

# Texas State Faculty Global Digital Research Accelerator



## Overview

Are you Texas State faculty carrying out cutting-edge research which requires higher online impact? Do you have research content of various media types that would benefit from wider global exposure? Texas State University Libraries are initiating a series of Global Researcher Digital Accelerator grants, awarding up to 2 grants in 2020 of up to \$25,000.00/award to empower faculty research profiles globally and create innovative new digital scholarly content online. The awards will fund grants to faculty interested in raising research profiles online and developing digital resources from their own research content or resources to which they have copyright. The Libraries will work together with faculty and provide funding for digitization, programming, student/staff assistance and technological support for the creation and online delivery of digital libraries, online exhibits, digital archives, online scholarly resources. Chosen fellows will have their research given high level placement in the libraries' digital scholarly ecosystem including: placement of articles and research into the digital repository, SEO and metadata optimization, placement of datasets into the Texas State Data Repository, optimization of an ORCID ID for research identity management, facilitation and creation of digital research libraries, GIS possibilities and/or open source academic research journals. The Libraries are seeking projects that have need of digitization and digital resources and which will have significant impact on global learning, research, and collaboration. We encourage projects which will foster further collaboration and would benefit from online exposure and public access of research for global reach.

See the link below for full overview details and further information on eligibility, funding, project selection, proposal format and submission guidelines.

## Content Guidelines and Technological Possibilities

All disciplines are invited and research content is at the discretion of faculty members. The division especially encourages researchers who are involved in science and STEM research or subject matter involving inclusion but all disciplines will be considered regardless of academic area. Please review the digital libraries, online exhibits, multimedia archives currently produced by the libraries Digital and Web Services and begin to imagine what you could do with your research content:

[Cabeza de Vaca IIF Digital Manuscript Archive](#)

[National Tour of Texas Multimedia Archive](#)

[Severo Perez's and the Earth Did Not Swallow Them Digital Exhibit and Archive](#)

[University Archives Pedagogical Digital Library](#)

[Santiago Tafolla Online Exhibit and Manuscript Digitization](#)

[Texas State University Bobcat Flickr Commons](#)

The division also encourages data related projects with connections possible to [the Texas State University Dataverse](#).

Supported projects will result in open access on-line resources designed to have long-term relevance to Texas State faculty, students and the larger global scholarly research community. To ensure long-term access to resources created, all digital content will be produced in adherence to state-of-the-art digital standards, technical specifications and copyright standards.

## Eligibility

These competitive Digital Research Accelerator Grants are open to full-time, regular (tenured, tenure track or non-tenured) Texas State University faculty and advanced stage Ph.D. candidates (ABD or recently graduated Texas State Ph.D.'s, three years or less) interested in developing innovative digital resources. Selected fellows should be able to meet bi-weekly with library staff on the San Marcos campus during the year of the accelerator grant and commit to completing the project as outlined in the project scope on a one year timeline.

## Funding

Up to two grants will be awarded with a maximum of \$25,000/grant for one year.

## Project Selection

Selected projects will result in the creation of online scholarly, internet-based digital resources that meet the following criteria:

- 1) Represents a significant new contribution to online research, resources and/or original content
- 2) Provides access to traditional research and resources in new ways and is accessible to a global scholarly audience
- 3) Generates a new scholarly learning and research experience online
- 4) Contributes to research, teaching and learning at an academic level relevant to the Texas State
- 5) Contributes original and/or gathered research for an international scholarly community.
- 6) Has need of one or more infrastructure components of the libraries digital ecosystem: 1) Digital Collections Repository 2) Data Research Repository 3) ORCID ID Infrastructure 4) OMEKA User Interface Online Exhibit/Portal Software 5) IIF Framework (Ultra High Resolution Image Library Server) 6) Digitization Lab 7) GIS Possibilities

## Grant Submission Proposal Format

The proposal must include the following parts and should not be longer than 10 pages (not counting the applicants CV) :

- 1) one paragraph abstract of the project;
- 2) A two to three-page narrative describing the proposal;
- 3) Current CV of the applicant or applicant(s);
- 4) A one to two page project budget;
- 5) An outline of participants;
- 6) A brief project management plan with time lines for the accomplishment of stated project goals;
- 7) A letter of support from a colleague, department chair and/or dean stating the scholarly research value of the project.

## Proposal Tips

**Writing the Narrative.** The narrative section should describe both the relevance of the project in terms of scholarly research and the research community, including a brief description of how the digital content created by the project relates to teaching, scholarship and research. The narrative should specify whether the content to be presented already exists in a digital form, needs to be converted from analog formats and whether similar projects already exist online and where this project makes a new intervention. Projects that make use of a combination of digital images, audio, video, text and data and incorporate a spectrum of multimedia in innovative ways are particularly encouraged. Please review online examples noted above for possibility and feel free to contact Alkek Library Head of Digital and Web Services Todd Peters ([tpeters@txstate.edu](mailto:tpeters@txstate.edu)) for any technical questions.

**Copyright Control.** All applicants should hold general copyright to the material to be digitized. Material should be in the public domain or copyright may be easily obtained by the faculty member. For questions of copyright and rights, the libraries copyright officer Stephanie Towery may be consulted ([sst25@txstate.edu](mailto:sst25@txstate.edu)). Prospective grantees should investigate and resolve as much as possible potential copyright questions in their proposals before applying.

**Budgeting and Scope.** Strong preference will be given to projects with realistic budget proposals, pragmatic timelines and a well-defined scope. Applicants should consider the scope of the work to be done, time required to complete the work. Budgeting for student workers, on the undergraduate and/or graduate level, is strongly encouraged for planning purposes. Please contact Todd Peters for preliminary consultation regarding scope of work and planning budgets for student/graduate student assistants for content digitization and associated project work. If the project is primarily GIS focused, please contact Nathaniel Dede-Bamfo with regards to GIS possibilities. While fellow applicants may utilize funds for travel to present on completed projects with library staff at suitable conferences, the majority of material for a fellow's proposed digitization project should consist of materials already in their possession with primary budgeting going to human resources and equipment needed to complete approved projects in scope in schedule. Applicants are discouraged from including budget allocations which contribute any funds to their own salaries or time. Any specialized equipment needed for the project becomes property of Texas State university.

**Library Participation.** Applicants are encouraged to craft proposals which would support the Texas State University libraries mission to advance innovation in information technology, digital scholarship and scholarly communication. Candidates are also encouraged to align their proposals with the libraries goal of transforming into a research library (ARL) and the Universities goal of transforming into a research intensive institution. Research intensive projects with a variety of media content resources that may be shared online are especially encouraged.

**Work Space.** Work space for grantees and student workers for projects may be considered upon request. Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with their departments to provide additional office space to project contributors if necessary. For projects working directly with locally held archival materials, space may also be made available in the Libraries for the project principals for office work.

**Consultations.** Faculty with questions about general project plans, technology or the proposal process are welcome beforehand. Please feel free to contact Ray Uzwyshyn, Director of Collections and Digital Services, [R\\_U15@txstate.edu](mailto:R_U15@txstate.edu)

## Review Procedures

A committee of reviewers made up of administrators and technologists in the libraries' digital projects areas will review each proposal and select those that best meet the stated goals of the Alkek Global Researcher Digital Accelerator Grant.

## Award Criteria and Obligations

Recipients are expected to complete their project within their defined scope within a year of their starting date. Fellows are also expected to share their experiences with other faculty through a library sponsored colloquium within six months of completing the projects as well as authoring at least one written article, acknowledging the Libraries and staff in any publications, printed materials, or websites that result from the grant. Award money may be written into the grant for the organization of innovative 1-2 day colloquia to promote the final online research product (i.e. digital library, archive, multimedia exhibit), conference presentations on the project and to develop further networks with global experts. The libraries will do their best to assign project work teams to help fellows carry out all technical aspects of their projects. Once awarded, fellows are expected to work in partnership with the

Libraries various areas of technical expertise (technologists, programmers, digitization experts, metadata cataloguers, project managers). This will range from developing a detailed and innovative timetable and more detailed project plans of work from their accepted proposal to oversight and consultation with various library staff in order to ensure successful completion of their projects, and to develop a presence on the Libraries Digital Collections website.

## **Further Notes on Intellectual Property Rights**

Accelerator grant applicants should ensure that they hold general rights to publish the materials in their proposals in an open access on-line format or that the materials are within fair use copyright strictures. In practice, this means that Fellows work with materials in the public domain, own copyright to the materials in question, or allocate funds to purchase permission from the respective copyright holder to publish the materials online. Intellectual property rights for content produced during Digital Fellowships, including digital files, online exhibits, digital libraries, digital archives, multimedia applications, or other innovations, are governed by the policies defined by Texas State University Libraries and Texas State University.

Application Deadline: May 5, 2020.

Applications may be received by inter-university mail or email and electronic applications are preferred. Please send completed application packages to [AlkekDigitalAcceleratorGrant@txstate.edu](mailto:AlkekDigitalAcceleratorGrant@txstate.edu) or Inter-university Mail:

Texas State Faculty Global Digital Research Accelerator  
Texas State University Libraries  
601 University Drive, 350L Alkek Library  
San Marcos, TX 78666

For any further questions, please contact:

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