Digital Humanities Initiative at Buffalo
Funding Opportunities 2009–2010

The Digital Humanities Initiative at Buffalo (DHIB) invites proposals for funding in two categories:

- Digital humanities working groups
- Small research projects

The deadline for working group proposals is November 6, 2009. Small research projects proposals will be considered for funding twice during 2009–2010. The deadline for the first funding cycle for small research project proposals is November 6, 2009. The deadline for the second funding cycle for small research project proposals is January 29, 2010. Each program is discussed in more detail below.

DHIB Working Groups
The goal of DHIB Working Groups is to support sustained interdisciplinary collaboration in an area of digital humanities research. The maximum expected award under this program from the 2009–2010 budget is $3500. However, larger budgets will be considered if well-justified.

Eligibility Requirements
Working groups must consist of (i) at least two regular full-time tenure-line faculty (including library faculty) in the humanities and related disciplines who were on staff as of January 1, 2009 and will be on staff during the 2009–2010 academic year and (ii) at least two other participants who may also be regular tenure-line faculty from UB, affiliated scholars from other institutions, or professional staff from UB. While not requirements, proposals which actively involve graduate students and which include participating faculty from multiple disciplines are encouraged and may be favored during the reviewing process.

Possible funding categories
- Salary for programmer or designer supporting group work
- Salary for graduate student assistant
- Support for on-site training
- Funding for external speakers
- Software
- Expert consultation
- Support for travel directly related to the goals of the working group

Note: It is the policy of the DHIB not to allow working group funds to be used to purchase hardware. However, if working group activities would be enhanced by having access to
specialized hardware, the DHIB will consider its purchase for general use by the UB digital humanities community if it cannot be obtained using existing university resources. If a working group has such needs, this should be indicated in the proposal with an estimate of costs (though not included in the budget).

Sample working group activities

- Preparation of a digital archive
- Digitization and markup of a substantial text collection
- Organization of a series of public lectures and/or workshops
- Development of a digital humanities curricula
- Work towards the dissemination of the results of research
- Development of an online journal
- Development or enhancement of software for scholarly analysis in a humanities field

Note: While a portion of working group funds may be applied towards non-research activities (e.g., digitization) that support research, the primary function of the working groups is to support research and training activities, not to create digital products themselves.

DHIB requirements for those receiving funding

Working Groups will be required to publicize their events and research results to the DHIB community via appropriate channels in consultation with the DHIB Steering Committee. Funded groups will ordinarily be expected to produce a tangible academic output, for example in the form of a proposal for further funding from non-DHIB sources or a working paper (possibly to be ultimately published) describing the group’s results which will be posted on the DHIB website. In addition, each working group will be required to produce a brief report of its activities by the end of the funding period (and no later than August 31, 2010) for posting on the DHIB website and for administrative use by the DHIB. Funded groups which seek external funding are expected to identify the DHIB as a recipient of a percentage of overhead. The DHIB also requests that working group publications and presentations acknowledge the support of the Initiative.

General administrative restrictions

Faculty summer salaries are not funded. Students receiving support through DHIB funds must be in good academic standing and making timely progress toward their degree. Expenditures budgeted from the 2009–2010 budget must be submitted according to the year-end schedules established by the Controller and published in April. For some categories of expenditure, the actual deadline will be well in advance of the June 30 end of the fiscal year. Different deadlines apply, and DHIB cannot honor requests for reimbursement for expenses not submitted in accordance with the deadlines. Rail and air travel expenses must be booked through departmental travel accounts (using the State CTA) and will be reimbursed by the DHIB up to the amount of the award.
Elements of the application

• A title beginning with “DHIB Working Group:"
• A three-page narrative describing:
  o The proposed work of the group during the funding period
  o How the working group will further digital humanities scholarship generally
  o How the working group will further digital humanities scholarship at UB
  o Planned outputs of the working group (e.g., an external grant proposal or a publication)
  o What existing campus resources (if any) the working group will make use of in addition to resources acquired via DHIB funding
• A one-page budget
• A one-page narrative budget justification
• A one-page list of primary project personnel describing the role each will have in managing the activities of the working group and relevant previous experience (include CV’s in an appendix and indicate past, present, and pending grant support)
• A one-page summary of work completed with any previously awarded DHIB funds

Review criteria

• What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activities?
• What is the potential impact of the proposed activities on digital humanities scholarship at UB and in general?
• How well do the proposed activities integrate with existing humanities research and projects at UB, in particular with respect to the UB 2020 Cultures and Texts Strategic Strength?
• Are the project personnel qualified to manage the proposed working group activities?
• Is the work described in the proposal feasible in terms of available resources and project timeline?

DHIB Small Research Projects

The goal of DHIB small research project funding is to support the initiation or continuation of digital humanities projects by individual scholars or small teams. The maximum expected award under this program from the 2009–2010 budget is $2400. However, larger budgets will be considered if well-justified. A given project can only receive funding through this program once in 2009–2010. However, unsuccessful applications submitted for the Fall deadline may be revised and resubmitted in the Spring.

Eligibility requirements

Regular full-time tenure-line humanities faculty (including library faculty) in the humanities and related disciplines may apply for funding. Graduate students may be funded for work on their own projects, provided that the application for support is submitted by a faculty sponsor who is independently eligible to apply for a small research project and who agrees to supervise the project and advise the graduate student on how to fulfill the administrative requirements associated with DHIB funding. If the proposal is primarily aimed at supporting a graduate student’s research, this should be explicitly indicated.
Possible funding categories

- Salary for programmer or designer supporting the project
- Salary for graduate student
- Support for on-site training
- Software
- Expert consultation
- Support for travel directly related to research activities

Note: It is the policy of the DHIB not to allow working group funds to be used to purchase hardware. However, if working group activities would be enhanced by having access to specialized hardware, the DHIB will consider its purchase for general use by the UB digital humanities community if it cannot be obtained using existing university resources. If a working group has such needs, this should be indicated in the proposal with an estimate of costs (though not included in the budget).

Sample small research project activities

- Digitization, editing, or markup of humanities materials
- Attendance at digital humanities conferences or training sessions
- Work towards the dissemination of the results of digital humanities research
- Development or enhancement of software for scholarly analysis of humanities materials
- Development of a digital humanities course

DHIB requirements for those receiving funding

Small research projects will be required to publicize their results to the DHIB community via appropriate channels in consultation with the DHIB Steering Committee. In addition, each project will be required to produce a brief report of its activities by the end of the funding period (and no later than August 31, 2010) for posting on the DHIB website and for administrative use by the DHIB. Funded projects seeking external funding to extend work funding by the DHIB are expected to identify the DHIB as a recipient of a percentage of overhead. The DHIB also requests that working group publications and presentations acknowledge the support of the Initiative.

General administrative restrictions

Faculty summer salaries are not funded. Students receiving support through DHIB funds must be in good academic standing and making timely progress toward their degree. Expenditures budgeted from the 2009–2010 budget must be submitted according to the year-end schedules established by the Controller and published in April. For some categories of expenditure, the actual deadline will be well in advance of the June 30 end of the fiscal year. Different deadlines apply, and DHIB cannot honor requests for reimbursement for expenses not submitted in accordance with the deadlines. Rail and air travel expenses must be booked through departmental travel accounts (using the State CTA) and will be reimbursed by the DHIB up to the amount of the award.
Elements of the application

- A title beginning with “DHIB Small Research Project:”
- A two-page narrative describing:
  - The proposed work during the funding period
  - How the small research project will further digital humanities scholarship
  - Planned outputs of the project (e.g., an external grant proposal or a publication)
  - What existing campus resources (if any) the project will make use of in addition to resources acquired via DHIB funding
- A one-page budget
- A one-page narrative budget justification
- A one-page list of primary project personnel describing the role each will have in managing the activities of the project and relevant previous experience (include CV’s in an appendix and indicate past, present, and pending grant support)
- A one-page summary of work completed with any previously awarded DHIB funds

Review criteria

- What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activities?
- What is the potential impact of the proposed activities on digital humanities scholarship?
- How well do the proposed activities integrate with existing humanities research and projects at UB, in particular with respect to the UB 2020 Cultures and Texts Strategic Strength?
- Are the project personnel qualified to manage the proposed working group activities?
- Is the work described in the proposal feasible in terms of available resources and project timeline?

Submission of applications

The deadline for working group proposals is November 6, 2009. Small research projects proposals will be considered for funding twice during 2009–2010. The deadline for the first funding cycle for small research proposals is November 6, 2009. The deadline for the second funding cycle for small research proposals is January 29, 2010.

Completed proposals for both funding categories should be submitted to dhib-info@buffalo.edu by 5:00 P.M. on the day of the relevant deadline. Awards will be determined by a panel appointed by the DHIB Steering Committee, consisting of representatives of the DHIB Steering Committee, representatives of the Dean’s office and other humanities faculty, librarians, and support specialists. The panel will exercise its discretion in determining award amounts and may award partial funding. Results will be announced by early December for the first round of funding and early March for the second round of funding.

Any questions about these funding opportunities should be directed to Jeff Good (jcgood@buffalo.edu), Interim Director of the DHIB.