Small TEI Projects on a Large Scale:
The TEI Archiving, Publishing, and Access Project

Julia Flanders
Women Writers Project
Center for Digital Scholarship
Brown University
Archival representation:
Physical document with dimensions, damaged edges, coloring

Social-historical representation:
References to people, places, events, organizations

Linguistic representation:
Parts of speech, phrasing, clauses

Digital library representation:
Metadata record with details of authorship, date of creation, provenance, genre

Genre-oriented representation:
Document structure, rhetoric
Interest in representing the author's final intentions

Interest in representing the revision process

Emphasis on thematics

Emphasis on formal structure

Different understanding of formal structure

One poem or several...?

Is this even a poem at all...?
• Repository service
• Publication service
• API
• User data management interface
Strongly collaborative, community-driven:

Brown University, Wheaton College, Hamilton College, Mt. Holyoke College, Dickinson College, University of Virginia, Willamette University, University of Puget Sound...

Your institution here!
The Drupal front end of TAPAS provides the interface layer through which users can upload and manage their TAPAS data, configure publication options, and view published TAPAS projects. In theory, Islandora provides an interface in Drupal for interacting with data stored in Fedora.

Each resource is stored in Fedora as a separate repository object, represented by a FOXML record. Relationships between objects are represented in RDF.
Convergence and Divergence

- **Casual convergence** establishes a baseline of minimal function
- **Intentional convergence** establishes a realm of higher function
- **Intentional divergence** requires individualized support
Challenges, Questions

How to balance the value of collective uniformity against the value of individual scholarly insight

How to encourage conformance (by offering functionality) without causing people to code to the tool

• How to deal with semantics: what can we know about the meaning expressed by markup?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Drama</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Manuscripts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Basic**  | • major divisions
• headings
• paragraphs
• renditional highlighting
• figures | • poetic lines
• line groups | • speeches
• speakers
• stage directions
• act-scene boundaries | • datelines, signatures
• basic paragraphing | • additions, deletions
• gaps, illegible text |
| **Better** | • genre metadata
• identification of names
• quotations
• direct speech | • identification of part-lines
• identification of genre | • speaker identification
• distinction between verse and prose | • openers, closers | • handwriting identification |
| **Optimal** | • named entity identification | • consistent marking of poem boundaries
• rhyme
• named entity identification | • named entity identification | • standardized letter metadata
• named entity identification | • named entity identification |
Probably out of scope...

- Individual renditional schemes
- Individual controlled vocabularies
- Special manuscript features
- Positionality and layout details
- Advanced domain-specific markup (e.g. genetic manuscript encoding)
Scene 2

Lacrimilla at her dressing table, assisted by her maid Primula.

La, how quiet the house is tonight! Surely some nonsense is afoot below stairs.

Yes, Miss. To be sure, Miss.

I wonder whether Floristan will be at the play tonight? La, how I shall quiz him! And how discomfited he will be!

She hums a tune.

Miss, the second measure...surely it should be in dotted crotchets?

Hah? How so?

That tune, Miss. It is Countess Almaviva’s last aria from Figaro, is it not? The second measure is in dotted crotchets, not in triplets. If I may say so, Miss.

Don’t be an obsequious dolt, Primula. It’s terribly vulgar. You’re quite right. I should have looked a perfect fool in front of Floristan! What a narrow escape!

Primula curtsies and goes to the door. The curtain falls.
<div type="scene">
  <head>Scene 2</head>
  <stage>Lacrimilla at her dressing table, assisted by her maid Primula.</stage>
  <sp who="#lac">Lacrimilla</sp>
    <p>La, how quiet the house is tonight! Surely some nonsense is afoot below stairs.</p>
  </sp>
  <sp who="#prim">Primula</sp>
    <p>Yes, Miss. To be sure, Miss.</p>
  </sp>
  <sp who="#lac">Lacrimilla</sp>
    <p>I wonder whether Floristan will be at the play tonight? La, how I shall quiz him! And how discomfited he will be!</p>
  </sp>
  <stage>She hums a tune.</stage>
  <sp who="#prim">Primula</sp>
    <p>Miss, the second measure...surely it should be in dotted crotchets?</p>
  </sp>
  <sp who="#lac">Lacrimilla</sp>
    <p>Hah? How so?</p>
  </sp>
  <sp who="#prim">Primula</sp>
    <p>That tune, Miss. It is Countess Almaviva's last aria from Figaro, is it not? The second measure is in dotted
crotchets, not in triplets. If I may say so, Miss.</p>
  </sp>
  <sp who="#lac">Lacrimilla</sp>
    <p>Don't be an obsequious dolt, Primula. It's terribly vulgar. You're quite right. I should have looked a perfect fool in
front of Floristan! What a narrow escape!</p>
  </sp>
  <stage>Primula curtsies and goes to the door. The curtain falls.</stage>
</div>
Scene 2

Lacrimilla at her dressing table, assisted by her maid Primula.

Lacrimilla

La, how quiet the house is tonight! Surely some nonsense is afoot below stairs.

Primula

Yes, Miss. To be sure, Miss.

Lacrimilla

I wonder whether Floristan will be at the play tonight? La, how I shall quiz him! And how discomfited he will be!

She hums a tune.

Primula

Miss, the second measure...surely it should be in dotted crotchets?

Lacrimilla

Hah? How so?

Primula

That tune, Miss. It is Countess Almaviva's last aria from Figaro, is it not? The second measure is in dotted crotchets, not in triplets. If I may say so, Miss.

Lacrimilla

Don’t be an obsequious dolt, Primula. It’s terribly vulgar. You’re quite right. I should have looked a perfect fool in front of Floristan! What a narrow escape!

Primula curtsies and goes to the door. The curtain falls.
The role of constraint

Is it TEI?

Yup

Nope
The role of constraint

Will it do X...?

Does it contain Y...?

Is it missing Z...?
Challenges and Questions

• What is the useful horizon of our curatorial responsibility? What happens next?
• What information do we need to gather at the point of submission to be able to fulfill that responsibility?
• What is the right balance between autonomy and convergence?
• What can TAPAS do for readers and users as well as contributors?
Thank you!

http://www.tapasproject.org
info@tapasproject.org