

2015 Grants Awarded by the NEH's Office of Digital Humanities and Slated to Speak at the 2015 ODH Project Directors Meeting

2015 Special Projects and Cooperative Agreements

Council on Library and Information Resources (Washington, DC)

Cooperative Agreement for the Openlab Workshop

Project Director: Charles Henry

Outright: \$49,962

To support: A cooperative agreement between the NEH's Office of Digital Humanities and Division of Public Programs and the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) to organize a two-day planning workshop in the fall of 2015 to discuss the development of "Openlab," an organization devoted to developing, testing, and teaching best practices for digital engagement across the museum and library sector.

Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH)

Engaging the Public: Best Practices for Crowdsourcing Across the Discipline

Project Director: Mary Flanagan

Co-Project Director: Andrea Wiggins

Co-Project Director: Neil Fraistat

Outright: \$93,142

To support: A cooperative agreement to organize a two-day workshop that would encourage the cross-disciplinary exchange of ideas and best practices in crowdsourcing across the humanities and sciences, particularly in libraries, archives, and museums.

Engaging the Public: Best Practices for Crowdsourcing Across the Disciplines is a proposed workshop to be held in May 2015, at the University of Maryland, that would build an important intellectual and networking bridge for crowdsourced humanities projects, supported by a Cooperative Agreement among NEH, Dartmouth College, and the University of Maryland, with additional support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Sloan Foundation. Throughout the workshop, our central concern will be on the question of how institutions might best adopt and employ crowdsourcing strategies for increasing public engagement, integrating data into existing collections, and increasing knowledge in the humanities and related domains. In obtaining support for the workshop from three different funders, with their own distinct communities to bring into the conversation, we will be ensuring a rich cross-disciplinary dialogue, sending a very public signal about the importance of these emerging practices.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Blacksburg, VA)

Images and Texts in Medical History: An Introduction to Methods, Tools, and Data from the Digital Humanities

Project Director: E. Thomas Ewing

Outright: \$70,000

To support: A cooperative agreement between the NEH and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University to organize a two-day workshop for medical historians, librarians, archivists, and graduate students on computational approaches to studying medical images and textual materials. The workshop would be held at the US National Library of Medicine and would include the participation of the American Association for the History of Medicine and the Wellcome Trust from the United Kingdom.

2015 Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants

Cornell University (Ithaca, NY)

Freedom on the Move: A Crowdsourced, Comprehensive Database of North American Runaway Slave Advertisements

Project Director: Edward Baptist

Project Director: William Block

Outright: \$59,989

To support: The further design and development of a database of runaway slave advertisements from pre-1865 US newspapers drawing from several historical collections. The project would also experiment with crowdsourcing approaches to enrich the database records.

Georgia State University Research Foundation, Inc. (Atlanta, GA)

Notoriously Toxic: Understanding the Language and Costs of Hate and Harassment in Online Games

Project Director: Benjamin Miller

Outright: \$29,403

To support: A cross-disciplinary workshop and follow-up activities to develop a set of essays and a metadata schema to understand and describe toxic rhetoric in online spaces, with an emphasis on large-scale multiplayer computer games.

Gettysburg College (Gettysburg, PA)

Comparative Ethnobiology in Mesoamerica: A Digital Portal for Collaborative Research and Public Dissemination

Project Director: Jonathan Amith

Project Director: Eric Remy

Outright: \$29,930

To support: Prototype development of a database and website that would aggregate indigenous linguistic information relevant to Mesoamerican flora and fauna.

Ohio State University, Main Campus (Columbus, OH)

Automatic Music Performance Analysis and Comparison Toolkit (AMPACT)

Project Director: Johanna Devaney

Outright: \$59,843

To support: The further development of a suite of analytical tools for music scholarship, with a particular focus on the development of a tool for analyzing polyphonic performances from musical scores.

Research Foundation CUNY for the Graduate Center (New York, NY)

DH Box: A Digital Humanities Laboratory in the Cloud

Project Director: Matthew Gold

Outright: \$59,752

To support: Development of DH Box, a web-based platform that enables researcher and student access to multiple digital humanities tools. The project is designed for institutions and individuals with minimal technical infrastructure or expertise, including community colleges and newcomers to the field.

San Diego State University Research Foundation (San Diego, CA)

Building and Broadening the Digital Humanities Through a Regional Network

Project Director: Jessica Pressman

Project Director: Joanna Brooks

Outright: \$29,999

To support: A year-long initiative bracketed by two workshops where faculty from teaching-intensive institutions would test best practices for teaching humanities content using digital methods in under-resourced classrooms.

Small Axe, Inc (New York, NY)

The sx:archipelagos Project

Project Director: Kaiama Glover

Project Director: Alex Gil, Columbia University

Project Director: David Scott, Columbia University

Outright: \$29,914

To support: Development and assessment of new workflows for publication and long-term preservation of born-digital scholarship within Caribbean Studies.

Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

Onondaga Lake: Finding a Restorative Center in Digital Space

Project Director: Susan May

Project Director: Jane Read

Project Director: Philip Arnold

Outright: \$29,879

To support: The development of a prototype digital map that seeks to combine scientific perspectives with non-Cartesian perspectives (such as those of the indigenous population) that don't map easily to spatial coordinates, focusing on the historical, cultural, and economic significance of Onondaga Lake near Syracuse, NY.

Texas A&M University (College Station, TX)

MuSO: Aggregation and Peer Review in Music

Project Director: Timothy Duguid

Outright: \$29,935

To support: A two-day workshop and follow-up activities to develop the Music Scholarship Online (MuSO) project to consider approaches for federating and evaluating digital projects in music.

University of California, Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz, CA)

3D Saqqara: Reconstructing Landscape and Meaning at an Ancient Egyptian Site

Project Director: Elaine Sullivan

Outright: \$47,200

To support: Development of a three-dimensional model and virtual tour that would demonstrate how the ancient Egyptian cemetery at Saqqara evolved over the course of nearly three millennia--from 2950 BCE to 332 BCE.

University of Florida, Gainesville (Gainesville, FL)

Collecting and Archiving Big Data for Social Media Humanities Researchers

Project Director: Sidney Dobrin

Project Director: Matthew Gitzendanner

Project Director: Laurie Taylor

Outright: \$60,000

To support: Development of an open-source toolkit and training materials that would allow humanities researchers to collect and analyze large-scale, publicly available data drawn from social media sites.

University of San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)

Discovery and Documentation of At-Risk Built Heritage

Project Director: Seth Wachtel

Outright: \$60,000

To support: A pilot effort in which community and student volunteers would use easily accessible technologies to document and describe local architectural heritage. A prototype website would offer a common platform for wide participation and public access.

University of Utah (Salt Lake City, UT)

Poemage Prototype

Project Director: Miriah Meyer

Project Director: Katharine Coles

Outright: \$60,000

To support: Development of a working prototype of a visualization tool that demonstrates the sound patterns and relationships in poetry, including and extending beyond rhyme.

University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA)

Cohorts of Women in Biographical Collections

Project Director: Alison Booth

Project Director: Worthy Martin

Project Director: Daniel Pitti

Outright: \$59,479

To support: The development of prototype tools that would shed light on women's lives and social networks through biographical narratives and archival sources.

Vanderbilt University, (Nashville, TN)

Deep Mapping the Reducción: Building a Platform for Spatial Humanities Collaboration on the General Resettlement of Indians

Project Director: Steven Wernke

Project Director: Jeremy Mumford (Brown University)

Outright: \$59,498

To support: Prototyping of two resources to enable geospatial scholarship on the Andean region of South America. In particular, the project would shed light on the history of indigenous communities living within the 16th-century colonial Reducción system.

WGBH Educational Foundation (Boston, MA)

Digital Humanities for Lifelong Learners

Project Director: Ted Sicker

Outright: \$29,994

To support: A workshop and research study to investigate how best to use WGBH's archive of humanities programming to create a robust library of cross-disciplinary humanities modules for lifelong learners, emphasizing an audience over the age of 65.

Wheaton College (Norton, MA)

Easing Entry and Improving Access to Computer-Assisted Text Analysis for the Humanities

Project Director: Mark LeBlanc

Project Director: Michael Drout

Project Director: Scott Kleinman (California State University, Northridge)

Outright: \$60,000

To support: The addition of several features to the Lexos software, including a set of instructional resources to help scholars and students understand the most appropriate uses for computational methods for text analysis.

2015 Digital Humanities Implementation Grants

Regents of the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, MN)

Immigrant Stories

Project Director: Erika Lee

Project Director: Elizabeth Venditto

Outright: \$324,121

To Support: Expansion of a project that engages recent immigrant and refugee communities as they create and share digital video narratives about their lives and experiences. During the implementation phase, the applicant would collaborate with national stakeholders to develop an easy-to-use, web-based framework to produce these digital stories, which would be publicly available via the Minnesota Digital Library and the Digital Public Library of America

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)

Acoustic Modeling in Historical Research

Project Director: John Wall

Project Director: David Hill

Project Director: Yun Jing

Outright: \$324,135

To support: Further work on a three-dimensional, immersive model of the visual and aural environment of St. Paul's Cathedral and Churchyard as they stood in London during the early 17th century. The project would also further develop and publicly release open-source software for the modeling and representation of sound in historic spaces.

University of Texas, Austin (Austin, TX)

Reading the First Books: Multilingual, Early-Modern OCR for Primeros Libros

Project Director: Sergio Romero (University of Texas, Austin)

Project Director: Laura Mandell (Texas A&M University)

Outright: \$215,830

To support: Enhancement of optical character recognition (OCR) technologies to improve researchers' ability to discover and search early modern, multilingual printed texts. During this phase, the project team would focus on books printed in the Americas before 1601.

University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)

Implementing Scalar for Digital Humanities Multimodal Online Publishing: Editorial and Authorial Workflow in Collaboration

Project Director: Philip Ethington
Project Director: Steven Anderson
Project Director: Tara McPherson
Outright: \$325,000

To support: The enhancement of the authoring, editing, and peer review features of the Scalar scholarly publishing platform from the Alliance for Networking Visual Culture.

New York University (New York, NY)

Pleiades 3

Project Director: Thomas Elliott
Outright: \$322,615

To support: Substantive changes to the technical and editorial infrastructure for the Pleiades gazetteer project, a geographic dataset for the ancient Mediterranean world.

Emory University (Atlanta, GA)

Enhancing and Sustaining www.slavevoyages.org

Project Director: David Eltis
Project Director: Allen Tullos
Outright: \$324,992

To support: The enhancement of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database (also known as slavevoyages.org) to add additional records about the intra-American movement of enslaved persons and to recode the underlying database to allow for long term sustainability.

2015 Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities

Indiana/Purdue University, Indianapolis (Indianapolis, IN)

The Digital Native American and Indigenous Studies Project

Project Director: Jennifer Guiliano
Outright: \$249,817

To support: Three three-day workshops of 35 participants each hosted by Yale University, Arizona State University, and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) on teaching new digital methods and exploring issues of preservation and access in Native American Studies.

George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

Doing Digital History 2016: An Institute for Mid-Career American Historians

Project Director: Sharon Leon

Project Director: Sheila Brennan

Outright: \$219,301

To support: A two-week institute for 25 historians of the United States, to be hosted by George Mason University's Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, on advanced theory and application of new media tools for teaching and scholarship.

Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN)

Space and Place in Africana/Black Studies: An Institute on Spatial Humanities, Theories, Methods and Practice

Project Director: Kim Gallon (Purdue University)

Project Director: Angel Nieves (Hamilton College)

Outright: \$245,299

2015 NEH/DFG Bilateral Digital Humanities Program

Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, PA)

LangBank: Digital Infrastructure to Support the Study of Classical Latin and Historical German

Project Director: Brian MacWhinney

Outright: \$139,802.00

To support: The development of a joint, annotated corpus and accompanying learning modules for Latin and German prior to 1900 to support research and language learning. The University of Tübingen and Humboldt University of Berlin are jointly requesting 156,000€ from DFG.

Rhizome Communications, Inc. (New York, NY)

Tools & Concepts for Safeguarding & Researching Born-Digital Culture

Project Director: Dragan Espenschied

Outright: \$164,430.00

To support: The creation of workflows and tools supporting the preservation of born-digital art, using the collections of four different institutions in the US and Germany as their test case. The University of Freiburg is requesting 128,000€ from DFG.

University of Maryland, College Park (College Park, MD)

A Digital Synopsis of Mishnah and Tosefta

Project Director: Hayim Lapin

Outright: \$151,753.00

To support: Development of a web-based resource that would integrate digital editions of two canonical Jewish texts, the Mishnah and the Tosefta, alongside tools for intertextual comparison and analysis. Freie Universität, Berlin, is requesting 115,383.60€ from DFG.

University of the Pacific (Stockton, CA)

HG-229371, KELLIA: Koptische/Coptic Electronic Language and Literature International Alliance

Project Director: Caroline Schroeder

Outright: \$192,500.00

To support: The Koptische/Coptic Electronic Language and Literature International Alliance (KELLIA), a partnership among leading Coptic scholars and digital humanities experts in the United States and Germany. The project would document best practices for digital Coptic initiatives and would adapt existing open-source tools for linguistic analysis and collaborative annotation. Georg-August University, Göttingen, is requesting 122,610€ from DFG.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Blacksburg, VA)

Tracking the Russian Flu in U.S. and German Medical and Popular Reports, 1889-1893

Project Director: E. Thomas Ewing

Outright: \$175,000.00

To support: A collaborative research project to study the spread of the Russian influenza epidemic (1889-1893) through Europe and the United States by using large-scale computational methods on digitized collections of historical medical literature and newspapers. The German partner, Leibniz University, Hannover, is requesting 127,600€ from DFG.

Wheaton College (Norton, MA)

Modeling Semantically Enriched Digital Edition of Accounts (MEDEA)

Project Director: Kathryn Tomasek

Outright: \$59,327.00

To support: A series of meetings by scholars from the United States and Europe to produce test cases to allow for the development of standards for transcription, markup, and analysis of historical accounting records for use in scholarly editions. The University of Regensburg, is requesting 37,435€ from DFG.