Addressing challenges in scientific communication: The PARTHENOS Hub as a DH publication and interaction platform

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The traditional and established way of the print days of publishing, discussion and citation in other papers has been evolving in a digital direction. In parallel, but often unconnected, new technical means enable researchers to communicate and interact in a much faster and sometimes more efficient way using blogs, internet forums and social networks. The challenge on one hand is to combine the advantages of the traditional system (reliable trusted references, peer review, recognition by community) with the new digital means (dynamic, faster, time-independent, wider spread, less exclusive, much more open). On the other, it is important to leave the disadvantages of both (traditional: static, exclusive; new: volatile, outside peer review processes, not citable) behind to establish an innovative way of scientific communication. In our short paper and presentation, we would like to present the prototype of the PARTHENOS Hub, illustrate how it combines traditional and modern media of dissemination and discuss ideas regarding its future development.

The EU project PARTHENOS (http://www.parthenos-project.eu/) is bringing together disciplines of humanities and humanities-related sciences, and one of the challenges it is facing is to coordinate different ways of communicating results and bringing researchers to exchange information. The Hub developed in the project is envisioned as an open accessible publication and interaction platform for the research communities. Thus, the concept acknowledges the value of diverse new and unconventional sources of knowledge by providing a platform to evaluate and curate them, assessing and highlighting their legitimacy.

The Hub is intended to be community-driven. It will be structured around thematic "issues" relevant for a specific area of interest. An editor-in-chief appointed for each issue will take the responsibility of selecting and ensuring scientific quality of content. The Hub will offer all resources needed, e.g. technical for presentation and permanent storage for the more volatile content through collaborating repositories providing persistent identifier (PID), and editorial through the involvement of an advisory board for supervision and review (see figure: PARTHENOS Hub).

The Hub will in a first step bring together diverse sources of knowledge (e.g. articles, blog entries etc.) and merge them, in accordance with the FAIR principles, in a coherent issue on one platform. The result is a freely accessible, citable issue setting the ideas and arguments published in traditional papers side by side to edited discussions taking place on more volatile platforms as blogs on the same topic. Thus the issue offers the opportunity to combine normally separated discussions in one environment. At the same time, the editor and the contributors of an issue can receive scientific credit for non-traditional works, through a structured and transparent process. In a second step the Hub offers means of interaction like commenting and

discussing the issue or giving the possibility to recommend additions which could even result in an enhanced revised clearly defined second issue.

With the Hub, we want to provide a very flexible tool, with the capacity for additional services to be included step by step. These services help to simplify publication and interaction as regards discovery, selection, peer review, impact measurement and integration of further sources and can be used according to the needs. Making thus material accessible to a wider audience should spur the communities to increase their involvement.

PARTHENOS Hub:
publication and interaction platform