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Laying the Foundation

White, John W., Gilbert, Heather

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"This excellent collection of essays inspires sustainable digital humanities services in libraries, archives, and museums. Administrators will be convinced of the value of incorporating digital humanities into the core mission of academic libraries."

Corrie Marsh
Scholarly Communications and Collection Development Librarian
Old Dominion University

"Contextualizing with concrete examples and current debate, White and Gilbert's collection of essays surveys and analyzes the role of libraries in digital humanities research. Comprehensive and engaging, these essays present arguments and case studies that are sure to enliven the discussion of the forces that shape and constrain the use of digital collections. As the authors explore the myriad ways in which libraries absolutely must work with digital humanities, they scrupulously confront some of the problems associated with such endeavors. These essays show that in both physical and virtual space, libraries need to be full and essential partners in research in these new fields of inquiry. This original and compelling assessment is essential for those interested in libraries and in digital humanities."

Orville Vernon Burton
Founding Director of the Institute for Computing in Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (ICHASS) at the University of Illinois (emeritus), Associate Director for Social Sciences and Humanities at the National Center for Supercomputing (NCSA) at the University of Illinois (emeritus), and Director of the Clemson University CyberInstitute

Laying the Foundation: Digital Humanities in Academic Libraries is the approachable collection of digital humanities writings we've been waiting for. All types of librarians interacting with the humanities will find this book a practical reference and a step toward the future. Laying the Foundation further introduces digital humanities as a function of all libraries—for the good of our collective future. The experiences and case studies contributed to this book will no doubt become the building blocks of programs in public and academic libraries.

Emma Molls
Scholarly Communication and Social Sciences & Humanities Librarian
Iowa State University Library

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Digital Humanities in Academic Libraries

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