Humanities Learning
in Digital Environments

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1. What is Digital Humanities?

2. Humanities, Archives, and Digital Curation
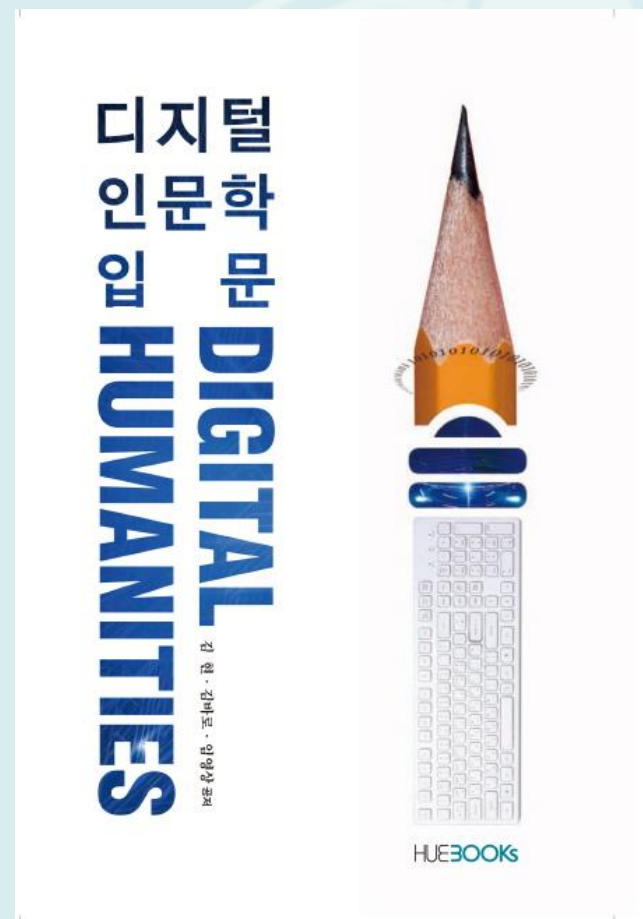
3. Digital Curation Projects

4. Education Program for Digital Curation

Digital Humanities

The world of digital humanities is one in which the digital and humanities meet and join together. Digital humanities is the effort taken to maximize the meaningful utilization of the convergence in our digital era society.

(김현, 『디지털 인문학 입문』, 외국어대학교 지식출판부, 2016. 5.)

The term 'digital humanities' includes humanities research and education that takes place in a digital environment, as well as the efforts to spread and utilize the fruits of such research in our society.

Implications of Digital Humanities

❖ Implications of Digital Humanities

- Engage in new methods of humanities research, education, and related creative products with the help of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

- Rather than simply digitizing humanities research materials or digitally publishing humanities research results, develop creative humanities activities in an IT environment

- Pursue a more innovative reproduction of humanities knowledge via communication through digital media

(김현, 디지털 인문학: 인문학과 문화콘텐츠의 상생 구도에 관한 구상, 『인문콘텐츠』 29, 2013. 6.)

Digital humanities does not merely mean digitizing humanities materials or publishing research results in a digital format.
It means developing more creative humanities endeavors in an information technology environment.
It also includes efforts made to advance the reproduction of humanities knowledge in more innovative ways through the communication facilitated by digital media.

The Three Keywords of Digital Humanities

❖ **The Three Keywords of Digital Humanities**

There are three areas in which the tasks of digital humanities can be found:

1. Humanities Studies (Research)

Contribute to humanities disciplines through the innovation of research methods

✓ See only the tree → See the tree and forest together

✓ Solitary research → Collaborative research → Collaborative research which aggregates the fruits of various individual research

2. Humanities Education (Education)

Develop education methods and content which allows the next generation to strengthen digital literacy with humanities knowledge

3. Humanities Content (Practical Use and Social Contribution)

Go beyond the walls of academia and develop an avenue for humanities knowledge to reach the public and contribute to creative industries
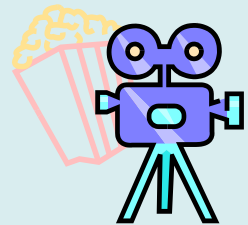
- In the cyber space, you can be in a classroom and an exhibition hall at the same time. What I mean for 'Virtual Classroom' is a cyber space where humanities knowledge and archival (or museum, gallery) objects are crosslinked in a semantic network.
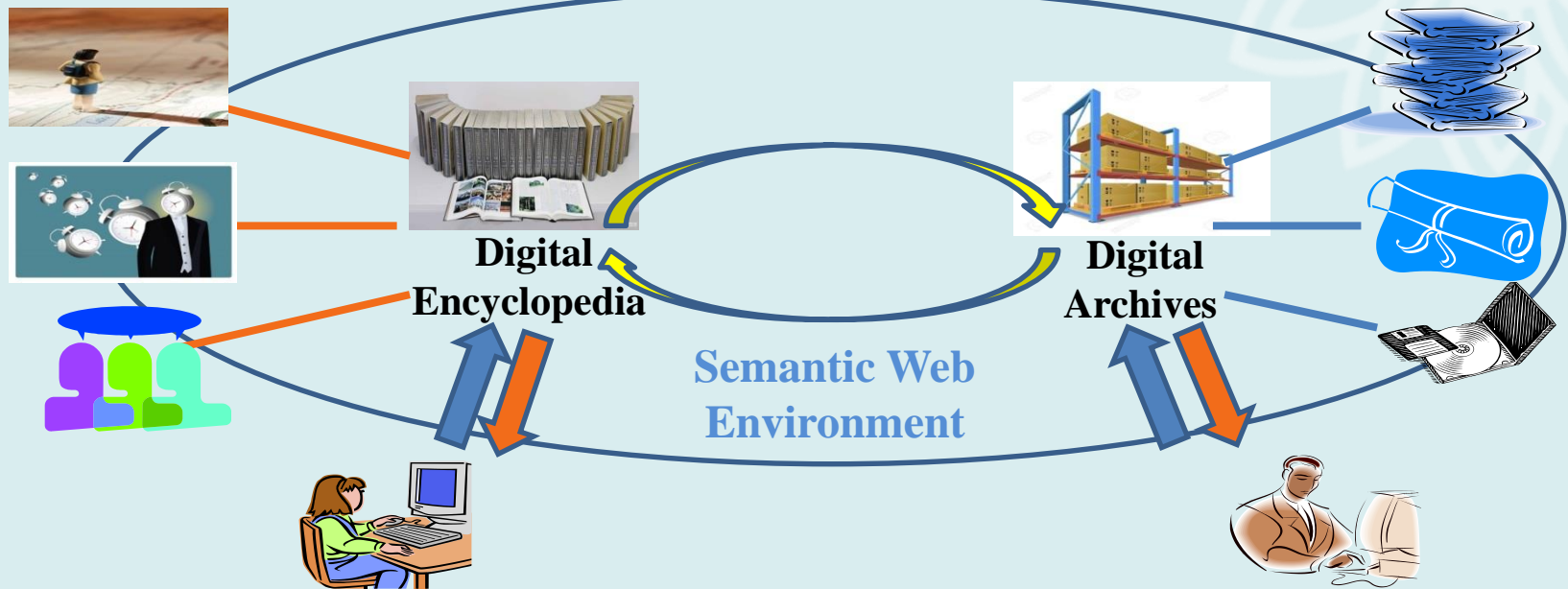
❖ Curation of Knowledge

네 洞庭ㅅ 므를 듣다니,
오늘 岳陽樓의 올오라
….

昔聞洞庭水
今上岳陽樓
….

居廟堂之高則憂其民, 處江湖之遠則憂其君.
是進亦憂, 退亦憂. 然則何時而樂耶?
其必曰: "先天下之憂而憂, 後天下之樂而樂"歟!
噫! 微斯人, 吾誰與歸?

"先憂後樂"

"岳陽樓"

Just as a museum curator engages in curation by finding and connecting diverse information related to an individual artifact to expose its cultural value,
The digital humanities scholar engages in the curation of knowledge by connecting the elements of humanities knowledge in a digital environment and broadening the world of that knowledge.

Humanities in the Digital Era

❖ **Convergence of Humanities Knowledge and Digital Archives**

- In the world of digital humanities, the research lab and the archives cannot be divided into separate domains
  - When researchers in the humanities research lab search for humanities knowledge, the primary sources which serve as the basis for that knowledge can be directly referenced via the archives.
  - And when archive curators seek the meaning of each individual archival material within a historical, cultural and social context, it can be explained by connecting it to humanities knowledge.

- Digital curation is the interdisciplinary research which realizes this;

- And the digital archive is the site of such interdisciplinary research, as well as the system to share such research results to the world

Encyves: Encyclopedia + Archives

Digital Encyves

Digital Encyclopedia

Semantic Web Environment

Digital Archives

- The encyclopedia of the digital age does not stop at dealing with 'intangible knowledge'; It is an extended knowledge network, embracing all relative fields of digital archives.
- The archive of the digital era does not just handle 'tangible objects' kept in the storage; It explains the kind of context it holds in our society, history, and culture.
- ☞ Encyclopedic Archives is the conception of a digital archive which extends to the semantic web of humanities knowledge

At the Academy of Korean Studies, digital curation research and education is being implemented to foster future humanities knowledge curators and global Korean studies educators.

- Virtual Gallery of National Documentary Paintings
- Virtual Exhibition of Historical Documents written in the Korean Alphabet, Hangeul
- Court Ceremonies and Costumes of the Joseon Dynasty
- Virtual Archives of Buddhist Heritages
- Virtual Gallery of Portraits of Korean Historic Figures
- Korea 100: Free Online Multimedia Resource about Korea

Virtual Exhibition Hall

❖ Court Ceremonies and Costumes of the Joseon Dynasty

▪ Development of Digital Exhibition Model using Various Visualization Technologies

▪ Learning Korean History through Implementing Virtual Encyclopedic Archives
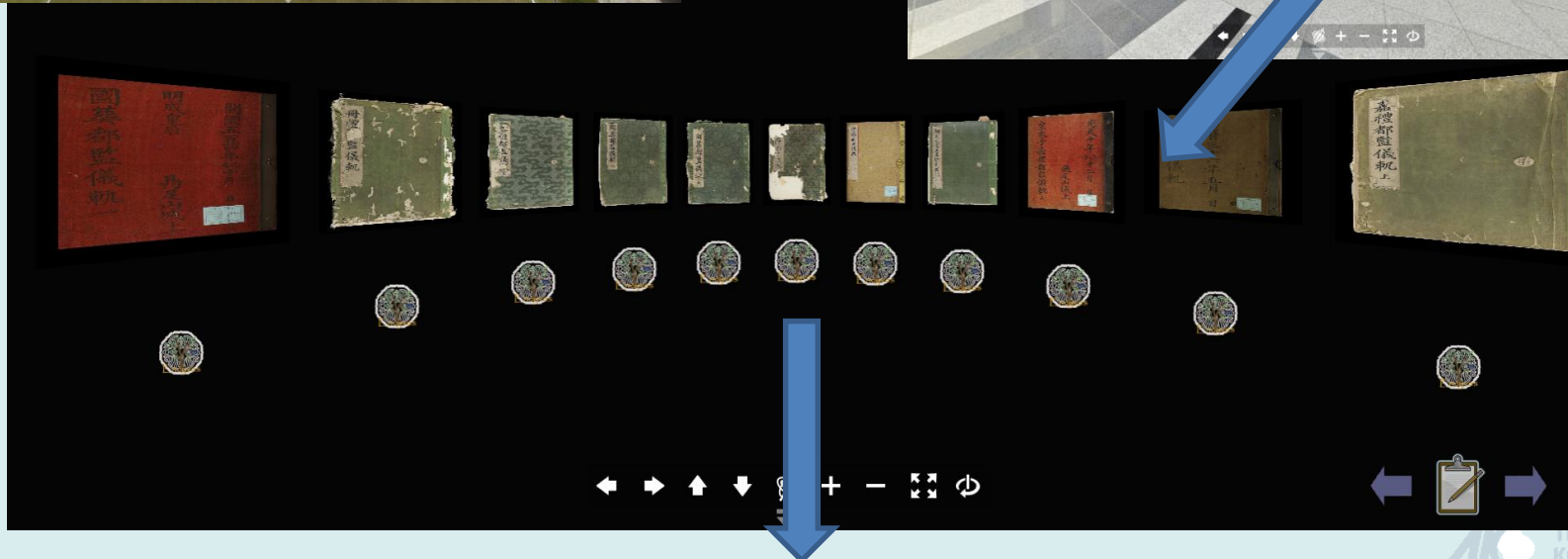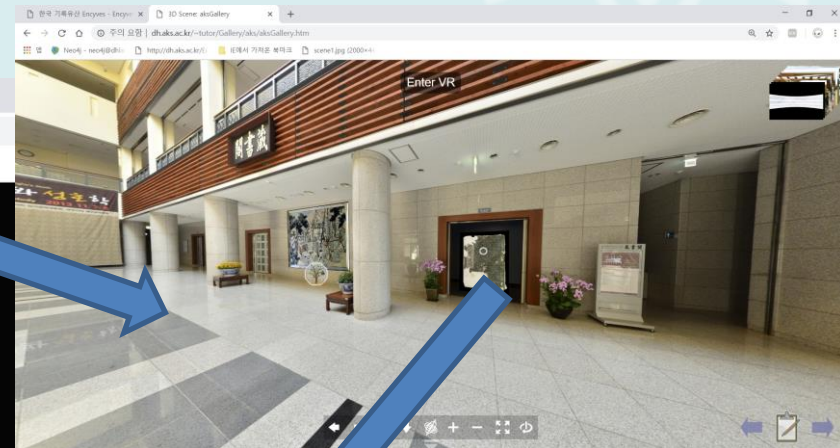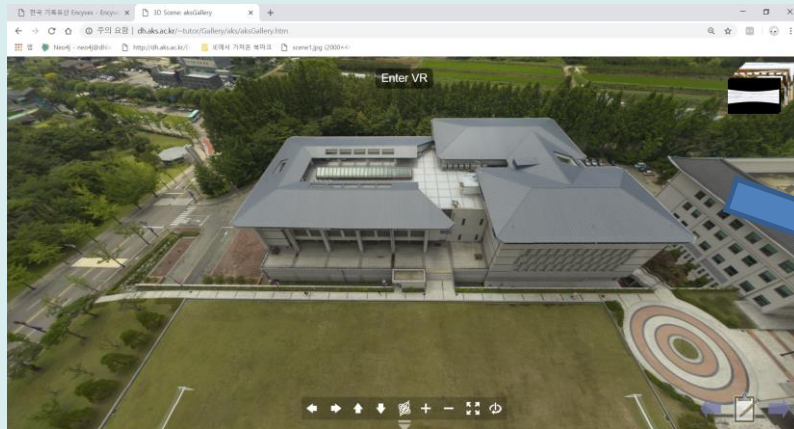
Royal Protocols of the Joseon Dynasty

Visualization of Court Costume Data
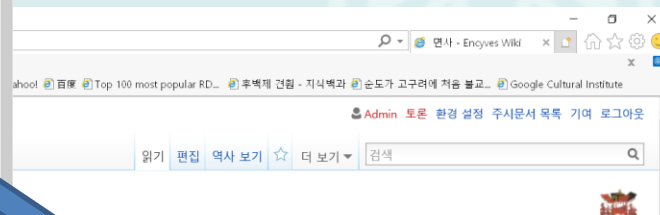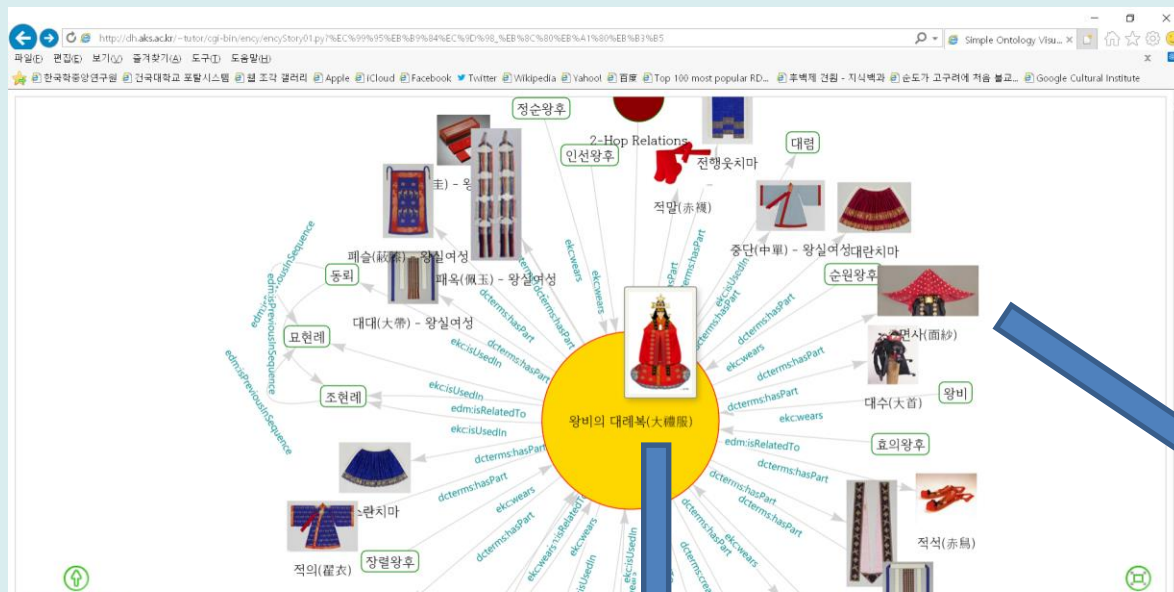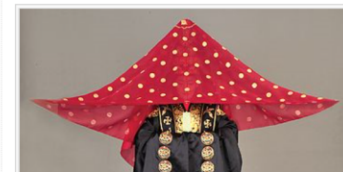
4. Education Program for Digital Curation

At the Academy of Korean Studies, the digital curation projects (digital curation of encyclopedic archives) are being performed on the base of Cultural Informatics Education. Topics of the education program are as follows:

- Ontology Design for Humanities Knowledge
- Implementation of Humanities Knowledge Databases using Wiki Software
- Visualization of Data
- Implementation of Hypermedia Content

Ontology Design

❖ **Ontology Design for Humanities Knowledge**

▪ Learning methodologies for digital representation of entities, ideas, and events along with their properties and relations

▪ In-depth study of the digital migration content: Humanities Knowledge

❖ **Implementation of Humanities Knowledge Databases using Wiki Software**

▪ Utilizing Wiki software as a tool of collaborative studies as well as an online service platform

Visualization of Data

❖ **Visualization of Humanities Data**

▪ Learning methodologies for representing humanities research results in the form of various graphs.

❖ **Implementation of Hypermedia Content**

▪ Utilizing context building methods (Hypertext, Network Graph, Digital Map, Panoramic Images, etc.) with various audio-visual resources (Photos, Video Clips, 3D Models, etc.)

Convergence of Art and Humanities Disciplines

❖ **Digital Humanity and Music Concert**

▪ A program that combines the exploration of humanities and musical practice through digital curation methodology
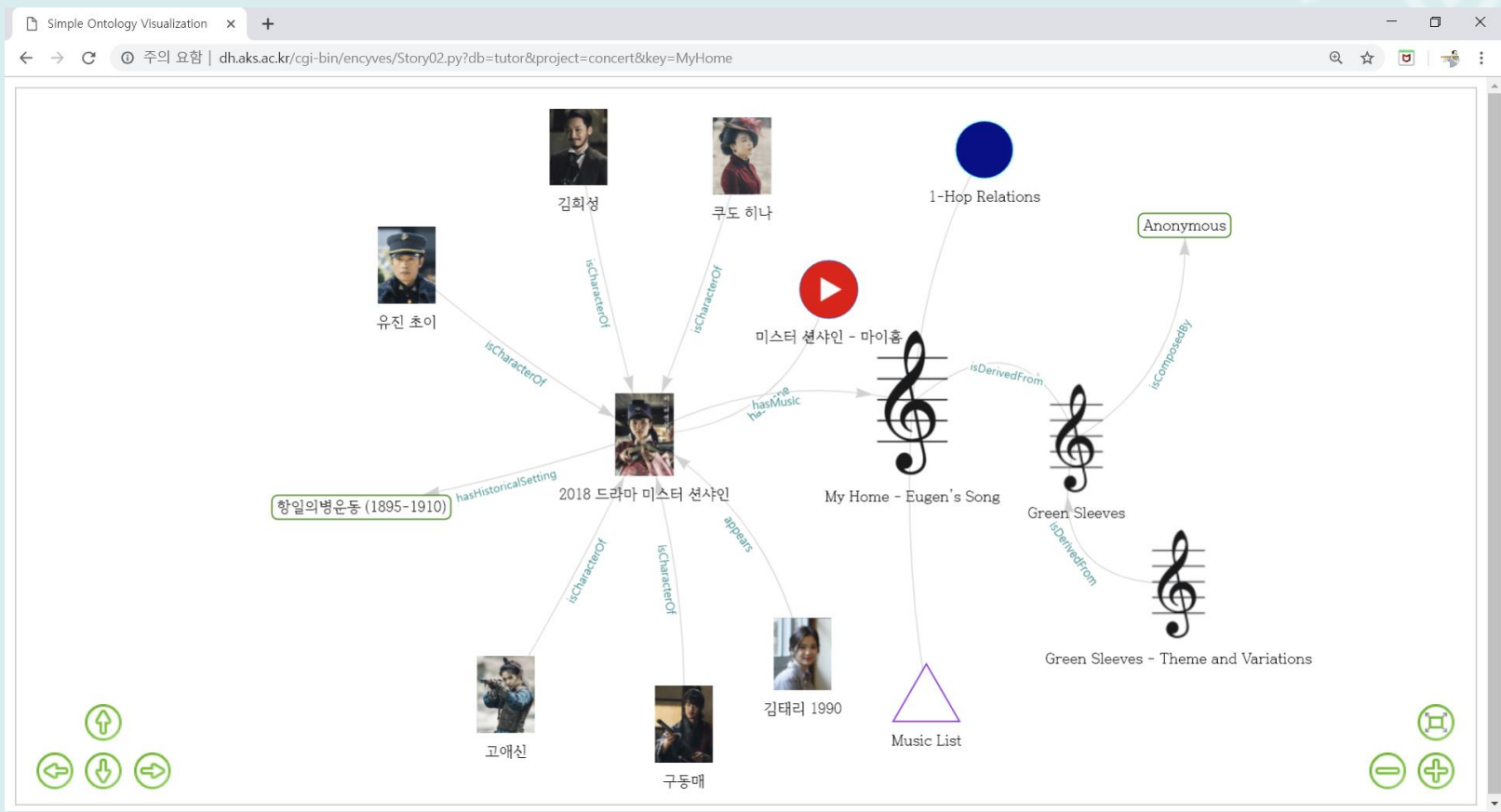
Tasks for the future of humanities studies

❖ **Future humanists:**
- will not only be researchers of humanities disciplines, but also archivists and curators.

❖ **Tasks for the future of humanities studies**
- To make the process of humanities studies performed in a digital environment, and produce the research results as digital data, so that our humanities knowledge can be easily circulated and worthily reused in various areas of our society.
- 'Digital Curation' is useful as a start-up research and education program for the data based humanities studies

❖ **A new education method for humanities learning**
- In a digital environment students can visit any place they are interested in.
- In a virtual classroom where diverse authoring resources are provided, students can utilize these in part to complete their own learning.
- 'Digital Curation' is also useful as an education method of humanities studies.

❖ **What we are trying to do under the name of 'digital humanities':**
- Is to facilitate the more meaningful investigation and valuable utilization of humanities knowledge in the era of digital expression and communication.

Thank you!