THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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LSTA Advisory Council
State Library of Ohio
274 E. First Ave., Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43201

Dear LSTA Advisory Council:

As the Vice Provost and Director of The Ohio State University Libraries, I would like to add my enthusiastic support for the proposed Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) planning grant proposed by the Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML). The planning grant represents a joint effort by many organizations from around the state working collaboratively to support Ohio communities, students, educators, and researchers.

The DPLA is a national effort by cultural heritage organizations to bridge the divide that separates the public from the rich primary resources found in libraries, museums and archives. The DPLA connects communities with needed resources, helping to fill in access gaps, and promotes the use of primary resources in education. And, given Ohio's storied history as the home of United States Presidents, congressmen and women, astronauts, inventors, and scholars of note, the lack of Ohio's cultural heritage materials within the DPLA leaves a noticeable gap both nationally and locally.

The proposed planning grant by CML will give Ohio's cultural heritage organizations the opportunity to better understand what is necessary to not only successfully join the DPLA, but create a long-term, sustainable state-wide partnership that is uniquely Ohio. As part of this grant, The Ohio State University Libraries will be actively participating in discussions with the planning group to support the project and better understand how we can make our own digital collections more visible to Ohio communities and beyond.

I sincerely hope that the LSTA Advisory Council will full support this effort and provide the funding necessary to allow this project to move forward.

Sincerely,

Carol P. Diedrichs

Carol Pitts Diedrichs
Vice Provost and Director of University Libraries

BUT FOR OHIO STATE