Digital Research Start-Up Partnerships for Graduate Students in the UCLA Library

Summer 2016

Indications of interest are due July 1, 2016.
Notification of acceptance July 8, 2016.

Call for projects: Got ideas for ways to analyze your data? Visions of maps, graphs, and visualizations? Perhaps you have already collected mounds of data and could use some advice.

We’ve got just the program for you! The UCLA Library is offering the inaugural Digital Research Start-Up Partnerships (DResSUP) program this summer, where we (librarians and library staff with technical skills) will partner with and work alongside you to get your data into shape!

We are calling for project proposals from graduate students across the humanities, social sciences, and affiliated disciplines at UCLA. Projects can be new or ongoing, and may (but need not) be part of dissertation research. The program is primarily for students with projects that would benefit from digital research practices such as data analysis, mapping and visualization, or advice on metadata or other standards.

Apply now for this six-week program (July 1-August 31). It will be structured like an incubator for start-ups and will provide working tools, librarians and library staff with expertise in digital research, and a cohort of five students working on similar projects. If your project is selected, our team will work intensively with you for one week and be on-call for the duration of the program. We’re calling these “partnerships” because you will work with us as a member of the team. Our goal is to get your project off to a good start!

How can we help? The library can assist in the following areas:

- digitize, transcribe, geo-reference or perform OCR on materials
- write scripts to “mine” data from digitized collections (e.g. Hathi Trust)
- create metadata following appropriate standards
- convert materials from one format to another (e.g. raw text to spreadsheet)
- collect data from social media
- crawl and/or archive websites
- prepare data for storage or publication in a repository

The entire group will meet for a one-day Boot-Camp in July. We’ll work with each participant to plan how to reach their project goals for the summer; putting best practices in place, designing workflows, and helping to learn skills needed to continue working on their project. We’ll schedule weekly, informal “check-up” sessions during the six weeks to report progress and trouble-shoot.

Check our website: http://www.library.ucla.edu/support/research-help/dressup

Ready to apply? Send a brief email explaining your project to Zoe Borovsky: zoe@library.ucla.edu
We will send you an application form.

Who we are: Zoe Borovsky is Librarian for Digital Research and Scholarship in UCLA’s Charles E. Young Research Library and has years of experience wrangling digital projects. Peter Broadwell is an Academic Projects Developer at the UCLA Digital Library Program, where he works to explore emergent modes of digital scholarship at the confluence of computational analysis and digital archiving. Claudia Horning is the Director of Metadata Services in the UCLA Library Cataloging & Metadata Center, where she works within the rapidly evolving realm of information and content management and discovery. We’re joined by Jonathan Crisman, core faculty member of UCLA’s Urban Humanities initiative.