Exposing the Borders of Academia: Sign Language as a Medium of Knowledge Production, Preservation, and Dissemination

Deaf Studies Digital Journal

The Deaf Studies Digital Journal (DSDJ) is a peer-reviewed, digital journal in American Sign Language and English text dedicated to advancing the cultural, creative and critical output of work in and about sign languages and its communities, in the form of scholarly video articles, original works of signed literature, as well as interviews, reviews, and historical resources. This project will preserve and migrate past issues of DSDJ to a new open-access, technologically sustainable platform, which adheres to and advances accessibility standards in publishing through fully bilingual video and text articles, advanced interactive videos, integration into library databases, and innovative peer-review processes that support the exclusive use of sign language to produce the next iteration of DSDJ in an effort to transform scholarly communication.

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4. NARRATIVE

Exposing the Borders of Academia: Sign Language as a Medium of Knowledge Production, Preservation, and Dissemination

Deaf Studies Digital Journal

1. ENHANCING THE HUMANITIES

The Deaf Studies Digital Journal (DSDJ) is the world’s first peer-reviewed journal dedicated to advancing the cultural, creative, and critical output of work in and about sign languages and their communities of users. The launching of DSDJ in 2009 was a milestone in the history of publishing sign languages. Despite having been in existence as far back as Plato’s Cratylus, when Socrates could only speculate what those deaf Athenians were signing about, sign language communities have left no trace of their unique thoughts and perspectives. It was not until the advent of film that deaf individuals could record cultural wisdom and literary expression in their native sign languages. Now that Deaf Studies has emerged as a generative academic pursuit, having a platform to widely disseminate the “voices” from this community of scholars is of critical relevance to the humanities. While the relative numbers of Deaf individuals are small in comparison with the wider population, the insights from the field of Deaf Studies are of central importance to questions concerning the natures of language, literature, literacy, cultural expression, sensory experience, bioethics and human diversity. In the wake of the revelations of the full linguistic status of sign languages in the 1960s and 70s, for example, paradigm shifts have taken place in the very definition of language, literacy and literature. Scholars in previous issues of DSDJ have shed new light on the relationship between sound and belonging (Haualand 2009), of senses and culture (Bahan 2009/2010), and of cultural and biological diversity (Bauman and Murray 2009). Despite the far reaching implications of these insights, these contributions to the humanities remain largely in the dark as DSDJ’s original platform remains inaccessible and unsearchable through outdated Flash based technology.

The proposed project is aimed at ensuring that the insights from Deaf Studies Digital Journal are able to enter the mainstream of humanities scholarship. In order to do this, we seek support from the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Advancement Grant Level III in order to 1) implement a fully bilingual digital platform so that signers and non-signers alike may engage scholarly material in American Sign Language and print English, 2) ensure that DSDJ content is indexed in academic library catalogs in order to make it available to the wider public, 3) maintain a commitment to an open access model, and 4) implement a robust infrastructure to ensure the preservation and sustainability of past and future issues. (See Work Plan for more details regarding the technologies, platforms, and standards this project will adopt.)

The drive to make the only existing formal Deaf Studies academic bilingual journal more broadly accessible and thus open it up to further academic and creative investigation aligns with NEH’s goal to expand the digital transformation of humanistic inquiry to a greater number of humanities scholars, while also transforming the ways in which scholars produce, exchange, and communicate knowledge.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

2.1 Traditional Written Scholarship: The Impetus for DSDJ

It is nearly impossible to imagine scholarly publication in a form other than print. Yet, there are fully developed sign languages in which scholarly discourse takes place without recourse to a system of writing. Until the development of film, video and digital technologies, deaf authors had to resort to written language to describe work in signed language disseminating their thoughts via a language and modality other than their primary language in order to partake in expectations established by mainstream academic institutions. Prior to the widespread use of streaming video, sign language videos and DVDs were made available to a limited audience. Technological advances in digital media have now made publication of sign languages possible. This offers unprecedented access for deaf scholars to reach audiences in their native languages, and for all audiences to have access to the unique insights and perspectives that come from deaf ways of being.
2.2 The Emergence of DSDJ

The Deaf Studies Digital Journal offered an innovative digital platform for its time, which features academic work in sign languages and continues to stand as a model for bilingual (ASL/English) and bimodal (signed/written) scholarship. The Deaf Studies Digital Journal offers the unprecedented potential to standardize academic discourse in sign languages in addition to generating written translations of original, signed scholarship to benefit a plurality of audiences. Even though they are in a sign language, their digital format features citations and visual aids akin to publication in traditional text-based journals. At the time of the creation of DSDJ, digital video was not widely used; today, however, there has been a compared to today’s scientific journals, for example, that incorporate videos as supporting materials, such as as Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE). Given this innovation, this platform stands as a way to uncover untapped knowledge and perspectives from the Deaf community, thus allowing new kinds of scholars and scholarship to emerge.

2.3 The Field of Deaf Studies and its Publications

Two print journals currently publish Deaf Studies and related literature: Sign Language Studies (SLS) and Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education (JDSDE). The former began in 1972, under the leadership of William Stokoe, a hearing linguist who has been lauded as the father of ASL linguistics. In its current form, the executive editorial position is held by another hearing linguist. This is important given that leadership in Deaf Studies scholarly publications is not held by deaf scholars, limiting their presence in the very field which explores their cultural expression within the humanities. According to the editorial staff, Sign Language Studies “has presented a unique forum for revolutionary papers on signed languages and other related disciplines, including linguistics, anthropology, semiotics, and deaf studies, history, and literature.” (Gallaudet University Press). While it is true that this journal was one of a kind in terms of content, it was, and is, not in terms of its platform. The nature of print journals flattens any discussion of sign language to a two-dimensional medium, and fails to capture its reality. Instead of taking advantage of the three-dimensionality of sign languages to offer up analysis, all too often, this research is limited to the presentation of a sequence of still images, and a lengthy written description to accompany these images.

The latter publication, Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education, was established in 1996 and is also “a peer-reviewed scholarly journal integrating and coordinating basic and applied research relating to individuals who are deaf, including cultural, developmental, linguistic, and educational topics.” Neither journal is able to do justice to the analysis of sign language, and consequently, its communities through the limited medium of written text. Additionally, both of these take the traditional approach to academic journals and largely rely on library subscriptions to create revenue for their operating costs. While both do make select articles available vis-a-vis open access, the majority of the knowledge produced remains confined to limited audiences. Moreover, beyond the publication leadership, there is a significant power imbalance given that the overwhelming majority of contributors to these journals are hearing; a consequence of use of the print medium is that deaf scholars are limited to using their non-native language to produce scholarship. Given this limitation, in order to produce more authentic and widely representative deaf studies scholarship, traditional print publications do not suit this need.

In addition to these two journals that place an emphasis on deaf studies and related literature, three years following the launch of Deaf Studies Digital Journal, an alum of the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University began ASLized, an official nonprofit organization. The website states its mission as the following: “ASLized fosters the integration of American Sign Language (ASL) educational research into visual media and literacy. The main objective is to produce teaching and learning materials in ASL with two focuses: 1.) ASL literature, preserving culture and history and 2.) ASL Linguistics, promoting a better understanding of the complex structure and use of sign languages”.

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1 By hearing, we refer to those who are hearing, born to hearing parents, and come to learn sign language later in life for a variety of reasons. Unlike other minority fields, including gender studies and race studies, there has been and continues to be a disproportionate number of hearing people that outnumber deaf people in the field of deaf studies. This indicates a problematic power imbalance within the field, which can be alleviated, in certain ways, through the nature of publishing.
In large part, *ASLized* features stories in ASL, teaching materials, and occasional research articles. Because this is not an academic journal per se, it is not regulated by academic standards and publishes a wide variety of videos that do not necessarily go through a peer review process. In addition, the function of *ASLized* is more like a repository such that it consolidates ASL videos that already exist into one place, rather than promoting calls to produce new, original work. Recognizing this lack, a spinoff of *ASLized*, *Journal of American Sign Languages and Literatures* (JASLL) began only recently with the intent to publish its first issue in September 2017. This movement toward using sign languages as a primary mode of academic publication is positive for the field of Deaf Studies, and humanities in general. However, both *ASLized* and JASLL operate exclusively with volunteers. As a non-profit organization, they lack the potential for sustainability insofar as they do not have access to established digital infrastructure, institutional resources, partnership with a university press. In addition, reliance on an exclusively volunteer based staff can be problematic given its uncertainty.

As to the trend of Digital Humanities in general, there are a number of journals, including *Digital Humanities Quarterly, Kairos, and Journal of Digital Humanities* to name a few, that have moved beyond traditional humanistic scholarship to integrate digital media, and thus transform how we traditionally explore the humanities. However, even given this movement, there is still a significant focus on digitization of print scholarship in digital humanities rather than truly transforming the potential kinds of scholarly communication. In this sense, DSDJ moves away from mere preservation of content, but works to produce new, video-based scholarship. While there is indeed a rise in the use of digital media integrated into scholarly publications, DSDJ uses video as the primary platform through which information is communicated. In fact, *Kairos* recently published an article entitled “Where Access Meets Multimodality: The Case of ASL Music Videos,” in which English text is used to describe the information presented in the videos that are displayed. This integration of digital media is ideal to capture what this author calls the three-dimensionality and kinesthetic features of sign languages, but not quite far enough insofar as it relies on written text to do so. DSDJ aims to take digital humanities to the next level to provide fully bilingual scholarship, accessible to signers and non-signers alike, to broaden and deepen scholarly engagement with digital humanities.

### 3. HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

In the early 2000s, Gallaudet University’s Department of American Sign Language and Deaf Studies began the groundwork to establish a graduate program in Deaf Studies. With this advancement in the field, it became increasingly apparent that a venue for publishing in sign languages would provide a breakthrough for Deaf Studies scholarship. Fortunately, the maturation of the field occurred at the same time as the advent of the presence of digital video on the web. The plans for *DSDJ* began in earnest in 2006, with an initial attempt to publish materials using Gallaudet’s content management system. It did not take too long before the founding editors realized that a more robust platform would be necessary to provide adequate features befitting a groundbreaking publication.

The founding editors, Dr. Dirksen Bauman and Dr. Benjamin Bahan, secured a $20,000 grant from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation through Gallaudet University’s Development Office and the Office of the Provost. This initial funding enabled the editors to hire an interactive educational software company, CraigInteractive to develop a customized DSDJ platform. Working with CraigInteractive, the executive editors and managing editor helped to devise the unique video platform, which included four separate video windows—the primary video display, the visual aid window, the smaller picture in a picture, and a text-based citation window. This made synchronizing and publishing multiple streams of ASL video possible, along with supporting images and citation text. (See Appendix A for current *DSDJ* interface and features). Then additional funding contributions by the Office of the Provost were made, totalling in $60,000 for all four issues (~$15,000 per issue).

The process for development of the platform and of soliciting contributions for this first ever format culminated in the inaugural issue launched in 2009. Over the course of four issues, *DSDJ* has published 150 entries with 181 contributors, organized according to genre: Academic Articles, Commentary, Literature, Visual Arts, Film/Video, Interviews, Reviews and History (archival footage and commentary). Since its launch, DSDJ has garnered over ~231,300 page views from 170 countries,
~136,500 sessions with ~82,200 users and ~54,400 returning visitors. (see Appendix B for more data).

The first issue of DSDJ revealed the opportunity for a multi-lingual publishing platform, featuring translations of print articles not only into American Sign Language, but also into British Sign Language and Italian Sign Language, and an interview about the development of Costa Rican Sign Language. Contributors also featured archival film footage of sign language films from as early as 1913, providing insight into the historical changes in the language. The initial volume also includes a full length documentary about the experiences of an African American Transgender Deaf teenager, among sixteen other contributions of poetry, storytelling, film, and web-based art. [31 entries]

The second issue, published in 2010 featured articles in the intersections of humanities and science, examining the role of the senses, language, culture and cognition as well as further explorations on the historical relations of American and French sign languages. [19 entries]

The third issue focused on bilingualism and linguistic human rights. While adding significantly to the corpus of scholarship in signed languages, a new opportunity was seized in which one article presented video data collected during research. Rather than relying on the authors’ interpretations of the data, DSDJ’s video platform enables the viewers to examine data first hand, thereby empowering readers to arrive at their own conclusions and to confirm or challenge the author’s analysis. [36 entries]

Finally, the fourth issue, released in 2014 included over 80 contributors as it celebrated Gallaudet’s Sesquicentennial milestone, including a broad array of articles exploring Gallaudet and deaf education in the context of American history. [69 entries]

Given the innovations of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal, the executive and managing editors were invited to various national and international conferences, including, the National Heritage Language Center Conference (UCLA 2010), the Modern Language Association (Los Angeles 2011), the SIGN5 Conference (Ankara, Turkey 2011), as well as D’Youville College (2011) and Georgetown University (2013).

Despite this level of critical output, the amount of production required for a single issue of DSDJ is not sustainable without a new platform. While the initial intent was to publish two issues per year, it readily became apparent that it was precisely the innovations of DSDJ which created its greatest challenges, resulting in a slower publication schedule than originally intended. Following the publication of the fourth issue of DSDJ in Summer 2014, the then managing editors hosted a summit of DSDJ stakeholders (editors, editorial board members, and contributors) to evaluate the journal’s needs. The following are the primary issues faced by the editors, as discussed at this Summit, during the first four issues: 1) Bilingual submissions, 2) Video production, 3) Synchronizing media rich content, and 4) Peer review. These issues, and how the this project will work to resolve them will be addressed in the following section.

4. WORK PLAN

4.1 Summary

The plan moving forward is to significantly update the technological execution of DSDJ, implement a new peer-review platform specifically designed for sign language scholarship, and develop a streamlined and accessible metadata to allow for searchable text. This endeavor be attuned toward preserving and maintaining past issues, as well as ensuring that all future articles will have full, bilingual access. In doing so, this project will establish standards for a clear sustainability plan for continuing regular publications. In addition to this migration to a new platform is the integration of DSDJ with library and academic databases by assigning each video article with its own Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and implementing strategies to allow for search engine optimization (SEO), thus opening the journal up to an array of new audiences. The following section will identify the main weaknesses of the current platform in order for sustainability of the journal, as a means toward improving Deaf Studies and digital humanities scholarship in the long term.

4.2 Challenges with Current Platform

The challenges that this project faces are twofold. In the first place, there are a set of challenges that editors face due to the inherent nature of sign language publications. In the second, outlined here are issues with the current platform from what we have learned over time and in consultation with users and
expert. One of the primary concerns at the Summit were technological limitations in the existing publishing platform. The platform was developed in 2007 using Adobe Flash and outdated JavaScript coding, and the technological advancements since that time have rendered it unsustainable for the next generation of video-based digital publishing. The current platform does not support additional coding such as plug-ins or modifications, and the company (CraigInteractive) who developed the site is not actively in operation to support further enhancement. The current platform is functional and housed at Gallaudet Technology Services (GTS) with its own dedicated aging server. However, there are few qualified individuals to maintain and to operate its specific operating system, (Lamp on CentOS 5) because the University runs on a different operating system (Red Hat enterprise Linux). As a result, there is a considerable risk concerning the loss of data if any problems persist in the near future. Without a new platform, the scholarship produced over the course of these four issues cannot be preserved, and will be lost, at the great expense of the field of Deaf Studies, and anyone interested in gathering insight into this, and related, fields. In addition, the accessibility of DSDJ is limited, and geared toward a limited audience due to an inflexible video playback platform such as the inability to scale to a larger size other than 320x240 in .flv with low and pixelated videos. The current standard for video interoperability and sustainability must be delivered in .mp4 and to be compatible with Michigan Publishing platform technology (further details are outlined later in this narrative). These were the chief complaints of the general users and the stakeholders at the 2014 Summit, which can be resolved through the partnership with Michigan Publishing’s technology.

4.3 Challenges with Sign Language Publishing

Apart from the current platform, as mentioned in the History of the Project section, the editors faced particular challenges with creating the first journal of this kind that published primarily in sign languages, which are listed below.

1) **Bilingual submissions.** In traditional academic journals, authors submit a single version of their written publication. For DSDJ, authors are expected to submit two articles—one in American Sign Language and the other English, thus immediately doubling (at least) the time and effort to submit for publication. Further, authors have various strengths in each language. Some submissions were very well written, but the authors were less fluent in ASL, resulting in the need for having a substitute signer. In other instances, authors submitted an ASL version only and we sought the translation services to produce the written version of the ASL article.

2) **Video production.** To begin, video production requires significant resources and skills, not all of which are available to all authors. While written texts require only a word processing program, video production requires a camera of acceptable quality, studio, lighting and editing software, and usually production assistance and content directors. Further, revisions in video publication are notoriously time consuming, as the entire video shoot is often required, given the need for consistency in production quality, lighting, background. In contrast, authors of written text may simply delete and add in word processing, without worrying about consistency of hair style, dress, lighting and background.

3) **Synchronizing media rich content.** The content management system requires that a managing editor time code all media content and in text citations. The production time, therefore is greater than most print based publications.

4) **Peer review.** Given the time consuming nature of video production, editors experimented with alternative processes of peer review. In one issue, authors were asked to submit summaries of their articles in video form; in another, full studio productions were required for peer review. The new approach to peer review is intended to alleviate some of these concerns.

4.4 Strategies and Improvements

Recognizing these challenges, in order to integrate the only Deaf Studies scholarly journal of its kind into mainstream usage, DSDJ plans to capitalize on existing technology through developing partnerships with other entities who have a proven track record. Partnering with Michigan Publishing and other experts in the field will effectively allow for the implementation of five critical technological components to help resolve the challenges the journal has faced since its inception: 1) a reliable and
universal publishing platform with open access digital content in mind, 2) efficient data management and metrics with library database networks, 3) supporting systematic and regularized workflow, including digital content management, 4) unique video delivery solutions, and 5) a customized peer-review platform that will support the use of sign language delivery from both end users (contributors and peer-reviewers).

To preface the work plan moving forward, a critical component of the advancement of DSDJ is its established partnership with Michigan Publishing (MP). MP has been identified as an ideal publishing platform for the next generation of DSDJ. MP is the home of the University of Michigan Press and a division of the University of Michigan Library. Evident in their mission is their commitment to sustainability, ensuring both widespread dissemination and long-term preservation of digital content, of the projects they undertake. Since January 2017, MP has shown significant interest in our project as part of an expansion of their publishing portfolio in digital humanities, grounded in our collective investment in promoting accessibility. As of May 2017, a formal agreement between Gallaudet/DSDJ and MP has concluded with the idea to expand the capacity of DSDJ in conjunction with MP’s in-house web designer and user interface expert. This effort will be combined with Gallaudet’s team of accessibility and technology experts, by Dr. Christian Vogler and Dr. Raja Kushalnagar.

A workflow as illustrated in the Appendix C will be our blueprint for the 30 month process of the proposed grant from extraction to the release of the fifth and subsequent issues with the new platform. This process consists of five components: Preservation (I), Development (II), Peer-review process (III), Evaluation (IV), and New Platform (V), as illustrated.

One of the main responsibilities of Gallaudet’s DSDJ team is to prepare for the process of migrating from Adobe Flash to HTML5, which requires that the platform support the use of XSLT (Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformations), which will be integrated with MP’s DLXS platform and eventually with Fulcrum.org. The process to extract the current digital content, ensuring the interoperability of various digital media (i.e. .mp4, .pdf, .txt) includes conversion/transcoding to meet the XSLT standards for sustainability, organizing the metadata and digital artifacts, translation of all signed content to produce English text transcripts. Given the challenges with bilingual submissions stated earlier, the majority of the video articles published are not accompanied by a full English translation. Without English text, these articles can neither be searched through typical search engines or library databases, nor can they be accessed by non-signers and DeafBlind individuals. Moving forward, the plan is to provide translated transcripts available in accessible formats for blind and DeafBlind users as well as new or non-signers in PDF and epub. In order to do so, there must be a significant reduction in the number of articles published each cycle such that more attention can be paid to producing two versions of each article. Not only that, there will be funding set aside specifically for work on translations by employing student interns from Gallaudet’s Department of Interpretation and Translation to work alongside authors to produce these texts. While doing this, Gallaudet Technology Services (GTS) will support the operation of the current platform until the migration is complete, GTS will support the overall project by maintaining the current volume (four issues) of DSDJ free and available to the public. As the home institution, GTS will continue to provide their team’s expertise in hosting needs, harvesting digital content in an institutional repository, and facilitating the transition to MP, see Component I.

Thanks to funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Michigan Publishing is currently developing a next-generation publishing platform via Fulcrum, which will enable a richer integration of digital objects with the Hydra open source community (projecthydra.org). It will be responsive to the changing needs of digital scholars, and ensure that the technology is designed to curate digital objects committed to preservation and stability, and ensure that content is discoverable and interoperable with other publishing tools, due to be completed in April 2018. This will give DSDJ the opportunity to integrate its digital content with the Fulcrum platform during their beta phase. Prior to the launch of Fulcrum, MP’s DLXS platform has the necessary features to comply with best practices in digital publishing by supporting interactive digital materials as a means to present humanistic-based scholarship through stable Uniform Resource Locators (URL) and Digital Object Identifiers (DOI). While completing the extraction process, DSDJ will work the MP team to implement a new platform for future publishing efforts of DSDJ in order to make the fifth and subsequent issues possible. Altmetric and Google Analytics
will be used to track the journal and contributors’ impact. Search Engine Optimization (i.e. for distinct Open URLs) will enable the broader discovery of the scholarly work that currently exists, and will continue to be produced. MP’s workflow system will support data management and content access in order to enable the process of submission and review, metadata creation, and open access policy definition of source material content. The workflow will connect these tools that are intrinsic part of MP, and thus is part of DSDJ’s larger plan, see Component II.

Another critical issue that past editors have faced with the platform is there are no workflow that is associated with the journal for managing the contributions, review and tracking system for the publication process. Along with the workflow that will be included with Michigan Publishing, DSDJ needs to have a formal peer-review tool that is specifically designed for sign language. As such, DSDJ will collaborate with Dr. Ted Supalla, director of Georgetown University’s Sign Language Research Laboratory (SLRL), who is leading the development of an innovative HTML5 based web-application called the Sign Language Tool Kit (SLTK) to enable research conducted in sign language. SLRL will support DSDJ with its application for the purpose of instituting a peer review process primarily, if not exclusively, in sign language. The platform is developed with the Ruby on Rails framework and a PostgreSQL relational database. The new WebRTC technology is used to enable fast media uploading and direct video recording upload without the use of an external app or Flash plugin, which is essential for submitting video based comments. As such, SLTK supports the capability to deliver a sign-to-sign (video playback and video recording that are aligned by timecodes), interactive peer review process with all involved parties from the time of initial submission to final video drafts. SLTK’s unique features include the management of playlists of both text and video artifacts and the capability to video edit cloud-based content. The peer reviewer will be able to comment with web-based video recording aligned with the original media content. All the media files related to SLTK (videos, pictures, and .pdf documents) will be linked to Gallaudet servers and will also link with MP’s workflow management system for a smooth and efficient peer-review process. Given the infancy of signed academic work against the backdrop of a larger context of academic publications, the use of SLTK in this way will help create new standards by which peer review can occur for the advancement of sign language users and scholarship, see Component III. and Appendix D for an illustrative peer-review protocol schema and SLTK interface examples.

Interactive Video Development: To follow the original vision of DSDJ of having a comprehensive and academic presentation video interface/wireframe, as illustrated in Appendix A, we must implement user-friendly interactive videos. There is a growing trend in marketing called T-commerce, in which videos allow bidirectional interaction between the user and the platform with video tagging features. DSDJ will work closely with MP to develop appropriate coding options capable of being stored on the server using Fulcrum and Hydra principles with Wirewax.com. A hotspots on the video screen will allow the user to access all ‘pop-ups’ various media such as video (i.e. interview, signed samples), images (this will allow the user to take time to review the illustrative media at their own pace), texts (i.e. quotes, complete references), and URLs to interact from the content further. As such, DSDJ will be able to set standards for use of citations and references in academic, sign language publications. Wirewax is interested in partnering with DSDJ so as to broaden their understanding of providing appropriate accessibility measures for Deaf users. The current approximate cost for licensing will be $200/month. This effort will also be guided by Dr. Vogler and Dr. Kushalnagar to keep abreast of new technological developments over the next few years.

The product development will consist of a rigorous review, evaluation, and feedback process with DSDJ stakeholders. This will involve communication with past contributors, scholars, advisory board members, library specialists, and Gallaudet community through surveys, focus groups, and community workshops or ‘town hall’ session. This process will be completed with several cycles during the 30 month efforts of the project, see Component IV.

Ultimately the new DSDJ platform will include the past four issues, a new platform housed by MP with appropriate user interface and usability inherent to sign language needs. This will include a comprehensive and unique sign-to-sign peer-review process, using an open access philosophy, and adhere to the principles of the Digital Preservation Network (DPN), see Component V. The initial cost for start
up with MP is $1,000 plus $1,000 yearly for licensing and operating costs (DSDJ will remain available and preserved in case of cessation or suspension of the journal operation). All the migration of past issues is subjected to $35 fee for each article, and the cost will be the same for new articles, see Component V.

4.5 Timeline

The project will be divided into quarters (3-month periods) as outlined in the Appendix E, starting from January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020. Administrative: The project operation will fall under the responsibility of the Project Director during the grant period, who will seek additional funding and marketing strategies as an ongoing task for the duration of the project. This includes periodical reports (internal as mid-cycle, and to NEH-DHAG). Component I: The efforts to retrieve, archive, and migrate the current DSDJ will be an ongoing effort for the first two years of the project. Due to the nature of Flash, there are numerous video files that must be re-edited from raw video files in order to improve the video quality to be used on the new platform. Without this conversion, all files will eventually be lost due to technological advancements. This component will be a time and labor intensive task, carried out largely by student interns, and monitored closely by the Assistant Project Director. Component II: This will consist of working with MP’s web developer and user interface expert along with Dr. Vogler and Dr. Kushalnagar regarding accessibility and learning experience of visual learners in a digital environment. This includes the network integration for past issues and new ones. Component III: As the SLTK web-app is already in place by SLRL, we will work with Dr. Supalla to develop suitable peer-review protocols for a sign-to-sign process. This will keep in mind its effectiveness regarding both technology and the user experience with SLTK, and its ability to be integrated with the MP workflow. This will be a cyclical process to be re-evaluated with each issue. Component IV: The evaluation process will be continuous throughout the project, and will be more critical during certain quarters than others (i.e. Issue 5 and 6 as the Beta version). This process will allow us to effectively evaluate and implement the best practices based on the input received from the project stakeholders and experts. Component V: Throughout the process of migration of past issues and development of a new platform, DSDJ will work toward releasing a new issue. The fifth issue is aimed to be released during fourth quarter of the project (Fall 2018), with the intent to send out a formal call for submissions by the second quarter during Spring 2018, if this proposal is accepted. DSDJ will announce the journal’s revival by early Fall 2017. The first two issues will be considered a Beta platform and they will be subjected to continuous improvements, based on expert feedback. Based on this, we will revisit the published articles to provide further tune-ups to ensure its success. Each publication cycle will be three quarters long with one quarter overlapping between the final publication and call for submissions. Anticipated publication of new issues: 5 - Fall 2018, 6 - Summer 2019, 7 - Fall 2019, 8 - Summer 2020.

5. STAFF

The team will consist of two primary personnel (Project Director/Principal Investigator and Assistant Project Director), and the inter-departmental collaboration and cross-institutional efforts will be led by the project PI. Four institutional experts and three students/interns from three different departments will be included. In addition to Gallaudet team, the project will work closely with the MP team with his Principal Investigator and a software engineer, and with the University of Georgetown SLRL. See the biography in Section 5, and a complete budget in Section 6.

Principal Investigator/Project Director: Patrick Boudreault, Ph.D., Executive Editor of DSDJ. He received a two course release during this AY 16-17 and one month during summer 2017 toward this project to lay the groundwork. He is a full-time faculty member and requests a course release per semester to devote his time to this project - an equivalent of 17.5% effort for Y1-2 and 10% effort for Y3 (1 semester). These efforts equate to one course release per semester to cover an adjunct pay. The university is committed to support Dr. Boudreault working for DSDJ during summers 2018, 2019, and 2020 as a one-month equivalent. Given his experience and expertise in past federal grants (NIH R01 and NCI R25), he will serve as the Project Director and oversee all of the administrative functions of the project, such as staffing supervision, complying with the grant rules, monitoring, approving, and reporting the budget on a monthly and annually basis, planning and prioritization of the project objectives, leading the cross-collaboration efforts among project personnel, ensuring the quality of the student intern performance and
learning outcomes, collaborate with Gallaudet Technology Services, ensuring the project deliverables from MP and its team are up to date, gathering input from the project advisory board and stakeholders, ensuring the completion of overall project deliverables, communicating periodically with NEH’s DHAG grant officer, and preparing the reports. In conjunction with the Assistant Project Director, they will develop migration protocols and train the team members to complete this process in collaboration with MP. He will be responsible for the implementation and evaluation of the new DSDJ platform and the development of interactive videos essential to DSDJ and compatible with Fulcrum infrastructure. Ultimately supervising and facilitating between the peer-review platform and workflow with SLTK web-app will be his main responsibility. He will also work GTS staff and resources to ensure the preservation and sustainability of current DSDJ until the migration process is complete.

**Assistant Project Director: Jessica Murgel, M.A., Managing Editor of DSDJ:** She is a part-time staff member at Gallaudet and is currently working 20 hours a week (50%) since August 2016 to support various projects with the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies, and working on DSDJ is one of her main roles. She will devote 50% of her time toward this project for 30 months (Y1-2-3) and the remainder of her time will support other scholarly projects on campus. Her role will be to assist the Project Director with all aspects of daily project management and oversee the completion of all project deliverables. She will also supervise student interns during the migration process, coordinate the implementation of the new publication platform, act as a liaison between GTS and MP, and leading the publication process, from the call to submissions to final publication, for future issues. She will assist in gathering the feedback from the stakeholders, and prepare those reports.

**Institutional Expertise**

*Dirksen Bauman, P.h.D., Deaf Studies Expert:* As the Chair of the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies, he will devote 1% of his effort for Y1-2, and 0.5% for Y3. As a co-founder of DSDJ, he will serve as a critical resource to ensure a proper transfer of knowledge of the past efforts of DSDJ to the new personnel involved. Given his knowledge of DSDJ from its inception, and his extensive editing experience, he will function as a consultant to advise the DSDJ team on the best publishing practices. He will act as co-supervisor for a student intern from his department with the Project Director.

*Elizabeth Henry, M.A., Library Science Expert:* She is a full-time staff member and will devote 2.5% of her time for Y1-2 and 1.25% for Y3. As one of the very few highly trained Deaf librarians in the U.S., she will consult on critical aspects of digital library sciences and the needs of bilingual content of scholarly articles. Her vast knowledge of metadata management will ensure the appropriateness of creating information for Search Engine Optimization (SEO).

*Christian Vogler, Ph.D., Telecommunication Access Expert:* He will devote 2% of his effort for Y1-2, and 1% for Y3 (an equivalent of 1 credit course - 37.5 hours). He is a world-leading expert in technology and accessibility advancements for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing. He will consult on the best practices of the new DSDJ platform to comply with the accessibility standards as dictated by Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG - w3.org). He will be a co-supervisor for a student intern with the Project Director.

*Raja Kushalnagar, Ph.D., IT and human-computer interaction expert:* He will devote 2.2% of his effort for Y1-2, and 1.1% for Y3 (an equivalent of 1 credit course - 37.5 hours). He will consult on the interactive video development, reviewing the stakeholder feedbacks and collaborate with Mr. McGlone from MP. He will be a co-supervisor for a student intern with the Project Director.

**Student Interns:** Three student interns will be identified from three different departments: Deaf Studies, Information Technology, and Interpretation and Translation. A Deaf Studies student will work for 10 hours a week @ 15 weeks per semester (5 semesters) to support the DSDJ content extraction, archiving, metadata, and annotate/translate the content. This student will be co-supervised with Dr. Bauman. A student from Interpretation and Translation will work for 10 hours a week @ 15 weeks per semester (5 semesters) to support the DSDJ content annotation and translation in English text and from other signed languages in ASL. This student will be directly supervised by Dr. Boudreault. A student from IT will work with Mr. McGlone and Dr. Kushalnagar to evaluate and implement the best use of
interactive video. This student will also help to develop a DSDJ homepage for marketing purposes outside of the MP platform. This student will be co-supervised with Dr. Kushalnagar.

**External Expertise**

*Ted Supalla,* Ph.D., Project Collaborator. He will support this project at no cost. Given his knowledge of SLTK, he will be in a position to advise on the development of a new sign-to-sign peer review protocol and assist in its implementation. He will consult on the best practices of sign language digital publication.

*Jason Colman,* MLIS, Principal Investigator of subrecipient at no cost to supervise MP’s web designer and user interface expert. He will be the primary point of contact with MP collaboration.

*Jonathan McGlone,* MLIS, Web Designer and User Interface export. He will devote 20% of his effort for Y1-2 with MP. His main role is be to support the development of the most appropriate user experience for sign language users integration by developing specific coding and implementing existing APIs from interactive video component. This will also include the the consultation to carry out the migration process toward new Fulcrum platform. He will work closely with Dr. Vogler and Dr. Kushalnagar for the user accessibility and human-computer interaction.

**Advisory Board**

The Advisory Board’s function will be distinct from responsibilities of the Editorial Board. Their role is to give feedback and provide insights as we make changes to advance the accessibility and reach of DSDJ. Their participation will entail reviewing the new platform to evaluate its usability and accessibility, identifying various publishing tools to be integrated into the new platform, participating in the experimental sign-to-sign peer review process, identifying potential funding sources for the long-term operation of DSDJ, brainstorming possibilities for new special issues, and most importantly promoting DSDJ.

**6. FINAL PRODUCT AND DISSEMINATION**

To date, DSDJ has developed an international reputation within the Deaf community and possesses a solid base of followers as demonstrated by the metrics showing a significant number of visitors to dsdj.gallaudet.edu since 2009. Since the last issue published in 2014, we have received countless requests of interested viewers to submit articles for next the issue and several individuals who are interested in becoming editor of a special issue. This includes several individuals who want to submit articles in more than two languages (e.g. Chinese and Hong Kong Sign Language as additional languages) for more global outreach. The final product will be housed on Michigan Publishing’s server and made available to the library network database, meaning that it will be searchable and discoverable while the current version does not have the necessary mechanisms in place. MP is associated with numerous databases using Directory of Open Access Journals, a community-curated online directory reaching 126 countries with a collection of 2.5 million articles and 9,438 journals (DOAJ), and MP will add this journal to Google Scholar. The efforts of dissemination will not be limited to the MP platform, but rather the DSDJ team will maintain and extend the viewership to new audiences will be supported through various outreach methods ranging from social media to public press releases with the support of the Office of University Communications at Gallaudet. This outreach will also include presenting at academic conferences. For example, upcoming presentations will include “Digital Embodiment: Sign Language Publishing and the Deaf Studies Digital Journal” at the University of Maryland, hosted by the Society for Textual Scholarship in June 2017, as well as “Deaf Studies Digital Journal: The Next Generation” in August 2017 at the 8th annual Deaf Academics Conference in Denmark. In addition to traditional marketing channels, DSDJ will have their own home page that will produce vlogs (video blog) and blogs to produce regular announcements in two languages (ASL and English) which will integrated with the social media interface (i.e Facebook, Twitter). During this proposed grant cycle, we planned to publish four issues at no cost to all contributors. The anticipated total number of articles we will publish will be between 6 to 9 entries per issue: 4 to 5 original, peer-reviewed articles, 1 to 2 creative works, 1 to 2 commentaries, and 1 review. The first two issues will be open to contributors and the subsequent ones will have a specific topic.
5. BIOGRAPHIES

**Principal Investigator - Project Director**

**Patrick Boudreault, Ph.D.**, Executive Editor of *Deaf Studies Digital Journal*

Dr. Boudreault is an associate Professor in the Department of Interpretation and Translation, and Affiliate Faculty with the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University. He has been involved in sign language teaching, interpreting and translation, and Deaf Studies for more than 20 years in both Canada and the United States. He has received substantial funding from the NIH for Deaf Genetics Projects in close collaboration with Dr. Christina Palmer of UCLA to investigate the impact of genetic testing and genetic counseling for deaf genes on the Deaf community in California. He is the co-editor of *The SAGE Deaf Studies Encyclopedia* with Dr. Genie Gertz, which was published in 2016 with 330 entries from 220 contributors, marking a milestone in the field of Deaf Studies. He possess a considerable experience collaborating with web developer, software engineer and the use of digital humanities ranging from videography, online instruction to the development of the web-app. He is a native user of Langue des Signes Québécoise and is also fluent in American Sign Language, English and French.

**Assistant Project Director**

**Jessica Murgel, M.A.**, Managing Editor of *Deaf Studies Digital Journal*

Ms. Murgel is a program assistant, and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of ASL & Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University. She holds a Master of Arts in Deaf Studies from Gallaudet University and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and History from American University. As a child of deaf parents, she is a native user of American Sign Language and English. She has held editing positions for *The SAGE Deaf Studies Encyclopedia* and *Pharmakon*, an undergraduate philosophy journal and project management positions with the Department of ASL & Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University and the Neda Cultural Institute. She has also presented at conferences on postcolonialism, oppression, deaf people, and textuality.

**Affiliated Personnel**

**H-Dirksen Bauman, Ph.D.**, Deaf Studies Expert and co-Founder of *Deaf Studies Digital Journal*

Dr. Bauman is a professor of Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University, where he currently serves as Department Chair in the Department of ASL & Deaf Studies. He is the founding Executive Editor of the *Deaf Studies Digital Journal* (2008-2016) and served as the Coordinator of the Office of Bilingual Teaching and Learning (2009-2014). He is the co-editor of the book/DVD project, *Signing the Body Poetic: Essays in American Sign Language Literature* with Jennifer Nelson and Heidi Rose (U of California P, 2006) and editor of *Open Your Eyes: Deaf Studies Talking* (U of Minnesota P, 2008), and co-editor of *Deaf Gain: Raising the Stakes for Human Diversity* (U of Minnesota P, 2014) with Joseph Murray. He is coauthor of *Transformative Conversations: A Guide to Mentoring Communities among Colleagues in Higher Education* (Jossey-Bass, 2013). Dr. Bauman has also lectured widely and has published articles in ASL literature, literary theory and bioethics.

**Elizabeth Henry, M.A.**, Library Science Expert

Elizabeth Henry joined the Gallaudet University Library in 2010 as an Instruction and Reference/E-Resources Librarian after obtaining her MLIS from Simmons College in 2009. Being responsible for educating users on how to search, access, and evaluate resources, along with managing and ensuring access to the library's electronic resources, has provided Elizabeth insight on what is involved with scholarly publishing and online access. In addition to her duties, she reviews the literature to stay abreast of the current trends in regards to online publishing and open access.
Christian Vogler, Ph.D., Communication and Technology Access Expert
Dr. Christian Vogler is the director of the Technology Access Program. He is a principal investigator within the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC) on Telecommunications Access, with a particular focus on the accessibility of web conferencing and tele-collaboration systems. In his role at the RERC, he is involved in bringing consumers and industry together on accessibility issues, as well as developing prototype technologies for improving the accessibility of such systems. Prior to joining TAP in 2011, Dr. Vogler has worked on various research projects related to sign language recognition and facial expression recognition from video at the University of Pennsylvania; the Gallaudet Research Institute; UNICAMP in Campinas, Brazil; and the Institute for Language and Speech Processing in Athens, Greece.

Raja, Kushalngar, J.D., LL.M., Ph.D., Information Technology Expert
Dr. Raja Kushalngar interests focus on the intersection of disability law, accessible and educational technology, and human-computer interaction. He is currently focused on enhancing educational access for deaf and hard of hearing students. He worked in industry for over five years before returning to academia and disability law policy. Towards that end, he completed a J.D. and LL.M. for disability law, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science.

External Expertise
Ted Supalla, Ph.D., Director, Sign Language Research Lab (Non-paid Project Collaborator)
Dr. Supalla is a professor of Neurology at Georgetown University and the director of the Sign Language Research Lab. Dr. Supalla leads a team in building a digital sign language annotation toolkit platform (SLTK) as a part of Deaf Studies networking effort. He is developing a massive open online course on the EdX platform entitled: Sign Language Structure, Learning, and Change, to be released in the summer of 2017. In addition, he hosts a Historical Sign Language Database (www.hsldb.georgetown.edu) as a resource tool for public use. He published four articles on Sign Language Linguistics in DSDJ and serves on its Editorial Board.

Jason Colman, MLIS, Principal Investigator of the grant subrecipient, and Electronic Journal Publication Expert
Jason Colman is the Director of Publishing Services at Michigan Publishing. He oversees a small staff of Digital Publishing Coordinators, and is responsible for managing projects (open access books, journals, and web collections) from consultation to publication. He has a BA in History and an MLIS from the University of Michigan. Prior to joining Michigan Publishing, he was a Project Specialist for the California Digital Library Mass Digitization Program.

Jonathan McGlone, MLIS, Web developer and User Interface Designer
Jonathan is a Front End Developer and UI Designer at Michigan Publishing. His primary work involves front end development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript), UI design, usability, and accessibility for over 50 Michigan Publishing web assets including open access journals, monographs and websites hosted on a variety of platforms with a variety of internal and external stakeholders. He is currently working on Fulcrum (codebase), a Mellon-funded, Hydra/Fedora based digital publishing platform. He has a BA from Calvin College in Film Studies and an MLIS from Wayne State University. Before joining Michigan Publishing in 2012, he served as Digital Projects Librarian and more recently Scholarly Communications Librarian at Wayne State University.
## Budget Form

**Applicant Institution:** Gallaudet University  
**Project Director:** Dr. Patrick Boudreaux  
**Project Grant Period:** 01/01/2018 through 6/30/2020

### 1. Salaries & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Academic Year Salary:</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Director: Patrick Boudreaux</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) (yr 1); (b) (yr 2); (b) (yr 3)</td>
<td>17.5% effort</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Project Director: Jessica Murgel</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) (yr 1); (b) (yr 2); (b) (yr 3)</td>
<td>50% effort</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deaf Studies Expert: Dirkspan Bauman</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) (yr 1); (b) (yr 2); (b) (yr 3)</td>
<td>1% effort</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Library Science Expert: Elizabeth Henry</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) (yr 1); (b) (yr 2); (b) (yr 3)</td>
<td>2.5% effort</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IT and Human-Computer Interaction Expert: Raja Kushnagar</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) (yr 1); (b) (yr 2); (b) (yr 3)</td>
<td>2.2% effort</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telecommunication Access Expert: Christian Vogler</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) (yr 1); (b) (yr 2); (b) (yr 3)</td>
<td>2% effort</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Interns</strong></td>
<td>$ (b) for 30 hr/wks. for 30 weeks each academic year</td>
<td>2% wage increase</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. Fringe Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Benefits Increase each year</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Director: Patrick Boudreaux</strong></td>
<td>28.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Project Director: Jessica Murgel</strong></td>
<td>23.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>24.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deaf Studies Expert: Dirkspan Bauman</strong></td>
<td>28.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Library Science Expert: Elizabeth Henry</strong></td>
<td>23.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IT and Human-Computer Interaction Expert: Raja Kushnagar</strong></td>
<td>28.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telecommunication Access Expert: Christian Vogler</strong></td>
<td>23.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>29.50%</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Consultant Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Web Access Development &amp; Content Migration</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Michigan Publishing</strong></td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
<td>$ (b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ground transportation costs (i.e. parking, metro, etc.)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEH Project Director Meeting</strong></td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 5. Supplies & Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$50 per month</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6. Services

- **Total**: $0

### 7. Other Costs

- **T-Commerce Platform (e.g. Wirewax.com)**: $200 per month
  - 12 months: $2,400
  - 12 months: $2,400
  - 6 months: $1,200
  - **Total**: $6,000

### 8. Total Direct Costs

- **Per Year**: $109,620
- **Total**: $251,005

### 9. Total Indirect Costs

- **Per Year**: $28,858
- **Total**: $72,474

### 10. Total Project Costs

- **Total**: $323,479

### 11. Project Funding

- **a. Requested from NEH**
  - Outright: $323,479
  - Federal Matching Funds: $0
  - **Total Requested from NEH**: $323,479

- **b. Cost Sharing**
  - Applicant’s Contributions: $0
  - Third-Party Contributions: $0
  - Project Income: $0
  - Other Federal Agencies: $0
  - **Total Cost Sharing**: $0

### 12. Total Project Funding

- **Total**: $323,479

---

**Notes**:
- Total Project Costs must equal Total Project Funding
- Third-Party Contributions must be greater than or equal to Requested Federal Matching Funds
# Budget Form

Applicant Institution: University of Michigan
Project Director: Jesse Coleman
Project Grant Period: 01/01/2018 through 12/31/2019

## 1. Salaries & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McGone, Jonathan</td>
<td>Annual Salary (for 1)</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$21,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGone, Jonathan</td>
<td>Senior Associate Librarian, Michigan Publishing</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$21,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

McGone will be the Co-PI and the software developer attached to this project.

## 7. Fringe Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McGone, Jonathan</td>
<td>Senior Associate Librarian, Michigan Publishing</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>$21,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This fee is calculated by a university negotiable rate and covers the work Michigan Publishing will do to convert the existing Galleries journal and to be hosted on Michigan’s platform.

## 10. Total Project Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs Description</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Project Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Direct Costs</td>
<td>$24,316</td>
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<td>Total Indirect Costs</td>
<td>$54,158</td>
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11. Project Funding

a. Requested from NEH

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of Funding</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Matching Funds</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Requested From NEH</td>
<td>$54,158</td>
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b. Cost Sharing

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of Funding</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant’s Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third-Party Contributions</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Income</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>Other Federal Agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Cost Sharing</td>
<td>$0</td>
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</table>

12. Total Project Funding

| Total Project Costs | $54,158 |

Total Project Costs must be equal to Total Project Funding

Third-Party Contributions must be greater than or equal to Requested Federal Matching Funds

\[
\text{Total Project Costs} = \text{Total Project Funding} \\
\text{Third-Party Contributions} \geq \text{Requested Federal Matching Funds}
\]
## 7. APPENDICES

| A: Current DSDJ Interface                  | 21 |
| B: Data from past 4 issues                | 23 |
| C: Workflow of the proposed project       | 25 |
| D: SLTK:Sign-to-sign peer-review          | 26 |
| E: Timeline                              | 27 |
| F: References                            | 28 |
APPENDIX A - DSDJ

Figure 1. Home page for Issue 4

Figure 2. Genre Menu “Articles”

Figure 3. Quotation & Citation, Downloadable PDF

Figure 4. Citations and References
APPENDIX B - DATA FROM PAST 4 ISSUES

May 2, 2009 - May 31, 2017

Audience Overview

All Users: 100.00% Sessions

Overview

Sessions: 136,542
Users: 82,142
Pageviews: 231,312

Pages / Session: 1.69
Avg. Session Duration: 00:01:27
Bounce Rate: 75.02%

% New Sessions: 60.14%

New Visitor: 90.2%
Returning Visitor: 39.8%
APPENDIX C - PROPOSED PROJECT WORKFLOW

Component I.
Organization/Archival/Migration

Gallaudet Technology Services
- Support Server
dsdj.gallaudet.edu
- Video / Content Archiving

DSDJ Team
- Content Retrieval
- Video Transcoding
- Metadata Organization

Component II.

- Platform UI & Ux
- Video integration
- Network
- Repository

Component III.
Peer-Review [SLTK]

- Platform UI & Ux
- Protocol
- Video (sign-to-sign)

Workflow Tool

Component IV. Evaluation & Feedback

Survey
- Focus Groups
- Stakeholders
- Experts

Component V. New DSDJ

Past Issues
- Integration with New Platform
- Indexing

New Issues
- Call for Submissions
- Submissions and Peer-Review
- Publication

- Dissemination (Open Access)
- Digital Preservation Network

APPENDIX D - SIGN LANGUAGE TOOL KIT; SIGN-TO-SIGN PEER-REVIEW
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<td>Project infrastructure preparation and conclusion</td>
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<td>Additional funding efforts</td>
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<td>Marketing</td>
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<td>Mid-cycle</td>
<td>NEH #1</td>
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<td><strong>Component I. [Organization/Archival/Migration]</strong></td>
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<td>Digital transcoding and interactive video tagging</td>
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<td>Organization and archiving metadata</td>
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<td>Migration and publication</td>
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<td>Development of UI and UX [accessibility]</td>
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<td>Interactive video integration</td>
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<td>Network integration</td>
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<td>Issue #6</td>
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<td>Integration with MP workflow</td>
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<td>Beta-1</td>
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<td>Feedback from Stakeholders (experts and advisor board)</td>
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<td><strong>Component V. [New DSDJ]</strong></td>
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<td>Release of the Beta DSDJ platform &gt; Evaluation period</td>
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<td>Call for submission/Receiving Proposals/Submissions</td>
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<td>Final digital content preparation [videography and translation]</td>
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<td>Final article content publication</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX F: REFERENCES

Websites:
ASLized: https://aslized.org
Fulcrum: https://www.fulcrum.org
Gallaudet University Press (GUP): http://gupress.gallaudet.edu
Hydra: https://projecthydra.org
Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education: https://academic.oup.com/jdsde
Michigan Publishing: https://www.publishing.umich.edu
Sign Language Research Lab (SLRL): https://cbpr.georgetown.edu/researchlabs/srl
Sign Language Studies (SLS): http://gupress.gallaudet.edu/SLS.html
Wirewax: http://www.wirewax.com

Publications:

Conferences:
8. LETTERS of SUPPORT / COMMITMENT

1. Dr. Lennard Davis - Letter of support
2. Prof Dr. Christian Rathmann - Letter of support
5. Dr. H-Dirksen. Bauman - Expert commitment
6. Ms. Elizabeth Henry - Expert commitment
7. Dr. Christian Vogler - Expert commitment
8. Dr. Raja Kushalnagar - Expert commitment
9. Dr. Ted Supalla - Expert commitment
10. Dr. Robert Adam - Advisory Board commitment
11. Dr. Cheryl E. Ball - Advisory Board commitment
12. Dr. Vladimir Bazoev - Advisory Board commitment
13. Dr. Brian Greenwald - Advisory Board commitment
14. Dr. Hilde Haualand - Advisory Board commitment
15. Dr. Kim Kurz - Advisory Board commitment
16. Dr. Annelies Kusters - Advisory Board commitment
17. Dr. Laura Mauldin - Advisory Board commitment
18. Dr. Johanna Mesch - Advisory Board commitment
19. Dr. Kristin Mulrooney - Advisory Board commitment
20. Dr. Yutaka Osgui - Advisory Board commitment
21. Dr. Khadijat Rashid - Advisory Board commitment
May 25, 2017

Dear NEH Digital Humanities Advancement Grant Review Team,

I am writing to express my full support and enthusiasm for the grant proposal submitted by Gallaudet University’s Deaf Studies Digital Journal editorial team for the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Advancement Grant.

As a scholar who has worked within the intersections of literature, theory, deaf studies and disability studies since the 1980s, I can attest to the indispensable value of this project to the humanities. If we scholars are dedicated to producing and disseminating knowledge that is representative of diverse human experiences, a publication platform that is attuned toward accessibility is essential. The Deaf Studies Digital Journal, which puts sign languages as a medium of academic expression at the fore, has the potential to transform the ways in which scholarship is communicated, ultimately allowing for a multiplicity of voices to emerge in academic publications, in ways that we have never seen before.

While the Deaf Studies Digital Journal has been in existence since 2009, its valuable contents have not been as widely accessible and disseminated as they deserve. Having been housed within a Flash-based platform, they remain unsearchable through academic databases. The significant advancement proposed in this application would enable DSDJ publications to be widely searched and available in an open source model so that they may assume their rightful place in the mainstream of humanities scholarship.

This advancement comes through a vital collaboration between the University of Michigan and Gallaudet University, resulting in a fully accessible bilingual and bimodal platform. Such accessibility is of great benefit to the Deaf scholars who are able to produce work in and about their signed languages, as well as to non-Deaf scholars who would have unprecedented access to the wisdom and insights of Deaf Studies scholarship. As such, this project has the potential to dismantle barriers that have heretofore marginalized Deaf scholars from equal participation and engagement in humanities scholarship.

I encourage the National Endowment for the Humanities to invest in this project which is dedicated toward a more robust and diverse future for the digital humanities.
Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lennard J. Davis  
Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Department of English  
Department of Medical Education  
Department of Disability and Human Development
May 30, 2017

Dear Dr. Boudreault,

It is my pleasure to learn that the Deaf Studies Digital Journal (DSDJ) is submitting an application to the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Advancement Grant program.

As a professor and researcher in sign language linguistics, interpretation and translation, and a long time advocate of sign language rights, I wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of this grant to ensure that sign language scholars have a medium through which sign language is the primary language of transmission of knowledge. I believe that this is essential to propel the fields of linguistics, interpretation, and deaf studies further, as well as contribute more generally to humanistic discourse.

My position and experience has afforded me the opportunity to travel around the world for the last decade to attend numerous international and national conferences, often as the keynote presenter. As such, I have had the opportunity to observe firsthand the lack of critical academic discourse in sign language, due to lack of empowerment. Based on these observations, I strongly believe that the emergence of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal has provided a very unique platform which has the potential to transform how scholarly communication happens, such that we can begin to learn insights from the under-represented group. Not only will this project allow for scholars who are typically at the margins of academia to come to the fore, but also will allow non-Deaf scholars access to academic discourse that has been circulating among deaf communities for decades. This act of producing an accessible academic journal that places primacy on sign languages has empowered the growing voice of scholars engaged in sign language-related and Deaf studies worldwide.

I was fortunate to be one of the contributors to the fourth issue of DSDJ. I published a work entitled “Implementation of the Common European Framework of Reference (CERF) for Sign Languages” delivered in International Sign with a fellow researcher, Ms. Naomi Sheneman, who produced an American Sign Language translation. This entry gave me the opportunity to spread our work to a wider audience in the field of deaf studies, rather than limiting the scope of the audience to American Sign Language.
Language users. Thus far, this journal has had significant reach given the efforts of the DSDJ editorial team and the steadfast support by Gallaudet University to fund this journal and ensure accessibility through Open Access. I believe it is essential for this journal to continue to make advancements as proposed in order for there be an even wider reach across the globe.

As a professor and program director of sign language studies and sign language interpreting at the University of Hamburg, I implemented a sign language interpreting & translation program designed for sign language users which prepares future professionals in this field. DSDJ has served as a model for the students in the program to look toward to better understand and think through best theories and practices as it relates to translation of signed and written languages. To date, DSDJ holds the highest standard in multilingual and multimodal scholarly publications. There, however, is always more work to be done, and this grant proposal ensures that the journal will enact a more fully bilingual approach such that an increased audience of new and non-signers will have access.

In short, DSDJ’s founding has provided a paradigm shift in deaf studies, in sign language studies and related fields at the time given the available technology. As of now, there are several critical limitations which the editors make apparent in the proposal. Without these upgrades, DSDJ is at risk of losing the content that has been produced over the years. This proposal makes preservation possible. It is with great enthusiasm and support that I advocate that this grant proposal be accepted given the grant team’s expertise and qualifications to enact what is outlined in the proposal to preserve, sustain, and transform scholarly communication in deaf studies, and humanities, more broadly.

I strongly recommend that this grant proposal be accepted by the National Endowment for the Humanities so that the next generation of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal is made possible, which will have significant impact on deaf studies and transform how we think about accessibility and publishing in the digital humanities.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Dr. Christian Rathmann
May 31, 2017

Dr. Patrick Boudreault
Deaf Studies Digital Journal - Gallaudet University
Executive Editor
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB 1415
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Dr. Boudreault:

It is my distinct pleasure to write this letter of commitment to serve in my role as Assistant Project Director for the project entitled “Exposing the Borders of Academia: Sign Language as a Medium of Knowledge, Production, Preservation, and Dissemination” for submission to the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Advancement Grants program.

I bring both my knowledge of the field of Deaf Studies, and humanities more broadly, and editing experience to this project with the intent to make significant advancements to the Deaf Studies Digital Journal. As the current managing editor of the Journal, I believe that through digital publishing we can create a movement that manifests principles of accessibility and democracy through which subjugated knowledges can come to the forefront of intellectual spaces. Producing new media through which we can communicate new forms of scholarship is imperative to this endeavor. For these reasons, I am wholly committed to the project as stipulated by the grant application.

Take care,

[Signature]

Jessica L. Murgel
Managing Editor, Deaf Studies Digital Journal
Department of ASL & Deaf Studies
Gallaudet University
800 Florida AVE NE, SLCC 1236
Washington, DC 20002
May 30, 2017

Dr. Patrick Boudreault
Deaf Studies Digital Journal - Gallaudet University
Executive Editor
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB 1415
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Dr. Boudreault:

I am writing this to demonstrate both my commitment and excitement in submitting an application the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Advancement Grant. As the co-founding executive editor of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal, I am familiar with both its groundbreaking nature as well as its considerable challenges. I look forward to collaborating with an invigorated editor and managing editor, and to continue being involved in its revitalization and dissemination to broader audiences. Doing so is imperative to the future of the field of Deaf Studies, and the humanities more broadly. With a new platform and a new focus on increased accessibility, this project can bring Deaf Studies and the humanities to new heights in that sign language publications can be produced, circulated, and referenced on par with written publications. In support of the future of DSDJ and the field, I commit to supervising graduate assistants, and taking an active, advisory role in editorial and administrative capacities. My role as department chair of ASL and Deaf Studies enables me to fulfill those duties as they align with the larger strategic initiatives of the department.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Dirksen Bauman,
Chair, ASL and Deaf Studies Department
Gallaudet University
May 30, 2017

Dr. Patrick Boudreault  
Deaf Studies Digital Journal – Gallaudet University  
Executive Editor  
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB 1415  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Dr. Boudreault:

I am writing to express my commitment to providing assistance to the continued improvement and publication of DSDJ, for it is a unique format that may push the current boundaries of scholarly publishing. DSDJ holds the potential to re-define the scholarly publishing field, while disseminating information in relation to Deaf Studies. I joined the Gallaudet University Library in 2010 as an Instruction and Reference/E-Resources Librarian. My current position has provided me with insight on what is involved with scholarly publishing and online access and in addition, I am constantly reviewing the literature to stay abreast of the current trends in regards to online publishing and online access, all of which is applicable to DSDJ.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Henry, MLIS  
Instruction & Reference/E-Resources Librarian  
Gallaudet University Library  
800 Florida Ave NE, MLC 1405  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
elizabeth.henry@gallaudet.edu
May 25, 2017

Dr. Patrick Boudreault
Deaf Studies Digital Journal - Gallaudet University
Executive Editor
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB 1415
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Dr. Boudreault:

I am writing to express my full commitment to the proposed project to advance the Deaf Studies Digital Journal. I believe the potential technological enhancements to DSDJ that are proposed in his Digital Humanities Advancement Grants application have the capacity to redefine accessible scholarship. As the director of Gallaudet University’s Technology Access Program and scholar in technology and communication studies, I am committed to consulting on this project on how to provide a wholly accessible publishing platform, attuned to Deaf and hard of hearing people, in accordance with the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0, and other best practices for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. This includes my time to co-supervise one intern with the project director, Dr. Boudreault and Dr. Kushalnagar for five academic semesters.

Sincerely,

Christian Vogler, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Arts, Communication, and Theatre
Director, Technology Access Program
Gallaudet University
800 Florida Ave NE, SLCC 1116
Washington, D.C. 20002
christian.vogler@gallaudet.edu
Dr. Patrick Boudreault  
Deaf Studies Digital Journal - Gallaudet University  
Executive Editor  
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB 1415  
Washington, D.C. 20002

It is my pleasure to serve on the project team geared toward the advancement of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal. I am writing to confirm my commitment to this project. I look forward to the technological potential that this journal offers in partnership with Michigan Publishing’s web development team to hone and develop innovative features in academic publishing. Given my experience as a computer scientist and human-computer interaction expert, I am committed to serving in the capacity of consultant to best advise on the development of technical features of this journal, in addition to co-supervise one intern alongside the project director, Dr. Boudreault, and Dr. Vogler for five academic semesters.

Sincerely,

Raja Kushalnagar, Ph.D., JD.  
Director of Information Technology Program  
Associate professor, Department of Science, Technology & Math  
Gallaudet University  
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB N341B  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
raja.kushalnagar@gallaudet.edu
May 29, 2017

Dr. Patrick Boudreault  
Deaf Studies Digital Journal - Gallaudet University  
Executive Editor  
800 Florida Ave NE, HMB 1415  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Dr. Boudreault:

This letter is to confirm my commitment to serve as an external expert for the *Deaf Studies Digital Journal*, as stipulated by the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Advancement Grants application. I value the importance of DSDJ for the vitality of the Deaf Studies scholarship for years to come, and look forward to the potential for Deaf Studies given a new robust and sustainable platform.

I am currently the director of the Sign Language Research Center at Georgetown University, and have been involved with DSDJ as a contributor of several academic articles to the past four issues that DSDJ published, as well as attended the Summit that convened in 2014 to discuss best practices moving forward with DSDJ. In particular, I will provide guidance on the best practices of sign language scholarly publications and work to implement an innovative sign-to-sign peer-review web-app, Sign Language Tool Kit (SLTK), developed in our lab at Georgetown. This new web-app will provide the possibility for the DSDJ editorial team to conduct a peer-review process outside of traditional paths of written communication between contributors and reviewers to make way for the possibility for peer-review to occur in signing scholars’ primary languages.

Sincerely,

Ted Supalla, Ph.D.  
Professor  
Departments of Neurology, Linguistics and Psychology  
Georgetown University
Dear Dr Boudreault,

Thank you so much for the invitation to join the DSDJ Advisory Board - in short, I would be delighted to accept!

All the very best,

Robert Adam.

On 15 May 2017, at 20:44, DSDJ Executive Editor <dsdj.executive.editor@gallaudet.edu> wrote:

Dear Dr. Adam,

Please kindly see this attached letter.

Sincerely,

Patrick Boudreault, Ph.D.
Executive Editor
HMB 1415
202.558.2271 VP
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Jessica Murgel, M.A.
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<DSDJ160160WHITE.jpg>

<DSDJ Advisory Board Request - Adam.pdf>
From: Cheryl Ball <chba@ma.wvu.edu>
Subject: Re: DSDJ Follow Up & Advisory Board Invitation
Date: May 26, 2017 at 12:41 PM
To: Jessy Murgel <jessica.murgel@gallaudet.edu>
Cc: Cheryl Ball <chba@ma.wvu.edu>, DSDJ Executive Editor <dsdj.executive.editor@gallaudet.edu>, Lydia Weker <mweker@m.x.wvu.edu>

Dear Patrick and Jessy,

I am honored to have been invited to serve on the advisory board for Deaf Studies Digital Journal. Please consider this response my acceptance of that invitation. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Cheryl.

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Dr. Cheryl E. Ball
http://ceball.com
http://vegapublish.com/

Editor, Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy
Associate Professor of Digital Publishing, West Virginia University
Director, Digital Publishing Institute at WVU Libraries
Executive Director, Council of Editors of Learned Journals

On May 19, 2017, at 20:22, Jessy Murgel <jessica.murgel@gallaudet.edu> wrote:

Hello Dr. Ball,

I hope the end of the semester wrapped up well for you! I just wanted to follow up on our meeting and thank you so much for taking the time to sit down with me. It's been a bit of hectic time on our end working on our application for NEH, so I haven't had a chance to really unpack the resources you provided just yet.

I wanted to be in touch as well about maintaining your relationship with DSDJ. I really value your knowledge and expertise, and would like to send this letter on behalf of our executive editor.

Feel free to be in touch if you have questions.

Thanks again,
Jessy

Jessica L. Murgel, MA
Adjunct Faculty
Managing Editor, Deaf Studies Digital Journal
Department of ASL & Deaf Studies
Gallaudet University
202.413.1625 | p
jessica.murgel@gallaudet.edu
Dear Patrick,

As chairman of the Moscow Society of the Deaf and an assistant professor at the Moscow State Pedagogical University and Moscow State Linguistic University.

Deaf Russian scholars using Russian Sign Language are underrepresented in the western deaf studies literature.

I endorse wholeheartedly the Deaf Studies Digital Journal endeavors to broaden the humanities.

I am honored to serve as an advisory board for DSDJ.

Regards,

Vladimir Bazoev, Ph.D.
Chairman of the Moscow Society of the Deaf,

107045, Russia, Moscow, Seliverstov Lane, 8
+7 495 608 28 80
vbazoev@mail.ru
www.deafmos.ru
Dear Patrick,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the advisory board. I am very honored, and I accept with pleasure. I know that the Deaf Studies Digital Journal s a post on to reframe how information is disseminated throughout the human lives. I look forward to being part of this effort.

A best,
Brian Greenwald

On Mon, May 15, 2017 at 3:44 PM, DSDJ Executive Editor <dsdj.executive.editor@gallaudet.edu> wrote:

Dear Dr. Greenwald,

Please read the attached letter.

Sincerely,

Patrick Boudreau, Ph.D.
Executive Editor
HMB 1415
202.558.2271 VP
dsj.executive.editor@gallaudet.edu

Jessica Murgel, M.A.
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Brian H. Greenwald, Ph.D.
Director, Drs. John S. and Betty J. Schuchman Deaf Documentary Center
Professor of History
Gallaudet University
800 Florida Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002 3695
Voice: 202.558.2431
Dear Dr Patrick Boudreault,

thank you very much for this invitation, and it will be a honor to serve at your advisory board,

Kind regards

Hilde Haualand

~ Hilde Haualand, Ph.D
Postdoctoral researcher
Signed language and interpreting program
NTNU | Norwegian University of Science and Technology
NO-7491 Trondheim, Norway
Tel. + 47 210 337 61 / SMS + 47 40233304
E-mail: hilde.haualand@ntnu.no
http://www.ntnu.edu/employees/hilde.haualand

Dear Hilde,

Hope this email finds you well, I would like to take a moment to follow-up my last email I sent last week on May 15th regarding the role of advisory board for DSDJ.

Let me know if you’re interested to be part of this endeavor.

Looking forward a positive response.

Regards,

Patrick Boudreault, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Interpretation and Translation
HMB 1415
202.558.2271 VP
patrick.boudreault@gallaudet.edu
Dear Dr. Boudreault,

Thank you for your letter I received from you on May 15th regarding your invitation to serve on DSDJ advisory board. It is with a great honor that I accept your invitation. I look forward to collaborating with you and wish you all the very best with DSDJ!

Please do not hesitate to contact me in the near future should you need anything else from me.

Best wishes,

Kim B. Kurz, Ph.D.
Chairperson, American Sign Language & Interpreting Education
RIT/NTID
Lyndon Baines Johnson Building
52 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
585-475-5269 Fax
Kim.Kurz@rit.edu
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Co-Director, Sign Language Laboratory
NTID’s Center of Cognition & Language
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Dear Patrick,

Thanks so much for this notification to serve on the Advisory Board for DSDJ. I feel honoured and I am more than happy to accept the notification!

Best,
Anne es

Dr. Annelies Kusters
Assistant Professor in Sign Language and Intercultural Research
Heriot-Watt University
Dept. of Language & Intercultural Studies
School of Social Sciences
Henry Prais Building 2.14
Edinburgh EH14 4AS

a.kusters@hw.ac.uk
Dear Patrick,

Thank you very much for the email invitation to join DSDJ's Advisory Board. I enthusiastically accept your invitation and am excited about the groundbreaking and important work that DSDJ is doing. I can commit to time devoted to assisting in the variety of matters regarding the journal. Please feel free to contact me if you need anything else at this time.

Sincerely,
Laura Mauldin, PhD, NIC
www.lauramauldin.com

Author of Made to Hear
Winner, Honorable Mention Outstanding Publication Award
American Sociological Association - Disability & Society Section

Assistant Professor
Human Development/Family Studies &
Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies
Affiliated Faculty, Department of Sociology
University of Connecticut

National Interpreter Certification
Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
Dear Patrick,

Thank you for contacting me on based on my expertise in sign language linguistics. It seems interesting so I accept your invitation for this advisory board.

Johanna

Johanna Mesch  
Associate professor/senior lecturer (docent)  
Department of Linguistics  
Sign Language Section  
Stockholm University  
SE-10691 Stockholm, Sweden  
Visiting address:  
Mobile: + 46 (0)709 190 301  
E-mail: johanna.mesch@ling.su.se  
http://www.ling.su.se/teckensprak  
www.ling.su.se/johanna.mesch

Dear Dr. Mesch,

Please kindly see this attached letter.

Sincerely,
May 16, 2017

Patrick Boudreault, Ph.D.
Gallaudet University
Executive Editor, Deaf Studies Digital Journal
Hall Memorial Building 1415
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Dr. Boudreault,

This letter is written acceptance of your invitation to serve on the Advisory Board of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal and to demonstrate my vigorous support of this important journal. In my capacity as director of the Center for Bilingual Teaching and Learning and as an Associate Professor in the Linguistics Department, I can attest to the importance of continuing the publication of this bilingual and bimodal journal. I would be honored and delighted to be able to contribute in a small way to the success of your endeavor.

I look forward to our collaboration!

Sincerely,

Kristin J. Mulrooney, PhD
Director, Center for Bilingual Teaching and Learning
Associate Professor, Linguistics Department
Gallaudet University
Dear Dr. Boudreault,

Let me begin by thanking you for this formal invitation to the world of Deaf Studies Digital Journal project.

After reading your letter explaining the further development of such an academic digital journal which both Deaf and hearing scholars can access with their own comfortable languages, I decided to accept your invitation to serve as Advisory Board for DSDJ.

I am really looking forward to working you and other members.

If there is anything I can do for you, don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Yutaka Osugi

===

Yutaka Osugi, Pd.D.
Tsukuba University of Technology
Dear Patrick,

Thank you so much for inviting me to join the Advisory Board of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal. It is an honor to be asked by such a pioneering journal and I am delighted to accept the invitation.

I look forward to working with the other members of the Advisory Board to make the DSDJ the best interactive sign language journal out there.

Sincerely,
Khadijat Rashid

On Mon, May 15, 2017 at 3:43 PM, Patrick Boudreault <patrick.boudreault@gallaudet.edu> wrote:

Dear Dr. Rashid,

Please kindly see this attached letter.

Sincerely,

Patrick Boudreault, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Interpretation and Translation
HMB 1415
202.651.2271 VP
patrick.boudreault@gallaudet.edu

OFFICE HOURS - to make an appointment >> HERE

Executive Editor
Deaf Studies Digital Journal
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Khadijat K. Rashid, Ph.D.
Interim Dean
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9. DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

9.1 Gallaudet University

Gallaudet Technology Service, as the home institution, will continue to provide their team’s expertise in hosting needs, harvesting digital content in an institutional repository, and facilitating the transition from CraigInteractive (current dsdj.gallaudet.edu) to Michigan Publishing (MP). The data from past issues will be stored in three different secure locations: the GTS server, the DSDJ server, and two dedicated external hard drives.

9.2 Michigan Publishing

Michigan Publishing is responsible for hosting, disseminating and preserving the Deaf Studies Digital Journal. All products and deliverables created during the course of this project will be made freely and publicly available.

Expected Data

The data produced by this proposed project will include the hosted website, source code for accessibility features, video files, audio files, text files, and images.

Data Formats and Dissemination

Michigan Publishing and its parent, the University of Michigan Library, will from the outset create all files related to the journal in open and migratable formats, including:

1. The web version of the journal will be rendered in HTML 5. This format is based on an open W3C standard and will be trivial to migrate to new formats in the future.
2. The code base for Fulcrum as well as additional source code developed through the proposed project will be documented and freely available for download, reuse, and modification in a public repository at GitHub, a cloud repository service widely used in software development.

   https://github.com/mlibrary/fulcrum

3. Video: All videos created for this project will be encoded in MPEG-4/H.264 format, the most commonly used video compression standard on the web. The ubiquity of MPEG-4 video means that commercially-available tools exist, and will continue to exist, for transcoding it to new formats as technology changes.
4. Audio: If audio files are created for this project, they will be encoded using a commonly used format such as MPEG-3, so that they may easily be transcoded to new formats in the future.
5. Text: ePub 3.0, a related W3C standard to HTML 5, will be the file format into which each transcript is encoded, and it will be migrated to future formats as needed.
6. All images will be encoded in JPEG, TIFF, or PNG formats for easy recompression into new formats for future needs.

Data Storage and Preservation of Access

The journal will be preserved as part of the University of Michigan Library’s digital collections. Michigan Publishing is committed to preserving content indefinitely, and will continue to migrate content even after a journal has ceased to publish.

Server Infrastructure

The Fulcrum platform, which will host the Journal, is based on the open source Hydra/Fedora technology stack, which is actively developed by more than 30 libraries across the world. This codebase, in this instance, will be run from University of Michigan’s enterprise-level UNIX server infrastructure, and all data will be backed up nightly and replicated offsite. Access to this server environment is
controlled by the University of Michigan’s Kerberos authentication software with two-factor authentication mandatory.

Fulcrum is hosted on two complete self-contained environments in two different data centers. Our primary data center is a tier 2+ facility off campus with 2+1 redundant generator power. Our secondary data center is a tier 1+ dedicated server room in the library and uses the more reliable campus power generation rather than commercial utility. Our load-balancing is active-active, meaning both sites are in operation, and if one goes down, the other keeps serving content. The sites are kept in sync with a mixture of formal software release processes and automated synchronization, aiming for 99.9% uptime.
10. POST-GRANT PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Gallaudet University’s mission statement, as of 2007, states the following:

“Gallaudet University, federally chartered in 1864, is a bilingual, diverse, multicultural institution of higher education that ensures the intellectual and professional advancement of deaf and hard of hearing individuals through American Sign Language and English. Gallaudet maintains a proud tradition of research and scholarly activity and prepares its graduates for career opportunities in a highly competitive, technological, and rapidly changing world.” (Gallaudet, n.d.)

As of November 1, 2016 the Office of the President announced six priorities (Gallaudet 2016), naming bilingualism as the frontrunner given Gallaudet’s significance in pioneering the right of a bilingual education and environment for Deaf people on a global scale:

“Together, we will soon develop a framework for the university’s bilingual mission. A task force will lead work to define the vision, values, and practices for our bilingual community that includes working, research, learning, innovation, and engagement. This is work that can only happen at Gallaudet.”

Outside of the classroom space, *Deaf Studies Digital Journal* is one of the most prominent platforms produced by the University to disseminate bilingual scholarship. To date, Gallaudet has invested significant funding ($120,000) and other resources in DSDJ since the mid-2000s, and it remains an institutional priority closely aligned with the University’s bilingual mission. As of now, the executive editor, Dr. Patrick Boudreault has received 15% effort for both AY 16-18 and 18-19 and Summer 2017 with one-month equivalent effort. The University has also supported the current managing editor, Jessica Murgel during AY 16-17 for 20 hours a week. Funding from this proposed grant will allow us to lay a strong foundation for the future publications of DSDJ. After the migration to a new publishing platform in partnership with Michigan Publishing (MP), a regular publication cycle will ensue with the intent to publish four issues by December 2020.

While post-grant planning will include careful consideration of financial sustainability, the core operating costs of the publication (i.e. annual licensing with MP, staffing, and other resources) are guaranteed by Gallaudet. In short, this project centers on the technological sustainability of DSDJ regarding moving to its new platform hosted by MP where its new sign-to-sign peer-review process can flourish as well as turning it into an accessible (and therefore visible) publication via networks used by libraries and academics.

**General Institutional Support**

The Deans from three different colleges: College of Arts and Science, School of Education and Business Human Services, and the Graduate School will remain committed to supporting DSDJ’s general expenditures needs such as marketing materials, local travels, attending conferences and an office space dedicated to DSDJ. In terms of recent financial commitment, DSDJ has received a funding of $6,000 for Summer 2017 to support the executive editor to attend two conferences, and to promote the journal by establishing a new webpage to communicate with potential contributors and readers to retain their interest in the journal. With MP, the annual licensing to operate DSDJ will be $1,000, and each article submission will be subjected to $35 fee; the interactive video platform licensing will be $1,200 yearly ($100/month), all of which will be covered by the Deans. While these are very reasonable costs, they will sustain the basic overhead for DSDJ. These are some concrete examples to demonstrate the University’s commitment that they remain supportive of this project in different ways to sustain the core operation of DSDJ after the grant funding ends in 2020. Please refer to technological resources below for more details related to digital preservation and dissemination.
Between $[d](6) annually from Gallaudet

**Human Resources**

As demonstrated previously, the University has invested considerably with DSDJ, and it will continue doing so. During the post-grant, Dr. Boudreault will continue to receive an equivalent of 15% effort for each AY with the support of the Academic Affairs [$/year]. The University faculty and staff will remain available to provide guidance and inputs for the vitality of DSDJ. Both Department of ASL and Deaf Studies (Dr. Bauman and Dr. Boudreault as affiliate faculty), and of Translation and Interpretation (Dr. Boudreault’s home department) will continue to be part of DSDJ efforts by providing their administrative staff for all project operations and ultimately supporting DSDJ with their internship programs. The following courses that would be applicable for the students to gain experience:

- B.A. ASL: ASL 490 Internship (1-6 credits)
- B.A. Deaf Studies: DST 320 - Internship I (3-6 credits)
- M.A. Deaf Studies: DST 790 - Deaf Studies Internship (3 credits)
- M.A. Interpretation and Translation:
  - INT 662 - Introduction to Translation (1 credit)
  - INT 699 - Independent Study (1-3 credits)

Approximately between $10,000 to $14,000 annually from Gallaudet

**Technological Resources**

Gallaudet Technology Services supports university-wide server storage and will provide DSDJ sufficient space to store DSDJ data as an off-site backup for MP. GTS will support DSDJ’s basic computer operation maintenance and use the existing university-wide infrastructure (i.e. network). Gallaudet University has a robust digital infrastructure to support the heavy broadband traffic due to the widespread use of the video (i.e. video streaming, video conferencing). DSDJ will also have two external hard drives to back up all the data in two different secure locations. In addition, the Department of Interpretation and Translation has a team of dedicated staff and student assistants to support video conference technologies and video production through our own professional studio for all videography needs. MP will play a critical role in maintaining data and DSDJ access to the library network. In the event of extreme circumstances such as a hiatus or the dissolution of DSDJ, MP has the infrastructure in place needed to curate and preserve the digital content with Digital Network Preservation infrastructure. The Sign Language Tool Kit (SLTK) will be supported by SLRL, which Dr. Boudreault has conjointly developed the web-app with Dr. Supalla; it will be maintained and updated accordingly during the post-grant. Dr. Supalla is committed to seeking additional funding or revenues to keep the SLTK operational in partnership with Gallaudet University.

Minimal - See MP and licensing fees under general institutional support.

**Additional Revenues**

Several forms of additional revenue streams have been considered to ensure the sustainability of this project following the grant period. Firstly, DSJ team will work with Gallaudet’s Office of Development, we will be seeking private donors to establish endowment funds with a minimum of $25,000 during the project, as well as set up fundraising efforts to support emerging scholars. The Gallaudet University Alumni Association will also play a role to communicate with all current ~10,000 alumni to promote DSDJ’s mission. The executive editor, in collaboration with University officials, will be responsible to seek external fundings from other grants and develop cross-institutional partnerships as an ongoing effort.

Potential revenue between $0 to $25,000 and beyond

Given the spirit of DSDJ to disseminate knowledge, particularly by and to marginalized communities, at no cost, all issues of DSDJ will follow the concept of Gratis Open Access (e.g. immediate, permanent online access, free for all on the Web -- to peer reviewed research journal articles.)
DSDJ eagerly to keep the Gratis concept as long as the fundings permits. Continued consultation regarding revenue for production costs will occur over time with MP in order to implement best practices. As the plan stands, a minimum $20 fee will be charged for each article submission for peer-review. (Anticipated 15 submission per issue = $300). When an article is accepted to be submitted for publication, a minimum of $35 publication fee with 10-15 articles per year with 2 issues (as per MP) will be charged from the contributors to cover minimal costs of production. Based on four issues (#5-8) with the support of this project project, DSDJ will recruit a wider audience with the library network infrastructure and will attract more scholars to publish with DSDJ. Depending on the need for funding production costs, there has been discussion about implementing a Gold Open Access model, which usually paid by the author’s employer or research funder which an averages between $1,500 to $5,000 from larger journals. DSDJ is considering to charge $250 for not grant funded publication and between $500 to $1,000 for private or non-private grant funded. However, in some case of author’s financial hardship or from developing countries, a publication fee will either waived or subsidized by donors.

Minimum revenue from submission fees: $650-$1,000 annually
Using Gold Open Access: Between $2,500 to $7,500 annually

Consulting or giving workshops is an alternative option for the University to share its knowledge and expertise in sign language based scholarly publications with emphasis on accessibility and successful human-computer interface. A possible consulting fee will range between $500 to $1,500 per consultation or workshop.