

Off the Tracks

Collaborators' Bill of Rights

- ¶1 1) All kinds of work on a project are equally deserving of credit (though the amount of work and expression of credit may differ). And all collaborators should be empowered to take credit for their work.
- ¶2 2) The DH community should default to the most comprehensive model of attribution of credit: credit should take the form of a legible trail that articulates the nature, extent, and dates of the contribution. (Models in the sciences and the arts may be useful.)
- ¶3 a) Descriptive Papers & Project reports: Anyone who collaborated on the project should be listed as author in a fair ordering based on emerging community conventions.
- ¶4 b) Websites: There should be a prominent “credits” link on the main page with PIs or project leads listed first. This should include current staff as well as past staff with their dates of employment.
- ¶5 c) CVs: Your CV is **your** place for articulating your contribution to a collaboration. All collaborators should feel empowered to express their contributions honestly and comprehensively.
- ¶6 3) Universities, museums, libraries, and archives are locations of creativity and innovation. Intellectual property policies should be equally applied to all employees regardless of employment status. Credit for collaborative work should be portable and legible. Collaborators should retain access to the work of the collaboration.
- ¶7 4) Funders should take an aggressive stance on unfair institutional policies that undermine the principles of this bill of rights. Such policies may include inequities in intellectual property rights or the inability of certain classes of employees to serve as PIs.

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Comments

19 Pingbacks and trackbacks

1. **Getting Started in the Digital Humanities | Digital Scholarship in the Humanities** October 14, 2011 at 4:22 pm

[...] in “Care of the Soul,” and the Off the Tracks Workshop devised a useful “Collaborators’ Bill of Rights.”) If you can bring seed funding or administrative backing to a project, that might make it easier to [...]

2. **Who Owns This Stuff? | THATCamp Southeast 2012** March 8, 2012 at 11:01 am

[...] and build upon the resulting code and artifacts? In this session, I propose we use the “Collaborators’ Bill of Rights” as a starting point for discussion. How might we instantiate these recommendations in our [...]

3. **We are RRCHNM | Lot 49** March 8, 2012 at 3:58 pm

[...] revealed and highlighted the names of everyone who had ever worked on this project before the Collaborator Bill of Rights existed. I asked on Twitter, how many of you look at the About page of a digital humanities [...]

4. **POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (CLOSES 2012-07-17) « Occasional Drama** June 28, 2012 at 7:50 pm

[...] of all persons and affirms the dignity of all persons. MoEML is committed to honouring the Collaborators’ Bill of Rights. Enquiries and applications may be sent to MoEML via Janelle Jenstad at jenstad@uvic.ca. [...]

5. **How Collaboration Works and How It Can Fail** | [archaeoinaction.info](#) June 3, 2013 at 3:00 pm
[...] and the growth of collaborative projects involving humanities scholars, including the excellent Collaborator's Bill of Rights as well as rumination on what dangers collaboration may pose, such as my own article in JDH1-1. My [...]
6. **COLTT 2013: "The Digital Dossier"** | [Erin M. Kingsley](#) August 3, 2013 at 7:47 pm
[...] DH Bill of Rights: including all authors/collaborators must be listed as taking some part of the project (although tasks/credit may vary); individual CVs should list individual, not group, collaboration—what did YOU do on this project – <http://mcpres.media-commons.org/offthetracks/part-one-models-for-collaboration-caree...> [...]
7. **Credit Transparency and the Collaborator's Bill of Rights | Introduction to Digital History** December 2, 2013 at 12:12 pm
[...] Projects. In particular, I want to draw your attention to and work through the provisions of the "Collaborator's Bill of Rights," which is part of a larger report entitled "Off the Tracks: Laying New Lines for Digital [...]
8. **Evaluating Non-Traditional Digital Humanities Dissertations** | [Literature Geek](#) September 30, 2014 at 7:57 am
[...] should get credit and thanks for sharing their work with others! (See the awesome "Collaborators' Bill of Rights" that came out of a MITH workshop for more on why correct credit should matter to everyone). [...]
9. **Credit Transparency and the Collaborator's Bill of Rights** | [Dave DeCamp](#) October 17, 2014 at 4:59 pm
[...] Projects. In particular, I want to draw your attention to and work through the provisions of the "Collaborator's Bill of Rights," which is part of a larger report entitled "Off the Tracks: Laying New Lines for Digital [...]
10. **Credit Transparency and the "Collaborator's Bill of Rights"** | [Boston Public History](#) November 6, 2014 at 3:08 pm
[...] humanities project, I want to draw your attention to and work through the provisions of the "Collaborator's Bill of Rights," which is part of a larger report entitled "Off the Tracks: Laying New Lines for Digital [...]
11. **The Pedagogy of Digital Humanities in the Liberal Arts Classroom** | [April 7, 2015](#) at 12:45 pm
[...] they are encouraged to include DH research projects, experiences, and skills on their resumes. The DH Collaborators Bill of Rights provides some nice initial guidelines for these [...]
12. **Creating a Group Project Charter** | [Introduction to Digital Humanities](#) November 13, 2015 at 5:06 pm
[...] Also you might want to read this Collaborators' bill of rights [...]
13. **Milking the Deficit Internship** | [January 5, 2016](#) at 9:42 pm
[...] Collaborators' Bill of Rights. Off the Tracks: Laying New Lines for Digital Humanities Scholars. [...]
14. **Disrupting Student Labor in the Digital Humanities Classroom** | [Research and Destroy](#) March 18, 2016 at 10:16 am
[...] for the principles of open access, or the guidelines for professional collaboration outlined in the Collaborators' Bill of Rights. We can develop and share resources for constructively encouraging students to produce durable [...]
15. **CETL Faculty Forum: "Developing Digital Project Assignments" Notes and Resources** – [Sarah E. Cornish](#) April 19, 2017 at 12:43 pm
[...] For a wide selection of readings that may help you think about digital pedagogy and research ideas, browse through Debates in the Digital Humanities edited by Matthew K. Gold of the CUNY Graduate Center. I always incorporate readings on DH into my longer-term projects to get students to engage with the conversation, and I encourage them to read The Collaborators' Bill of Rights. [...]
16. **On Developing a Collaborators' Bill of Responsibilities** | [September 4, 2017](#) at 9:11 am
[...] guidance on these matters does exist. The Collaborators' Bill of Rights, upon which the UCLA guidelines are based, makes it clear [...]
17. **Digital Book Project – ENG 14-01 Intro. to Literary History and Interpretation** January 13, 2018 at 6:41 pm
[...] Concerning credit, we will discuss and follow the Collaborators' Bill of Rights. [...]
18. **Collaborators' Bill of Rights – ENG 14-01 Intro. to Literary History and Interpretation** January 26, 2018 at 3:47 pm
[...] Collaborators' Bill of Rights [...]
19. **Introduction: Issue Fourteen** / [January 7, 2019](#) at 6:54 pm
Comment awaiting moderation

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