

Interview with Ed Hollis, School of Design 28.1.4

In advance of the interview, please

- Have a think about the interview questions below
- Fill in the 'data-sharing matrix' table on the last page.

Interview questions:

Overview

- 1. To start with, could you give me a general overview of the project and its aims?**

Writing a 100,000 page book on the history of architecture

- 2. What are the funding sources for your research?**

Funding from the Publisher – Portobello Books

- 3. Was there a data management plan for the project? If yes, what was the motivation for having one?**

no

- 4. Could you give me an overview of the data related to the project? (including research records you needed to manage, not just the raw data)**

Pdfs: eg scans of other book chapters or journal articles

Drafts of my texts

Images eg as pdfs

Email: correspondence eg with publisher

- 5. Who is the intellectual property owner of this data?**

Various (Ed: chapter drafts and correspondence; various: other pdfs and images)

- 6. Approximately how many data files were generated during the course of the project?**

1566 files (excluding emails)

7. What is the average size of the data files you current have?

50kb ie small

Organisation

8. What format(s) are the data in? (TIFF, MS Excel, MySQL database, etc.)

Word, jpg, tiff, pdf

9. Please describe briefly the way your data is currently organized: for example, file name conventions, any existing metadata, or units

Chapter by chapter, in folders; correspondence in separate folders
Evolving filename strategy worked out as I went along

10. Is your current metadata system important for you to keep or would you be willing to adjust to a more universally compatible metadata system?

Would be willing to use a more compatible system but NB models from scientific world wouldn't necessary work or be appropriate and I wouldnt want to have to be forced to use a system that wasn't appropriate.

11. What specific software programs or tools were used in the collection and organization of this data?

Word, explorer

12. What specific software programs or tools are required to utilize this data (proprietary file formats, GIS, etc.)

Word, explorer

13. Where are your files currently stored? How have you backed up your data?

On my laptop; on memory sticks; and by emailing drafts to myself; did also use google docs.
Didn't really back up as such.

14. What measures are currently being used to control access to your data?

My passwords

15. What measures do you require to control future access to your data?

My passwords

Wouldn't want others to access the source material or correspondence but fine about accessing the chapter drafts

Storage and sharing

16. How long would you like your data to be preserved? (if different types of data should be preserved for different time periods, please specify)

Don't know

17. Do you intend to publish the results of your research in an academic journal? Do you intend for your data to be linked to this publication?

Yes, already have published. Open to idea of linking – to draft chapters but not to correspondence or source materials (ie pdfs of other book chapters etc)

18. Who is the intended audience of this data? (there may be more than one audience expected for different types of data)

Literary reading public & academic researchers; not general public – publisher wouldn't want that

19. Looking at the 'data sharing matrix' please tell me about the reasons behind your sharing choices.

Wouldn't want to share source materials, images, correspondence, but happy to share my own text drafts / chapter drafts

20. Please describe any conditions or constraints placed on the sharing of this data (mandatory dissemination agreements, confidentiality clauses, etc.)

Copyright of images or pdfs

21. If you were to share your data, would you want to be able to obtain usage statistics for your data? What measurements would be most important to you? (for example, times viewed, downloads, or citations)

Yes – time, viewed and use made of citations

22. If you were to share your data, would you like an embargo time period on access (if different types of data require different embargoes please specify).

no

23. What uses would you anticipate your data could be put to in the future?

Thinking about the writing process – people researching the process of writing

24. Thinking about provision at the University of Edinburgh, are there additional support services you would like to see?

Stop using the word data! Can we think of another word? Materials? “Data” is so off putting to many artists.

And NB: Implication of “data” is that all the material is digital but for artists and makers it very often is not and would never be digital.

Staff information: better communication between all the agencies within UoE who offer support ie Fraser Muir and CHSS; Louise Fleming and the ECA RKO Office, and IS via Kerry Miller and Jane Furness

About this interview

25. Do you have any thoughts on the relevance of the questions in this interview to your project? (For example, were any inappropriate, or are there other areas you’d like to discuss?)

The use of the word data is a problem –“materials”?

Finally, would you be willing for the profile created from this interview to be mounted as an example, on the MANTRA website, at <http://datalib.edina.ac.uk/mantra/libtraining.html>

Yes

Data-sharing matrix: data types and levels of sharing anticipated

Please list the data types from the research project you've chosen for discussion, and mark which level of sharing you think is most appropriate. During our meeting, I'll ask a few questions about why you've selected these options.

List each type of data here (planning documents, raw data, analysis, etc)	Wouldn't share with anyone	Would share only with my collaborators	Would share with others in my field	Would share with other academics outside my field	Would share with the general public
Drafts of final text			X	X	
images	X				
Pdfs of text by others	X				
emails	X				

Of interest:

Ed Hollis is Deputy Director of Research at ECA, see <http://www.eca.ed.ac.uk/eca-home/research>

Ed is currently working on a number of research projects. He is involved with current plans to revive the ruins of Gillespie Kidd and Coia's seminary at Cardross. His first book, 'The Secret Lives of Buildings': a collection of folk tales and stories about mythical buildings was published in 2009; and his second 'The Memory Palace: a book of lost Interiors' in 2013.

<http://www.eca.ed.ac.uk/school-of-design/ed-hollis>