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The Digital Latin Library: Accomplishments and Goals

This paper will survey the history of the Digital Latin Library project, discuss its accomplishments to date, and present its goals for further development.

I will begin with an overview of the project's genesis in 2012, its planning stage, and its implementation stage up to 2018. It is important to note the key scholars who were involved in the project at its beginning, since their input shaped the agenda for its development. It is also important to understand how the project's vision and scope evolved during that period, since that might be helpful information for other projects working in this space.

Next, I will describe the DLL's catalog of Latin texts. The primary aim of the catalog is to be a one-stop resource for finding editions of Latin texts online, and we have been leveraging the availability of linked data in sites such as the Internet Archive, HathiTrust, the Library of Congress, and other major libraries to build the catalog's records for that purpose. But because we have also taken care to use the best practices of Linked Open Data and to listen to what our community of users might want to do with the information in the catalog, our data set may itself be of use to other digital humanities projects. For example, our author authority records range from the beginnings of Latin literature all the way to the 18th and 19th centuries so far. One outcome of this data collection is that we will be working with other projects to expand the use of Canonical Text Services for Medieval and Neo-Latin authors. Since this data will be available in a variety of serialized formats (e.g., JSON, XML, RDF), other projects can download and reuse the information for other purposes.

I will also discuss the multimedia resources that we have produced on different aspects of Latin texts, beginning with a series of videos on textual criticism and editing. These videos feature a range of scholars discussing various subjects such as the history of philology, the methods of textual criticism, and new directions in editing via the digital humanities. The goal is that these videos and the items in the catalog will be useful to scholars for both research and teaching.

Finally, I will turn to the new model for publication that the DLL has developed in partnership with the Society for Classical Studies, the Medieval Academy of America, and the Renaissance Society of America. The mission of this part of the project has been to change the dynamic in the world of academic publishing, at least in the small corner concerned with critical editions of Latin texts. On this model, the open availability of information is paramount, since we wish to encourage innovative ways of using the data, but we also value peer review and professional standards. Because professional organizations are the standard bearers, their publications and research committees are responsible for reviewing proposals for potential editions. Proposals that pass that stage are developed in consultation with the scholars and researchers at the DLL. The final product of these efforts is published as a volume in the *Library of Digital Latin Texts* under an open license with the imprimatur of a learned society. The DLL provides an official digital version in its reading room application, but the data is also available for use with the DLL's text visualization tools and for private use.

I will close with a brief overview of next steps for the components of the DLL, with a view to suggesting potential opportunities for collaboration between the DLL and LiLa.