# Regional Research E-Prints Archive Project

## Description

The open access movement (http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml) and high subscription costs are causing many libraries to consider establishing electronic archives of research publications produced by their faculty. Although free software to implement such systems (e.g. E-Prints at http://www.e-prints.org) is readily available, the technical, policy and procedural issues necessary to make an electronic archive successful require significant resources to resolve. Furthermore, it is difficult to evaluate many of these issues without a working electronic archives environment in place. Our goal in this project is to reduce the entrance barrier to electronic publishing by libraries in our region. We intend to do this by establishing a regional E-Prints Archive at Washington University School of Medicine and making available technical training, template policies and educational materials to assist other libraries in establishing their own E-Prints archives. During the course of the project we also intend to assess the potential for a regional E-Prints archive to be shared by several institutions.

Specifically, during the course of this year-long project we will accomplish the following:

1. Establish an E-Prints server at Washington University to act as a regional test bed for other libraries to evaluate electronic publishing.
2. Hold on-line workshops on issues specific to implementing an institutional e-archive, such as:
   - Polices and procedures necessary for managing an archive.
   - Impact on library staff and delegation of responsibilities.
   - Tactics for garnishing faculty support for an institutional e-archive.
   - Educating faculty on copyright retention.
3. Produce a white paper which details required technical staff skills, hardware specifications, appropriate infrastructure architectures, implementation guidelines, and approximate costs of establishing a robust e-publishing environment based on the E-Prints software.
4. Attend sessions on institutional repositories at the SPARC conference.

We are confident that this project will dramatically reduce the cost of entry for libraries to get into the electronic publishing business and, therefore, result in more libraries establishing such archives. This, in turn, will enable free and unrestricted access to the research coming from those institutions and add momentum to the open access movement.

Budget

We request funding for the following components of this project:

| Description | % FTE | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| **Hardware Expenses** | | |
| Intel-based server for e-prints test bed | | $ 3,000 |
| **Staff Salaries** | | |
| Systems Administration | 5% | $ 2,788 |
| E-Prints Administration | 20% | $ 13,231 |
| Project | 10% | $ 6,363 |
| Document | 10% | $ 6,074 |
| **Staff Benefits** | | |
| approximately 20% | | $ 5,691 |
| **Travel Expenses** | | |
| SPARC conference | | $ 1,250 |
| **Total** | | $ 38,397 |
| **IDC (30%)** | | |
| **11.519** | | |
| **Total rquested** | | **$ 49, 916** |

Washington University will provide a web site for this project, the collaboration environment for the on-line workshops, and any necessary administrative support.