

GreyNet Award Speech 2022

Honoring Margret Plank

Head Competence Center for Non-Textual Materials
German National Library of Science and Technology

Ladies and Gentlemen, Colleagues,

Seven years ago, Margret Plank first presented at the 17th International Conference on Grey Literature. Her research dealt with non-textual, digital assets. At the 19th GL-Conference she returned together with colleagues in her department with a presentation and conference poster entitled “Video is the New Grey”, which won the poster prize that year and which was further elaborated in a full text conference paper and journal article.

In 2017, the German National Library of Science and Technology in Hannover took on GreyNet Associate Membership owing to Margret and her team’s involvement in grey literature. Since then, Margret is a standing member of the GL Program Committee. Early on in this capacity, she proposed a media partnership with GreyNet in which all of the annual conference presentations would be assigned a DOI and archived in the TIB AV-Portal. Now, five years on – celebrating its first lustrum – GreyNet’s Collection in this media portal accounts for over 75 video presentations.

Margret on behalf of TIB is likewise a representative on GreyNet’s Resource Policy Committee in which its full text, research data, and audio-visual materials are managed, linked, and made openly accessible in a FAIR environment. Following upon Margret’s recommendation that DOIs be assigned GreyNet’s Conference Papers, GreyNet applied for and became a DOI Minting Service via the TU Delft-DataCite Consortia. This DOI Project took a retrospective approach thanks to the efforts of the Technical Developer and System Manager of the GreyGuide Repository. Currently, GreyNet’s complete collection of over 450 conference papers have each been assigned a DOI.

In 2019, again owing to Margret’s intervention, the 21st International Conference on Grey Literature was hosted by the German National Library of Science and Technology in Hannover. This conference is not only remembered for its content contribution, but due to the worldwide COVID epidemic, it was the last onsite event in this series, which has since been held online. It is intended that next year’s 25th Conference in the GL-Series will once again return onsite.

This year, as GreyNet celebrates its 30th Anniversary, our community of practice will have the benefit of a presentation by Margret Plank at the 24th International Conference on Grey Literature in which she addresses innovative services for non-textual materials.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is indeed a privilege to present the GreyNet Award 2022 to our well-deserved and esteemed colleague, Margret Plank.

Dominic Farace, Director
GreyNet International

