

# BYLAWS FOR DIGITAL MEDIEVALIST

## *Proposition for discussion*

### 1. Preamble [current]

- The name of this organisation is ‘Digital Medievalist’ (hereafter abbreviated ‘DM’).
- The primary purpose of DM is to be an international community of practice supporting ‘digital medievalism’, which is understood to be an interest in the creation, use of, or research using digital objects relating to the Middle Ages.
- DM will have other purposes and objectives as decided by the DM Board. These include:
- To provide an online mailing list (dm-l) as a forum for members of DM to discuss digital medievalism.
- To publish a free online open-access peer-reviewed journal entitled ‘Digital Medievalist’ as a high quality publication of work of interest to digital medievalists.
- To host online information resources of use to digital medievalists.
- To organize events of interest to digital medievalists. For example, occasional conferences sessions as an outlet for scholarly discussions of interest to digital medievalists.
- To undertake other activities relating to its purposes and objectives or the promotion of DM as a community.
- DM shall be a non-profit organisation; any funding received will be used to enable DM to further its purposes and objectives.

### 1. Preamble [NEW, changes in bold text]

- The name of this organisation is ‘Digital Medievalist’ (hereafter abbreviated ‘DM’).
- The primary purpose of DM is to be an international community of practice supporting ‘**digital medieval studies**’, which is understood to be an interest in the creation, use of, or research using digital objects relating to the Middle Ages.
- **DM comprises three entities: the Executive Board, the Postgraduate Committee, and Membership.**
- **The Executive Board is a body of 8 elected members. It is primarily responsible for governance, the promotion of DM through programming and conference attendance, and managing membership.**
- **The Postgraduate Committee is a body of 6-9 members representing postgraduate and early career DM members dedicated to driving outreach activities to promote digital medieval studies.**
- **Membership applies to anyone who subscribes to the DM mailing list.**
- DM will have other purposes and objectives as decided by the DM Board. These include:
- To provide an online mailing list (dm-l) as a forum for members of DM to discuss digital medievalism.
- To publish a free online open-access peer-reviewed journal entitled ‘Digital Medievalist’ as a high quality publication of work of interest to digital medievalists.
- To host online information resources of use to digital medievalists.
- To organize events of interest to digital medievalists. For example, occasional conferences sessions as an outlet for scholarly discussions of interest to digital medievalists.
- To undertake other activities relating to its purposes and objectives or the promotion of DM as a community.

- DM shall be a non-profit organisation; any funding received will be used to enable DM to further its purposes and objectives.
- **For DM-sponsored and enabled events, webpages, and especially the mailing list, we aim to facilitate constructive discussions of issues related to digital medieval studies. We strive for an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere. Racist, sexist, and ableist behavior will not be tolerated. Furthermore, we deem the misuse of our events or the mailing list inappropriate, namely (amongst other things) the circulation of SPAM and false or misleading information.**

## 2. Membership [no changes]

## 3. DM Board

### 3.1. Organization and Responsibilities [no changes]

### 3.2 Term [current]

- The DM Board shall consist of eight members, with each member elected for a two year term.
- Terms on the DM Board shall be staggered so that four positions are open for election each year.
- Elections shall be held annually. Any ties in voting shall be decided by the existing DM Board members excluding any who are standing for re-election.
- No member may be elected to the DM Board for more than three consecutive terms (six years). After three terms, the member must wait at least one year before becoming qualified for re-election to the DM Board.
- DM Board members may resign from their commitments at any time but are expected to give adequate notice.
  - If the resigning member has served less than 50% of his or her original term, the DM Board shall hold a special election.
  - If the resigning member has served at least 50% of his or her original term, the DM Board at its discretion may decide
    - to hold a special election;
    - appoint a replacement;
    - leave the position vacant.
  - Members appointed or elected to replace a resigning member will serve for the remainder of the original member's term, at which point they will be eligible for re-election.

### 3.2 Term [**NEW, changes in bold text**]

- The DM Board shall consist of eight members, with each member elected for a **four-year** term.
- Terms on the DM Board shall be staggered so that four positions are open for election **every other** year.
- Elections shall be held **bi-annually**. Any ties in voting shall be decided by the existing DM Board members excluding any who are standing for re-election.
- No member may be elected to the DM Board for more than **two** consecutive terms (**eight** years). After **two** terms, the member must wait at least **two** years before becoming qualified for re-election to the DM Board.
- DM Board members may resign from their commitments at any time but are expected to give

adequate notice.

- **In this case, the DM Board shall hold a special election.**

### 3.3. Eligibility [no changes]

## 4. Director

### 4.1. Election [current]

- The DM Board will elect a Director annually from among its members at the first meeting after the annual elections.
- Re-election is permitted, though no member may be elected as Director for more than six consecutive terms (six years). After six terms, the member must wait at least one year before becoming qualified for re-election as Director.
- A vote of non-confidence in the Director requires a two-thirds majority of the entire DM Board. After a successful vote of non-confidence, a new Director shall be chosen to serve out the remaining term from the DM Board membership.
- A vote of non-confidence in the Director does not affect his or her membership on the DM Board.

### 4.1. Election [**NEW, changes in bold text**]

- The DM Board will elect a Director **bi-annually** from among its members at the first meeting after the **bi-annual** elections.
- Re-election is permitted, though no member may be elected as Director for more than **three** consecutive terms (six years). After **three** terms, the member must wait at least one year before becoming qualified for re-election as Director.
- A vote of non-confidence in the Director requires a two-thirds majority of the entire DM Board. After a successful vote of non-confidence, a new Director shall be chosen to serve out the remaining term from the DM Board membership.
- A vote of non-confidence in the Director does not affect his or her membership on the DM Board.

### 4.2. Duties [no changes]

## 5. Mailing List [no changes]

## 6. Journal [no changes]

## 7. Information Resources [no changes]

## 8. Events [current]

- DM will organise events befitting its mission, such as conference sessions at important relevant conferences.
- DM should not be held responsible for any financial obligations resulting from the organisation of such events.
- Although events will usually be organised by members of the DM Board, the DM Board may appoint delegates for particular events.

## 8. Events [NEW, changes in bold text]

- **The primary role of the conference committee is to identify conference opportunities that promote the activity and work of the Digital Medievalist community. The conference committee encompasses two areas of action: first, to create at least one DM-sponsored online event per year, and second, to ensure an active DM presence at appropriate conferences, by organizing sessions, panels, or other interventions.**
- **The committee will meet twice a year to develop the annual conference strategy and assign roles for conference committee members, who will act as points of contact for each effort.**
- **The committee will seek opportunities that will encourage the involvement of the global DM community.**
- **DM Conference Committee members will:**
  - **1. Establish a yearly theme in January or February of each year to encourage thematic contributions for the DM Journal from events planned during the year,**
  - **2. Plan 1 DM-sponsored online event per year to be spearheaded by 1 conference committee member, to take place in the Fall;**
  - **3. Put out a CFP on the DM list-serve for participation at 1 medieval conference and 1 DH conference per year, each to be spearheaded by 1 conference committee member.**
- DM should not be held responsible for any financial obligations resulting from the organisation of such events.

## 9. Amendments [no changes]