The influence

of cultural heritage institutions

on scholarly editing in the digital age

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Roadmap

- Introduction
  or: What is an edition?

- Interoperability
  or: What kind of editions are there?

- Sustainability
  or: How to consolidate editions?

- Resume
  or: Influence of institutions on editions

Introduction

Herzog August Bibliothek

- is a research library with focus on medieval and early modern period.

- has 80 FTE permanent staff
  → personell devoted to digital editions.

- carries out projects of its own

  - e.g. two long-term editions:
    Schriften Andreas Bodenstein von Karlstadt
    Tagebücher Christian II.

What is an edition?

- What constitues an edition?
  - Data
  - Functionality
- Edition vs. Parts of editions
- Edition vs. Transcription

Interoperability

- What kind of editions are there?

- What is in these editions?

- How to use the editions?

Do not re-/encode what you aren't interested in, what you don't want to process, present, search for, etc.

Processing – No 1 rule

If editors re-/encoded something they were interested in processing, presenting, searching for it.

Text, elements, functions

- There's nothing like „THE" text but views or understanding of texts.
  → cf. Sahle 2013

- Elements correspond to the type of text viewed.

- Functions correspond to the elements used.

Editors and their editions

- Editors encode on purpose.

- One can find out about the purpose by examining the code.
  ($\rightarrow$ Which needs to be available!)

- Institutions learn about the type of edition, and about ways of presentation.

- Editors learn about their own edition, "strange" constructs in nesting can be detected.

Know what's there

- Wiki documentation with
    - List of all elements used
        - Record in which structural contexts the elements have been used
    - List of all attributes
        - Record on which elements the attributes have been unsed

Decisions

- Example: How to use the attribute @type?
    - @type depends from the parent element
    - @type is not equally important for each element
    - Importance in descending order: <div>, <note>, <rs>, <ref/ptr>, <idno>, <title>, <biblScope>, others

Example – div/@type

- Values of @type on <div> are defined
  → e.g. for the DFG-Viewer

- [Follows a value list] → namespaces

- If other values have been used distinguish

  - semantic equivalence

  - enhancing the list of allowed values

  - hierarchical ordering of values → @subtype

  - „tag abuse" → other elements should have been used

Sustainability

- How to sustain digital editions?

- What to sustain about digital editions?

- …the data is (re-)used the more sustainable will the data be.

Publishing act

- Work in progress is allowed until a work is published.
  → Editiones Electronicae Guelferbytanae

- Publishing requires archiving **and** cataloguing.

- After publication work can go on on a seperate copy of the data.

What to preserve?

- **Preservation levels**
  - Bitstream
  - Looks
  - Environment
  - Functionality

- **The HAB guarantees to preserve the data and the (intended) "function" of the edition!**

Revisions

- Distinction between revisions of the content and „technical", e.g. the encoding

- Revisions of the content have to be documented using <revisionStmt>/<change>

- Revisions of the content have to be authorised by the author(s)

- „Technical" revisions are stored in the versioning

- Carry out projects, cooperate in projects – from the beginning!!!
  - „manage" the editing process, e.g. by documentation, providing schemata and collaboration spaces

Institutions as Publishers

- Ingest editions
  - baseline encoding, e.g. DTABf
  - accepted mimetypes
  - prescribe licensing
- Host editions
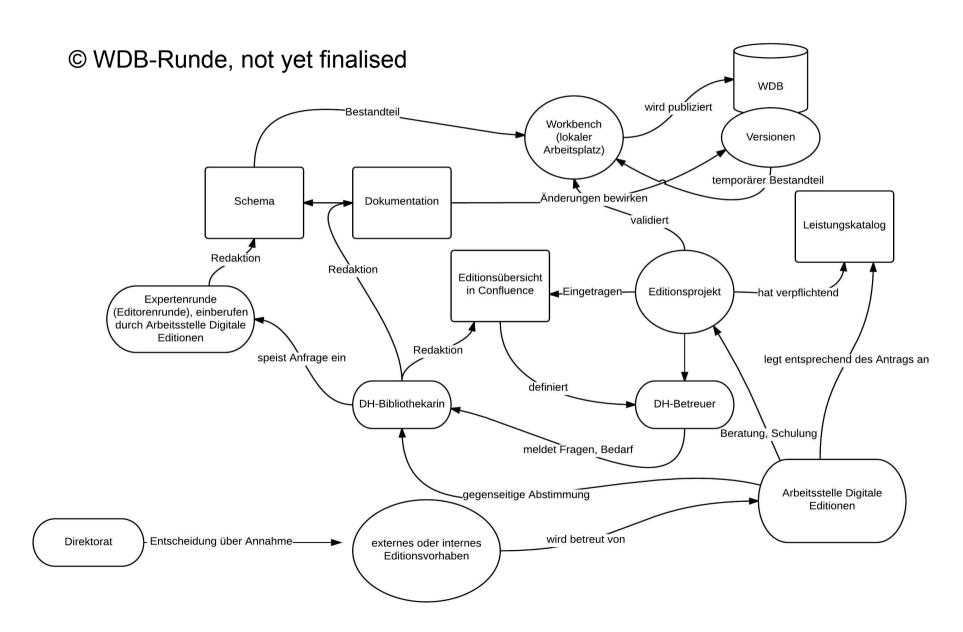 - Offer access and APIs

The role of institutions

- Institutions
  - stimulate the process of harmonisation, „normalisation" → schema, ODD, normdata
  - push individual researchers towards „accuracy".

- In the best of all cases, research and institutions discuss and agree upon ways to store, maintain, and publish DEs.

Workflow (M|m)atters

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