MBD2020 CONFERENCE
22-24 OCTOBER 2020

Onsite and online conference in Nicosia, Cyprus
Co-organised by UCL Qatar in collaboration with The Cyprus Institute
Registration / participation is FREE this year
http://museumbigdata.org/2020/

First Call for Papers

The 2nd International Conference on Museum Big Data will be held **onsite in Nicosia**, Cyprus, 22-24 October 2020, **as well as online** (further instructions in due time).

The 2nd MBD conference (MBD2020) is co-organized by University College London in Qatar (UCL Qatar) and The Cyprus Institute in Nicosia on 22-24 October 2020. The conference was initiated in 2019 at UCL Qatar in the framework of museum research at UCL Qatar and the MA program in Museum and Gallery Practice, funded by Qatar Foundation; at The Cyprus Institute, it is directly linked with the research activities of the Science and Technology in Archaeology and Culture Research Center (STARC) in Digital Cultural Heritage and Digital Libraries.

The conference now invites submissions of abstracts (up to 300 words) **by 1 August, 2020**. To make a submission follow the instructions on http://museumbigdata.org/2020/submissions/

All papers will be included in the MBD Conference Proceedings to be published online and open access on the conference's website (www.museumbigdata.org).

For selected papers, authors will be asked to prepare manuscripts for a special issue on Museum Big Data for the **ACM Journal on Computing and Cultural Heritage (JOCCH)**, https://dl.acm.org/journal/jocch.

The MBD conference welcomes presentations from practitioners and researchers on the work they do in GLAMs (galleries, museums, libraries, archives) and other cultural heritage and memory institutions, online, in the field, everywhere that (Big) Data and cultural heritage come together.

Submissions of abstracts for papers are welcome on the following topics or any other relevant aspects of big data in the museums. To address the increased interest in digital museum services which grew in relevance and importance during the lockdown, this year the conference focuses on the museums in lockdown but welcomes a wide range of topics where museums deal with large volumes of date and serve large-scale communities of users:

The forum also welcomes inspirational examples from other institutions from the GLAM sector (galleries, libraries archives whose work can provide valuable lessons for the museums sector).

- Museum Big Data in the COVID-19 and post COVID-19 times,
- Museum Big Data: theoretical issues and critical approaches,
- Digital transformation in the GLAM sector
- Data-driven museums and the world,
- Museum Big Data and data mining methodologies and research approaches,
- Issues on (Big) Data preservation, use and re-use in galleries, libraries, archives and museum (GLAMs),
- Museum Big Data and Digital Humanities,
- Museum Big Data and open access,
- Museum Big metadata and documentation,
- Museum Data and their applications in education,
- Museum research data management and applications,
- Museum digital narratives and flows,
- Museum data on the web and Social Media (including Museum Twitter Studies),
- Art Data history,
- Museum linked open data and ontologies,
- Museum data and natural language processing,
- Museum data and/from audience research,
- Museum Big Data from digitisation and collection management and practices,
- Museums Big Data ethics,
- New realities and skills for data and the museum professionals,
- Museum Big Data future(s),

History: MBD Conferences started in 2019 with the 1st International Conference on Museum Big Data[1] that took place from 30th April – 2nd May 2019 in Doha, Qatar. It brought together international experts who shared their experiences and discussed how museums can integrate more aspects of big data in their services. The conference was live-streamed[2] with thousands of viewers. The vision of the Chair and co-Chair of the conference, Drs Georgios Papaioannou and Milena Dobreva, Associate Professors at UCL Qatar, was to enhance the international partnerships and continue the series in various venues. This year the conference is co-hosted by The Cyprus Institute.

Context: The MBD conferences showcase the **most innovative research and practical work in Museum Big Data**. The main objective of each MBD conference is to promote high-quality research in the field as well as to provide an excellent **opportunity for networking in this emerging field**. Also, MBD conferences aspire to **set the research agenda in the Museum Big Data domain**. It is addressed and aims to attract **academics**, **practitioners** and **technologists** engaged in the current research discourse on the new trends of the domain; in addition, the conference aspires **to showcase experimental work.**

Big Data and Data mining processes comprise relatively **new fields in museum research and inquiry**, which are expected to become core disciplines as museum data input increases and digital museum data collections from museums' everyday activities and operations become increasingly larger. Nowadays, museums all over the world maintain and expand dynamic databases and big datasets on museum objects and operations as well as generated data extending from visitors' numbers, times and stops to tweets, likes and shares.

There is an emerging **need to detect new and discover hidden and useful information, patterns, clusters and relationships** among large sums of museum data. To address this need, **we require ethical considerations** and processes, a thorough **understanding of contexts** in the physical and the digital world, and **cross-disciplinary** Big Data methods, techniques and testing.

We also need to **develop theoretical frameworks** and explore connections with the Big Data ongoing discussion in libraries, archives and information studies.

Have museums (had to) become data-driven? Have they been transformed and how?

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[1] http://museumbigdata.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/MBD2019_Booklet.pdf
[2] https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=2641858679222799&ref=watch_permalink and https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=1217134598451498.

Formats: The MBD conference is global and addresses museum and heritage Big Data all over the world. The accepted papers will be presented in 20-minute presentations. The Conference also welcomes posters of maximum A0 size to be presented onsite in Cyprus (premises of Cyprus Institute) and/or online. The conference will include invited talks and special sessions for ongoing research, including current research projects and PhD research. It is a hybrid onsite and online event offering the following presentation options:

- **Onsite 20-min presentations** broadcasted via MS Teams.
- **MS Teams presentations** for presenters not following onsite.
- **Pre-recorded 20-min presentations**
- **Poster presentations** of maximum A0 size to be presented onsite in Cyprus (premises of Cyprus Institute) and/or online
- **Special Sessions** on ongoing research in the field (including PhD research)
- **Written Papers - Publications:** All presenters will be welcome to transform their presentations into papers of 3000-7000 word length. Formatting instructions will follow. All papers will be blind peer reviewed and will be included in the MBD Conference Proceedings Series to be published online and open access on the conference's website (www.museumbigdata.org). **For selected papers**, authors will be asked to prepare manuscripts for a special issue on Museum Big Data for the **ACM Journal on Computing and Cultural Heritage (JOCCH)**, https://dl.acm.org/journal/jocch.
- **Keynote presentations:** three invited world experts will present live and in-person.

Further info: www.museumbigdata.org

Key dates:

24 August 2020: Submission of abstracts (up to 300 words). Submit abstract at http://museumbigdata.org/2020/submissions/

30 August 2020: Feedback

22-24 October 2020: Conference

Abstract Submissions (up to 300 words) and **Registration:** www.museumbigdata.org

Conference chairs:
Dr Georgios Papaioannou & Dr Milena Dobreva, UCL Qatar

Registration (no)Fee: that thanks to the generous funding of UCL Qatar the conference fee this year will be waived for the registered participants

Venue [onsite]: The Cyprus Institute (https://www.cyi.ac.cy/), Nicosia, Cyprus.

Venue [online]: MS Teams (invitations will follow)

Travel support: Partial travel support to Cyprus may be available and those interested should indicate their interest during submission

For inquiries, please contact mbd2020@museumbigdata.org

We look forwards to seeing you at the MBD2020
onsite and/or online!!!

The 2nd International Conference on Museum Big Data (MBD2020) is part of the Museum Big Data Project, funded by Qatar Foundation / UCL Qatar.