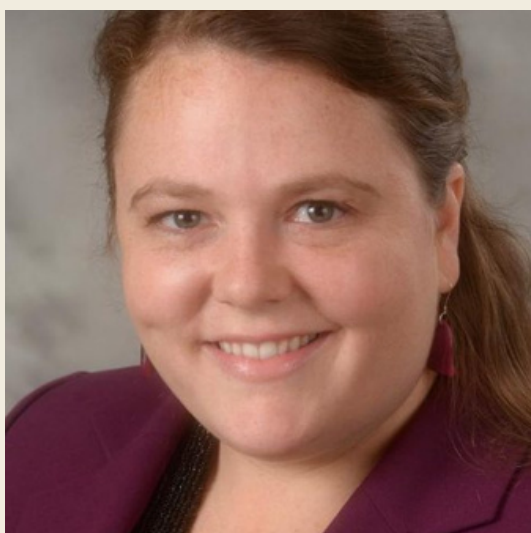


THE ASSOCIATION FOR DOCUMENTARY EDITING E-NEWSLETTER



THE WEBSITE: A WORK-IN-PROGRESS

At the ADE conference in June, Erica Cavanaugh and myself presented updates to the association's website <https://www.documentaryediting.org/>. We asked members for feedback and received many good suggestions...

Serenity Sutherland. Continued on page 2

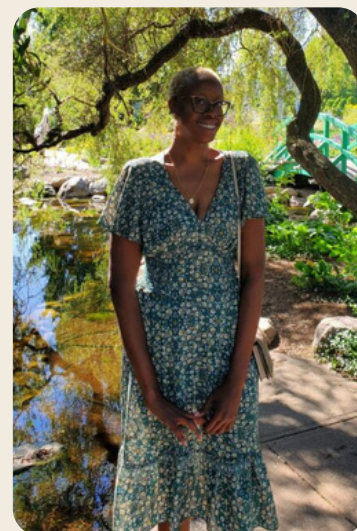
ISSUE CONTENTS

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- SCHOLARLY EDITING REFLECTIONS
- COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- EVENTS OF INTERESTS
- ADE SOCIALS
- QUESTION CORNER
- THROUGHOUT: CONFERENCE #PETS
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SCHOLARLY EDITING REFLECTION

Serving as Associate Editor for *Voices and Perspectives* in issue 42 of *Scholarly Editing: The Annual of the Association for Documentary Editing* has been an enlightening and rewarding experience. With the guidance of Editor-in-Chief Dr. Noelle A. Baker, I worked alongside Dr. Julian Chambliss to complete two interviews...

Cheyenne Symonette. Continued on page 4



ADE WEBSITE WORK-IN-PROGRESS UPDATE

Serenity Sutherland
SUNY Oswego
Website Committee

Since that time, we have been hard at work updating the site and getting it ready for a live release at the end of the year. In the meantime, I hope this update will help emphasize the guiding principles that helped influence the redesign.

Website redesign goals:

- Design a clearer visual hierarchy so that items on the site are easier to find, improving user experience for members looking for key organizational information.
- Refresh branding elements such as the logo and color scheme while also meeting accessibility standards for fonts and images.
- Improve the user experience of potential new members looking to sign up for the ADE by selecting a new member plugin.
- Enhance current members' abilities to find and connect with other documentary editing and recovery projects listed on the site.

Two positive take-aways emerged from this process. First, members have been very enthusiastic and supportive of redesigning a tool that they use frequently and could use more if it had stronger user experience. I have heard from numerous members that the website is a resource they value from our association. Second, the ADE website has been established

for over 10 years, thus has a strong web presence, which gives it stronger ranking in search engine results. There are many components that go into improving search engine rankings, all of which is a part of Search Engine Optimization (SEO). The ADE website will be able to take advantage of its long established web presence to bring more attention and increased rankings to associated projects by utilizing an SEO component called backlinks. Designer Erica Cavanaugh explains the connection this way:

"Projects will benefit in regards to SEO because the ADE site is providing backlinks to each project which isn't easy to accomplish. Each project that gets linked to receives a little boost in credibility and discoverability in the eyes of the web and search engines increasing the chance the digital editions/project will be discovered organically. Also, the pages themselves provides another instance of text referencing a projects name and thus more discoverability."

If you have any questions about the website redesign, please feel free to reach out to me. I look forward to sharing the newly designed site with you all soon.

I would like to thank the website redesign committee, which consisted of Christopher Brick, Bronwen Arthur, Kathryn Tomasek, Christina Carrick, and Christy Regenhardt. And of course, very special thanks to our web designer, Erica Cavanaugh.

PETER W. WALKER

THE CAUSE OF LOYALTY: THE REVOLUTIONARY WORLDS OF MYLES COOPER

This was my first time attending the ADE Annual Meeting, and I picked an eventful year to attend, as what had initially been planned as an in-person conference was reluctantly moved to Zoom. I was expecting a two-day long Covid flashback, but instead found a model for how to run an online event: good-humoured, seamlessly organized, and avoiding over-programming. I am something of an outsider to the world of documentary editing, but am drifting into that world with my new project. I learnt a tremendous amount about the field and came away with a long list of insights that I can apply to my own work, as well as a renewed appreciation for the importance and breadth of the work done by documentary editors.



Christina Carrick

"Gilbert du Muttier, the Barquis, 'reading' the bio of Gilbert du Motier, the Marquis. No books were harmed in the making of this photo."

CHRISTOPHER FLORES-BRAVO

NAVAL DOCUMENTS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Through my work with the Center for Digital Editing at UVA, I was given the wonderful opportunity to attend a series of events at the virtual ADE 2025 Program. Of those activities, I was able to attend "Roundtable: The ADE and the U.S. Semiquincentennial" and a "Cocktail Hour." My favorite of the two has to be the cocktail hour. I loved the way everyone had a chance to share their own personal projects and how they've been working on them. I found it very amusing that the closing of the session was about a cocktail inspired by Teddy Roosevelt! This brings me to something I really enjoyed and greatly appreciated about these events. I came into this thinking it was going to be a more scholarly and lecture-y conference, but it wasn't at all. I found it fun that everyone was talking to each other and offering advice for projects from what they've learned through their respective works. I did also enjoy the topic of the upcoming US Semiquincentennial, and the session made me want to travel up to DC and enjoy the events planned for this great occasion! I really look forward to attending more conferences like these in the future, as well as making myself a TR inspired cocktail!

REFLECTIONS ON MY ROLE AS ASSOCIATE EDITOR FOR VOICES AND PERSPECTIVES

Cheyenne Symonette
Michigan State University
Voices and Perspectives, Associate Editor

“Archiving the Invisible, Recovering Community: A Conversation with Dr. Andrea Roberts,” and “Indigenous Legacies and Digital Realities: A Conversation with Drs. Ellen Cushman and Gordon Henry about the Digital Archive of Indigenous Language Persistence (DAILP)” in collaboration between the Journal and the Digital Humanities and Literary Cognition Lab in Michigan State University’s English Department. As a graduate student, witnessing the behind-the-scenes workings of a journal was fascinating: allowing me to gain a deeper understanding of the editorial process and the complexities of academic publishing, while demystifying their mechanics.

One of the most impactful aspects of this experience was how much I learned about the curation and publication process, particularly in the context of a scholarly journal. The process was more collaborative and attentive than I expected. From brainstorming interview questions to coordinating with interviewees and editing the final transcripts, every step required close attention to detail and thoughtful engagement. Dr. Chambliss and I brainstormed questions to encapsulate the breadth of Dr. Gordon Henry and Dr. Ellen Cushman’s work in Indigenous

language preservation while highlighting the depth and nuances of their Digital Archive of Indigenous Language Persistence. The process of crafting these questions made me realize the importance of approaching interviews as both a scholar and a listener.

My own interview with Dr. Andrea Roberts, whose work focuses on preserving Black heritage spaces, was especially impactful as we sought to ask questions that would illuminate the importance of heritage preservation and the ways in which the Texas Freedom Colonies Project Atlas and Study contributes to a more inclusive historical narrative through the digital humanities. We aimed to highlight the significance of Black heritage spaces and the ongoing efforts to protect them, all while contributing to the journal’s mission of amplifying diverse voices in the humanities. Additionally, both interviews’ forms—both audio recording and transcription—challenged me to learn new technical skills, and I was grateful for help from experienced digital humanities scholars such as Dr. Chambliss and Dr. Raffaele Vigilanti, Technical Editor.

From this experience I gained a deeper appreciation for the role of *Scholarly Editing: The Annual of the Association for Documentary Editing* in creating a space where...

diverse voices can be heard—including the voices of early career scholars such as myself. The publication process, from editing to final approval, was a reminder of the importance of collaboration in academia as I, awe-struck, watched the edition's elements come together. Working on *Voices and Perspectives* reaffirmed my commitment to facilitating conversations that engage with issues of cultural preservation while igniting new interest in the transformative, dynamic potential of the digital humanities.



Cathy Moran Hajo

"Eloise (Weez) is thinking about Lake Mendotta wistfully."

ELISABETH KLUIN

CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION ERA GOVERNORS OF MISSISSIPPI

This summer, I had the pleasure of attending and presenting at ADE's enriching virtual conference which included thoughtfully curated sessions exploring innovative editorial workflows, emerging artificial intelligence technologies, and best practices in digital scholarly editing.

Panel discussions and presentations across the conference showcased how generative AI can transform the editorial processes. The conference offered a unique blend of practical training, theoretical insight, and communal learning. The sessions emphasized pedagogy as both practice and principle—demonstrating how digital tools, editorial frameworks, and emerging technologies can be taught effectively and inclusively. Critical questions were asked regarding the implementation of artificial intelligence into humanities studies. Presenters effectively engaged with AI's pedagogical implications—asking how to train both students and scholars to use these tools ethically, interpretively, and with awareness of historical complexity. The discussions did not shy away from the tensions between automation and editorial judgment, raising important questions about authorship, transparency, and the limits of machine-generated interpretation in humanistic inquiry. The conference succeeded in making advanced editorial and technological conversations accessible to a wide audience while foregrounding the educator's role in shaping how new advancements in technology are taught and understood. I had the pleasure of presenting how AI can be effectively used as a tool to help interpret historical documentation, but ultimately cannot replace the "human" in humanity studies. The technology is here and we as scholars and students must be ready to effectively learn and utilize the tools available to us without compromising nuanced interpretations of history, literary scholarship, and humanities studies as a whole. The ADE conference was a pleasure to attend and gain important insight regarding the future of digital and documentary editing.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, we remember Harry Orth—Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Vermont and long-time scholar of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Harry passed in January of this year. Our thoughts are with his family and loved ones.

Many members of the editorial community were featured in the online, open access collection *Digital Editing and Publishing in the Twenty-First Century* (Scottish Universities Press, 2025):

- Erica Cavanaugh
- Cathy Moran Hajo
- Paul B. Israel
- Juniper Johnson
- Ondine Le Blanc
- Neal Millikan
- Christopher Oghe
- Jennifer Stertz
- Serenity Sutherland
- Raffaele Viglianti

Published in June, Volume 42 of *Scholarly Editing*, features a micro-edition on reconstructing the flash-based website ApertureScience.com.

We would like to congratulate the most recent group of NEH grant recipients, including:

- The Correspondence of Taylor and Filmore
- Freedman and Southern Society
- Adams Papers Editorial Project
- Walt Whitman's Unsigned Journalism
- Letters of American Author Catherine Maria Sedgwick
- Jane Addams Papers Project
- The Papers of Thomas Jefferson
- Naval Documents of the American Revolution
- Center for Digital Editing

EVENTS OF INTEREST

SEPTEMBER 16-20 2025

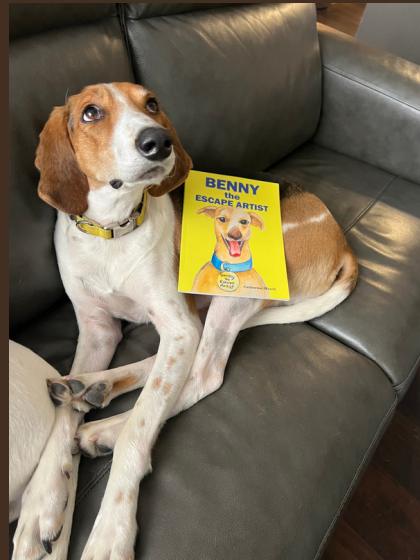
TEI ANNUAL CONFERENCE
KRAKÓW, POLAND

SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2025

TAKING STOCK AND SETTING
AGENDAS: A WORKSHOP ON
DATA, DIGITAL HUMANITIES, AND
EARLY AMERICAN STUDIES
VIRTUAL

JANUARY 8-11, 2026

AMERICAN HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
CHICAGO, IL



Serenity Sutherland

"Our buddy Ben, also a rescue hound, posing with his favorite book about being an escape artist, which he is."

ADE SOCIAL MEDIA



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[X \(Twitter\)](#)



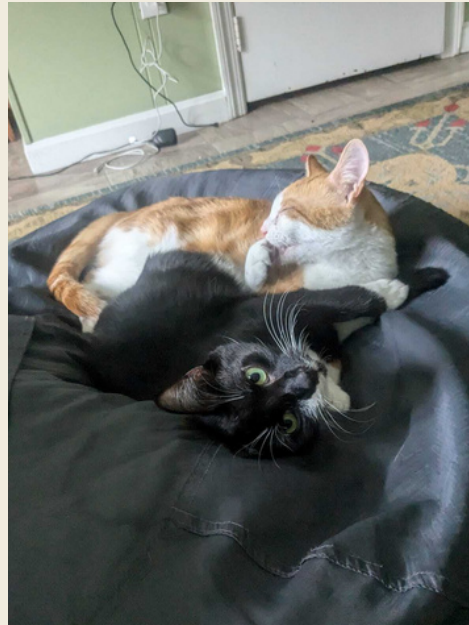
[YouTube](#)



[LinkedIn](#)



[Mastodon](#)



Christy Regenhardt

“Meet Moe and Emile. They may try to join the business meeting,”



Ondine Le Blanc

“Anka with her kind of ‘Papers.’”

Are we missing an upcoming event? Is there something you want to announce? Email Tori at vs Cianca@ramapo.edu to submit an event, announcement, or other topic!

QUESTION CORNER

Didn't see the best channel to discuss a topic during the virtual conference? What other channel would you have added to the virtual Slack space?

Share your response in an email to [Gwen Fries](#). We may feature your Question Corner comments in a future issue of the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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