FUNDING INNOVATION
Avenues, Resources, and Support for Projects

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FUNDING DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

• What does the funding landscape for digital scholarship look like?
• How do you navigate the funding landscape?
• How do you find a fit within the funding landscape?
Digital scholarship (DS) is defined very broadly as the creation, production, analysis, and or dissemination of scholarship using new technologies with emphasis on non-traditional, digital, and computational techniques.

DS encompasses both the creation of research content and tools.

DS can be found across disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Activities take many forms, both physical (with the establishment of actual centers) and virtual (such as the development of online repositories and the tools to analyze their content).

Source: University of Cincinnati Libraries
One of the more obvious ways in which IT and the arts and design interact is in the use of technology to extend the expressive range of and modes of access to existing genres of the arts and design: Examples include Web-based art and hypertext, opera staging using new sensing and video technologies, musical compositions that feature both newly created instruments and interaction styles, and textile design and production based on digital weaving techniques. Given experimentation to date, it is clear that new tools developed by computer scientists can be immediately applied by artists and other creative practitioners within a wide array of contexts.

Source: Beyond Productivity, National Academies
FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

Comprehensive data on funding of these activities is difficult to find, because of:

- Complex and decentralized funding sources
- Diversity of projects and initiatives
- Digital efforts are often embedded in initiatives that are driven by other foci
FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

$417,885,763 in grants awarded nationally for *preservation* in libraries, museums, and archives by 2,270 private foundations

$228,189,249 for arts/culture/humanities

$95,845,001 to college and universities

$4,063,235 awarded in Virginia

Digital activities represent 8-10% of funds invested

Source: Library of Congress & Foundation Center
GENERAL FUNDING TYPES

- Grants
  - Organizations
  - Researchers

- Fellowships
  - Faculty
  - Students
  - Professionals
DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING MAP

FEDERAL
- NEA
- NEH
- IMLS
- NSF
- NHPRC

REGIONAL
- MAAF

STATE
- SHCs
- UNIs

PRIVATE
- KRESS
- ACLS
- MELLON
- SLOAN
- UNIs
FEATURED FUNDER: IMLS

INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries and Museums


Funded Project Example:

Development of online tool to critically evaluate web-based information resources for class assignments
Ruth Small, Information Studies, Syracuse University
Focus: Capacity-Building

“These small grants encourage libraries, museums, and archives to test and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide. Sparks Grants support the deployment, testing, and evaluation of promising and groundbreaking new tools, products, services, or organizational practices. You may propose activities or approaches that involve risk, as long as the risk is balanced by significant potential for improvement in the ways libraries and museums serve their communities.”

Institute for Museum and Library Sciences
FEATURED FUNDER: NEA

National Endowment for the Arts
Art Works

http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/

Funded Project Example:

PetLab: A public interest game design and research lab for interactive media
Colleen Macklin, Communication Design and Technology, Parsons the New School for Design
FEATURED FUNDER: NEH

Office of Digital Humanities
5 grant programs: Institutes, Start-Up, Implementation, NEH-DFG Partnership, Digging into Data

Funded Project Example:

“Archive What I See Now”
Michele Wiegle, Computer Science, Old Dominion University

http://www.neh.gov/divisions/odh
Focus: Project Implementation

“This program is designed to fund the implementation of innovative digital-humanities projects that have successfully completed a start-up phase and demonstrated their value to the field. Such projects might enhance our understanding of central problems in the humanities, raise new questions in the humanities, or develop new digital applications and approaches for use in the humanities. The program can support innovative digital-humanities projects that address multiple audiences, including scholars, teachers, librarians, and the public.”
FEATURED FUNDER: NHPRC

Digitizing Historical Records
Electronic Records Projects
Innovation in Archives and Documentary Editing

http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/

Funded Project Example:

Crowdsourcing tool for annotating accessible images of historical documents
Center for History and New Media, George Mason University
Information and Intelligent Systems
Documenting Endangered Languages
Various programs; worth researching NSF grant database

Funded Project Example:
A virtual eXchange to support networks of creativity and innovation amongst Science, Engineering, Arts, and Design (XSEAD)
Thanassis Rikakis, Design, & Hari Sundaram, Computer Science, ASU

http://www.nsf.gov/
FEATURED FUNDER: ACLS

American Council of Learned Societies
Digital Innovation Fellowships

http://www.acls.org/programs/digital/

Funded Project Example:

“Computer Simulation of Speech and Culture as a Complex System”
William A. Kretzschmar, English, University of Georgia
Focus: Scholarship

“Projects may: (1) Address a consequential scholarly question through new research methods, new ways of representing the knowledge produced by research, or both; (2) Create new digital research resources; (3) Increase the scholarly utility of existing digital resources by developing new means of aggregating, navigating, searching, or analyzing those resources; (4) Propose to analyze and reflect upon the new forms of knowledge creation and representation made possible by the digital transformation of scholarship.”

American Council of Learned Societies
FEATURED FUNDER: KRESS

Samuel H. Kress Foundation
Digital Resources Grants Program

http://www.kressfoundation.org/grants/digital_resources/

Funded Project Example:

Summit on Digital Tools for Museum Educators
Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University
FEATURED FUNDER: MELLON

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Scholarly Communications & Information Technology Program

http://www.mellon.org/grant_programs/programs/scit

Funded Project Example:

Research to identify best-practice in digital scholarship programs
University of Cincinnati Libraries
FEATURED FUNDER: SLOAN

ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION

Digital Information Technology:
Scholarly Communication, Universal Access to Knowledge, Data and Computational Research

Funded Project Example:

Knowledge Infrastructure
Christine Borgman, Information Studies, Sharon Traweek, Women’s Studies, UCLA
UNIVERSITY INTERNAL FUNDING

Institutions providing digital scholarship grants for their scholars
1. Center for Digital Humanities, University of California, Los Angeles
2. Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, University of Nebraska
3. Center for History and New Media, George Mason University
4. Center for Literary Computing, West Virginia University
5. Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship, Georgetown University
6. Collaboratory for Research in Computing for Humanities, University of Kentucky
7. Computer Writing and Research Lab, University of Texas
8. DXARTS (Digital Arts and Experimental Media)/CARTAH (Center for Advanced Technology in the Arts and Humanities), University of Washington
9. Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University
10. Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC)
11. Illinois Center for Computing in Humanities, Arts and Social Science (I-CHASS)
12. Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities (IATH), University of Virginia
13. Institute for Multimedia Literacy, University of Southern California
14. Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH)
15. Scholarly Technology Group, Brown University
16. Stanford Humanities Lab
17. Townsend Center for the Humanities, University of California, Berkeley
18. University of California Humanities Research Institute
19. University of Chicago, Division of Humanities, Humanities Computing
20. Visual Media Center, Columbia University
21. Writing in Digital Environments, Michigan State University
POTENTIAL FUNDERS: SHCs
FUNDING SEARCH

- Subscription-only (3rd party) databases
- Free databases
- Lists, listservs
It’s not an ATM.
SEARCH TOOLS: GRANTS.GOV

- Find and apply for more than $400 Billion in Federal grants.
- Basic search, browse, and advanced search options.
- Sign up for daily email alerts.
- I use grants.gov when:
  1. I am looking for a particular funding opportunity that I know the name/number of.
  2. An agency only posts its opportunities on grants.gov.
  3. A field has a limited number of opportunities.

http://grants.gov/
SEARCH TOOLS

• H-Net
  – Tracks and lists Humanities and Social Sciences funding announcements.

  http://www.h-net.org/announce/group.cgi?type=Funding

• NYFA Source
  – A national directory of awards, services, and publications for artists.

  http://www.nyfa.org/source/content/search/search.aspx?SA=1
SEARCH TOOLS

• **MSU Libraries**: Grants and Related Resources
  – By academic level, by population group, or by subject.
  – Lists of funding opportunities, databases, and print resources.

  [http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/index.htm](http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/index.htm)

• **VCU Libraries**: Research Guides
  – Grants and Funding tips for faculty and students.

  [http://guides.library.vcu.edu/home](http://guides.library.vcu.edu/home)
COS PIVOT

- 26,000+ funding opportunities worth $33 billion
- 3 million+ expert profiles from around the world
- Updated daily by COS editors
- Includes **solicited** grants, fellowships, and other awards
- For maximum capabilities, **set up a Pivot account**.

pivot.cos.com
SEARCH STRATEGIES

- Read the literature.
- Read press releases.
- Start broad, then narrow.
- Consider "old" keywords.
- Explore alternative disciplines.
- Consider the outcomes and impacts of your project.
- Consider the methodology.
- Consider the population.
- Consider characteristics of you.
- Try to replicate a funding opportunity that you like.
- Look for keyword patterns.
ALTERNATIVE KEYWORDS

- Arts and Humanities
- Library science
- Archival preservation
- Historic preservation
- Electronic media
- Electronic publishing
- Communications technology
- Information technology
- Telecommunications
- Computers, computing
- Graphic design
- Educational research
- Communications
- Social media
- Distance learning
- Interactive communications
- Gaming
- Social Change
- Software engineering
- Information management
- Cataloguing, classification
- Science and Society
- Networking
- Media arts
- Community outreach
ANALYZING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

• Does this opportunity fit with my interests, capacities, resources, needs, timeline, etc.?

• Is it a good fit?

DePaul University
Evaluating Funding Opportunities
http://ospr.depaul.edu/html/grant/evaluating_funding_opportunities.html
ANALYZING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

• What is the mission, the values of the funding agencies?

• What does the funding program support?
  – Purpose, priorities, scope, population

• What stage of work is supported? Is preliminary data expected?

• What/who have they funded in the past?

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ANALYZING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

• Am I eligible?
  – Citizenship, location, organization, partners
• What do I have to submit?
  – Format, required sections, attachments
• How do I submit the application?
• When is the application due?
• What is the duration of the award?
• What are the terms of the award?

http://ospr.depaul.edu/html/grant/evaluating_funding_opportunities.html
ANALYZING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

• What activities does the funding program support?
• What does this grant pay for?
  – Allowable costs
• What is the award amount?
• What is the funding ratio?

DePaul University
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WORKING WITH PROGRAM OFFICERS

• Why should I contact a program officer?
  – Learn nuances about the program that are not in print.
  – Learn about shifts in program priorities.
  – Get updates on program budget, etc.
  – Get a candid, informal response to your proposed project.
  – Get suggestions for alternative funding opportunities if your project is not a good fit.

WORKING WITH PROGRAM OFFICERS

• What should I do to work effectively with program officers?
  – Do your homework.
  – Identify the grant opportunity.
  – Write a brief pre-abstract.
  – Send an email.
  – Follow-up with a phone call.
  – Attend professional meetings and grants conferences.
  – Send a thank-you.

CONCLUSIONS

- Complex funding environment – be flexible
- Funding environment often siloed or funder mission-driven
- Very competitive funding environment – differentiate yourself through collaboration, true innovation, organized vision, strong methodology, and content expertise
- It’s all about ideas!
RESOURCES

Digital Humanities Tool Box
http://www.scoop.it/t/digital-humanities-tool-box

Digital Humanities Now
http://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/

National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education
http://www.nitle.org/

Journal of Digital Humanities
http://journalofdigitalhumanities.org/

Debates in Digital Humanities