



Universiteit Utrecht

Institutions for Open Societies

## ***Expert meeting on automatic text analysis***

**Keynote speaker: Dr. Michael Young, Social Science Automation, Threat Triage LLC**

Other discussants: tbc.

The meeting will take place on **1 March, 11.00–15:00 room 2.20 at the Utrecht School of Governance, Bijlhouterstraat 6, Utrecht.**

Please contact Rik Joosen if you wish to attend a workshop: [M.C.Joosen@uu.nl](mailto:M.C.Joosen@uu.nl)

### **Expert meeting automatic text analysis**

From 28 February to 5 March Dr. Michael Young will visit the Utrecht University as a fellow of Institutions for Open Societies (IoS). In the context of Dr. Young's visit, an expert meeting will take place on the challenges for social science and humanities to work with automatic text analysis (ATA). The meeting will bring together ATA experts with IoS scholars that have an interest in using automatic text analysis (or are looking for new techniques to serve their research goals) with the aim to help IoS scholars find adequate ATA solutions for their research. In addition, the meeting offers ATA experts the opportunity to showcase their techniques as well as get inspiration for future development thereof.

The meeting starts by exploring the ATA needs of the participating IoS scholars: what is it ATA can offer to help scholars answer their research questions in a valid, reliable and time-efficient way? During our discussion we will also identify the barriers IoS scholars experience in finding and adopting the proper ATA techniques. After lunch, Dr. Young and other ATA experts are invited to discuss how their techniques may help IoS scholars achieve their research aims. We will discuss the strengths and drawbacks of the various ATA techniques for the research questions of the participants. In the last part of the meeting we will discuss how ATA techniques may be developed further to meet the research needs in social sciences and the humanities. In addition, we will explore possible opportunities for cooperation.

#### **Program:**

10.45: Reception and coffee

11.00-11.15: Welcome and introduction

11.15-12.15: Short pitches by IoS scholars (max 5 mins) and discussion

12.30-13.15: Lunch (offered by IoS)

13.15-14.30: Short presentations by Dr. Young and other ATA experts (tbc) and discussion

14.30-15.00: Discussion of future developments and possible cooperation.

15.00: Drinks (offered by IoS)



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IoS scholars are invited to participate by either presenting their research questions and ATA wishes and needs in a pitch of max 5 minutes, or they may simply join the discussion. If you wish to attend the meeting, please send an email **before 22 February** to Rik Joosen at: [M.C.Joosen@uu.nl](mailto:M.C.Joosen@uu.nl). Please mention in your email whether you would like to pitch the ATA needs associated with your research question. If so, please provide a brief indication of the issues you would like to discuss. For this meeting, there are limited places available.

### **Dr. Michael Young**

Dr. Young is an internationally recognized expert in the field of automated text analysis. He is the developer of Profiler Plus, a general purpose platform for automated text coding with a broad range of qualitative and quantitative applications, including psychological assessment, media analysis, social network analysis, and threat analysis. Dr. Young is the President of Social Science Automation, Inc. which he founded in 1997 with Professor Margaret Hermann. The company focuses on remote psychological assessment, cognitive mapping, and the application of automated text analysis to media measurement, and forensic psycholinguistics for both policy makers and academics. Since May 2013, Dr. Young is an executive at Threat Triage LLC which provides assessments of threatening communications regarding the likelihood of targeted violence. Dr. Young received his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University and publishes regularly in academic books and international top journals like Political Psychology, the Journal of Conflict Resolution and Mershon International Studies Review.

### **Utrecht University Strategic Theme Institutions**

The research programme “Institutions” of Utrecht University is built around five interrelated research themes, which represent the cornerstones of open and sustainable societies. Relevant expertise from the various disciplines is thus clustered around these themes, which at the same time link up with major societal issues. The programme seamlessly connects to the grand societal challenges identified in Horizon2020. For more information of Institutions, visit our website: <http://www.uu.nl/en/research/institutions>