Digital Seed Grant
Award Guidelines

April 2020

DIGITAL SEED GRANT
Open to faculty, staff researchers, and graduate students

Walker Library Digital Scholarship Initiatives invites proposals for seed grants to support individual or collaborative digital scholarship projects in research, teaching or public outreach from any discipline or area at MTSU.

Special consideration will be given to applications that demonstrate collaboration across units on campus, use of Digital Partner materials (housed at campus archives and libraries), and use of the existing Library infrastructure and Digital Scholarship Lab resources.

Seed Grants (up to $2,000)
The number of grants available each year will vary based on the number of received applications; with each at a maximum of $2,000. Applications are due April 10, 2020. Projects run July 1 to June 30.

Q: What is Digital Scholarship (DS)?
A: Digital Scholarship at Walker Library is interdisciplinary, collaborative and committed. As a method, it emphasizes the use of interactive technologies to expand the participation, modes of access, diversity of analysis, and dissemination of scholarship. The frequently used term, digital humanities, is a subset of digital scholarship—the larger umbrella of all scholarship including the arts and sciences.

EXAMPLE USES OF DIGITAL SEED GRANTS
The following is a brief but not exhaustive list of possible projects:

- Hiring a student to perform data analysis, text encoding, or data entry*
- Digitizing materials not held at Walker Library
- Purchasing specialized equipment for digitization or analysis**
- Textual, network, audio or visual analysis
- Use of games, 3D, AR/VR, or maker projects
- Digital textbook, edition, archive or exhibit
- Applying geospatial methods to literary texts, historical problems, or scientific discoveries
- Pedagogical focus on civic or public humanities
- Convening an event at MTSU to discuss or learn DH/DS topics
- Travel to conferences to learn or present on digital research methods or technologies.
- Media-rich narratives, interactive storytelling

* Students (at all levels) will be paid as library student workers. **Equipment purchased with Digital Seed Grants will be installed in the Digital Scholarship Lab for use with future projects.
APPLICANT DETAILS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Applicants must be MTSU faculty members, staff researchers, or graduate students. The grant must be spent within 12 months and a final report (less than 1500 words) describing the outcome of the project must be submitted within 2 months of the project completion. Receipts are required for reimbursement (grant funding is not extra compensation for time; it is reimbursement for resources used).

Additionally, the lead investigator or team awarded the grant must make a presentation of their work at the Digital Humanities Seminar Series and/or be added to Walker Library’s Digital Collections (http://digital.mtsu.edu) or JEWLScholar, the institutional repository (http://jewlscholar.mtsu.edu). Authors of projects and presentations retain all rights, and Walker Library is given the right to redistribute the work.

Samples of tool and resource possibilities for projects are depicted along the left column of this page, but applicants are not limited to these options. Applicants are responsible for project planning and development regardless of which resources or tools are used. (The library does not help with development but may be a consultant on project planning). If awarded, applicants must wait one year before applying again.

GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications are due April 10, 2020 and are submitted online at:

LINK TO ONLINE FORM (also available at dsi.mtsu.edu/dsgrant)

The online submission process includes:

1. Application Form
2. Detailed Budget (if form space is not sufficient)

The Application Form provides a narrative and outline of the desired project, including the project abstract, project overview, outcomes, impact on field, anticipated timeline, budget, resources needed, project completion, team members (if any), and the intended audience. Proposals will be chosen on their intellectual quality, intended audience and sustainability, outcome and deliverable achievability, initiative to use Digital Partner resources, budget appropriateness, and evidence/commitment to preservation and publishing of research results with the library.

All applications will be reviewed by a committee made up of faculty and staff associated with Digital Scholarship Initiatives. All applicants will be notified of the award decision by the end of April.

More Information:

For more information, visit: http://dsi.mtsu.edu/dsgrant
For questions, email: digitalscholar[at]mtsu[dot]edu