In the summer of 2010 Dr. Joshua J. Wells received an Indiana University South Bend Faculty Research Grant in the amount of $8,477 for materials and expenses to conduct a research project.

The grant-supported activities involved the creation of a geographic information system (GIS) atlas, capable of answering important research questions, for a large series of archaeological sites in the Midwestern and Southeastern United States 1,000 years ago; also to provide a practical model for interoperating a series of uniquely structured and unconnected public government datasets in American archaeology.

Dr. Wells was able complete the project with little difficulty. He acquired the necessary archaeological database information from four of the five State Historic Preservation Offices specified in the proposal (Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Missouri); the database from Tennessee did not include information relevant to the project. Using these unique database structures, Dr. Wells was able to develop data interoperability models for the archaeological information they contained, and generate regional maps of archaeological patterns stretching across all four states. The IUSB grants support staff were very helpful and efficient at distributing funds to pay for necessary software and other expenses, and with other logistical considerations.

This project resulted in numerous products and continues to provide a foundation for derivative work. Dr. Wells’ work on this project has yielded numerous dividends in the form of professional conference presentations, publications in progress, grants under review involving national and international professional collaborations, enhanced teaching in the classroom, and increased visibility of Indiana University South Bend in the archaeological and anthropological scientific community. These dividends include:

- **Presentation (2010)** at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Archaeological Conference, Bloomington, Indiana; “A SHAARD of Evidence on Middle Mississippian Settlement Patterns in Indiana: Analyzing the Capacity for a State Archaeological Database to Test Hypotheses about Prehistory.”
- **Publication in progress (2011)** under review by The IU Polis Center and Indiana University Press as part of an edited volume; “Four States of Mississippian Data: Best Practices at Work Integrating Information from Four SHPO Databases in a GIS-Structured Archaeological Atlas.”
- **Grant proposal (2011)** under review at the US National Science Foundation; “Developing the Cyberinfrastructure for a National Archaeological Site Database”; Wells as Co-PI with Dr. D. Anderson of the Paleoindian Database of the Americas at the University of
Tennessee, and Dr. E. Kansa of Open Context archaeological data publication at the University of California at Berkeley; Total request $191,835 (IUSB share $50,006).

- Grant proposal (2011) under review from Australian National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR); “NeCTAR eResearch Tools: Federated Archaeological Information Management System”; Wells as a consultant for PI Dr. S. Ross, University of New South Wales; Total request $950,000 AUD.

- Grant proposal (2011) not funded from Australian Research Council; “From Digital Recording to Data Archiving: A Flexible, Robust and Extensible distributed Information Management System for Archaeology. Wells as a consultant for PI Dr. S. Ross, University of New South Wales; Total request $277,417 AUD.

- Professional / public visibility (2011) with Wells’ work hosted on “Visible Past” <http://visiblepast.net> an archaeological digital mapping site produced by researchers at Purdue University; visibility of Wells’ work on this project through this site helped initiate invitations to participate in the Australian projects listed above.

- Professional service (2011) with Wells asked to join the editorial board of “Open Context” <http://opencontext.org> an archaeological data publication outlet named as an important resource by the NSF archaeology program; visibility of Wells' work on this project helped initiate this invitation.

- Classroom examples (2010-2011) of project work in ANTH-N 190 and ANTH A105, courses in introductory archaeology; project maps used as visual aids to explain the density of archaeological sites in Indiana and surrounding states.

- Classroom examples (2011) of project work in ANTH-A 385, course in uses of geographic information systems; project datasets used to demonstrate best practices in project workflows from raw data to completed projects.

- Classroom examples (2010-2011) of project work in INFO-I 202 / SOC-S 240, social informatics; project datasets and management strategies used to explain differences in data management strategies related to the missions of institutional government contexts.

- Classroom examples (2011) of project work in ANTH-P 405, archaeological field school; project maps and datasets used to instruct students on best practices in scientific data management related to live field survey and excavation.

- Classroom examples (2011) of project work in ANTH-P 300, prehistoric archaeology; project maps and datasets used to explain how information systems are used to facilitate preservation of archaeological data after excavation and laboratory analyses.

- Classroom examples (2010) of project work in ANTH-A 460, anthropology and information technologies; project datasets and management strategies used to explain differences in data management strategies within institutional government contexts.

The Indiana University South Bend Faculty Research Grant has been exceedingly important in the early development of Dr. Wells’ professional career in research and teaching. This funding provided Dr. Wells with time and materials that were used to create numerous professional products and collaborative relationships that should facilitate at least several more years of externally grant-funded research activities and publications. Students at IUSB have been direct beneficiaries of Dr. Wells’ research experience on this project, which has provided them with numerous examples of archaeological digital data management practices that have been scaled and tailored to meet the needs of ten courses at IUSB since the award.