# CELL: Consortium on Electronic Literature

**The *CELL Index* provides access to an expansive collection of records across electronic literature databases through one Wikibase.**

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## What is CELL?

Electronic literature is characterized by creative experimentation and subversive use of digital media. Functioning outside the confines of traditional publishing, divergent practices of collecting, documenting, and archiving E-Lit have emerged within the field's community. Founded in 2009, the Consortium on Electronic Literature (CELL) overarches these vital efforts to preserve the field. After some years of inactivity of the CELL project, the Center for Digital Narrative (University of Bergen, Norway) is revitalizing this common goal of bringing together divergent archival and documentation practices as the *CELL Index*. The *CELL Index* has a new interface, infrastructure, and data model that will ensure longevity and lessen the burden on individual scholars.

## Revolutionizing Digital Humanities in E-Lit

Our Wikibase environment, the *CELL Index*, includes a taxonomy relevant to identifying and describing electronic literature works with consideration for the values of the electronic literature community. Each record in the *Index* contains links to the various places the work is documented archived. Especially when the original work has become unavailable, the overarching *Index* is key in linking to all these efforts in order to piece together documentations of the work.

We also donate our data to Wikidata, providing new opportunities to make metadata about electronic literature available to more people, as well as promoting the individual electronic literature databases who have been doing foundational work over the  decades.

## CELL Values

### Searchability

One platform to search all database efforts to lower the threshold into the field

### Taxonomy

A shared taxonomy within the *CELL Index* without restricting members

### Inclusivity

Cross-institutional collaboration with a focus on multilingual documentation

### Communication

Contribution to a larger pool of knowledge beyond the *CELL Index* through data donation

CELL
CONSORTIUM ON ELECTRONIC LITERATURE

## An "ISBN" for E-Lit

We propose to use Wikidata's item identifiers as the "ISBN" of electronic literature, which has not had a universal identifier before. Anyone can use these identifiers for referencing works unambiguously and create new Qid's for previously undocumented works.

## CELL Membership

We are currently working with the members of the Consortium to migrate their data to the CELL Index and Wikidata. We also welcome other electronic literature databases to apply for membership.

### Our current members include…

adel
CIBERIA
THE DIGITAL LITERATURE CONSORTIUM
eLMcip
NT2
POEX

**… and counting!**

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CELL is an international collaboration under stewardship of:

Center for Digital Narrative

UNIVERSITAS BERGENSIS

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