Proposal for a presentation from a collaborating organization / SKS
HELDIG Digital Humanities Summit 2017

Open Science and Cultural Heritage project at the Finnish Literature Society

The Finnish Literature Society SKS, a memory organization, archive and publishing house founded in 1831, hosts several electronic publications and scholarly on-line resources, the oldest of which dates back 20 years (*Kansallisbiografia* on-line). In 2015 the SKS started the Open Science and Cultural Heritage project which aims to develop new tools both for open access publishing of scholarly books and for on-line publishing of archival materials. The generous funding from the Jane and Aatos Erkko foundation enabled SKS to carry out several development projects simultaneously and combine in-house and outsourced production. Most importantly, the possibility to hire both scholars and computer scientists to work together with our staff gave us a chance to look critically at our work and to find new solutions.

The project was divided into four sub projects.

1) The Elias Lönnrot letters on-line: building a platform for publishing archival documents for scholarly use and for data sharing. The publication platform can be duplicated and modified for different document publications which include facsimile images, transcriptions, and downloadable XML-files. The Omeka platform has helped us solve problems of processing large amounts of documents without excessive amount of handwork and decrease the cost of new publications, thus enabling us to invest our resources in scholarly as opposed to technical work. http://lonnrot.finlit.fi/omeka/ (See also proposal by Maria Niku)

2) Codices Fennici: Finnish medieval and sixteenth century manuscripts from Finnish and Scandinavian archives were charted, catalogued, digitized and published-on line as facsimiles completed with metadata and descriptions. The documents, which include administrative, juridical, liturgical, historical and theological texts, are in Latin, German, French, Swedish, and Finnish, the descriptions are in English for the international scholarly community. Codices Fennici complements the two previous on-line publications of Finnish medieval documents, Diplomatarium Fennicum and Fragmenta membranea. https://www.codicesfennici.fi/

2) Scholarly open access monographs: The English scholarly series *Studia Fennica*, published by SKS since 1933, is Open Access as of 2016. In co-operation with Ubiquity Press Network, the new publications in this series are published on-line only (with a possibility to order on-demand paper copies). At the same time, the backlist is being digitized. We are currently analyzing the use of these books, their international dissemination as well as the economic impact of OA publishing, As part of the project, SKS is co-operating with Finnish university libraries and academic publishers to build a sustainable open access culture within in the framework of the new Aleksandria consortium. https://oa.finlit.fi/

SKS has also started to digitize the books published by the Finnish Historical Society from 1866 to the present. They will be published on-line in PDF format at the Doria repository of the National Library.

4) Finally, SKS wanted to reach out to school children and to develop it's know-how in archival pedagogy. An interactive *Muistikko* memory bank was built and published for the purpose, enabling users to add text, pictures, sound, video and links describing their everyday life. It now serves a new channel to acquire materials from the general public to the SKS archive. http://muistikko.finlit.fi

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