Report: Digital Humanities Hub Sub-Committee

ITEM 1. Introduction

The Digital Humanities Hub Sub-Committee was established as an element of the Implementation Plan for the RSHA Restructure 2013. The Sub-Committee was charged with making recommendations on:

- The most appropriate governance and management structure for the Digital Humanities Hub
- The administrative arrangements proposed for the Digital Humanities Hub

The Sub-Committee met on Monday 21 October to discuss the issues before it. Minutes of that meeting and other papers relevant to the deliberations of the Sub-Committee are available from the relevant official ANU file.

The following sections of this report outline the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee.

ITEM 2. Governance

The Digital Humanities Hub should be renamed as the 'Centre for Digital Humanities Research' and should be formally constituted as an academic centre, sitting within the School of Archaeology & Anthropology.

While situated in the School of Archaeology & Anthropology (and having close alignment with the Centre for Museum & Heritage Studies), it should be regarded as a resource with a College-wide focus. Decisions regarding its strategic directions within the broad range of humanities of disciplines should be made by an Advisory Board (see details below) and with reference to the historical and future funding investments made in it by each of the Research Schools.

The Centre for Digital Humanities Research should be governed by an ‘Advisory Board’ which reports to the CASS Research Committee. The Advisory Board should make decisions on matters concerning:

- strategic disciplinary directions
- academic staff appointments
- work plans

The Advisory Board members should be appointed by the College Dean. The membership should be comprised of:

- a Chair
- two academic staff drawn from within CASS
- one ANU academic staff member drawn from outside of CASS with expertise in computing and big data
- three people drawn external to the ANU, including
  - a person drawn from one of the national cultural institutions
  - a person who can assist building philanthropic relationships

The Head of the Centre for Digital Humanities Research should not be a member of the Advisory Board, but should report to the Advisory Board and attend all of its meetings.
The Advisory Board should meet at least twice a year or more often if required. Secretariat support for the Advisory Board should be provided by the CASS Research Office.

ITEM 3. Management
The Centre for Digital Humanities Research should be led by a senior academic appointed (following a call for expressions of interest) for a period of 3 years (the staff member would hold an existing appointment from within CASS). The appointment should be made by the College Dean acting on the advice of the Advisory Board.

No salary loading will be payable for holding the position of Head.

ITEM 4. Budget & Administration
Budget allocations for the Centre for Digital Humanities Research will be made according to the College Budget principles. The funds allocated for the Centre for Digital Humanities Research cannot be accessed by the School of Archaeology & Anthropology to fund their operations unless it is agreed to by the Advisory Board.

Administrative support for the Centre for Digital Humanities Research will be provided by the School of Archaeology & Anthropology.

All Schools and Centres in CASS that undertake work in the humanities (in RSHA and RSSS) should have a link off their websites to the website for the Centre for Digital Humanities Research.

30 October 2013