Successfully Completing A Grant-Funded Project

S2. Grant Funding for Your Next Project

MARAC, Fall 2016

Liz Caringola
University of Maryland Libraries
The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) is a joint effort by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and Library of Congress (LC) to digitize historic newspapers from all 50 states and U.S. territories.

- One institution per state/territory
- Digitize 100,000 during 2-year grant period
- Digitize from microfilm
- Newspapers published between 1836 and 1922 – Recently expanded to 1690 to 1963!
- Digitized newspapers are accessible on Chronicling America
The Historic Maryland Newspapers Project

- UMD Libraries joined the NDNP in 2012
  - 1st grant: 2012-2014
  - 2nd grant: 2014-2016
  - 3rd grant: 2016-2018
- To date, 182,382 pages of Maryland newsprint are available on Chronicling America
- Over 200,000 pages will be online by the end of 2016
- Titles represent 12 counties and include a German-language title, Der Deutsche Correspondent
Grant requirements

What is UMD obligated to do during a two-year NDNP grant cycle?

- Title selection
  - Establish an advisory board responsible for applying selection criteria
  - Technical analysis of the microfilm for selected newspapers
  - Evaluate and document copyright status for any material published post-1922
  - Compile a list of the newspapers selected for digitization

- Digitization
  - Development of a production schedule
  - Submission of a minimum of 100,000 pages of digitized newsprint
  - Deposit at LC the microfilm used for scanning

- Other deliverables/obligations
  - Summary essays.descriptions for each digitized newspaper title
  - Survey of open-access (free) digital titles that are not included in the NDNP
  - Attendance at annual NDNP awardee meeting
  - Progress reports
Getting started

- Read all the documentation that I could find in order to understand all of the grant’s requirements
- Worked with advisory board to identify titles that should be prioritized for digitization
- Worked with digitization vendor to digitize a sample reel of microfilm
- Created workflows for microfilm evaluation, creating metadata, and quality control
- Hired student workers
Getting it done

- Create a timeline that includes grant-mandated milestones

- Pick your tools
  - Listservs/email
  - Basecamp
  - Google Drive
  - Digital Viewer and Validator (created by LC for quality control)
  - Spreadsheets, spreadsheets, and more spreadsheets
Contact

Liz Caringola

Archival Metadata Librarian
Special Collections and University Archives
UMD Libraries

ecaringo@umd.edu
@canlift40lbs