



humboldt-elsevier
advanced data & text centre

Vision Statement and Current Plans

25 November 2016

Prologue

The primary goal of this statement is both to define the scope of the HEADT Centre, and to describe the present direction of its research. The scope is necessarily broad because "data and text" represent the basic elements of scholarly work, but the direction needs a tighter focus to set a clear path and to enable effective marketing for the Centre and its activities. The statement should offer a broad basis for including additional approaches and disciplines.

While the vision should have enduring relevance, shorter term steps need clarification as well. This statement looks at the next two years to describe how the Centre can add partners, where it can identify potential income sources, and what the institutional partners can do to help.

Vision

The HEADT Centre is an independent research organization that belongs to Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Elsevier has provided generous funding for the Centre, but does not specify or profit from its research except in so far as the research applies to the scholarly community broadly. Academic freedom is a core value of the Centre.

The HEADT Centre aims to become a major center for research on text and data. It is methodologically broad and includes all ways of managing, manipulating, mining, reading, and understanding text and data in all forms and formats. It will address issues from a variety of stake-holders.

Near Term Focus

The near term focus is to become a national and international resource for research integrity in all of its aspects including plagiarism, data falsification, and image manipulation. Discovery mechanisms, replication studies, behavioral aspects and legal considerations all play a role. This near term focus need not limit future directions.

The HEADT Centre aims to add younger scholars and additional projects to complement and expand its current focus. For example, behavioral and ethnographic research would contribute to understanding research integrity in its social and intellectual environment, and computer-based text and data mining projects could facilitate uncovering information in a wide range of fields including medicine.

Income Sources

The HEADT Centre needs to develop new sources of income so that it is not reliant on ongoing Elsevier funding. Grant income is one source, but grant income is by nature uneven. Two other promising sources are:

1. To act as a service bureau for institutions (both universities and publishers) that need help with the analysis of research integrity problems, and
2. To offer workshops, training and formal degree courses on aspects of research integrity.

A goal is to make these offerings available in 2017. To achieve this, there need to be agreements with institutions to provide services to assist with integrity problems, and there must be marketing for the educational opportunities.

Partners' Role

As partners in the HEADT Centre, both Elsevier and Humbolt-Universität zu Berlin can help with the implementation of these plans.

Elsevier

Elsevier can assist the HEADT Centre to market its services and its educational offerings and by providing data and other resources.

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Humboldt-Universität can make connections within the Berlin academic context, and can approve certificate or other degree programs as part of the curriculum.