The Academic Book of the Future: Identity, Use and Creation of Academic ‘Books’ for Medievalists

Centre for Textual Studies, De Montfort University
February 25 – 26, 2016

Event Overview

Funded by The Academic Book of the Future, this year’s Quadrivium addresses the questions surrounding the academic books for medievalists. Earlier in the 20th century, an academic book for medievalists was relatively easy to identify. It often embodied at least 20 years of rigorous scholarship. Typically a thick volume, hardcover, and published by a reputable publisher, it would be read, referred to, and used repeatedly by all scholars in the field.

Digital technologies have brought about a modification in the methodologies for researching, producing and delivering scholarship. The merit of digital environments for scholarly publishing may now seem to be more than self-evident. Now that creating the ‘impact’ of our research on the world beyond academia is a compulsory element for our academic career, one may naturally think that publishing the digital ‘books’ (or resources) and distributing them online is the way to go. Indeed, many current researchers in the field have produced digital academic ‘books’. The scholarly community, however, has not come to a consensus as to what a digital academic ‘book’ looks like. How do we identify ‘a digital academic book’? How do we create it, and do we need to create it? If we make one, then, how do we ensure that all scholars in the field can continue to use it for years to come? And, how does the emergence of the academic book in digital format influence the way we create, use and value the print academic book?

The event will consist of hands-on workshops drawn upon existing expertise and experience the Quadrivium team gained by working on AHRC-funded digital projects.

For further information and registration, please see: http://quadriviumnetwork.com/events/quadrivium-xi