

## Digital Project Development Call 2016/17 and Travel and Training Call 2016/17

We are pleased to announce this year's round of Calls to support new and innovative digital humanities research within the Faculty of Humanities. This year we are advertising two Calls, one seeking expressions of interest for new DH research projects, and one directed towards professional development and external collaborations. Colleagues may apply to one or both of the Calls, but applicants should note we may only be able to make one award to each of the successful applicants, in order to support as many researchers as possible to develop new work in this area.

Please note the closing date for both Calls is **Wednesday 22nd March 2017**.

### 1. Digital Humanities Project Call, 2016-17

After the successful pilot of this scheme in 2014/15 and 2015/16, we would like to invite expressions of interest from academics to develop new digital projects in collaboration with computational experts from across the University of Manchester, including the School of Computer Science, Research IT, Methods@Manchester, and the University of Manchester Library.

This year we are focusing on developing new projects in two specific areas:

- innovative projects driving out of the Library's extensive electronic collections
- cutting-edge research which can be developed in partnership with colleagues in the School of Computer Science (including text mining, linked data, image processing, and data visualization).

In addition to the above areas, expressions of interest in other areas of computational research are also welcomed. Possible areas might include network or other data visualizations, imaging/image recognition, text and data mining, GIS, literary and linguistic analysis, and/or bespoke applications related to individuals' research.

Rather than individuals bidding for their own project funds, as has been the case in the past, the DH Project Call is designed to manage the process centrally, so as to be able to better assess user requirements and find the appropriate partners within the University. In this way, we are able to bring together colleagues working in similar technical fields and thereby share expertise and best practice across the institution.

In addition, following the very successful UMRI pump-priming award in 2015/16, we are explicitly seeking to build longer-term strategic research partnerships and collaboration at all levels between the Faculty of Humanities and School of Computer Science. To this end, we are looking to identify specific humanities-focused research projects (in any area), which would be suitable subjects for final-year UG and MSc-level dissertation work, to run over the academic year 2017/18. **Please indicate in your application if you would like your proposal to be put forward for this scheme.**

#### How to apply:

Colleagues interested in participating should submit a short description of their intended project, to include details both of their area of research specialism within FoH, and the technical requirements of their intended project, in as much detail as possible. The scheme is open both to projects at the initial planning stage, and those which are already underway but which may require more intervention; full technical specifications are therefore **not** necessary at this stage, as they will be developed in due course in discussion with technical partners. Financial estimates of costs may be included, but are not a formal requirement, as the project scheme will be managed centrally.

Applications should be submitted by email to the Digital Humanities administrator, Josephine Lewis, at [dh@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:dh@manchester.ac.uk), by **Wednesday 22nd March 2017**. Informal enquiries may be directed to Dr Guyda Armstrong, Faculty Academic Lead for Digital Humanities ([guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk)).

### Selection criteria:

We hope to be able to offer technical support to all projects submitted to this call, but may need to prioritize the order in which they are assigned depending on the volume of applications. Preference will therefore be given to projects that clearly and convincingly demonstrate how the project applied for will enhance research outputs, align with the wider research strategy of Faculty and the University; increase grant capture; build on existing computational expertise; and/or create new networks of collaboration within the University.

All applications will be reviewed by a sub-group of the Digital Humanities Steering Committee, in discussion with representatives from ITS, Research IT, UML, Methods@Manchester, and the School of Computer Science. Please note that although the scheme is managed from SALC, applications are encouraged from colleagues in all five Schools of the Faculty of Humanities.

Applications will be ranked on merit against criteria based on the extent to which they:

- Demonstrate the potential for Digital Humanities to make a meaningful contribution to the applicant's School's research culture.
- Improve the chances of securing external funding
- Increase the academic and/or non-academic impact of the individual/group's research, and
- Provide good value for money.

Applications should include:

- The name and contact details of the lead researcher(s)
- An account of the proposed activity to be supported (up to 500 words)
- A narrative explaining how the bid meets the criteria and the added value the investment would bring to the individual, research grouping, or School (in no more than 250 words).
- A note whether the applicant would like their research to be put forward for consideration as a Computer Science dissertation project.

After reviewing applications, we will set up individual meetings for successful applicants with nominated computational partners to scope and build their projects. A brief (interim or final) report (no more than one side of A4) should be submitted by **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017**. This should identify and describe specific benefits and outcomes resulting from the award, and outline plans for any further developments and initiatives. We may use selected reports as the basis to publicise the benefits of the scheme. All successful recipients will also be asked to share their findings in a future digital humanities workshop.

### Eligibility:

All research-active staff in the Faculty of Humanities (that is, those with research listed in their employment contract as an expectation), including postdoctoral researchers. Two or more individuals may combine forces and submit a joint application. Exceptions to the eligibility criteria may be considered if the case is strong, and on a case-by-case basis.

## 2. Digital Humanities Travel and Training Call 2016-17

In addition to the 2016/17 Project Call, we are pleased to announce a call for applications for a limited number of small grants for professional development in digital humanities skills for Faculty of Humanities researchers, to be undertaken by the end of this academic year. Possible activities could include travel for networking and collaboration on new digital projects, internships, and/or training courses provided by the University of Manchester such as the Methods Summer School, and other providers. We will also consider applications to attend major digital humanities conferences and summer schools. **Please note that funded activities under this Call must be completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017.** If you would like to attend an event which is scheduled to take place after this date, please contact the Faculty Lead, Dr Guyda Armstrong in the first instance to discuss.

### How to apply:

This fund will operate on a competitive basis. Preference will be given to projects that clearly and convincingly demonstrate how the funds applied for will enhance the Digital Humanities skills of individuals/groups, to lay the ground for building new capacities with UoM, and/or lead to applications for external research funding.

Applications should be submitted by email to the Digital Humanities administrator, Josephine Lewis, at [dh@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:dh@manchester.ac.uk), by **Wednesday 22nd March 2017**. Informal enquiries may be directed to Dr Guyda Armstrong, Faculty Academic Lead for Digital Humanities ([guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk)).

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- Improve the chances of securing external funding
- Increase the academic and/or non-academic impact of the individual/group's research, and
- Provide good value for money.

Applications should include:

- The name and contact details of the lead researcher(s)
- A brief account of the proposed activity to be supported (e.g. work of the collaborating research grouping/individuals; description of training course or event to be attended, etc., in no more than 100 words)
- A narrative explaining how the bid meets the criteria and the added value the investment would bring to the individual, research grouping, or School (in no more than 250 words)
- A budget with costings for all activities; eligible items include, but are not limited to, travel, accommodation and living expenses; room hire and equipment; communication costs.

Funding decisions for the Travel and Training award will be announced by **Friday 21st April**. All expenditure on successful bids should be completed by July 31st 2015. A brief report (no more than one side of A4) should be submitted within one month of the award end date. This should identify and describe specific benefits and outcomes resulting from the award, and outline plans for any further developments and initiatives. We may use selected reports as the basis to publicise the benefits of the fund. All successful recipients will also be asked to share their findings in a future digital humanities workshop.

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