Preface to the Special Issue

The editors are happy to present the first special issue of the Journal of the Digital Humanities Association of Southern Africa (DHASA). In this issue, we bring together articles from the field of Digital Humanities with the underlying theme "Crossroads DH". Under this umbrella topic, we investigate the manifold connections of Digital Humanities with academic disciplines that are not usually connected with Digital Humanities. This also includes research on comparative Digital Humanities studies of different datasets, and hands-on or analytical work in the sciences where Digital Humanities methods or approaches are applied. Additionally, this issue contains practical examples of the application of Digital Humanities and their application to real life problems.

This special issue contains nine articles across different subdisciplines of the Digital Humanities. We start the special issue with Leah Junck and her reflective and introspective article on the "'H' in 'DH' and the potential of bastardising scholarly disciplines". The remaining articles can be grouped roughly into four categories. Firstly, Miller et al. and Setaka investigate institutional and language repositories. This topic is connected to Azevedo and Bessa's article on using FAIR data principles and repositories in high school education. Sibeko bridges the topic of education and natural language processing by investigating linguistic complexity in exam texts. Another NLP-related project is also presented by Badenhorst and de Wet, who are investigating Automated Speech Recognition for under-resourced languages. Lastly, we end the special issue with two articles on Cultural Studies. Bam-Hutchison illustrates the efforts to restore African feminist indigenous knowledge via the Human Languages Technologies project, and Aryan Kaganof presents herri.org.za - an open access online publication on South African music studies.

All submissions to the special issue were peer-reviewed, where each submission was reviewed by at least two different reviewers. The review process was open in the sense that both names of the authors and of the reviewers were accessible to both parties.In total, we received twelve submissions, two submissions were rejected, one was withdrawn (90 % acceptance rate). The special issue adheres to DHET's 60% rule; authors in the issue come from a wide range of institutions.

We thank all authors for their submissions and the resulting efforts to prepare manuscripts for publication. Furthermore, we want to express our gratitude to all reviewers who helped to secure the quality of this issue.

The editors of the special issue

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