

OCLC/ALISE Library & Information Science Research Grant Program (LISRGP)

2010 Call for proposals

OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Incorporated and OCLC Research, in collaboration with the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), announce the Library and Information Science Research Grant Program (LISRGP) for 2010 and invite research proposals.

Program description

In recognition of the importance of research to the advancement of librarianship and information science, OCLC and ALISE promote independent research that helps librarians integrate new technologies into areas of traditional competence and contributes to a better understanding of the library environment.

Project funding

The LISRGP provides grant awards of up to \$15,000. Monies can be applied to the following costs:

- Release time from teaching for the principal investigator
- Research assistants
- Project-related travel
- Equipment, if integral to the research
- Other research expenses

Staff training, general operating or overhead expenses, and other indirect costs are not funded. Guarantees of cost sharing are not required, although institutional support of projects is anticipated. All costs must be clearly defined in the budget portion of the proposal. Capital equipment cost should be prorated if the useful life of the equipment extends beyond the end of the project.

Project duration

LISRGP-supported projects are expected to be conducted within approximately one year from the date of the award. Projects should be planned to begin in January 2010.

Eligibility

Full-time academic faculty (or equivalent) in schools of library and information science are eligible to apply. OCLC and ALISE encourage international proposals and collaborative projects under this program. To aid new researchers, priority will be given when possible to proposals from junior faculty and applicants who have not previously received LISRGP funds. Proposals must be signed by the principal investigator, by the dean/director (or equivalent) of the school, and by an authorized official of the university.

Research agenda

Proposals are invited that address the issues identified in "On the Record: Report of The Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control," January 9, 2008, which is available online at www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/lcwg-ontherecord-jan08-final.pdf (.pdf: 437K/49 pp.).

Proposal review procedures

Proposals are evaluated by a panel selected by OCLC and ALISE. Occasionally, proposals may be distributed to additional expert reviewers selected by OCLC and ALISE who may advise the panel. The panel's recommendations are forwarded to the vice president, OCLC Research, for final review and funding decisions. The decisions of the vice president, OCLC Research are final. When a decision to award a grant has been made, a research project monitor is assigned by OCLC Research. The monitor serves as the point of contact for the LISRGP recipient for the duration of the project.

Reviewers consider the following criteria, among others, when evaluating proposals:

- Does the proposal meet the formal criteria as laid out in the Call for Proposals? Proposals not meeting formal criteria will not be further evaluated and will not be funded. This includes length of proposal, margin and font-size specifications, presence of requested signatures, eligibility of requesting institution, presence of budget and description of role of all investigators.
- Is the project clearly described, the problem well defined, and are the research objectives clearly stated?
- Is there sufficient review of the literature?
- Is the proposed methodology appropriate and are the investigative procedures clearly explained?
- What is the significance of the proposed research to either the library and information science community as a whole or to OCLC specifically?
- Are sufficient resources available? Do the people proposing the research appear capable of conducting the research? Is institutional commitment to support the project apparent?

Publication of findings

As a condition of the grant, researchers must furnish OCLC a final project report in digital format within 60 days of the completion date indicated on the proposal cover page. The results of the research must be nonproprietary and in the public domain. OCLC and ALISE may elect to publish and distribute all or portions of the report without restriction. The final project report will be available on the OCLC Research Web site.

The report should:

- Explain why the research is innovative or provide a framework or conceptual model referencing related research reported in the literature.
- Describe the scope and methodology employed for the research, including completed phases of the research with dates.
- Explain the data analyses and discuss the findings of the research.
- Describe outcomes or outputs of the research with dates, such as papers, presentations, or publications.
- Suggest future research based on the results of the project.
- Include a budget report.

If a paper describing the research methodology and findings is accepted for publication in a journal, a cover letter briefly explaining the research outcomes and a pre-print of the published paper, or a link to the network-accessible journal, must be submitted to OCLC Research for inclusion on the Web site. Researchers must include, or cause to be included, recognition of the OCLC/ALISE LISRGP grant in all publications of research results from the LISRGP-funded project.

Application procedures

To apply, complete and submit the items listed below. (A printable checklist (.pdf: 25K/1 p.) is available online at www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/appchecklist.pdf to assist you in assembling your application package.)

1. OCLC/ALISE LISRGP proposal cover page. The principal investigator, dean/director (or equivalent) of the school, and an authorized official of the university must sign the proposal cover page. The cover page is available online at www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/lisrgp_proposal.pdf (.pdf: 37K/1p.).
2. A research proposal that:
 - describes the nature, scope, and method of the proposed research
 - explains why the research is innovative through reference to related research reported in the literature
 - proposes the anticipated significance of the research to library and information science
 - identifies methods that will be used to measure the success of the project
 - suggests future research based on the anticipated results of the project
 - briefly notes dissemination plans
 - displays double-spaced lines with a minimum of .5" margins and a font size of at least 10 points.
3. Detailed budget in US dollars that clearly identifies the funding requested and identifies institutional cost sharing. Equipment and travel requests must be explicitly justified.

4. Additional supporting materials such as curricula vitae of project staff, bibliography, project schedule, letters of support. The role and contribution of all investigators should be clearly specified.
5. The cover page, proposal, budget and any supporting materials must not exceed 20 pages.

Submitting proposals

Submit proposals electronically via the online form, available at www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/alise.aspx. The deadline for submission is 23:59:59 your local time on 15 September 2009.

Contact OCLC Programs and Research via the online link at www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/ for questions or clarifications. These *must* be resolved prior to 18:00:00 EDT 15 September 2009. The preferred format for proposal submissions is PDF, however other formats may be acceptable. See www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/ for details.

Application deadline

Applications must be submitted by 23:59:59 your local time on 15 September 2009. Receipt will be acknowledged. Late applications will be disqualified. **Grant recipients will be notified by the end of December 2009 and announced at the 2010 ALISE Annual Conference, 12-15 January 2010, in Boston, Massachusetts.** Previous recipients and final papers are available at: www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/awarded.htm.

About the sponsors

Founded in 1967, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc. is a nonprofit, membership, computer library service and research organization dedicated to the public purposes of furthering access to the world's information and reducing the rate of rise of library costs. More than 69,000 libraries in 112 countries and territories around the world use OCLC services to locate, acquire, catalog, lend and preserve library materials. OCLC and its member libraries cooperatively produce and maintain WorldCat—the OCLC Online Union Catalog. www.oclc.org

Additional information about OCLC Programs and Research is available at www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/.

ALISE is a nonprofit organization that serves as the intellectual home of university faculty in graduate programs in library and information science in North America. Its mission is to promote excellence in research, teaching, and service and to provide an understanding of the values and ethos of library and information science. ALISE serves 500 individual members and more than 60 institutional members, primarily in the United States and Canada. www.alise.org

Spread the word!

Please share this call with your colleagues. It is available online at www.oclc.org/programsandresearch/grants/call.pdf (.pdf: 62K/2 pp.).