

## Call for Proposals

### Case Studies on Open Source System Selection and Application in Libraries

LYRASIS seeks two libraries to provide case studies of their adoption of open source systems in their organizations, such as content repositories or institutional repositories, integrated library systems, or public-facing websites. Selected libraries will be paid to prepare a narrative description of their experience and learning. This initiative is part of a grant project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to assist libraries and other cultural heritage organizations in learning about, evaluating, adopting, and using open source software systems.

Each case study should detail how the organization handled evaluation, selection, adoption, conversion, and/or implementation of the open source system. It should include the rationale for going with an open source solution. LYRASIS is looking for case studies that:

- Document actual experiences, both good and bad;
- Describe steps, decision points, and process used in evaluation, selection, and implementation;
- Highlight factors that led to selection of an open source system, including both benefits and known challenges;
- Describe library-wide involvement and impact, including both staff and patrons;
- Note useful tools created or applied to enhance the open source system and/or expand its functionality, usefulness, or benefit to library staff and library users;
- Describe the library's plan for ongoing support and future enhancement;
- Summarize what was learned from the process, including what worked well, what didn't work as planned, and what the library might do differently in the future.

LYRASIS has no requirements for length, but assumes narratives would be in the 15-20 page range. Images and graphics are welcome, as are addenda in the form of checklists, evaluation spreadsheets, RFPs, and similar documents. In order to conform to terms of the grant agreement that funds creation of these case studies, case studies will need to be made available on a royalty-free basis under an appropriate Creative Commons attribution license. Finished reports will be made freely available in FOSS4Lib and authors will be offered opportunities to share their case studies through interactive webinars for the library community. Case studies will be promoted through LYRASIS publications and press releases.

#### The Process:

1. If you are interested, submit a brief description of the potential case study by email to Peter Murray at LYRASIS ([peter.murray@lyrasis.org](mailto:peter.murray@lyrasis.org)). Descriptions should include the

- name of the proposed primary author as well as names of others at the library who may contribute to creation of the case study. Descriptions are due by Friday, January 11, 2014.
2. LYRASIS staff will review proposals and select two based on fit and perceived value and usefulness within the library community. The preference is to provide one case study each for academic and public libraries, although this is not a requirement.
  3. Once selected, the case study site will prepare a draft narrative. We anticipate this will take 3 to 4 months.
  4. Drafts will be reviewed by LYRASIS Technology and Communications staff. Revisions may be requested to address questions from reviewers. Once a narrative is accepted, LYRASIS will provide final editing and, if needed, layout prior to publication.
  5. The final case study will be posted on FOSS4Lib.org.

If you have questions, please contact Peter Murray, Director of Digital Technology Services at LYRASIS, email [peter.murray@lyrasis.org](mailto:peter.murray@lyrasis.org), telephone 1.800.999.8558, extension 2955.