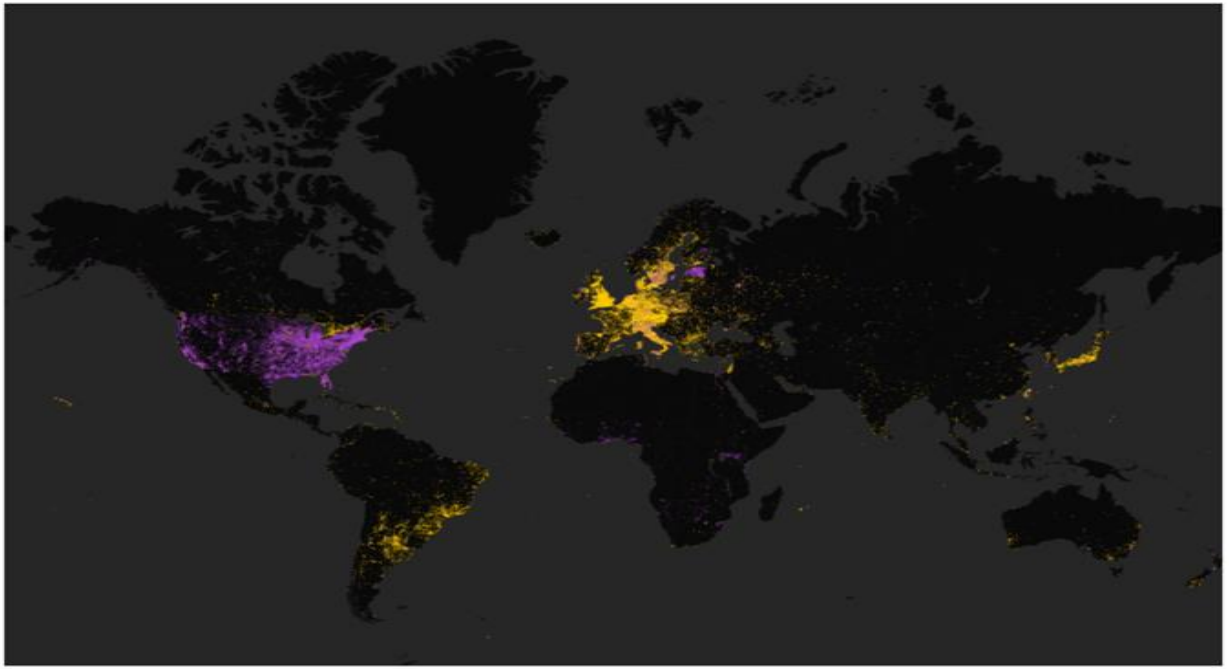


Does your Lab facilitate access to restricted digital collections / data?



Finding GLAMs

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs



A map of over 70,000 cultural heritage institutions on Wikidata, 20,000 have been added by FindingGLAMs (in purple).

Global GLAM Labs directory in development by Somia Salim (India) & Fidelity Phiri (Zambia) at UCL Qatar

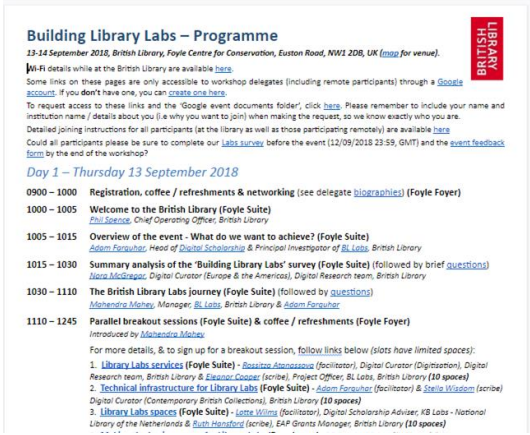
Global Labs list to increase collaboration

http://tiny.cc/World-GLAM-Labs see also Wikidata Map on glamlabs.io

Why form a GLAM Labs community?

- Very little existed previously as community of practice in this specific space (GLAM Labs)
- Lots of experiences of planning, setting up, running and ensuring Labs thrive - increasing our joint understanding
- Not reinvent the wheel
- Make existing or planned GLAM Labs can be the best they can be
- Values of openness, genuine willingness to share, supportive and kind
- Professionally rewarding
- Ability to benchmark Labs in terms of resourcing, mentoring and collaboration opportunities to increase capacity
- Tell the world what we do

Building Library Labs
13-14 September 2018, London



Building Library Labs – Programme

13-14 September 2018, British Library, Foyle Centre for Conservation, Euston Road, NW1 2DB, UK (map for venue).

Wi-Fi details while at the British Library are available here.

Some links on these pages are only accessible to workshop delegates (including remote participants) through a Google account. If you **don't** have one, you can create one here.

To request access to these links and the 'Google event documents folder', click here. Please remember to include your name and institution name / details about you (i.e why you want to join) when making the request, so we know exactly who you are.

Detailed joining instructions for all participants (at the library as well as those participating remotely) are available here

Could all participants please be sure to complete our Labs survey before the event (12/09/2018 23:59, GMT) and the event feedback form by the end of the workshop?

Day 1 – Thursday 13 September 2018

0900 – 1000 **Registration, coffee / refreshments & networking** (see delegate biographies) **(Foyle Foyer)**

1000 – 1005 **Welcome to the British Library (Foyle Suite)**
Phil Spence, Chief Operating Officer, British Library

1005 – 1015 **Overview of the event - What do we want to achieve? (Foyle Suite)**
Adam Farquhar, Head of Digital Scholarship & Principal Investigator of BL Labs, British Library

1015 – 1030 **Summary analysis of the 'Building Library Labs' survey (Foyle Suite)** (followed by brief questions)
Nora McGregor, Digital Curator (Europe & the Americas), Digital Research team, British Library

1030 – 1110 **The British Library Labs journey (Foyle Suite)** (followed by questions)
Mahendra Mahey, Manager, BL Labs, British Library & Adam Farquhar

1110 – 1245 **Parallel breakout sessions (Foyle Suite) & coffee / refreshments (Foyle Foyer)**
Introduced by Mahendra Mahey

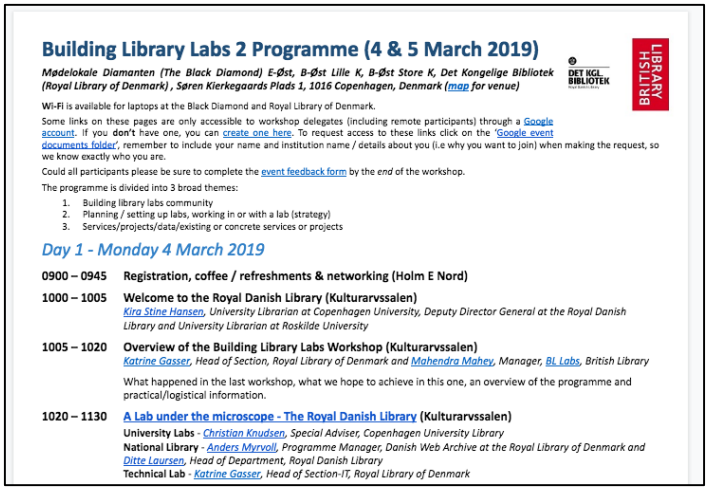
For more details, & to sign up for a breakout session, follow links below *(slots have limited spaces)*:

1. **Library Labs services (Foyle Suite)** - *Rossitza Atanassova (facilitator), Digital Curator (Digitisation), Digital Research team, British Library & Eleanor Cooper (scribe), Project Officer, BL Labs, British Library* ***(10 spaces)***
2. **Technical infrastructure for Library Labs (Foyle Suite)** - *Adam Farquhar (facilitator) & Stella Wisdom (scribe) Digital Curator (Contemporary British Collections), British Library* ***(10 spaces)***
3. **Library Labs spaces (Foyle Suite)** - *Lotte Wilms (facilitator), Digital Scholarship Adviser, KB Labs - National Library of the Netherlands & Ruth Hansford (scribe), EAP Grants Manager, British Library* ***(10 spaces)***

- Format - sticking a USB stick into people's brains and downloading their experiences and expertise
- Discussions, lightning talks, longer talks, debates
- Bigger than Libraries - GLAMs!
- Over 100 pages of notes
- Idea to write a book through a Booksprint

Programme: https://goo.gl/X3XpSY
YouTube: https://bit.ly/2YMxXYj

Building Library Labs 4-5 March 2019 Copenhagen, Denmark (part of Digital Humanities Nordic)



Building Library Labs 2 Programme (4 & 5 March 2019)

Mødelokale Diamanten (The Black Diamond) E-Øst, B-Øst Lille K, B-Øst Store K, Det Kongelige Bibliotek (Royal Library of Denmark) , Søren Kierkegaards Plads 1, 1016 Copenhagen, Denmark (map for venue)

Wi-Fi is available for laptops at the Black Diamond and Royal Library of Denmark.

Some links on these pages are only accessible to workshop delegates (including remote participants) through a Google account. If you **don't** have one, you can create one here. To request access to these links click on the 'Google event documents folder', remember to include your name and institution name / details about you (i.e why you want to join) when making the request, so we know exactly who you are.

Could all participants please be sure to complete the event feedback form by the *end* of the workshop.

The programme is divided into 3 broad themes:

1. Building library labs community
2. Planning / setting up labs, working in or with a lab (strategy)
3. Services/projects/data/existing or concrete services or projects

Day 1 - Monday 4 March 2019

0900 – 0945 **Registration, coffee / refreshments & networking (Holm E Nord)**

1000 – 1005 **Welcome to the Royal Danish Library (Kulturarvssalen)**
Kira Stine Hansen, University Librarian at Copenhagen University, Deputy Director General at the Royal Danish Library and University Librarian at Roskilde University

1005 – 1020 **Overview of the Building Library Labs Workshop (Kulturarvssalen)**
Katrine Gasser, Head of Section, Royal Library of Denmark and Mahendra Mahey, Manager, BL Labs, British Library

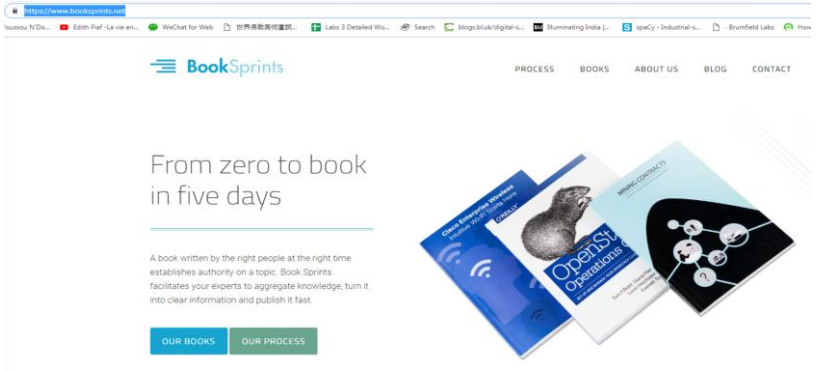
What happened in the last workshop, what we hope to achieve in this one, an overview of the programme and practical/logistical information.

1020 – 1130 **A Lab under the microscope - The Royal Danish Library (Kulturarvssalen)**
University Labs - *Christian Knudsen, Special Adviser, Copenhagen University Library*
National Library - *Anders Myrvoll, Programme Manager, Danish Web Archive at the Royal Library of Denmark and Ditte Laursen, Head of Department, Royal Danish Library*
Technical Lab - *Katrine Gasser, Head of Section-IT, Royal Library of Denmark*

Programme: https://goo.gl/JujjQ5

Over 100 pages of notes again
Also GLAM Labs not just Libraries

GLAM Labs BookSprint 23-27 September 2019, Doha, Qatar



5 days, 16 people to write a book.
Other teams in different time zones editing, proofing and illustrating each day when other group sleeping

https://www.booksprints.net/

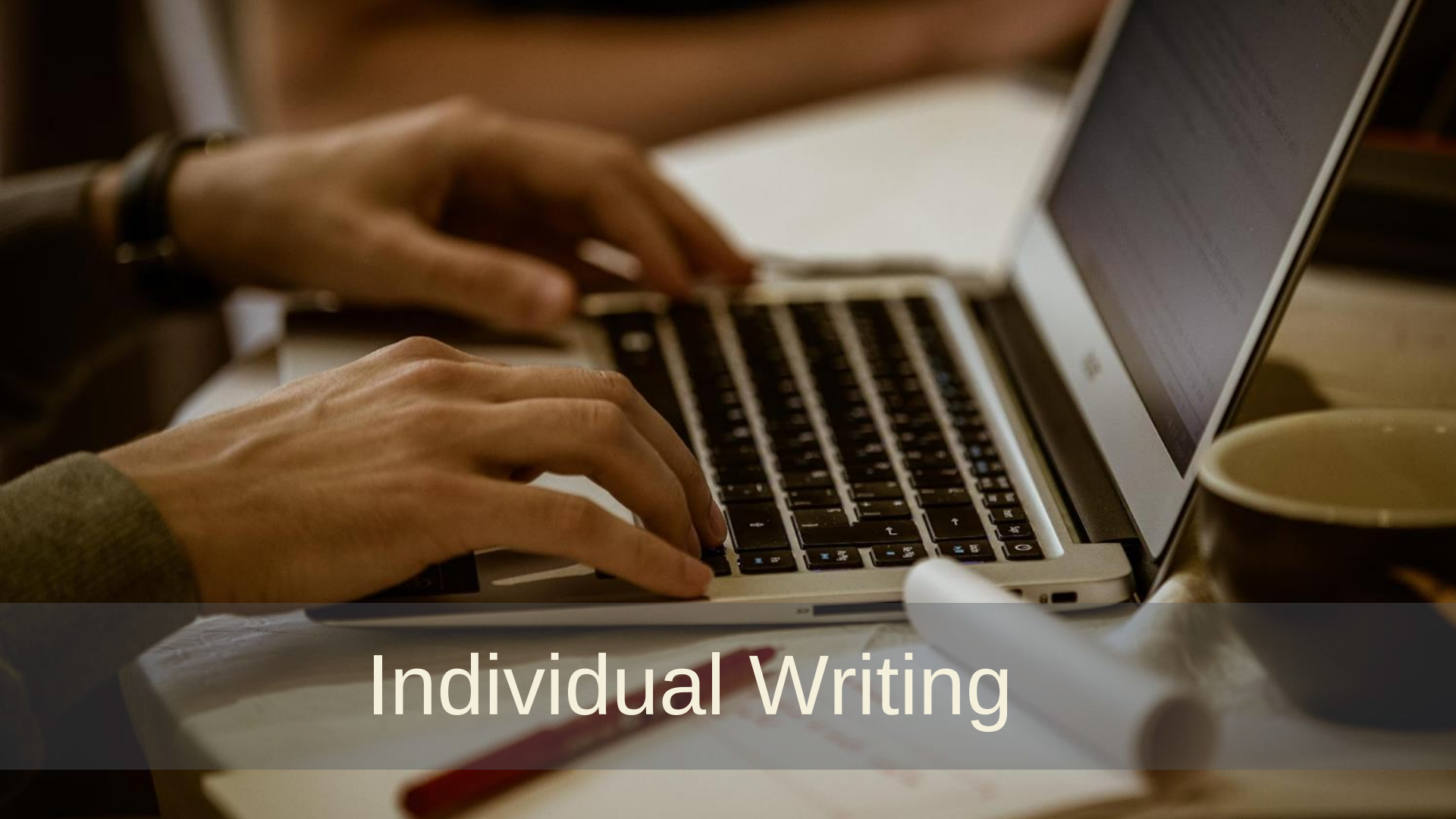
Booksprint Doha – 5 days to write a book
September 2019

Booksprint Method
Supervised Process

Brainstorming &
Clustering Ideas

Step-by-Step
Guided through the Process

Prioritising and finding a Voice



Individual Writing

Booksprint Software

Revising / Rewriting / Restructuring

Small teams working on chapters

Integrating external Reviews

3 Rounds of Revision & Target Readers

A book in 5 days

The GLAM Labs Book!

OPEN
A
GLAM
LAB

Inside the GLAM Lab book...

Foreword
Foreword: GLAMs and Labs
Foreword: Qatar National Library
Foreword: Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)
Acknowledgements
The authors

Introduction
About this book
Summary

Introducing GLAM Labs
Defining a Lab
Benefits of a Lab
Key points

Building a GLAM Lab
Values
Designing a Lab
Realising a Lab
Key points

GLAM Lab Teams
Forming the Lab team
Team allies
Letting teams thrive
Key points

User Communities
Understanding users
Engagement
Collaboration and partnerships
Key points

Rethinking Collections as Data
About digital collections
Sharing data
The Lab Data Recipe
Key points

Transformation
Labs championing change
From prototype to practice
Key points

Funding and Sustainability
Funding
Sustainability
Retirement and decommission
Key points

Into the Future with GLAM Labs
Into the future with GLAM Labs

Annexes
Bibliography and further reading
Acronyms
Data Formats
Colophon

Facilitated by

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Main Organizers

UCL QATAR
كلية لندن الجامعية قطر
عضو في مؤسسة قطر
Member of Qatar Foundation

المكتبة
The Library
QATAR UNIVERSITY جامعة قطر

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

BRITISH LIBRARY

Participating Institutions

DET KGL. BIBLIOTEK

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GHENT UNIVERSITY

HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Government of South Australia

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KB national library of the netherlands

National Library of Scotland
Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba

KBR Where time is treasured

University of Limerick
Ollscoil Luimnigh

STATE LIBRARY® NEW SOUTH WALES

OKLab

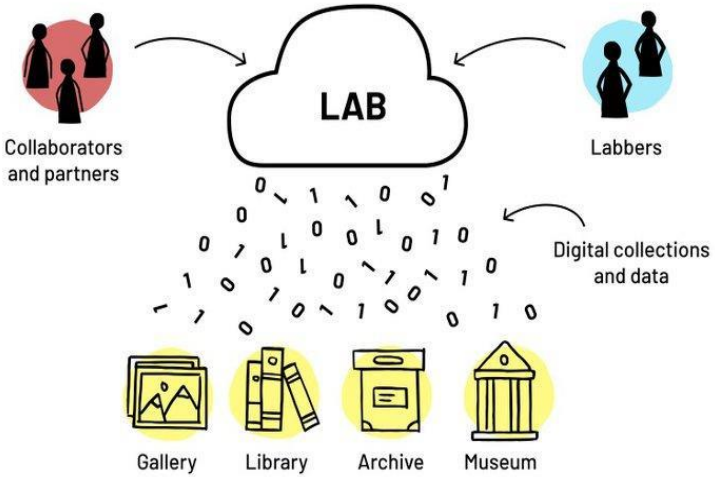
Österreichische Nationalbibliothek

Universitat d'Alacant
Universidad de Alicante

Print Edition

دار نشر جامعة قطر
Qatar University Press

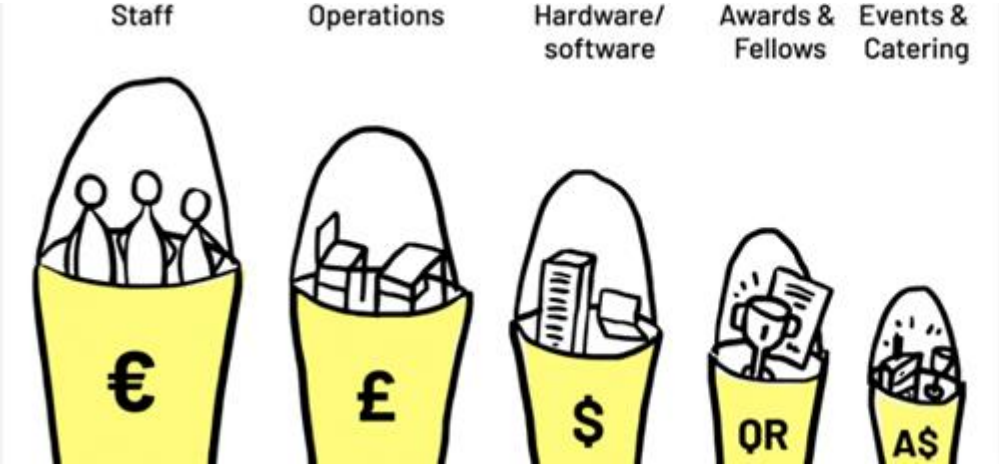
Highlights



Introducing GLAM Labs

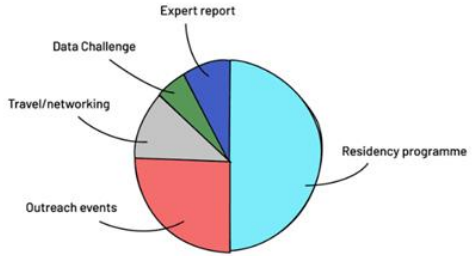
Cultural heritage institutions need a digital shift. Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM) Labs will make that shift happen. Operating at the intersection of digital cultural heritage, innovation, technology and creativity, they provide significant benefit.

Highlights



Funding and Sustainability

Labs can't work without money. This chapter discusses the various funding options and their pros and cons, and how to plan for a Lab's sustainability.



Example of an operational Lab budget

Note that the staff, administration and technical infrastructure costs are covered by the parent organisation in this example.

Highlights

GLAM Lab Teams

There is no Lab without people. This chapter discusses the qualities to look for in the Labs team and how to go about finding allies within and outside the institution. Furthermore, it offers ideas on how to create a nurturing environment for teams to thrive in.

Labbers 1: Mahendra Mahey, BL Labs Manager, British Library

What's your background?
I have worked as a teacher of social sciences, English as a Foreign Language and computer science, a community builder in the technology sector, and as a manager in digital technologies in further and higher education.

What skills do you bring?
I am a good manager, a natural networker and community builder.

Why do you want to work in a Lab?
I am absolutely passionate about opening up the British Library's digital collections and data to everyone for interesting, innovative and inspirational projects.

How would you describe your outlook or mindset when working in Labs?
I want to inspire my colleagues about the potential of using our digital collections and technology in ways they may never have thought about before; to effect cultural change within the organisation to become more open and sharing. I especially want to bring new people into the British Library who would never previously have considered working with us.

Labber 2: Kristy Kokegei, Director of Public Engagement, North Terrace Cultural Precinct Innovation Lab

What's your background?
I have a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in immigration history and I started in museums as a curator.

What skills do you bring?
I bring engagement skills, research skills, intimate knowledge of museum databases, digital asset management systems, collections and some specific skills around Indigenous data management.

Why do you want to work in a Lab?
I want to work in an innovative space within the Australian cultural sector. I want to push boundaries and open up hierarchical silos.

How would you describe your outlook or mindset when working in Labs?
Passionate and perhaps a bit playful, inclusive. I want to bring everyone along. I want to build a safe experimental space for all the talented creative people within our organisation.

Labber 3: Stefan Karner, Technical Lead ÖNB Labs, Austrian National Library

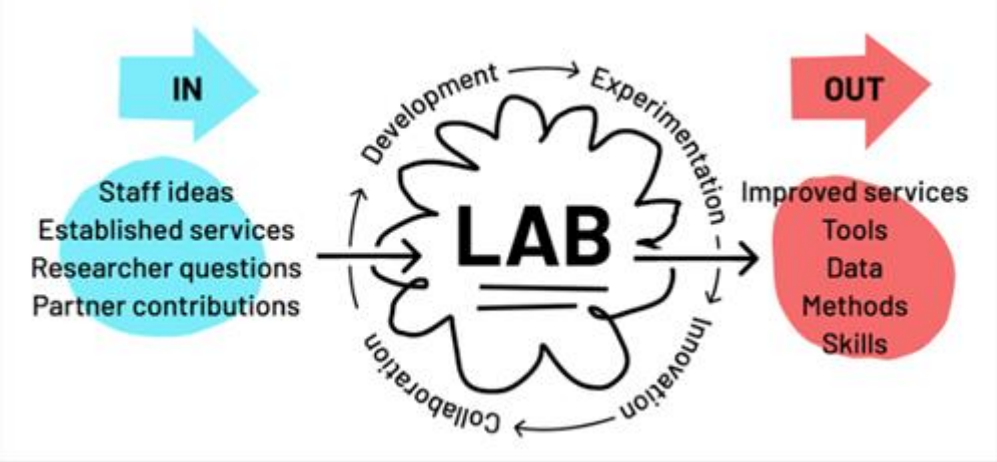
What's your background?
I'm a computer scientist, but I've also studied jazz vocals and a smattering of humanities for a while. I've worked as a social worker and IT administrator, and as a freelance software developer just before joining the ÖNB Labs.

What skills do you bring?
I consider myself very social and vocal, and I like modelling, designing and building software.

Why do you want to work in a Lab?
I joined because I thought I could contribute my skills to help keeping the library relevant in the 21st century, and work with interesting people while doing it.

How would you describe your outlook or mindset when working in Labs?
Connecting with knowledgeable colleagues and learning about different topics and technologies on a regular basis is really invigorating. Being part of a somewhat disruptive enterprise and trying to effect change in an institution that's perceptibly rooted in the 19th century is challenging though.

Highlights



Transformation

This chapter discusses how Labs bring about change, both on an institutional level and within services. It includes information on how tools are developed and a case study on how a bespoke tool was moved to an operational service.

Features

The Lab Data Recipe

This recipe puts together a collection as a dataset in a quick-and-dirty way. You may get messy, so wearing protective clothing such as a nice set of emotional armour is advised. Make sure it's comfortable, because you might need to wear it a long time and it might get sweaty. This recipe can be applied to any type of data, but here text is used as the main ingredient.

Emotional armour

Ingredients

- A bucketload of digitised images and corresponding text.
- If possible: metadata.
- An enthusiastic Labber.
- A (boundary-pushing) legal advisor.
- A liberal sprinkling of resilience.

Instructions

****Please note that cooking times may vary, as institutions have different styles of ovens, energy levels, and appetites for risk.**

1. Dissect your collection and find out what it contains and how it was created. This might make no sense at all and be completely random and biased, but don't be alarmed. You may need to talk to other people in your organisation about this, but don't worry, they are usually quite happy to talk about their work and giving them cake helps. This is how you build relationships (and diabetes).
2. Document everything you have learned in step 1. You don't have to do this alone and copy/paste is an excellent approach.
3. Prepare a pitch for your legal advisor on why the set should be made available under an open licence.

   NOTE: This step is only necessary if your legal advisor does not like to push boundaries.

   NOTE: If you have data that is in copyright, include the workaround to provide access in your pitch. Read the chapter on Sharing Data for helpful tips.
4. Stir the documentation, your pitch, the legal advisor and your organisation's management vigorously in a big pot (ideally in a locked meeting room) until the decision is made to publish the collection as a dataset.

   NOTE: This step may take some time and this is where you might get dirty. Don't take it personally as you are pushing a boundary and might feel the boundary push-back.
5. When you have been given the green light (if you choose to wait for that, we're not suggesting anything here...), the collection is ready to be published as data.
6. Serve with some herbs of your choice, all documentation, a clear rights statement with the open licence and contact information on a public platform.

   NOTE: If you don't have an institutional publication platform, we recommend to publish the data on an open repository such as Zenodo or Archive.org

Example: #NewSelfWales, DX Lab

#NewSelfWales was an exhibition to create a gallery of community generated photos, uploaded from a photo booth in the gallery or via Instagram. DX Lab used a design process to establish design principles and vision, identifying how the exhibition space was to be used, considered opportunities and challenges for users, and iteratively refined and tested.

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However, we would appreciate it if you cite our work. Here is a proposed citation:

Mahey, M., Al-Abdulla, A., Ames, S., Bray, P., Candela, G., Chambers, S., Derven, C., Dobreva-McPherson, M., Gasser, K., Karner, S., Kokegei, K., Laursen, D., Potter, A., Straube, A., Wagner, S-C. and Wilms, L., with forewords by: Broady-Preston, J., Landry, P. and Papaioannou, G. (2019) *Open a GLAM Lab. Digital Cultural Heritage Innovation Labs*, Book Sprint, Doha, Qatar, 23-27 September, 2019.

Features

Annexes:

- Further reading
- Data formats
- Acronym
- Book Sprints

International GLAM Labs Community

- https://glamlabs.io/
- Over 250 members
- Download the book (PDF/EPUB)
- Add yourself to the Member Map
- Join the Slack channel
- WhatsApp group
- Regular zoom meetings
- Join the email list - http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/GLAMLABS.html
- Follow us on Twitter: @GLAM_labs

Impact

- 3000 views of book
- 4 translations on the way (Arabic, Bulgarian, Russian and Spanish)
- Presented by various GLAM Labs ‘Booksprinters’ around the world at various events (North America, Europe, Africa and Australasia) pre and post booksprint
- 5288 website views (of which 41% are of the book)
- 696 views of the member map

https://glamlabs.io/books/blogs/

Other planned events

- DHN 2020 - GLAM Labs poster, March 2020 in Riga, Latvia
- Africa event - June 2020 in Alexandria, Egypt
- Australasia event - possibly in September 2020, Location probably Sydney, Australia

3rd International Labs Event at Library of Congress

- Library of Congress, Washington DC, 4-6 May 2020
- Focus: Collections as Data / Building GLAM Labs
- Submit a paper here: https://www.research.net/r/X6JNH8P

THANKS!

Questions?

Please put them in the chat box.

Slides and a recording will be sent to all registered delegates.

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