



## Research Networking Programmes

Short Visit Grant  or Exchange Visit Grant

*(please tick the relevant box)*

### Scientific Report

The scientific report (WORD or PDF file – maximum of eight A4 pages) should be submitted online within one month of the event. It will be published on the ESF website.

**Proposal Title:** Participation to the NeDIMAH workshop in Derecen

**Application Reference N°:** 7158

#### 1) Purpose of the visit

Having just recently officially inaugurated the first Digital Humanities research centre in Romania (Transylvania Digital Humanities Centre – DigiHUBB) at the Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, with the visit and inaugural conference held by Professor Susan Schrebbman, the 22th of January, we considered that taking part in the NeDiMAH workshop on “Multi-modal Communication: Resources and Application” held at the University of Debrecen between the 10th and the 13th of February, 2015, would be of a tremendous help for us as a team, by having two of our members ( Professor Corina Moldovan and dr. Irina Drexler) exposed to lectures given by specialists in both verbal and non-verbal aspects of communication and by gaining hands-on experience with the HuComTech and THEME multimedia corpus so as to learn more about recent practice regarding annotations and data analysis. Moreover, we considered that by having the chance to get in contact with other digital humanists around Europe and to share the latest insight on the topic of this workshop would undoubtedly be of great benefit for the further development of our centre and the spreading of digital humanities knowledge in Romania. Given that most of our active members are experienced researchers in the broad field of communication, be it the theory of communication and political philosophy, digital storytelling, sociolinguistics, Internet linguistics, multi-modal construction of identity in the digital space and critical discourse analysis, rhetorics and pragmatics, we agreed that having two of our members taking part in this workshop would help our whole team expand their knowledge on multi-modal communication and help the development of our under-construction projects in partnership with the Babeş-

Bolyai University and the private business sector, with whom we are in an advanced phase of collaboration.

## **2) Description of the work carried out during the visit**

During the visit, the two participants from our DigiHUBB Centre, Professor Corina Moldovan, the director and founder of the Digital Humanities Transylvania Centre of Cluj and Dr. Irina Drexler, member and co-founder of the same centre first visited the Dh lab existing at the Debrecen University, and met with its director, Professor Laszlo Hunyadi (the 11th of February) and other members of the team, they discussed about the work that was carried on from a long time already in Hungary by Professor Hunyadi. We also had the chance to meet Professor Lorna Hughes who gave a lecture during the workshop so we had the opportunity to talk more about expanding Digital Humanities projects in Romania and Eastern Europe in general and to participate together at the Horizon 2020 calls.

During the workshop we attended all the presentations and the hands-on workshop. Therefore, we got to enrich our expertise in the field and got to know what some of our colleagues from Europe are working on - from projects on emotion in context, computational parsing using psycholinguistic principles, humanlikeness in spoken dialogue systems, to e-learning vs. cyber-learning and augmented collaboration through virtual laboratories, from virtual library projects to temporal dynamics of speech and gesture in autism spectrum disorder, multimodal corpus collection for data driven animation, sign-driven game for children with communicative disorders, from non-verbal, multi- and uni-pragmatic annotations and the use of HuComTech to disambiguation of discourse functions, from detection of T-Patterns and using THEME to discussing the next steps to be taken by digital humanists so as to further develop this interdisciplinary field.

## **3) Description of the main results obtained**

As a result of this workshop we established new contacts with some of the participants from abroad with whom we discussed further potential collaborations between our research centre and theirs. Being more experienced in the field of digital humanities, some of them will be invited at our university to hold lectures on some of the areas that most of our members are specialised in, while also facilitating hands-on workshops on tools that would be of interest for our projects. As a result of this workshop we also got familiar with the way the University of Debrecen is working with annotations and disambiguation of discourse functions using non-verbal features. At the same time, we learned some of the particularities of some of the programs (Praat, Qannot) used to work with these annotations, while also being introduced to the THEME software. Moreover, as one of DigiHUBB's co-founders who participated in this "Multi-modal Communication: Resources and Application" workshop holds a PhD in linguistics (pragmatics, rhetorics, critical discourse analysis), a research paper might be written in collaboration with some of our members with an interest in this particular research area. Furthermore, we strengthened our previously established contacts, with whom we will collaborate on organizing of a future NeDiMAH workshop on visualisation hosted by DigiHUBB Romania at the end of April, 2015

**4) Future collaboration with host institution (if applicable)**

Our main intention is that in the future we will create a network of Digital Humanities Centres from Eastern European Countries, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria. This collaboration will facilitate us to participate in Horizon 202 projects and to disseminate Digital Humanities Knowledge furthermore in our countries. In late april this year the Digital Humanities Centre Transylvania will organize a full hands-on workshop on text analysis in Cluj, so we already invited the Debrecen team to join us ( discussions with Professor Hunyadi who will be invited as a key-speaker at our University).

**5) Projected publications / articles resulting or to result from the grant (*ESF must be acknowledged in publications resulting from the grantee's work in relation with the grant*)**

As the theme of the workshop was "Multi-modal Communication: Resources and Application" with a focus on psycholinguistics, pragmatics, human-human and human-machine interaction and as two of our members hold a PhD in linguistics, a research paper meant to spread the knowledge of Digital Humanities in this area might come as a result. Moreover, the skills of our other members may compliment the ideas we were exposed to during this workshop so that other publications might soon be drafted, after the results of this workshop will be presented to our team.

**6) Other comments (if any)**