The Isaiah Berlin Digital Archive
A test case for the development of on-line research resources

A workshop organized by the Wolfson College Digital Research Cluster. 2-4 pm, Monday 18 June, in the Buttery, Wolfson College, preceded by lunch in the Hall and followed by tea.

The Isaiah Berlin Online website (IBO), which is being built by the Isaiah Berlin Legacy Project at Wolfson College, will offer a substantial range of data about Berlin’s life and works. Plans are currently in place to extend this digital initiative by making accessible, through the IBO, full-text versions of a selection of Berlin’s letters. The long-term aim is to create a full digital archive of the majority of Berlin’s works, including the bulk of the very large corpus of letters from and to him. The aim of the present workshop is to explore the intellectual, technical and methodological issues that this longer-term project presents: how should it be constructed in order to ensure the maximum benefits for research and dissemination? The project will also serve as a test case for planning the development of other digital archives of a similar nature.

Contributors to the workshop will include Mark Pottle (Isaiah Berlin Legacy Fellow), Dave De Roure (Professor of e-Research and Director of the Digital Research Cluster), Pip Willcox (Director of the Bodleian Library’s Centre for Digital Scholarship), Kei Hiruta (Research Fellow, Wolfson College), and Kate Kennedy (Oxford Centre for Life Writing, Wolfson College). It will comprise short presentations, followed by discussion, on the content and research potential of the planned archive and on the principles and methodologies of digital archive development.

The workshop is also supported by the Oxford Centre for Life Writing, the Oxford e-Research Centre, and the Bodleian Libraries’ Centre for Digital Scholarship. It is organized by David Robey (david.robey@wolfson.ox.ac.uk), to whom any enquiries should be directed.