UNC TLT Collaborative Spring 2001 Campus Funding Allocations

1. Campus: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2. Campus office that is to receive the funding allocation: Academic Technology and Networks (Center for Instructional Technology)

3. Accounting information: Cost Center: SE630

4. Project Category or Categories:

TLT Other

5. Project Description:

The objective of this proposal is to help fund the development of first generation digital library services at UNC. Faculty members and campus units have amassed impressive collections of slides, maps, recordings, videos, etc. for use in their instructional and research endeavors. Part of the promise of computer-based networks is the ability to make these and other collections accessible to learners and researchers across time, space, disciplines and institutions. What is missing is a standards-based storage and retrieval system that can bring digital collections together through a simple web interface. This proposal would help fund the programming support necessary to develop the core components of the new system. More information is available at: http://www.unc.edu/campus/its/projects/diglib/.

6. Collaboration with other UNC Campuses:

One of the goals of this project is to facilitate the sharing of digital collections across area institutions. During last year's planning phase, the UNC Digital Library Project entered into an informal partnership with representatives from NCSU and Duke who are also interested in providing their faculty with appropriate digital library services. The consortium, known as the Triangle Digital Libraries Group, has already begun addressing some of the key challenges involved with sharing digital resources across institutions. We are developing the software as open source, and hope that other NC campuses will be interested in implementing it and contributing to its development. After the initial phase of services is implemented, we would like to partner with other campuses to address some of the more challenging aspects of inter-institution resource sharing such as user authentication. We would likely seek external grant funding or corporate partners during this phase of development.

7. Deliverables in addition to those specified for all 2001 UNC TLT funding allocations: As specified.