

New York State Data Carpentries Library Consortium

1 Statement of Broad Need

The University of Rochester Library, in collaboration with Colgate University, Cornell University, and Syracuse University seeks \$64,125 in Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Planning Grant funding in the Lifelong Learning category. The funding will support a 12-month effort to plan and pilot a skill sharing program utilizing a Library Carpentries model to promote Continuing Education and collaboration within the New York State Library Community. This planning grant will provide the foundation for a three-year project that will address two intertwined needs within the library community: (1) the capacity to train and support librarians to meet the demands of digital fluencies that have become increasingly relevant to research and teaching efforts and (2) the need to work across libraries and institutions to draw on a range of expertise in order to meet those demands.

Through this planning grant, we will define a consortial model and scope to determine a sustainable approach for cost-sharing and skills development, including outreach to external partners, such as the Empire State Library Network (ESLN), a meta-consortium of nine regional, multi-type consortia serving academic, public, and school libraries across New York State. This consortial model will foster a community of practice to address a shared and growing need to train librarians in digital fluencies--including, but not limited to, data privacy, data structures and management, programming languages, versioning control through Git, relational databases, and webscraping. These skills, while traditionally part of STEM education, have become more prevalent across disciplines, particularly in interdisciplinary research and digital scholarship and require collaborative solutions and support. Through the planning grant, we will facilitate cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional models for developing and implementing inquiry-based programming to meet the needs of students and researchers engaged in this type of research. The planning partners will identify initial training needs at our institutions and pilot a “train the trainer” model through participation in Library Carpentries Instructor Training. This experience will allow the planning partners to assess how to structure future cohorts of Carpentries trainers and determine how we can draw upon our own expertise to develop curriculum for sharing with our consortium partners and the broader library community. The consortial model will also provide us with the opportunity to pilot the expansion of the model to include regional, state and community colleges. Sourcing additional participants from the regional library councils will pilot partnerships that could become a sustainable model of recruitment and administrative oversight as the consortium expands.

2 Project Design

Projects activities are organized into three focus areas:

(1) Define training expertise for New York State Data Carpentries Library Consortium

- Planning partners will identify initial training needs and send an initial cohort of 15 librarians to begin receiving instruction and training through The Carpentries. This training will manifest in a consortial Gold Membership in The Carpentries for one year. Participants will use this experience to build a community of practice and assess how to structure *future* cohorts of Carpentries trainers across the state of New York.
- Planning partners will develop a selection process for additional cohorts of instructors.

(2) Define a consortial model and scope.

- Planning partners will work with regional library councils and other consortial groups to determine a sustainable model for cost-sharing and skills development. Seven of the

fifteen initial instruction and training cohort will be recruited through regional library councils. The remaining eight participants will be divided between the partner institutions equally (2 *per* university).

- Planning partners will work with external partners to define scope and reach of the program, eventually expanding outreach to library partners in community colleges, public library settings, and school libraries.
- (3) *Define a curricular area where New York State Data Carpentries Library Consortium can grow the parent Carpentries organization.*
- Planning partners will conduct a needs assessment at the conclusion of the training and work with external partners and Library Carpentries to identify areas of expertise (data privacy, ethical frameworks) that can be contributed back to the Carpentries framework from the New York State Data Carpentries Library Consortium.

3 Diversity Plan

By working through the regional councils, we will identify and recruit underrepresented minority librarians from public and higher education institutions across central New York as participants in the initial cohort. The use of travel stipends will provide critical technical training and support to foster professional development and enhanced services to communities that may not have access to funding for such endeavors. Including a diversity of voices and institutions into the initial cohort will ensure that future outreach and consortial expansion is informed by consensus and inclusivity. Moreover, instructional and workshop materials generated by the consortium will adhere to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines established by the W3C.

4 Broad Impact

While initial impact will focus on building a consortium between 4 regionally-situated universities, it is the goal of this planning grant and the subsequent project to expand the consortium to include college, school, and public librarians to create an inclusive and broad community of practice. The planning partners commit to sharing their expertise with the regional library consortiums through workshops and training. Further, at the end of the planning phase, we will host a symposium with panels and workshops that will be free and open to the public. Moreover, the inclusion of a broader community of practice will allow us to help build and broaden the curricula for The Carpentries to include issues such as data privacy.

5 Budget Summary

A total budget of \$64,125 is requested from IMLS for the New York State Data Carpentries Library Consortium planning grant. The proposed budget will support (1) gold membership in The Carpentries for one year, shared between the 4 partner institutions at \$15,000; (2) Travel stipends for seven librarians to participate in the initial Carpentries cohort, as identified through regional councils at \$10,500; (3) Travel stipends for eight librarians from the partner institutions to participate in the initial Carpentries trainings at \$12,000; (4) Planning-related travel for purposes of coordination with regional councils, project dissemination, and final symposium at \$10,000; and (5) and 35% federally-negotiated indirect costs at \$16,625.