



# 2016 LSTA Grant Proposals

## 2016 LSTA TECHNOLOGY GRANT (Joshua Klingbeil)

The LSTA Technology Block Grant is intended for development of new services, introductions of new technologies, and facilitation of cooperative use of shared resources which might not otherwise be easily achievable by all/many libraries. At the recent Library Advisory Committee (LAC) meeting (April 9, 2015) committee members participated in an engaging conversation, bringing forth many ideas which fell into somewhat of a blend of one or more of these categories:

- Creative Technologies
- Educational Gamification
- STEM (STEAM – don't forget the Arts)

These were the abstract ideas that we captured during this conversation:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publishing on Demand (Espresso Book Machine)</li> <li>• Local Author Book Club Kit - with online capabilities, connect with authors, background info</li> <li>• How to do programming - Children, teens, etc. "Do your own Coding"</li> <li>• 3D printing &amp; Makerspace continued</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online gaming - Minecraft</li> <li>• Virtual reality - google glasses -- Oculus rift????</li> <li>• Wii and other games</li> <li>• STEM support</li> <li>• Fab Lab in schools and partner with libraries</li> <li>• Personal fitness technologies (Submitted by L.Peterson - Withee - later via email)</li> </ul> |
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**To best support the facilitation of several of these projects, we propose focusing on three areas:**

**1. Connecting Libraries with Local and Regional Experts.**

This will involve time, travel, and contractual services establishing a regional clearinghouse of experts in technologies and methodologies related to the three broad categories, and in the more specific ideas listed above. A website clearinghouse resource would be the focal point of the project, providing persistence to the value of these efforts.

**2. Enhancing Access to Creative Technologies.**

In 2015 we are enhancing our digitization facilitation capabilities and to develop "Mobile Makerspace Kits" for use by libraries. In 2016 we would enhance that capital and work within the previous context to connect those resources to regionally available expertise.

**3. Enhance our shared "Unlimited" Compute and Data Storage platform.**

WVLS developed and continues to enhance a scalable and extensible compute and data storage infrastructure. As virtualization technology use by libraries continues to grow, WVLS plans to keep ahead of libraries' virtualization needs by enhancing infrastructure and partnering with other systems to leverage larger volume discounts and cost sharing by de-duplicating capital expenditures.

**2016 LSTA SPECIAL NEEDS GRANT (Kris Adams Wendt)**

The following topics are under consideration for future grants in the competitive Accessibility and Literacy categories for underserved populations but they are “raw potatoes” at the moment:

- Piloting/demonstrating book groups and other library programs for young adults and adults with cognitive disabilities. A member library director is interested in working on this topic, recognizing that there are few opportunities for social interactions among members of this underserved group.
- Multi-type collaborative project between Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake School and surrounding libraries in Lincoln and Langlade Counties. Adding the LH/CLS librarian to LAC has generated discussion, peer support and the promise of future cooperation to provide a richer literacy experience for LH/CLS students. There might be enough consensus as to needs and pathway to apply for 2016.
- The joint WVLS/NFLS grant application for the Youth and Special Services System CE Support Project pilot project will hopefully come through for the scheduled Oct.14 training on the topic of rural poverty and short term over to local library projects. WVLS and NFLS are committed to follow through regardless of whether grant funds are received. Although the timing of our training falls after the LSTA deadline for 2016 grant application, this is a topic on which both systems have mutual interest in pursuing long term. Direction supplied by member libraries on October 13-14 will provide signposts for the next steps.