

**LAUC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNIVERSITY-WIDE RESEARCH GRANTS
FOR LIBRARIANS
2001/2002**

Unit Proposals

GIA AIVAZIAN

“The Satirical Face of the Pre-Genocide Armenian Press in Constantinople (1908-1915)”

Campus: Los Angeles
Requested: \$12,583
Recommended: \$ 8,028

Gia Aivazian is requesting support to examine and microfilm images from selected satirical Armenian periodicals published between 1908 and 1915, many of which are currently located outside the U.S. According to Ms. Aivazian, during this period, 136 Armenian-language newspapers and periodicals were published, 121 of which were new, with 30 or more entirely satirical in nature. She proposes focusing on the issue of freedom of the press during the 1908-1915 period, from the adoption of the 1908 Young Turk Constitution to the spring of 1915. The UCLA Library owns 5-6 of these periodicals, and is the only library in the U.S. to own any of these sorts of periodicals. Ms. Aivazian proposes travelling to libraries in Yerevan, Vienna and Paris, in order to select satirical images from a number of these periodicals and then have them microfilmed. Her ultimate aim is to write an English-language book on this topic that “...would offer Armenians of today’s Diaspora a window into the mind and soul of the Armenians of the early part of 20th century Constantinople.” She hopes that this would help Armenians today in their efforts to define Armenian national identity. The Committee agreed that this was a significant project, which would contribute to scholarship in the area of Armenian Studies. However, full funding of this project would severely limit our ability to fund other equally worthwhile project. The Committee recommends partial funding of the project, which would support travel to Armenia only at this time, and will suggest to the applicant that she submit an additional proposal next year to support travel to Paris and Vienna.

SHERRI BARNES

“African American Feminism Website: A Bibliography of Multidisciplinary Writings”

Campus: Santa Barbara
Requested: \$450
Recommended: \$450

Sherri Barnes proposes filling an important gap in the study of African-American feminist literature. She has created a bibliography of multidisciplinary materials on this topic, and proposes mounting it on a web site, both in order to make it widely available to scholars, and to allow her to maintain and update it continually and easily. At present, the bibliography consists of 1700 citations and a 12-page introductory essay, and is organized in six broad categories, and then further subdivided into sub-headings. According to Barnes, “...African

American feminist writers have suffered from...benign neglect." Students, faculty and others doing research in this area have a hard time finding information and citations to existing material, so much so, that she has frequently photocopied sections of her bibliography for them. The Committee feels that mounting the bibliography on a web site as is would add significantly to scholarship in the area of African-American and feminist studies, and would provide an important means of keeping scholars up to date on new publications in this field, as she updates it. The Committee has determined that no supplementary (local) research grant funds are available at UCSB, and apparently there is no staff expertise there dedicated to converting documents to HTML. Given these conditions, we recommend full funding from the Systemwide fund. The Committee will write to Sarah Pritchard, the UL at UCSB, urging her to provide supplementary local funding for similar future projects.

JOHN D. BERRY & KENNETH WADE

"American Indian Periodical Indexing and Database Project"

Campus:	Berkeley (Berry) & Los Angeles (Wade)
Requested:	\$8,035.90
Recommended:	\$5,590

Many tribal and American Indian organization periodicals are considered "gray literature." Here is one definition of "gray literature":

The U.S. Interagency Gray Literature Working Group, "Gray Information Functional Plan," 18 January 1995, defines gray literature as "foreign or domestic open source material that usually is available through specialized channels and may not enter normal channels or systems of publication, distribution, bibliographic control, or acquisition by booksellers or subscription agents."

<http://www.osti.gov/graylit/whatsnew.html>

Last update: August 2000; Visited: 12 Apr 2002

These publications generally are not indexed or available through published research tools. John Berry and Kenneth Wade, respectively, Head of the Ethnic Studies Library at UC Berkeley, and Associate Librarian of the American Indian Studies Center at UCLA, jointly propose creating an online bibliographic index to selected American Indian newsletters which are not currently available online. These citations would be added to a self-contained existing Procite database of 25,000 monographic and periodical citations available at the UC Berkeley Ethnic Studies Library, and the entire database would be made available freely via the Web. The applicants also propose tracking and evaluating usage of this database. The Committee believes that this project will add significantly to library resources in the field of American Indian studies, supporting and empowering researchers both within and outside UC. The Committee recommends partial funding for this project, given the limited funds available, and will suggest to the applicants that they seek additional funding for this worthy project both through an additional proposal next year, and through other funding sources.

LINCOLN CUSHING & TERENCE HUWE

“Database of American Labor Graphics”

Campus: Berkeley
Requested: \$14,700
Recommended: \$ 6,676

According to the applicants, scholars in a number of countries outside the U.S. have studied labor graphics as an artistic and cultural genre; however, in the U.S., scholars have largely ignored this genre as an area worthy of research. Furthermore, existing online image repositories, such as the Library of Congress' American Memory Project, contain little or nothing in this area. Lincoln Cushing and Terrence Huwe speculate that these materials may be undiscoverable because they are cataloged under broad subjects. Or, they may not be distinguished from other ephemera, or they may be neglected because they “may have experienced what the applicants describe as “the general fate of other ‘oppositional’ cultural documents, where low social status has resulted in archival and academic neglect.” Cushing and Huwe propose remedying this situation by creating a directory of collections of U.S. labor graphics, and a prototype searchable database of 100 images, with metadata cataloging for each image. Their ultimate goal is to create a nationwide online item-level catalog for this sort of material. They propose travelling to various archives and libraries to review and describe their collections and inspect and select images for inclusion in the prototype database, and later, the full database. They plan to publish the database on the web and write an article describing their research and conclusions. The Committee feels that this project will fill an important gap in scholarly research into this genre. The Committee recommends partial funding for the project, given the limited funds available, and will suggest to the applicants that they seek additional funding both through an additional proposal next year, and through other funding sources.

DAVID G. HIRSCH

“Bibliographic Access to Periodical Publications of Middle Eastern Groups in Western Europe and Australia”

Campus: Los Angeles
Requested: \$14,428
Recommended: \$ 4,730

David Hirsch proposes adding to his existing web-based bibliographies by traveling to Western Europe and/or Australia to review, select, collect and describe periodicals published by Middle Eastern émigrés in western languages and in the vernacular. Hirsch states that “Periodicals published by these communities are frequently overlooked by Middle East Specialists as well as Western European and Australian specialists because of barriers in language, geography and academic discipline.” This “gray literature” (see definition under Berry/Wade recommendation above) may be of particular importance now, given the current worldwide political circumstances. As Hirsch states, they “...provide unique insight into the political and human rights situation in the home countries in the Middle East which generally cannot be published at home.” He has the language expertise to conduct this research and plans to expand his existing web-based bibliography

<<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/url/colls/mideast/pages/aapp.htm>>. The Committee feels that this project will add significantly to Hirsch's research and will be highly useful to other researchers in the field, worldwide. The Committee recommends funding the Australia portion of his proposal at this time, given the large number of worthy proposals received this year, and the limited funds available. The Committee will recommend that the applicant reapply for funding for the European trip next year, and seek additional funding elsewhere.

Non-Unit

NANCY E. DOUGLAS

"Making the History: History as Portrayed in Motion Pictures"

Campus:	Riverside
Requested:	\$4526.58
Recommended:	\$4526.58

Nancy Douglas is seeking funding to support her continuing work on a substantial filmography, a reference book tentatively titled "Making the History." According to Douglas, "The book is a filmography of films based on history or portraying a particular period or incident in time, arranged chronologically from the first through the twentieth centuries, with indexes for title and subject, and will consist of some 10,000 film entries....No other book or online database provides consistent, authority-controlled, comprehensive subject coverage for all real characters portrayed in motion pictures, nor for places and historic events and periods." She has viewed each of these films in order to determine this detailed information, and requests support to view 900 additional films relating to the 1st –19th centuries, some at UC campuses and others as rentals. The Committee believes this is a worthy project, which deserves full support. When published, this reference book will serve as a significant addition to film reference tools for scholarship and research. The Committee recommends full funding for this non-unit proposal, as there are more than enough funds in the non-unit research grants budget to support it.