

Dear Colleagues,

We wish to invite you to participate in the workshop

## **Human - Machine Cooperation in Archaeology, Epigraphy and Ancient History**

The workshop brings together international and Israeli scholars of Archaeology, Epigraphy, Biblical Studies, Ancient History, Computer Science, and Digital Humanities. The workshop will be devoted to the application of digital tools in projects related to ancient history, material culture, and texts. This choice assumes that the application of digital tools to the study of ancient times shares similar challenges, and the output of such projects may be of interest to all participants of the workshop.

The workshop participants will be asked to contend with issues such as the following:

- Presentation of specific projects, their challenges, path taken to accomplish them, and possible outcomes.
- The application of newly developed algorithms and technologies.
- Interaction between teams and technologies – making technology a member of the ancient history and archaeology community.
- Presenting the relation between text and materiality.
- Technology in the service of scholarship – what can technology teach us that we cannot learn without it?
- The intended users (scholarly community, the general public, others).
- Databases vs. TEI, and choosing the right conventions.
- Copyrights vs. opening and sharing our sources.

Obviously, the questions try to achieve a wide scope, but we would like each participant to address them from the perspective of the disciplines mentioned above.

The conference will be held in Israel (preferably in the Dead Sea region) around the middle of February 2020 for three days and in addition to the sessions we are planning field trips to Qumran and Arad, as well as specialized master classes in Social Network Analysis (SNA), digital reading and reconstruction of ancient texts (esp. DSS and Cuneiform) and advanced tools in archaeology and heritage preservation such as Virtual Reality (VR) and PlanGrid.

At this stage, we wish to receive your willingness in principle to participate in the workshop (without any binding obligation on your behalf) and a tentative title for your presentation, as a required step to secure the required funds. Our next stage will be, once the funds are approved, to offer you the workshop program and activities schedule.

We thank you for your kind attention and look forward to receiving your reply.

Itzick Shai, Shai Gordin, Eshbal Ratzon, and Nachum Dershowitz  
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