



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities

OFFICE OF DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Narrative Section of a Successful Application

The attached document contains the grant narrative and selected portions of a previously funded grant application. It is not intended to serve as a model, but to give you a sense of how a successful application may be crafted. Every successful application is different, and each applicant is urged to prepare a proposal that reflects its unique project and aspirations. Prospective applicants should consult the Office of Digital Humanities program application guidelines at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-start-grants> for instructions. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with the NEH Office of Digital Humanities staff well before a grant deadline.

Note: The attachment only contains the grant narrative and selected portions, not the entire funded application. In addition, certain portions may have been redacted to protect the privacy interests of an individual and/or to protect confidential commercial and financial information and/or to protect copyrighted materials.

Project Title: The Scholar's Dashboard: Creating a multidisciplinary tool via design and build workshops (OhioLINK)

Institution: Wright State University, Main Campus

Project Directors: John Magill

Grant Program: Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants, Level 2

NEH Application Cover Sheet

Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants

PROJECT DIRECTOR

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Field of Expertise: Interdisciplinary

INSTITUTION

Wright State University
Dayton, OH UNITED STATES

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Title: *The Scholar???'s Dashboard: Creating a multidisciplinary tool via design and build workshops (OhioLINK)*

Grant Period: From 3/2012 to 8/2013

Field of Project: Library Science

Description of Project: The Scholar???'s Dashboard project is a series of three two-day design and build workshops, teaming humanities scholars, librarians, and technologists in innovative application development to optimize use of humanities collections from the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (DRC). The DRC is a 500,000 item open access collection from Ohio academic and cultural heritage organizations. Dashboard users will select and combine collections, add descriptions and metadata, and re-visualize and re-present information. DRC collections with relevant information (oral histories, narratives, records, documents, images, e.g.) will form the design base. Design and build workshops allow researchers and scholars to specify features needed to rapidly expand DRC functionality. This model will then be used as a magnet for further digital humanities collections, as scholars, librarians, and archivists contribute collections in order to benefit from the Scholar???'s Dashboard design and capabilities.

BUDGET

Outright Request	\$50,000.00	Cost Sharing	\$55,570.00
Matching Request		Total Budget	\$105,570.00
Total NEH	\$50,000.00		

GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

Ellen Reinsch Friese
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List of Participants

Magill, John, Project Director, Executive Director, OhioLINK (Wright State University*)

Evans, Gwen, Project Manager, Coordinator, Library Information and Emerging Technologies, Bowling Green State University. Chair of OhioLINK's Digital Resource Management Committee (DRMC)

Millard, John, Project Advisor, Head of the Center for Digital Scholarship for the Miami University Libraries

OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (DRC) development staff:

Davison, John, Assistant Director of Library Systems, DRC Development

Russell, James, Systems Developer

Craft, Jeff, Assistant Systems Developer

Pati, Debashree, Systems Developer

Project Technical Advisor, OH-TECH and Ohio Academic Resources Network (OARnet):

Jacob, James, Director of Infrastructure Systems

Other OH-TECH technology staff.

DRMC Liaisons:

There are currently two sub-committees that would be involved with this project. Current membership includes:

Millard, John (Miami University of Ohio)

Newman, Linda (University of Cincinnati)

Wildermuth, Jane (Wright State University)

Frazer, Meghan (Kenyon College)

Oyler, Catalina, (Five Colleges of Ohio Mellon Grant Coordinator)

Carleton, Janet (Ohio University)

Burdiss, Angela (Marietta College)

Wu, Jane (Otterbein College)

Tzoc, Elias (Miami University)

Selected personnel may rotate on or off these committees in the coming year. See complete list here: <https://sites.google.com/a/ohiolink.edu/drmc/Home/Membership>

***Note:** The Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK) was created by the Ohio Board of Regents (BOR) as a consortium whose core function is to support the excellence of educational programs at Ohio's universities and colleges through the use of informational technology. Wright State is OhioLINK's fiscal agent and as such is the submitter of this application. Documentation verifying this relationship is available upon request.

Abstract and statements of innovation and humanities significance

Abstract

The Scholar's Dashboard project is a series of three two-day "design and build" workshops, teaming humanities scholars, librarians, and technologists in innovative application development to optimize use of humanities collections from the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (DRC). The DRC is a 500,000+ item open access collection from Ohio academic and cultural heritage organizations. Dashboard users will select and combine collections, add descriptions and metadata, and re-visualize and re-present information. DRC collections with relevant information (oral histories, narratives, records, documents, images, e.g.) will form the design base. "Design and build" workshops allow researchers and scholars to specify features needed to rapidly expand DRC functionality. This model will then be used as a magnet for further digital humanities collections, as scholars, librarians, and archivists contribute collections in order to benefit from the Scholar's Dashboard design and capabilities.

Statement of Innovation

The innovative, accelerated "design and build" sessions convene scholars, librarians/archivists, and technologists to produce prototype tool(s) allowing the re-presentation and remixing of DRC items. This project will identify replicable processes that rapidly prototype imaginative tools that can be used across diverse collections, versus tools focused on one format, activity, or thematic collection.

Statement of Humanities Significance

The "design and build" approach is unusual in digital collection building. It enables humanists to dynamically use the Digital Resource Collection, moving beyond search and browse to visualize, re-combine, and re-present collections. In this way, the DRC becomes a richer primary source for humanities scholarship.

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Narrative

Enhancing the Humanities Through Innovation

The OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (DRC) currently contains more than a half a million digital items from 20 academic institutions and cultural heritage organizations. The collections are diverse, reflecting the wide range of contributing institutions that include small private colleges, major research institutions, and archives such as the Hayes Presidential Center. The materials include digitized text, manuscripts, audio, video, official records, documents, and images. Digitized secondary source material - publications, teaching materials, and gray literature from each institution - are included in the collection.

The DRC is an excellent test bed for traversing and combining collections, where scholars and researchers may be able to discover and explore new connections. Some collections have national significance but local valence, such as the Kent State Shootings Oral History Collection, the Wright Brothers collection, and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center collection; some collections are intensely local in focus and creation but reflect important diverse facets of American life and history, such as the oral histories of the Youngstown Steel Valley Voices ethnic community archive, the Knox County Black History Archives documenting the lives of rural African Americans, and the Great Lakes shipping collections. Imagine scholars being able to combine, create timelines, and add information or annotations across the Kent State Shootings Oral History collections, digitized student newspaper collections, and relevant oral histories from other collections to trace the history of the reception and reporting of the Kent State Shootings. What investigations might arise from the confluence of the Knox County Black History Archives and the Literacy Narratives of Black Columbus?

OhioLINK seeks funding at the level II implementation grant for a series of three themed "design and build" workshops to create a Scholar's Dashboard for the DRC. The Scholar's Dashboard will allow a user to select entire collections or parts of collections, combine them, add their own descriptions or data, and visualize and present the information in various ways, such as map overlays, timelines, and social networks. Development will be driven by the needs and functional requirements of the participating teams of scholars and collection specialists. The prototyping process is dependent on the collaborations among teams: scholars with librarians and archivists focused on collections, and developers and technologists with communities of practice, focused on tools.

The "design and build" model extends beyond an informational or brainstorming workshop to actually identify functional requirements and develop the prototypes.

The three "design and build" workshops will be 2 days each. The three themes are Space, Time, and Identity. The themes are designed to encourage vigorous discussion to envision digital humanities tools that reach beyond what is currently implemented in present-day digital archive systems. The Space theme will demonstrate how geographic characteristics of cultural heritage objects are reproduced across collections regardless of their artificial aggregation into collections and categories. Similarly, the Time theme will investigate how digital artifacts maintain common core properties even as they differ superficially in different historical contexts. Finally, the Identity theme will trace genealogy, social networks, gender roles, and other human attributes through related digital content. Crowdsourcing, metadata enhancements, and computational analysis of content will create new digital objects.

The "design and build" workshops will have four objectives:

The Process: Develop a replicable process that can be applied to other prototyping and build processes for Digital Resource Commons enhancements and tools (both metadata and technology) - one that pairs scholars and librarians/archivists and brings together teams with different sorts of subject expertise to work directly with technologists. This process of collaborating to create presentation tools that show collections in novel contexts – a process that draws simultaneously on the expertise of end users, collection creators, and technology staff – is the core of the proposed innovation.

The Tool: Develop the functional requirements that will enable individual scholars to select results across all collections in the DRC and create durable personalized collections that can be visualized in a variety of ways. The Dashboard may ultimately be one tool or a collection of tools, and may leverage or combine existing open source tools used in the digital humanities. Potential approaches include customizing or modifying Omeka, the open source digital exhibit and collection platform, creating connections between the DRC and Omeka; creating a code base in PHP that would perform the necessary manipulations, enabling drivers and APIs to be built to various PHP-based open source applications like Wordpress, Omeka, Drupal, and Joomla; or building a tool directly in DSpace, the platform on which the DRC is built. Pre-sandbox investigations are currently ongoing by exploring OAI harvests from the DRC to Omeka and using Google Fusion Tables to assign geospatial metadata and visualizations to single collections, as well as merging samples of heterogeneous collections.

The Metadata: Explore the best practices, input mechanisms, and prototype a process for applying relevant data for specified collections and files that can be disseminated across the contributors to the DRC. Since the contributors already have a community of practice and a formal committee and liaison structure, methodology identified can easily be disseminated across a wide variety of institutions and affect a large number of collections and items, leveraging a sizable economy of scale to rapidly build a large corpus of items with enhanced metadata.

The Collection: Use the process as a hands-on demonstration and marketing tool to create an inventory of relevant collections across the state and encourage the digitization and contribution of those collections to the DRC. One of the challenges in a large collaborative such as the DRC is identifying smaller collections at individual institutions that might form a significant collection in the aggregate. Without some method of framing a common theme and getting potential participants together to discuss collection building, creating inventories and coordinating efforts can be difficult. By involving scholars interested in particular themes or materials, the process can generate a common design vision and purpose that cuts across disciplines, institutions, and roles to not only build a tool, but also build collections.

Environmental Scan

Loosely organized unconferences with highly engaged participants, are becoming more common in the Humanities. Pioneered by the THATCamp unconference held at George Mason University's Center for History and New Media in 2008, participant-led and organized unconferences have emerged for a number of disciplines in recent years. Unconferences, and THATCamp in particular, tend to draw in people who already have an interest in digital technology and are invested in the concept. Unconferences also focus on an organic mashing-up of ideas and discussion, which engages participants in the conversation in ways that are impossible in traditional meetings and conferences.

An emerging model in digital humanities is the "digital barn raising" One Week/One Tool model that created Anthologize (see <http://oneweekonetool.org/>). While the One Week/One Tool project brought together twelve digital humanists who already had practical experience with

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building software, our proposed project would join scholars, librarians, and archivists who have subject and collection expertise with engineers and developers with technology expertise to rapidly prototype and build tools to work with various aspects of varied sets of digital collections.

Most digital humanities tools have concentrated on one activity -- text mining, collaborative transcription, timeline building (see the Digital Research Tools listing for examples at <https://digitalresearchtools.pbworks.com/w/page/17801672/FrontPage>). Most tools are also designed to be used on a homogeneous collection (such as the Jeremy Bentham manuscripts in the Transcribe Bentham project). The intent of the Scholar's Dashboard is to integrate these functionalities according to the needs of the scholars most interested in working with DRC collections and materials and develop the dashboard in a way that enables humanities scholars to easily interact with many different collections.

History and Duration of Project

OhioLINK as an academic library collaborative has a long tradition of cooperative collection building, both in print and electronic formats. The Scholar's Dashboard expands that collaborative tradition by incorporating humanities scholars into the "design and build" process, allowing them to shape the tools used to access DRC digital collections as well as influencing the selection and creation of the collections themselves.

The Digital Resource Commons is a first-of-its-kind service -- a federation of centrally-hosted digital libraries and collections that is created and administered by each academic or cultural institution that is a member of OhioLINK. The DRC, built on DSpace software, presently supports several million dollars in grant-funded digitization, and expects the amount of content created by such efforts to expand greatly in the next few years. The main DRC participants are drawn from the member libraries of OhioLINK, but also include cultural heritage institutions and collaborative projects such as the Government Documents Round Table of Ohio and the Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives.

The OhioLINK DRC staff works with the Digital Resources Management Committee to decide on the development priorities of the software platform and enhancements. In the past, the committee has tested new technologies developed by the staff; developed and led workshops; created code and various tools to enhance the DSpace platform, and created a corpus of documentation (see the DRMC wiki at <https://sites.google.com/a/ohiolink.edu/drmc/>). The shared services model of OhioLINK and related statewide education technology consortia (OH-TECH, which are technology core services and infrastructure provided by the state of Ohio to Higher Education) means DRC development has a deep and durable pool of technology expertise on which to draw, including DSpace developers, programmers, database architects, and an enterprise-level infrastructure.

The expansion of the collaborative model to end user scholars via these "design and build" workshops is a logical extension of the way the DRC has evolved both in application and collection development. The intent of this project is to set out a replicable process that builds on these collaborations and that can be extended beyond the duration of the grant.

The federated instance of the DRC as well as the institutional DRCs can be viewed at drc.ohiolink.edu.

Work Plan

We request funding for a series of three "design-and-build" workshops of 2 days each. The funding requested will support participant travel, a kickoff speaker, some contracted specialists such as an interface designer, technical writer, workshop facilitator, student videographer, and

some pre-processing of selected collections with enhanced metadata. OhioLINK and OH-TECH developers and associated staff will contribute in-kind work, the conference facilities, and remote attendance/capture services.

Participants will include pairings of humanities scholars with librarians and/or archivists from institutions with relevant collections that are either already in the DRC or are candidates for inclusion. Since one of the objectives of the workshop is for recruitment of content, several venues and subject specialist liaison relationships will be used for promotion and communication beyond the existing members of the DRC, including other OhioLINK library committees or projects, other scholarly or library consortia or groups that are based in Ohio institutions such as OhioView, The Ohio History Society, the contributing partners of the Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives project, and subject specialist librarians and archivists at OhioLINK institutions. OhioLINK is composed of diverse institutions, from small private colleges to major research institutions. Using the existing librarians' and archivists' relationships with scholars at their institutions will engage a unique sampling of participants. Scholars will be recruited through the outreach efforts of OhioLINK and DRC liaisons.

Because many smaller institutions in OhioLINK have severely restricted professional development funds, the project budget includes a modest travel allowance to broaden the diversity of participants, especially since teams of two will be coming from each institution.

For each themed workshop, a sample set of relevant DRC items in collections will be selected and a sample set of preliminary metadata prepared. The workshop schedule will be spread out over 18 months, commencing in May of 2012, with the next two workshops in October 2012 and March 2013. All workshops will be held at the Ohio Supercomputer Center's Bale Conference and Theater complex.

Day one of each workshop will have participant teams work with the collections side-by-side with the technologists, focused on broad discussions of needs and requirements. Participants will do hands-on demonstrations with already available tools like Google Fusion Tables, Omeka, etc. The facilitator will encourage and articulate the discussions, creating documentation that includes what kind of metadata processing and tagging will be needed for collections; what kinds of selection and searching needs to be enabled in order for scholars to combine items from diverse collections; and finally, what kind of a display and visualization dashboard do scholars need in order to discover, analyze and demonstrate relationships between items. Day two of each workshop will have participants prototype or design the tools required and present to the workshop participants. The DRC/OH-TECH staff, in conjunction with the OhioLINK Digital Resource Management Committee (composed of the DRC liaisons) will then assess feasibility and incorporate the tool build into the development schedule or seek further funding for development. The design process will be iterative, which each instance of the dashboard informed by the earlier workshops.

Dissemination of the results of the workshop will be framed to encourage DRC content contributors to identify not-yet-digitized collections at their institutions that could be added to the DRC to leverage both the tool and the collaborative efforts at larger humanities collection building from smaller, distributed, discrete collections of material. Creating an inventory of possible collections that fit the theme will be a requirement of participation.

At the end of each workshop, a formative evaluation will be conducted consisting of an online survey. Questions will ask participants to evaluate the organization and execution of the workshop, the topics covered, the process undertaken, and the value of the experience to the participant, and other factors. The project manager will meet with project personnel after each workshop to share findings from the evaluation and identify areas that could be improved or future workshops. Additionally, the software tools developed as the end result of each workshop will be evaluated and used to inform the design of subsequent workshops in an iterative way.

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Staff

John Magill will serve as Project Director. As Project Director, his duties will include general oversight of the project, budget tracking, and organization of public relations and communication.

Gwen Evans will serve as Project Manager, handling the organization and scheduling of the workshops, organizing the Digital Resource Management Committee members, developing the plan to recruit participants, developing the collection inventory/collection recruitment portion of the project, and supervising the videography portion of the documentation of the project.

John Millard will serve as Project Advisor. As Project Advisor, John will assist the Project Manager with workshop organization, recruit participants for the workshop, and handle the documentation and digital curation of the work products.

The DRMC Liaisons from various institutions will be participants in the workshops, but will also recruit scholars and other library personnel, add metadata, pre-prepare sample collections, disseminate promotional materials, disseminate the products of the workshops, and participate in the inventory of appropriate collections.

Jim Jacob will serve as Project Technical Advisor, supervising the technologists on the project (DRC developers John Davison, James Russell, Jeff Craft, Debashree Pati, as well as OH-TECH staff), and act as the main technical advisor on technical frameworks, database architecture, and infrastructure.

John Magill and Jim Jacob, as the Project Director and the Project Technical Advisor, will act as the liaisons to the outside Interface Designer that the project will seek to hire.

Outside Consultants: The software analyst and technical writer will assist by attending the workshops, analyzing software requirements, and documenting the process for the final report. The Interface Designer will attend the workshop and design the end-user component of the Scholar's Dashboard. The videographer will attend and videotape the workshops and prepare three short videos about each theme. The metadata data entry for the sample collections will be done by student labor prior to each workshop.

Final product and dissemination

The replicable process of engaging scholars, librarians, and technologists to build tools and collections will be disseminated by project participants on the Digital Resource Management Committee Wiki (<https://sites.google.com/a/ohiolink.edu/drmc/>), by project participants publishing and presenting in appropriate venues, and by organizing a series of OhioLINK sponsored workshops to develop other tools and enhancements for scholarly use of the Digital Resource Commons. In addition, the funding requested will support the creation of three short YouTube videos documenting the workshops and highlighting the collections foregrounded and the tool developed. Many libraries and institutions have YouTube channels or embed video on their websites, blogs and other social media and this is an alternative method of dissemination that can vividly convey the excitement and results from rapid group prototyping. All documents, reports, videos, and code will also be deposited in the DRC itself.

The Digital Resource Commons already has a natural audience for the Scholar's Dashboard in the more than ninety academic institutions in Ohio, including faculty, graduate students, and students. In addition, as an Open Access Archive, the material and methods provided to users of the DRC are available to anyone with a computer. The thirty DRC liaisons (the librarians and archivists

who manage each individual instance) are active in presenting singly and as panelists in a wide variety of venues including library, archival, and open repository conferences and will be encouraged through the statewide Digital Resource Management Committee to present and publish on the tool and its use on collections. In addition, any code or tool developed will be hosted and distributed on web-based hubs for software development projects such as github, an openly accessible collaborative software hosting site (<https://github.com/>).

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Applicant Institution: Wright State University

Project Director: John Magill

Project Grant Period: 3/1/2012 - 8/31/2013

[See online Budget Instructions \(4-page PDF\)](#)

	Computational Details/Notes	(notes)	Year 1 3/1/2012 - 8/30/2013	Project Total
1. Salaries & Wages				
John Magill, Project Director	Fiscal year salary: Ex. B6	5%	Ex. B6	Ex. B6
John Davison, Developer	Fiscal year salary: Ex. B6	7%	Ex. B6	Ex. B6
James Russell, Developer	Fiscal year salary: Ex. B6	7%	Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Jeff Craft, Developer	Fiscal year salary: Ex. B6	7%	Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Debashree Pati, Developer	PT fiscal year salary: Ex. B6	7%	Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Stacy Brannan, Communications	Fiscal year salary: Ex. B6	1%	Ex. B6	Ex. B6
2. Fringe Benefits				
John Magill, Project Director	30% of funded portion of salary		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
John Davison, Developer	30% of funded portion of salary		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
James Russell, Developer	30% of funded portion of salary		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Jeff Craft, Developer	30% of funded portion of salary		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Debashree Pati, Developer	30% of funded portion of salary		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Stacy Brannan, Communications	30% of funded portion of salary		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
3. Consultant Fees				
Interface Designer	120 hours @ Ex. B6 per hour		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Software Analyst	54 hours @ Ex. B6 per hour		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Technical Writer	54 hours @ Ex. B6 per hour		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Videographer	75 hours @ Ex. B6 per hour		Ex. B6	Ex. B6
Metadata data entry	59 hours @ Ex. B6 per hour		Ex. B6	Ex. B6

	Computational Details/Notes	(notes)	Year 1	Project Total
4. Travel				
Project participant travel to workshop site	Up to \$100 to support 2-day workshop attendance (20 participants per 3 workshops)		\$6,000	\$6,000
Project travel for Project Advisor and Videographer	Three (3) 2-day training trips to workshop site		\$1,200	\$1,200
Project Director travel to NEH planning meeting	One (1) 2-day trip to Washington, D.C.		\$810	\$810
5. Supplies & Materials				\$0
6. Services				
Subcontract: Bowling Green State Univ.	For Project Manager salary, travel, indirect costs		\$12,863	\$12,863
Paper/printing (flyers and posters)			\$217	\$217
In-kind professional services			\$9,824	\$9,824
7. Other Costs				
In-kind rental of workshop facilities	\$2,400 per day x 2 days x 3 workshops		\$14,400	\$14,400
8. Total Direct Costs	Per Year		\$88,785	\$88,785
9. Total Indirect Costs	Per Year		\$16,785	\$16,785
Indirect Cost Calculation: a. Rate: 26% of direct cost per year b. Federal Agency: DHHS c. Date of Agreement: 3/7/2011	Excludes in-kind professional services			

	Computational Details/Notes	(notes)	Year 1	Project Total
10. Total Project Costs (Direct and Indirect costs for entire project)			\$105,570	\$105,570
11 Project Funding				
a. Requested from NEH	Outright:		\$50,000	\$50,000
	Matching Funds:		\$0	\$0
	Total Requested from NEH:		\$50,000	\$50,000
b. Cost Sharing	Applicant's Contributions:		\$31,346	\$31,346
	Third Party Contributions:		\$24,224	\$24,224
	Project Income:		\$0	\$0
	Other Federal Agencies:		\$0	\$0
	Total Cost Share:		\$55,570	\$55,570
12. Total Project Funding			\$105,570	\$105,570

DETAILED BUDGET
03/01/2012 - 08/31/2013
Subcontract to Bowling Green State University

A. PERSONNEL	Calculation	Sponsor
1. Gwen Evans, PI and Project Manager Fiscal Year Salary: Ex. B6	9.122% effort	Ex. B6
subtotal		----- Ex. B6
B. FRINGE BENEFITS		
1. Evans @ 36.00% of salary request		Ex. B6
subtotal		----- Ex. B6
C. TRAVEL		
Local project-related travel	3 2-day training trips to workshop site	\$1,305
subtotal		----- \$1,305
E. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS		=====
		\$9,254
F. INDIRECT COSTS (39% of MTDC)		\$3,609
G. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		\$12,863

DETAILED BUDGET
03/01/2012 - 08/31/2013
In-kind Professional Services from OARnet

A. PERSONNEL	Calculation	Sponsor
1. TBD, Software Engineer Fiscal Year Salary: Ex. B6	4% effort	Ex. B6
2. Oracle Database Architect Fiscal Year Salary: Ex. B6	4% effort	Ex. B6
subtotal		----- Ex. B6
B. FRINGE BENEFITS		
1. Engineer and Architect @ 33.8% of salary contribution		Ex. B6
subtotal		----- Ex. B6
E. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS		=====
		\$7,795
F. INDIRECT COSTS (26% of MTDC)		\$2,027
G. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		\$9,822

Biographies

Magill, John (Project Director)

John Magill is the Executive Director of the Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK). He received a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Ashland University and a Master's in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University. He served as the Chief Strategic Officer for the Ohio Department of Development, guiding the preparation of its first strategic plan, "Ohio: Home to Innovation and Opportunity, A Strategic Plan for the Ohio Department of Development." As the Director of Urban Development for the Department of Development, he led the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund, which invested \$200 million in state funds to leverage \$2 billion in private and public funds to redevelop brownfields throughout the state. Under his leadership, the state also received over \$10 million in USEPA Revolving Loan Funds to further support brownfield redevelopment. In the last year, John has facilitated successful grant applications from EDUCAUSE Next Generation Learning Challenges, for a grant valued at \$750,000, and the Association of College and Research Libraries Scholarly Communication Roadshow. He also currently serves on Elsevier's North American Library Advisory Board.

Evans, Gwen (Project Manager)

Gwen Evans is an Assistant Professor and the Coordinator of Library Information and Emerging Technologies at the University Libraries, Bowling Green State University. She received her M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and has an M.A. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago. Her experience includes two years on the island of Flores in Indonesia doing fieldwork on local and global mission Catholicism, as well as advanced training in Indonesian language. She was a recipient of a Fulbright Dissertation Fellowship and Social Science Research Council/American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation Fellowship. Current research interests are in user behavior in digital environments, non-textual discovery and access methods in the library, and emerging technologies in information seeking. She is currently the Chair of the OhioLINK Digital Resource Management Committee, the statewide committee that advises on the development of the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons, the statewide academic multi-institutional repository.

Millard, John (Project Advisor)

John Millard is the Head of the Center for Digital Scholarship for the Miami University Libraries. He received his M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. At Miami, John provides leadership to a team of librarians and staff with expertise in web application programming, digital libraries, database design, interface development, metadata, digital imaging, and rights management to develop freely available digital collections based on the Libraries' unique resources. The mission of the Center for Digital Scholarship is to provide Miami scholars with the facilities, services, and expertise to support the creation and use of digital scholarship in all its forms. John has lead successful grant projects with

funding from NASA, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the State Library of Ohio and has served as a reviewer for the Institute for Museum and Library Services National Leadership Grant program.

Jacob, Jim (Project Technical Advisor)

Jim Jacob is the Director of Infrastructure Systems at OARnet. He has extensive experience in enterprise security and authorization, enterprise storage design and implementations, and web clustered design and secure load balancing. He is currently involved with the OARnet Shared Infrastructure project which is a private cloud environment supporting the University System of Ohio (USO). He also has experience as the Infrastructure Manager of the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System (OAKS), the Assistant CIO at the Office of the Ohio Attorney General, and the Network Manager for the Office of the Auditor of the State of Ohio

DRMC Liaisons

There are currently two sub-committees that would be involved with this project. Current membership includes John Millard (Miami University of Ohio), Linda Newman (University of Cincinnati), Jane Wildermuth (Wright State University), Meghan Frazer (Kenyon College), Catalina Oyler (Five Colleges of Ohio Mellon Grant Coordinator), Janet Carleton (Ohio University), Angela Burdiss (Marietta College), Jane Wu (Otterbein College), Elias Tzoc (Miami University). Selected personnel may rotate on or off these committees in the coming year.

Data Management Plan

The OhioLINK Digital Resources Commons (DRC) is a statewide digital repository that seeks to enhance the scholarly communication of our academic communities in a secure environment. The first digital items were added to the DRC in 2007 and collections have been building since that time.

These data management requirements are modeled on NSF Data Management guide (http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf11001/gpg_2.jsp#dmp):

- 1) The types of data, samples, physical collections, software, curriculum materials, and other materials to be produced in the course of the project.
 - a. From the OhioLINK DRC webpage: "The Ohio Digital Resource Commons supports virtually all types and quantities of content including documents, such as articles, preprints, working papers, technical reports, conference papers, theses, dissertations, images and data sets. It also supports a virtually unlimited variety of digital file types and formats including audio, video, streaming video, multimedia presentations, animations, simulations, learning objects and Web pages. A large storage area network allows for virtually unlimited storage space."
 - i. The project will generate reports and documents from the workshops; software specification documentation; software code; and videotaped material. All of these should be in born digital formats. If there are current documents or items produced that are not in digital format, the Project Manager Gwen Evans or the Project Advisor John Millard can digitize them using scanning or photography equipment available at either Bowling Green State University or Miami University. If specialty requirements for digitization arise beyond these, the project can draw on the entire network of library digitization experts at OhioLINK, as well as relying on OH-TECH expertise. The DRC uses DSpace, freely available and accessible software, to preserve and provide access to the variety of formats that can be uploaded into the collection.
- 2) The standards to be used for data and metadata format and content (where existing standards are absent or deemed inadequate, this should be documented along with any proposed solutions or remedies).
 - a. The DRC uses a widely adopted schema for metadata elements, Dublin Core. The Dublin Core standard is a simple yet customizable schema used internationally across many disciplines. Each collection can have customized metadata that is as simple or as complex as needed. Librarians and digitization specialists work with individuals and groups to establish a mutually agreeable schema. More information about Dublin Core can be found at <http://dublincore.org/>.

- 3) Policies for access and sharing including provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights or requirements

AND

- 4) Policies and provisions for re-use, re-distribution, and for the production of derivatives.

- a. No confidential, private, or secure information is expected to be generated in the process of this project. Since the underlying premise of the project is to create a replicable process by which to create open source tools for open access collections, the actual products of the design and build workshops will be released under the appropriate Creative Commons or GPL licenses for the format of the data (documents, video, software). Work products will be deposited in the Digital Resource Commons to ensure enduring access under these licenses.

The DRC is structured so intellectual property rights can be assigned when items are submitted and allows for customization of rights statements. In addition, the DRC is designed to work with the Creative Commons and it is easy for submitters to grant a creative commons license. A creative commons license allows the author(s)/contributor(s) to maintain copyright privileges. The license allows others to use (copy, distribute, etc.) the work with the proper credit and attribution. More information about the Creative Commons license can be found at:

<http://creativecommons.org/choose/>.

- i. Lawful statements of rights may also be recorded in the metadata. From the DRC FAQ page: "In accepting content for the Ohio Digital Resource Commons, OhioLINK only obtains a non-exclusive right to make the content available for personal, research and educational purposes to the chosen user access level. Ownership of the content remains with the institution or contributor as determined locally. Choosing a copyright license is quick and simple, as authors can specify a Creative Commons license when contributing an item to the DRC."

- 5) Plans for archiving data, samples, and other research products, and for preservation of access to them.

- a. The project will have skilled members of OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (the DRMC liaisons) who can develop appropriate metadata fields, create high-quality scanned and photographed material, and assist with uploading and accessing the data and documents. The DRC is maintained by the Ohio Board of Regents as part of OhioLINK. It is built on the State of Ohio's Higher Education Shared Infrastructure in a private cloud provided by OARnet (The Ohio Academic Resource Network, see <http://www.oar.net/>). The Shared Infrastructure is backed up off-site at a level one data center. More information about the Shared Infrastructure can be had at <http://www.oar.net/services/>. Objects and metadata can be exported to other systems if needed.

18 | **The Scholar's Dashboard: Creating a multidisciplinary tool via "design and build" workshops (OhioLINK)**

6) Some examples of current collections:

- a. University of Cincinnati Digital Resource Commons
<http://drc.libraries.uc.edu/handle/2374.UC/6>
- b. Ohio Wesleyan University
<http://drc.owu.edu/handle/2374.OWES/1089>
- c. Miami University's Scholarly Commons
<http://sc.lib.muohio.edu/>
- d. Oberlin College Library Digital Resource Commons
<http://drc.oberlin.edu/>

Letters of Commitment and Support

Letters of Support

- 1) Letter from H. Lewis Ulman, The Ohio State University
- 2) Letter from Meghan Frazer, Kenyon College
- 3) Letter from James Lein, Ohio University

Letters of Commitment

- 4) Letter from John Conley, Chief of P-20 Education Technology, Office of the Board of Regents, State of Ohio
- 5) Letter from Sara Bushong, Dean, University Libraries, Bowling Green State University



Department of English

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164 West 17th Avenue
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Phone (614) 292-6065
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John Magill, Executive Director
OhioLINK
35 E. Chestnut Street
Columbus, OH 43215-2541

9 September 2011

Dear Mr. Magill:

OhioLINK's proposal for a Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant to develop a Scholar's Dashboard for the Digital Resource Commons (DRC) addresses a key challenge for all digital repositories of cultural materials: balancing secure preservation of carefully catalogued holdings with flexible access for end-users and evolving, complex relationships to other repositories and user-contributed information. Moreover, it leverages the important role that library consortia play in providing federated access to distributed collections and enabling cost-effective development of shared tools. As co-director of the Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives (DALN), a DRC collection, I am especially excited by the opportunities the Scholar's Dashboard will offer for enhancing how members of the public explore, learn from, and contribute to the collection of personal stories about reading and writing archived in the DALN (currently more than 2,300).

The plan of work outlined in the proposal for the Scholar's Dashboard is especially well designed. In my work for another project on preserving distributed, complex digital humanities project, I found that well-coordinated collaboration among faculty scholars, library professionals, and IT professionals was a *sine qua non* for effective design in the arena of digital preservation and access. The planned design and build workshops offer the opportunity to design new tools that meet users' needs, articulate with library standards and systems, and fit participating institutions' IT infrastructure roadmaps. Lacking any one of those elements, projects can all too easily remain on the drawing board forever or end up as seldom-used services.

The project's focuses—on tools, metadata, prototyping and build processes, and collaborative construction of virtual collections that span distributed physical collections—should result in a set of deliverables that could be readily adopted and adapted by other institutions and consortia. Again, the attention devoted to coordinating various aspects of large-scale online cultural heritage projects promises that the results of the workshops will be both robust and replicable.

The themed workshops envisioned in the proposal—space, time, and identity—strike me as particularly interesting starting points. They would address key challenges faced by the DALN and, I suspect, other cultural heritage projects. Because the material in the DALN is contributed

by members of the public who provide us with information about their narratives in their own language, we face many challenges when trying to geocode items in the DALN, plot them on a timeline, or integrate them with demographic information so that users can flexibly explore those aspects of the entire collection. In part, the difficulties stem from the lack of robust tools in out-of-the-box DSpace installations for data manipulation and presentation. Faced with users accustomed to navigating the layers and databases of Google Earth, or employing structured metadata and folksonomies/tags side by side on social media sites, simple browse and search interfaces are simply not flexible or robust enough tools for 21st-century repositories of cultural heritage materials.

Finally, I should stress that the DRC/OhioLINK/OH-Tech team has significant built-in capacity to leverage the outcomes of the workshops into enhanced access to “more than a quarter of a million digital items from 20 academic institutions and cultural heritage organizations”—not to mention encouraging and enabling other members of the OhioLINK consortium to add new cultural heritage collections to the DRC and enabling the curators of other digital humanities collections, many of which use DSpace or similar open-source software, to replicate and refine the workshops and tools.

I hope that the NEH will fund this very well designed proposal. Users of the DRC collections worldwide as well as curators of other digital humanities collections stand to gain a great deal from the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Lewis Ulman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and "U".

H. Lewis Ulman
Associate Professor, Department of English
Director, Digital Media Studies
Co-Director, Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives
(614) 292-2275
ulman.1@osu.edu

John Magill
Executive Director
OhioLINK
35 E. Chestnut Street
Columbus, OH 43215-2541

September 15, 2011

Dear Mr. Magill,

I am very pleased to write in support of the Scholar's Dashboard project being proposed by OhioLINK and representatives from the Digital Resources Management Committee (DRMC). This project has incredible potential to make a positive impact on the digital humanities community in Ohio and beyond.

In my role as the Digital Resource Librarian at Kenyon College, I manage the digital collections in our instance of the Digital Resource Commons (DRC) and serve on the Technical Infrastructure Committee of the Five Colleges of Ohio Next Generation Library Mellon Grant team. I also represent Kenyon College on the DRMC, where I am chair of the Training Task Force and the Release Coordinator. As you know, these groups are comprised of dedicated library and information technology professionals with a strong will to serve the scholarly community through innovation and collaboration. The DRMC effectively balances the needs of many institutions as well as providing a channel for the communication of best practices among practitioners. With this experience, the committee is uniquely positioned to produce the deliverables laid out in this proposal for utilization by a wide variety of academic institutions and cultural heritage organizations.

At Kenyon College, our DRC collections contain 5,000 items in a wide variety of formats, including images, video and audio. We have four new open access collections debuting this year that will most likely bring that total up to around 7,500 items. DSpace provides a powerful tool for the storage and preservation of these items, but has shortcomings when one is trying to create a dynamic user interface. The Scholar's Dashboard project will help address this issue.

The "design and build" workshop approach laid out in the proposal provides concrete objectives paired with an opportunity for digital humanists, technologists and librarians to collaborate in a very focused way. And, while there are very specific objectives, the loosely defined themes provide ample room for participants to think beyond the limits of our current DSpace system. Too often, those of us embroiled in the day-to-day management of an institutional repository do not have the opportunity to imagine how the current tools could be extended or what those extensions might require. The proposed workshops meet that need, while recognizing that detailed functional requirements are a crucial step in the life of a new tool.

The three workshop themes – Space, Time and Identity – are incredibly timely for the collections in the DRC at Kenyon College. One such collection, The Community Within, is curated by our Associate Provost Ric Sheffield and describes the African-American experience in the rural area surrounding Kenyon. It contains a wide variety of materials, including images, interviews and student research. This collection is valuable in its current form, a gallery of images and files, but we have reached the point where we want to move beyond the simple collection of items. The ability to juxtapose the content with geospatial data, for example, would greatly increase the richness and the utility of the collection. One proposed idea is the layering of historical maps of the area with census data. As the user moves a slider, they can see not only how the community moved over time, but also the corresponding development of the larger area.

Our digitized collection of slides on Islamic civilizations and our collection of digital images of medieval art would also both benefit from the ability to visualize metadata in new and interesting ways. However, we are restricted in our ability to pursue this type of feature on our own. The Scholar's Dashboard project will allow us to create the dynamic user interface we are lacking in our current implementation and provide digital humanities scholars with the robust set of features they need. Armed with the proposed tools, we can amplify our collections and their impact.

I hope that the goals of the Scholar's Dashboard project can be realized through NEH funding. I believe that the proposal is thoughtful and well designed. The workshops proposed will have a wide-reaching positive impact and we are committed to supporting this project if it is funded.

Sincerely,



Meghan Frazer
Digital Resource Librarian, Kenyon College
Rick Peterson Fellow
frazerm@kenyon.edu
740.427.5683



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

September 12, 2011

To whom it may concern:

Digital information and data has become a critical resource for a range of scholarly endeavors and in the rapid progression to an increasing digital world critical information can be difficult to retrieve. The Scholar's Dashboard proposal takes a major step forward toward enhancing the tools, metadata and procedures central to the design and seamless integration of important digital collections. Given The OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons, and its impressive and widely used digital collection, an appropriate test bed is in place that suggests an excellent point of beginning for the work described by this project's. With over 20 academic institutions and cultural heritage organizations connected to OhioLink the merits of the Scholar's Dashboard are significant.

In my role as Professor of Geography at Ohio University and Director of the OhioView Consortium for Remote Sensing Research and Education, I have had firsthand experience with the frustrations and needs that surround the necessity to standardize the functional requirements for processes and tool(s) that will enable individual scholars to select relevant information across the collections which populate The OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons. An excellent example of this was OhioLinks's valuable contributions to the storage and archiving of satellite data from the Landsat system. Now the promise to create durable personalized collections that can be visualized in a variety of ways would render such collections much more accessible, maximizing the value of these important knowledge resources.

I enthusiastically support the proposal "***The Scholar's Dashboard: Creating a multidisciplinary tool via lightning workshops***". The well-thought out program and its focus on synthesis, flexibility, with a strong connection to the scholarly community provides the framework to realize the goal and objectives of a novel means to visualize and present the information in ways tailored to clearly identified user community. The success of this project can demonstrate a prototype approach as well as the essential "lessons learned" that can guide implementation of this strategy nationally. For these reasons I urge you to give this proposal your very serious consideration.

Sincerely,

James K. Lein Ph.D.
Professor of Geography
Director: The OhioView Consortium

James K. Lein, Ph.D. Department of Geography
Ohio Univeristy, 122 Clippinger Laboratories, Athens OH 45701-2979
Ph: 740-593-1147 Email: lein@ohio.edu



John R. Kasich, Governor
Jim Petro, Chancellor

University System of Ohio
Board of Regents

September 21, 2011

Mr. John Magill
Executive Director, OhioLINK
OhioLINK Project Director, NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant
35 E. Chestnut St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear John:

On behalf of the Ohio Board of Regents and the Ohio Technology Consortium (OH-TECH), I am providing this Letter of Commitment in support of OhioLINK's application to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant. OH-TECH is committed to providing in kind services and support for this initiative.

OH-TECH functions as the umbrella organization for several education technology entities in Ohio, including the Ohio Academic Resources Network (OARnet) which provides IT infrastructure to the Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio Higher Education, K12, State Government and OhioLINK. OH-TECH is providing \$24,224 of in-kind support included in OhioLINK's proposal to the NEH for development and the provision of a venue for OhioLINK's "The Scholar's Dashboard" workshops.

OH-TECH works in close partnership with OhioLINK to fulfill information technology requirements, and will serve as a dynamic partner in the unique "design and build" process upon which the "The Scholar's Dashboard" proposal to NEH is founded.

Please let me know if you require any additional support or information.

Best regards,


John Conley
Chief of P-20 Education Technology

21 September 2011

John Magill, Executive Director
OhioLINK
8th Floor
35 E. Chestnut Street
Columbus, OH 43215-2541

Dear Mr. Magill:

I am pleased to declare the Bowling Green State University Libraries' intent to collaborate in the project entitled *The Scholar's Dashboard: Creating a multidisciplinary tool via "design and build" workshops* project sponsored by OhioLINK. This project is being submitted to the NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up grant program as a level II implementation grant.

The University Libraries is committing 200 hours of faculty member Gwen Evans' time to the project. Ms. Evans is an Assistant Professor and the Coordinator of Library Information and Emerging Technologies. She is the administrator of Bowling Green State University's instance of the Digital Resource Commons (DRC) and is currently the Chair of the statewide OhioLINK Digital Resource Management Committee. She has been very active as the Chair, organizing the committee to move forward on several fronts, including collaborative workflow development, training and strategic planning workshops, and putting together presentations and other marketing and promotional materials for the DRC. Ms. Evans has also collaborated successfully with both the OhioLINK software developers and with the OH-TECH technology staff. In the last two years she has organized three well-attended and well-received campus events and focus groups on *Social Media* and *The Future of Academic Reading: E-books and E-readers*. She is experienced in complex and collaborative project management and in the particulars of the Digital Resource Commons and I am confident that her skills will make this project a success.

The DRC is both our digital library platform and our institutional repository for campus. As such, we have as strong interest in any project that promotes the use of the DRC among our faculty and researchers, encourages campus individuals and departments to deposit collections in the DRC, and enhances the capability of the underlying software platform to meet their needs. The University Libraries strongly supports this project over the 18 months of the proposed grant period with a total budget from Bowling Green State University of \$12,863.

Sincerely,



Sara Bushong
Dean, University Libraries

Appendix 1: Description of collections selected as workshop material

This overview gives a sample of some of the collections in the Digital Resource Commons appropriate for the workshop themes of Space, Time, and Identity:

Oral histories and narratives include *The Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives* and *The Literacy Narratives of Black Columbus* (a collaborative managed at Ohio State University), *The Kent State Shootings Oral History collection* (Kent State University); *Lest We Forget*, first person histories of people connected with state institutions for the mentally retarded (Wright State University); *Steel Valley Voices: An Ethnic Community Archive* (Youngstown State University); the *Cleveland Regional Oral History Collection* (Cleveland State University); and *The Antarctic Deep Freeze Oral History Project and the Polar Oral History Program* (part of the Byrd Polar Research Archives at Ohio State University).

Mixed collections (images, narratives, and other documents) include *The Community Within – Knox County Black History* (Kenyon College); *Our Shared History: Delaware, Methodism, and Ohio Wesleyan University*; *Wilmington Colleges Quaker Special Collections and College Archives*; *The Toledo Local History Vertical Files* (University of Toledo); the *Rufus Putnam Papers*: correspondence, documents, diaries, and memorandums of General Rufus Putnam, Revolutionary War Army officer (Marietta College); and manuscripts and documents from the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

A sampling of other relevant collections in the DRC from various institutions include map collections such as the *Archaeological Atlas of Ohio*; *Sanborn Historic Maps*; and *Historic maps of Akron and Summit County, Ohio*; image Collections include *Lake Erie's Yesteryears* (Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center), the *Historical Collections of the Great Lakes Vessels and Ports collections* (Bowling Green State University), and *The Wright Brothers Collection* (Wright State University). Single item collections include *Birth and Death Records*, facsimile and searchable text of over 500,000 birth and death records from the city of Cincinnati from 1865 to 1912 (University of Cincinnati); and *Lost and Found Times*, a Fluxus/ mail arts stunt publication covering avant garde art and literature over 30 years (Ohio State University).

Appendix 2

Draft Workshop Agenda

Day 1:

Keynote Address Purpose and Process

Breakout Design Sessions

Participant teams work with the collections side-by-side with the technologists, focused on broad discussions of needs and requirements. Participants will do hands-on demonstrations with already available tools like Google Fusion Tables, Omeka, etc. The facilitator will encourage and articulate the discussions, creating documentation that includes what kind of metadata processing and tagging will be needed for collections; what kinds of selection and searching needs to be enabled in order for scholars to combine items from diverse collections; and finally, what kind of a display and visualization dashboard do scholars need in order to discover, analyze and demonstrate relationships between items. The videographer will document the process as it develops. After the session, the technical writer will formalize the documentation including specifications, workflow instructions, etc.

Breakout Sessions

- Blue Sky brainstorming of functional requirements
- Metadata and Description
- Display and Visualization Needs
- Hands-on demonstrations / Experimentation with existing tools

Conclusion and Summary of Day 1

- Summary of functional requirements, clarifications, etc

Day 2

Plenary Speaker

Breakout Build Process

Participants will prototype or design the tools required based on the requirements discovered and present to the workshop participants.

Breakout Sessions

- Small groups build exercise
- Presentation of small group prototypes to larger
- QA and Feedback