TOWARD AN OPEN MONOGRAPH ECOSYSTEM AWARD
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) celebrates the public impact that humanities and social science research can achieve when it is made openly available.

Michigan State University (MSU) is committed to providing new opportunities for faculty to bring their work to the world. In support of this goal, MSU has established a new award for faculty authors in the humanities and social sciences seeking to publish an open-access scholarly monograph with a participating university press.

The Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) provides $15,000 to be used as a subvention in support of the publication of an open-access digital monograph of up to 90,000 words. Monographs must have been accepted for publication by a participating university press. Eligible monographs must be authored or co-authored by a member of the MSU faculty. Generally, critical editions, edited collections, creative works, textbooks, and translations will not be eligible for the award.

All MSU faculty in the humanities and social sciences who are tenured, in the tenure-system, or have multi-year fixed-term faculty or Academic Specialist appointments with research as a component of their assignment, are eligible to apply. Faculty members may receive this award only once in a three-year period.

Preference will be given to long-form scholarly works that:

- Would benefit from publication as open-access ebooks, including projects with the potential to reach a broader audience beyond the academy;
- Include digital enhancements or otherwise extend the capabilities of print books, including the use of embedded media or other interactive components (such as video, interactive maps, podcasts, etc.);
- Cannot be produced satisfactorily in print, given their integration of text and digital objects.

Three such awards will be given in 2017-18, and the MSU has committed to offering the award each year through at least 2021-22.

Authors are encouraged to schedule a consultation with Kathleen Fitzpatrick (kfitz@msu.edu), MSU Director of Digital Humanities, before submitting an application. Applications, which will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis, include:

- A statement of no more than three pages containing a concise description of the project, its significance within the field and for communities outside the academy, and how it will benefit from open-access publication;
• A letter of interest from the publisher, on publisher letterhead, articulating its review and editorial selection processes, confirming its capacity to produce and market an open-access digital work to a high standard, and stating the level of support expected to make the work open access.

• A budget for the project, including a statement from the publisher justifying the requested level of support;

• An abbreviated curriculum vitae for each author;

• Copies of all readers’ reports, as well as a copy of any author responses to those reports.

A selection committee, including the Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Education of the College of Arts & Letters, the MSU Director of Digital Humanities, and senior faculty and administrators from across MSU, will review each application and select the awardees. The committee will draft a letter of award to the author and the publisher. Funding will be released to the publisher upon presentation of a signed publisher contract.