A GLAMorous year
lessons and outlooks
by Marcus Cyron and Barbara Fischer

Wikimedia Deutschland presents

Wikimania Hongkong 2013
It is a marathon not a sprint
At the start we had these goals in GLAM

to install Wikipedians in Residence in highly reputed institutions

to obtain new contents for Wikipedia and Wikimedia Commons

to win new editors among the scientific staff of the institution

to gain media coverage to spread the idea
Digging deep in time

- founded in 1829, since 1871 a federal agency
- hands on all famous sites like Troja, Olympia or Pergamon to name the famous
- departments in Rome, Madrid, Athens, Cairo and Istanbul
- research projects worldwide
- ca. 300 employees including 120 scientists

Das DAI  The German Archaeological Institute
How it started

*a first personal contact to the DAI was established in 2009 by Wikipedian Marcus C.*

drafting general digital strategy Wikimedia came into focus of the DAI-officials.

in 2012 a cooperation treaty was signed and Marcus C. was installed as Wikipedian in Residence.

Eduard Gerhard (1795-1867), the founder of the DAI.
What might a Wikipedian in Residence (WiR) inside a institution do?

- workshops and conferences for the staff
- article contest for the Wikipedians
- photo excursion for Wikimedians
- consulting in licence matters to liberate content e.g. images

sprinters on ancient Greek pottery

Black-figure pottery in the Staatliche Antikensammlungen Berlin via Wikimedia Commons
results (A)

the Olympia edit contest linked to the large Olympia exhibition in Berlin in 2012 spured the edition of 100 Wikipedia articles

visiting the departments in Madrid, Rome, Athens and Istanbul the WiR took 5000 fotos[1] still uploading to Commons

the media coverage though was overwhelming [2]


excarvation in Kerameikos, Greece

photo Marcus Cyron via Wikimedia Commons
results (B)

- DAI staff is allowed to write for Wikipedia in office time
- Two thirds of the staff were reached with talks and workshops on Wikipedia and free licences
- The relaunched DAI-website will link directly to Wikipedia

Minoan seal found in Turkey

Photo François Bertemes via Wikimedia Commons
yet it could have been better

ancient columns

yet it could have been better

photo Юкатан via Wikimedia Commons
reasons within DAI

- lack of resources (especially time)
- uncertain legal conditions
- prejudices within the staff opposing the Wikimedia idea
- disturbances by further stakeholders

lack of institutional readiness
change of policy

not an individual (here the Wikipedian in Residence) interacting with an institution but two institutions cooperating
defining precise projects within a common strategy
March 2013: Wikidata meets archaeology

Photo Katja Ullrich via Wikimedia Commons
A symposion at the library of the Foreign Office in Berlin. 50 scientists and laymen met to discuss the challenge of digitisation in the humanities. They came to a conclusion. It is a chance for science and citizens. It is Citizen Science!

Knowledge derives out of sharing

trailer to promote the symposion „Wikidata meets Archeology“ and its documentation [1]


Photo Katja Ullrich via Wikimedia Commons
Citizen Science: How it looks.

project B

a new tool

http://toolserver.org/~render/limes/web/

picture: screenshot
the limes of the Roman Empire

the interactive map offers different features

- a travel through time by video
- search for historical forts
- deepening the information by linked WP:Articles in different languages
- zooming in and out on the Roman Empire
Creating opportunities for Wikipedians and scientists to collaborate in fostering the dissemination of knowledge.
next steps

Goal: extending the map and shaping APIs to harvest further databases through Wikidata

applying for a CPB grant (community project budget) at Wikimedia Deutschland

enabling 2 editors and a programmer to work on the project for a year
yet there is a problem

until today the map cannot be integrated into Wikipedia!
3 reasons

- The capacities of the Wikimedia toolserver and OpenStreetMap server are too small to cope with the workload emerging via a Wikipedia article.
- OSM is based on a hardly scalable software.
- The Opendatabase-licence applied by OSM is not fully compatible with Wikimedia [1]

the aim

to generate more contributions to the database of the map

and to make the knowledge shown in the map more accessible
what is needed

- a decision of the Wikimedia Foundation to come to terms with Open Street Map (including privacy terms).
- increasing the server capacities
- improving the code
The limes map is only an app. Yet it thrills GLAMs and Wikipedians. But there are more apps to come transforming digitised data into knowledge.

That’s what we want, isn’t it?
We did other things too. Please check it out:


or get in touch: kultur@wikimedia.de

http://blog.wikimedia.de/2013/04/24/was-wikipedianer-besonders-gut-können/
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