

**Fast Facts on the Grant  
Awarded for the Mississippi Digital Library Program  
September 2003**

**Who?**

- ✍ **Grant recipient:** The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries
- ✍ **Granting agency:** Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov)
- ✍ **Collaborating partners:** Delta State University (DSU), Jackson State University (JSU), Tougaloo College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), and the University of Mississippi (UM),
- ✍ **List of other grant recipients:** <http://www.ims.gov/whatsnew/stategrants0903nlg.htm>

**What?**

- ✍ **Grant program:** National Leadership Grant for Libraries (in the category of Preservation or Digitization)
- ✍ **Amount of award:** \$463, 322
- ✍ **Project title:** Mississippi Digital Library Program
- ✍ **Subject focus:** the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi
  - The project will provide online access to original collections on the civil rights era of considerable intellectual and educational merit. Letters, diaries, photographs, state and organizational records, oral histories, and other primary sources provide firsthand documentation of the history of race relations in the state.
  - The result will be the **world's largest** online educational resource on the African-American civil rights movement.
- ✍ **Two main components:**
  - The finding aid component of the project will provide comprehensive intellectual control for Mississippi's civil rights collections for the first time.
  - Digitization of primary source materials for a statewide digital archive

**When?**

- ✍ **Date of award:** September 23, 2003
- ✍ **Grant period starts:** December 1, 2003
- ✍ **Grant period ends:** November 30, 2005

**Why?**

- ✍ This is Mississippi's **first** attempt to establish a collaborative digital library program. It will provide an opportunity to forge lasting partnerships among the state's cultural institutions.
- ✍ This project will provide leadership in a cutting edge field
  - by continuing to develop a mechanism for resolving intellectual property and privacy rights issues for 20<sup>th</sup> Century collections.
  - by creating an alternative model for digital collaboration
    - ✍ Centralization of some of the work flow
      - ? Opportunity for institutions with less funding and staff to participate
    - ✍ De-centralization by choice
      - ? Opportunity for institutions to initiate or "grow" their own digital programs

For more information about USM Libraries Digital Program:

<http://www.lib.usm.edu/~spcol/digi/index.php>