

A Lexicon of Scholarly Editing

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This demo presentation will offer an interactive demonstration of the website ‘Lexicon of Scholarly Editing’ (www.uantwerpen.be/lexicon-scholarly-editing), a digital resource that collects definitions of important concepts in the field of Textual Criticism. Based on the Wordpress infrastructure, the author built the Lexicon as part of his work on the ‘Creative Undoing and Textual Scholarship (CUTS)’ project, funded by the ERC and supervised by Dirk Van Hulle. The project is affiliated to the Centre for Manuscript Genetics (CMG) at the University of Antwerp, and the European Society for Textual Scholarship (ESTS).

Traditionally divided into three main ‘schools’ (Anglo-American *Scholarly Editing*, German *Editionswissenschaft*, and French *critique génétique*), the field of Textual Criticism has witnessed a *rapprochement* of different editorial theories and practices over the last decades, transforming three distinct monolingual discussions into a larger multilingual one. Rather than focusing on the differences between their respective traditions, it is now generally accepted that they each provide a different but equally valuable perspective on how the texts of literary works could be edited, based on the historical evidence of textual transmission. However, even though more and more theoretical works have been translated outside of their original language, and the communication and mutual understanding between textual critics around the world has never been better, the Lexicon may demonstrate that some difficulties with the more nuanced meanings of theoretical concepts still persist.

The intent of the Lexicon is not to write new definitions for theoretical concepts, but rather to gather existing definitions, and to let those definitions speak for themselves. To achieve this goal, quoted definitions of each concept are ordered chronologically, and rendered in their original language. As such, the Lexicon aims to display these definitions as if in a multilingual discussion with one another – which, in some cases, they quite literally are. By confronting the user with a wide array of different views on theoretical concepts, the Lexicon will allow its users to place them in their proper context before using them in their own work.

The Lexicon was published online on 19 November 2013, and is freely available for anyone who is interested in Textual Criticism. As a work in progress, everyone is invited to collaborate on the Lexicon, either by sending in new definitions (as a registered user, or via a contact form), or by suggesting articles to be added to the Lexicon’s To-Do list on the project’s public Zotero group (www.zotero.org/groups/lexicon_of_scholarly_editing). The Lexicon currently has three official contributors: Frederike Neuber (a DiXiT fellow based at the Centre for Information Modelling – Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities at

the University of Graz, Austria); Elisa Nury, (a PhD student in Digital Humanities at King's College London, UK); and Elli Bleeker, (a DiXiT fellow based at CMG at the University of Antwerp).