NEH Releases Details on New Digital Humanities Advancement Program

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has released the solicitation for a new program entitled "Digital Humanities Advancement Grants" (DHAG), which combines elements of two previous NEH programs, the Digital Humanities Start-up Grant and Digital Humanities Implementation Grant programs. This program is tied to NEH's Common Good initiative, which seeks to "connect the study of the humanities to the current conditions of national life."

Through this program, NEH will support innovative digital humanities research, teaching, and programming projects across lifecycle phases from exploratory planning through the scaling-up of existing projects. Successful projects should enhance the humanities through such activities as creating new computational techniques to examining the impacts of digital culture to revitalizing existing digital projects. Grants will be awarded in three levels:

· Level I – to support early-stage planning, workshops, and projects to explore and identify a research agenda, methodology or technology

· Level II – to support fully-formed projects leading to tangible outcomes

· Level III – to support implementation or scaling-up of existing projects

Of note, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will provide additional funding for innovative Level I or II "collaborations between museum or library professionals and humanities professionals to advance preservation of, access to, use of, and engagement with digital collections and services."

Due Date: Proposals are due January 11, 2017. A unique feature of the DHAG program is that applications will be accepted twice a year, with the next anticipated deadline being in June 2017.

Total Funding and Award Size: This program will fund grants for one to three years, depending on the phase or level of the project. Level I grants will range from $5,000 to $40,000. Level II grants will range from $40,001 to $75,000. Level III grants will range from $100,000 to $325,000, with the possibility of an additional $50,000 in matching funds for sustainability or data management planning purposes. NEH has not indicated how many awards it expects to issue.

Eligibility and Limitations: Eligible applicants include U.S. nonprofit organizations, including private and public institutions of higher education.

Sources and Additional Background:

·   The solicitation is available at http://www.neh.gov/files/grants/digital-humanities-advancement-grants.pdf.

·   Additional information, including a Frequently Asked Questions document, is available at http://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants.

·   Additional information about the Common Good can be found here: http://www.neh.gov/commongood/about.