NSDL Technical Network Services Statement of Work

On behalf of the National Science Digital Library (NSDL), Technical Network Services (TNS) at the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) will provide operational support and services to NSDL grantees, specifically to Sponsor. TNS support is conducted in collaboration with Cornell University and the University of Colorado at Boulder.

TNS will offer its expertise in the areas of repository and service integrity, web interfaces, and digital library cyberinfrastructure operations and support. This statement of work describes four key work areas over the performance period: collections ingest and maintenance, infrastructure and library operations, consulting and training on web-service interfaces to the NSDL library and NCore components, and development of an NSDL sustainability model. (Note: Web-service refers to a programmatic interface that allows application-to-application communication.)

(1) TNS will help NSDL grantees to prepare their collections for inclusion in NSDL and perform ongoing technical collections integration to support repository integrity. Refer to the NSDL web site for details on how a project may contribute collections and/or individual resources http://nsdl.org/collection/ .

(2) TNS will support the operations of: (a) the NSDL infrastructure and library through the NCore platform for use by NSDL grantees; and (b) NSDL.org to support access to and dissemination of grantee collections. TNS will provide software maintenance, upgrades to NSDL to meet community needs (through the process described in item 3 below), and technical support for NCORE components, including the NSDL Collection System, Discovery System, Strand Map Service and associated web-service interfaces. Refer to the NCore website at http://ncore.nsdl.org/ for details of these and other tools and services. TNS will also maintain NSDL.org and related NSDL web services.

(3) TNS will provide consulting, information and training to support the adoption and use of NCore and related web-services, and to integrate community tools and services into NCore. To ensure that the integration of new tools and services into NCore underpins the National Science Foundation's cyberlearning and Web 2.0 visions, TNS will initiate an open and transparent process to engage the NSDL community in identifying and assessing potential developments to NCore and related services and enable distributed collaborative contributions to library directions and technologies.

(4) TNS will develop and implement a sustainability model to support the continued long-term operation of the NSDL infrastructure; this work will be done in collaboration with Cornell University and the University of Colorado at Boulder.