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Dear Valerie,

With this letter, I wish to apply for a LAUC Presentation Grant in the amount of \$500.00. If awarded, this grant would be used to defray the cost of presenting a scholarly paper at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), taking place in New Orleans, Louisiana, from November 18-21, 2009. This annual conference attracts scholars from around the world whose research focuses on the peoples and cultures of the Near East, including scholars in my own area of specialty, Egyptology. I have submitted to ASOR an abstract for a paper entitled, "Female Figurines from the Mut Precinct, Karnak: Evidence of Ritual Use." Please find this abstract attached. The abstract is currently under review by the chair of the session, "'Figuring Out' the Figurines of the Ancient Near East." This is a new session at the ASOR Annual Meeting, and one that fits perfectly with my ongoing research into the function of ancient Egyptian female figurines. If this paper is accepted, it will be my first appearance at the ASOR Annual Meeting, an opportunity that I especially look forward to in light of the upcoming publication of my book, *Female Figurines from the Mut Precinct: Context and Ritual Function*.

As the proposed paper stems from my doctoral research, the presentation is already complete. Two days of release time would be required for my attendance at this conference. Please see the attached memo from my supervisor, Kevin Mulroy, Associate University Librarian for Academic Services, which indicates approval of this leave. An estimated budget for my attendance at the ASOR Annual Meeting is below. As you can see, if awarded, a LAUC Presentation Grant would considerably assist with these costs.

Roundtrip airfare from Los Angeles to New Orleans: \$380  
3 nights at the Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel (conference rate): 3x\$174=\$522  
Registration (early rate before April 5): \$125  
Meals: \$150  
TOTAL: \$1177

I would like to thank LAUC for considering this proposal. I feel strongly that attending and presenting papers at conferences in my subject area is crucial to my development as an area studies librarian. Finally, I would like to note that I am a member of the bargaining unit represented by the UC-AFT, and that I have not applied for any additional funding for this presentation at this time.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth A. Waraksa