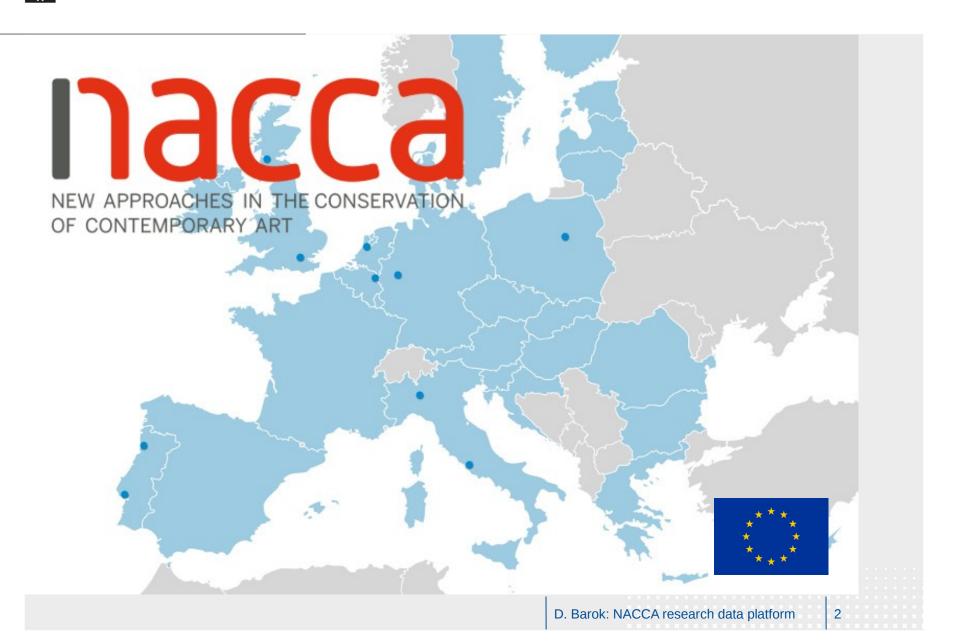


**Dušan Barok** 

D.Barok@uva.nl, www.nacca.eu/barok

# NACCA.eu research data platform: user study, benchmark study and experience so far

"Figshare in Amsterdam", Library of the University of Amsterdam, 30 May 2017



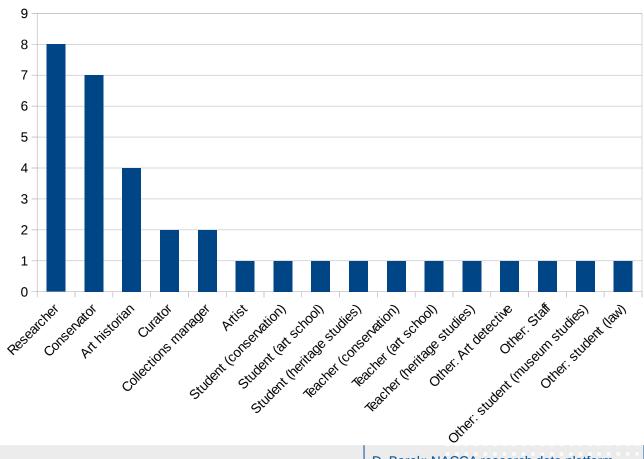
#### **User study**

**January 2016 survey** 

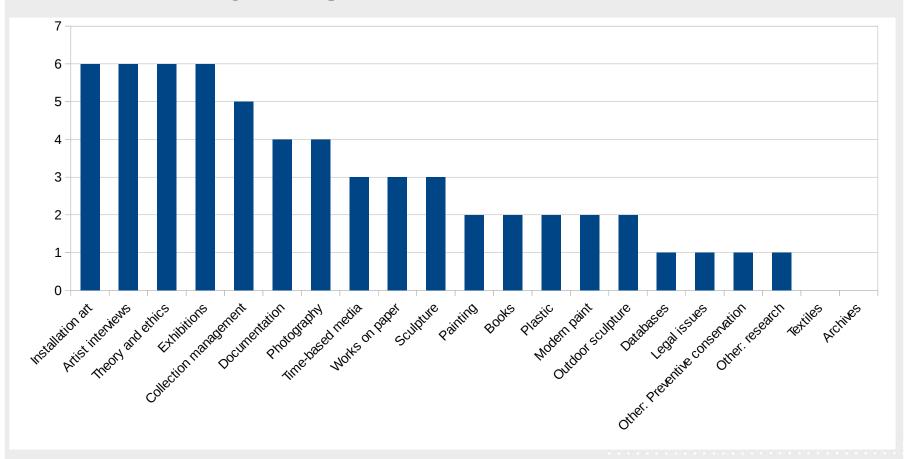
16 respondents:

11 Early stage researchers (ESRs)
3 senior scholars
2 didn't indicate

#### **User study: Occupation**



#### **User study: Expertise**



## User study: Familiarity with file sharing platforms

| Dropbox               | 14 |
|-----------------------|----|
| Google Drive          | 13 |
| Wetransfer            | 10 |
| Academia.edu          | 4  |
| Institutional website | 3  |
| INCCA.org             | 3  |
| Personal blog/website | 0  |

### **User study: Desired features**

| Search possibly structured                          | 8 |
|---|---|
| Document viewer                                     | 7 |
| Bookmarking possibly with annotation                | 7 |
| Downloading   | 7 |
| Data protection incl. sharing with particular users | 6 |

#### **User study: Conclusion**

The study identified user requirements for the functionality of the NACCA project database based on direct input from a representative selection of the researchers who will make use of the database.

The required features for the database are search (with advanced options), document viewer, bookmarking (with annotation), downloading, and data protection (incl. sharing documents with user subgroups). The database should operate with an expanded taxonomy (possibly to borrow from the INCCA database). Dropbox and Google Drive may serve as leads in designing its interface.

#### **Benchmark study**

#### Take into account:

- Conclusion of user study
- Costs of installation, customization and maintenance

| Feature  | Figshare | Dataverse | Drupal |  |
|--|----------|-----------|--------|--|
| Features desired from the perspective of use   |          |           |        |  |
| Friendliness of interface towards non-<br>programmers                                | 2        | 1         | 1      |  |
| Document viewer  | 2        | 0         | 1      |  |
| Access control   | 1        | 2         | 1      |  |
| Metadata to describe documents   | 1        | 2         | 1      |  |
| Search   | 0        | 2         | 1      |  |
| Document bookmarking   | 0        | 0         | 1      |  |
| User interaction   | 1        | 0         | 1      |  |
| Features desired from the perspective of installation, customization and maintenance |          |           |        |  |
| Infrastructural independence from third parties (i.e. standalone version)            | 1        | 2         | 2      |  |
| Cost of installation and customization (time + financial)                            | 2        | 1         | 0      |  |
| Cost of maintenance and management (time + financial)                                | 2        | 1         | 0      |  |
| Storage limit  | 2        | 2         | 2      |  |
| Project data export  | 1        | 2         | 2      |  |
| Total score  | 15       | 15        | 13     |  |

#### Benchmark study: Conclusion (1/2)

The option of using the existing Figshare.com platform met most of our requirements (a standalone version would not be feasible given our budget). Two of the requested features currently not supported on the platform -- (1) searching by tags within project documents and (2) email notifications for newly uploaded documents -- are expected to be implemented in a near future. Known limitations include the inability of limiting access to documents to user subgroups, and the absence of a controlled vocabulary for taxonomy (both of which are provided by DataverseNL). The developers however showed willingness to discuss further and possibly implement these features as well.

### Benchmark study: Conclusion (2/2)

In the case of DataverseNL, it would be possible to use the platform also by the NACCA members from outside the Netherlands. The serious downside is our inability of customizing the otherwise oversaturated interface. Other limitations are the absence of document viewer, bookmarking, and email notifications for newly uploaded documents.

This taken into account, the study identified Figshare as the most suitable software package for the NACCA research data platform.

