

Annotation

N H P R C
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS
COMMISSION

Vol. 29.4

NEWSLETTER

December 2001

NHPRC RECOMMENDS 38 GRANTS TOTALING UP TO \$3,359,140



This photograph, taken during the Commission's consideration of electronic records grant proposals on November 14, shows (left to right) Barbara J. Fields, Fynnette Eaton, Brent D. Glass, Mary Maples Dunn, Nicholas C. Burckel, David H. Souter, Alfred Goldberg, John W. Carlin, Ann C. Newhall, Mark Conrad, Charles T. Cullen, Margaret P. Grafeld, Marvin F. "Bud" Moss, and Roy C. Turnbaugh around the table. Daniel A. Stokes and Richard A. Cameron are seated beside lamps at the left and right respectively. The man with his back to the camera is reporter Paul Cutler. The photographer was Roscoe George, NARA staff.

At its meeting on November 13 and 14, held at the United States Supreme Court, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission recommended that the Archivist of the United States make grants totaling \$3,359,140 for 38 projects.

The Commission recommended 8 grants for Founding-Era documentary editing projects totaling \$1,330,636; 2 Founding-Era subvention grants totaling \$20,000; 9 State Board administrative support grants totaling \$129,111; 4 State Board planning, implementation, and regrant proposals and collaborative projects totaling \$324,639; 6 grants for electronic records and technologies projects totaling \$1,366,415; 5 non-Founding-Era subvention grants totaling \$40,167; and 4 grants for education projects totaling \$148,172. The complete list of funded projects appears below.

The Commission reinstated its annual fellowships in historical documentary editing and archival administration, and in light of the particular value of these programs at the present time, the hope was expressed that funding shortfalls would never again force their suspension.

In the absence of the NHPRC Chairman, Archivist of the United States John W. Carlin, the meeting was convened by Dr. Alfred Goldberg, the Commission's longest-serving member, who presides if the Archivist is absent. Dr. Goldberg thanked Associate Supreme

Court Justice David Souter for arranging for the meeting to be held at the Supreme Court, and announced that a bill appropriating \$6.436 million to the Commission for competitive grants in Fiscal Year 2002 had been signed by the President on November 12. He also welcomed Senator Christopher Dodd of Connecticut as the United States Senate's new representative on the Commission, and announced that Congressman Roy D. Blunt of Missouri had been reappointed to represent the U.S. House of Representatives on the Commission. NHPRC Chair John W. Carlin chaired the consideration of grant proposals on November 14.

Commission members received a brief report, prepared by Richard A. Cameron, Director for State Programs, outlining how NHPRC funding had facilitated disaster response in the aftermath of the events of September 11 in New York City by the New York State Archives in cooperation with the Metropolitan Archivists Group of New York City. The report also noted earlier NHPRC-supported disaster recovery efforts in North Carolina (Hurricane Floyd, 1999), Florida, and Virginia.

The Commission approved a funding strategy for Fiscal Year 2002 that aims for a 50-50 split of available funds for competitive grants between documentary editing projects (including the Founding-Era Editions, Second-Tier Editions, Subventions, the Editing Institute, and the Historical Documentary Editing Fellowship) and records projects (including State Board grants for planning, implementation, administrative support, and re grants; Electronic Records; Records Access projects endorsed last year and urged to resubmit this year; new Records Access projects; and the Archival Administration Fellowship). Over the year, this would provide a total of \$3.218 million for documentary editing and documentary editing-related projects and \$3.218 million for records access and records access-related projects. Such an equal division of available grant funds is aimed at reducing the conflicts inherent in the continuing struggle by the Commission to come to grips with the inevitable budgetary shortfall created by flat funding in the face of increasing need by the NHPRC's constituent groups.

The Commission passed a resolution adopting the following criteria for evaluating second-tier documentary editing projects:

The NHPRC is proud of its long history of support for the creation and publication of documentary editions of the papers of people and events of significance in American history—indeed, it was for this reason that the Commission was created—and renews its dedication to this purpose.

Since the implementation of its current Strategic Plan in October 1998, the Commission has experienced an extraordinary surge in the number and quality of the proposals submitted to the NHPRC and in the dollars requested. Throughout this same period, however, NHPRC's appropriations have not been (*continued on page 10*)

sufficient to meet the needs of those who turn to the NHPRC for help: the non-Federal communities dedicated to preserving and making accessible the American documentary record.

As a consequence, at the May 2001 meeting of the NHPRC, members passed the following resolution: "That the Commission directs the Commission staff, working with a committee of Commission members and others, as appropriate, to develop a set of criteria to be used for the evaluation of the second-tier documentary editions for review and approval at the next meeting of the Commission."

In complying with the resolution, staff sought the informed views of some members of each of the following groups: the Commission, editors of current documentary editing projects, and historians who have used NHPRC editions.

The resulting statement, presented below, is basically a codification of the criteria already employed by staff when evaluating new and ongoing projects and are addressed in the staff reports submitted to the Commission regarding each documentary editing proposal to be acted upon at Commission meetings. These criteria are outlined within the NHPRC publication, **Grant Guidelines: How to Apply for NHPRC Grants; How to Administer NHPRC Grants**, which is available free of charge in hard copy to all who



The participants in this conversation, which took place on the morning of November 14, are (seated left to right) Nicholas C. Burckel, Roy D. Blunt, David H. Souter, and (standing left to right) Charles T. Cullen and John W. Carlin. Photograph by Roscoe George, NARA staff.

request a copy and online on the NHPRC's web site, www.nara.gov/nhprc. Each criterion listed below is followed, within parentheses, by the evidence utilized by staff.

General Criteria for Evaluating New Second-Tier Documentary Editing Projects

All four of the following criteria must be met by a proposed new documentary editing project in order to receive a positive recommendation from staff:

- National significance of the subject material to the research public and the potential range of audiences and uses of the planned products. (Proposal narrative, peer review by historians.)
- The project proposes to make accessible in published form documents never before available, or available in one place, to the research public. (Proposal narrative, peer review by historians.)
- The project demonstrates a solid financial foundation from its sponsoring institution and others, a base of support that promises to complement NHPRC funding over the life of the project. (Budget section of the proposal, project narrative.)
- The project promises a reliable return on the investment of NHPRC funds. (Proposal narrative, efficient and effective plan of work.)

General Criteria for Evaluating Ongoing Second-Tier Documentary Editing Projects

The following criteria are utilized by staff in evaluating ongoing documentary editing projects:

- Positive results in return for the investment of NHPRC funds. (Completion of the work promised in previous grants as described in grant narrative and financial reports, volumes produced on a regular basis, a positive result in grant performance measures; the information provided in the narrative and budget sections of the proposal for the latest grant.)
- Demonstration of effective project management, that is, the project meets all or most of the goals of previous grants, makes steady and measurable progress, is adhering to its work plan, demonstrates dedication and ingenuity in overcoming problems, and in recent years has indicated little slippage in its projected completion date. (Completion of work promised in previous grants as described in grant narrative and financial reports, volumes produced on a regular basis, positive result in grant performance measures.)
- Demonstration of a solid financial foundation from the sponsoring institution and other funders; a base of support that complements NHPRC funding. (Grant financial and narrative reports, budget section of the proposal, past funding history.)
- Projects within 2 years of completion or projects threatened with extinction absent Commission funding may be given special consideration.

Recommendations for Second-Tier Editions in Times of Budgetary Shortfall

It has long been the practice of the Commission to maintain steady support of documentary editing projects. The Commission has responded to appropriations increases or decreases with across-the-board actions for ongoing editing projects.

However, in times of budgetary shortfall, which the Commission defines as "times when appropriations are insufficient to allow the NHPRC to fund all projects judged to be worthy of funding," the Commission may implement the following in order to make the best and most productive use of scarce resources:

Staff recommendations for funding ongoing editions are to be presented to the Commission in two or, if conditions warrant, three tiers:

- Projects recommended to receive flat funding,
- Projects recommended for some reduction in funding,
- Projects for which it is difficult to justify continued funding.

These recommendations are to be arrived at by careful oversight of the projects, review of reports from previous grants, and review of the level of achievement of agreed-upon performance measures from previous grants.

☆☆☆

The Commission agreed to award its Distinguished Service Award at its May 2002 meeting to Dr. John Brademas, President Emeritus of New York University. Dr. Brademas served as President of New York University from 1981 to 1992, and earlier represented Indiana's Third District in the United States House of Representatives for 22 years (1959-1981), the last four as Majority Whip. From 1971 to 1976, he represented the House of Representatives on the NHPRC, providing much guidance and direction.

The following Commission members were present at the November 13-14 meeting: Chairperson John W. Carlin, Archivist of the United States; Congressman Roy D. Blunt, representing the U.S. House of Representatives; Nicholas C. Burckel, Presidential appointee; Charles T. Cullen, representing the Association for Documentary Editing; Senator Christopher Dodd, representing the U.S. Senate; Mary Maples Dunn, representing the American Historical

Association; Fynnette Eaton, representing the Society of American Archivists; Barbara J. Fields, representing the Organization of American Historians; Brent Glass, representing the American Association for State and Local History; Alfred Goldberg, representing the Department of Defense; Margaret P. Grafeld, representing the Department of State; Marvin F. "Bud" Moss, Presidential appointee; Justice David H. Souter, representing the United States Supreme Court; Winston Tabb, representing the Librarian of Congress; and Roy C. Turnbaugh, representing the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators.

Founding-Era Documentary Editing Projects

Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA: A conditional grant of \$140,832 to support the preparation of a comprehensive book edition of *The Adams Papers*.

Yale University, New Haven, CT: A conditional grant of up to \$154,000 to assist its work on a comprehensive book edition of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*.

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ: A conditional grant of up to \$154,731 to support its work on a comprehensive book edition of *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*.

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A conditional grant of up to \$139,200 to continue work on a comprehensive book edition of *The Papers of James Madison*.

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A conditional grant of up to \$143,583 to edit a comprehensive book edition of *The Papers of George Washington*.

The George Washington University, Washington, DC: A conditional grant of up to \$187,140 to continue editing *The Documentary History of the First Federal Congress, 1789-1791*, and an additional conditional grant of up to \$35,000, conditional upon the availability of additional Fiscal Year 2002 funds.

Board of Regents, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI: A conditional grant of up to \$160,000 to continue editing a selective book edition of *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*.

Supreme Court Historical Society, Washington, DC: A conditional grant of up to \$216,150 to edit a selective book edition of *The Documentary History of the Supreme Court, 1789-1800*.

Founding-Era Subventions

University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Papers of George Washington*, Presidential Series, Vol. 10.

State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. 19.

State Board Administrative Support Projects

Alaska Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums, Juneau, AK: A conditional grant of \$19,997 in partial support of the Alaska Board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

American Samoa Government, Pago Pago, AS: A grant of \$4,950 in partial support of the American Samoa Board's administrative expenses for 1 year.

Colorado State Historical Records Advisory Board, Denver, CO: A grant of \$14,584 in partial support of the board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services, Tallahassee, FL: A grant of \$15,400 in partial support of the Florida Board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board, Boston, MA: A grant of \$20,000 in partial support of the board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, NC: A grant of \$9,185 in partial support of the North Carolina Board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board, Columbia, SC: A grant of \$19,995 in partial support of the board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board, Olympia, WA: A conditional grant of up to \$5,000 in partial support of the board's administrative expenses for 1 year.

Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources, Cheyenne, WY: A grant of \$20,000 in partial support of the board's administrative expenses for 2 years.

State Board Planning, Implementation, and Regrant Projects; Collaborative Projects

Minnesota Historical Records Advisory Board, St. Paul, MN: A conditional 2-year grant of \$48,314 to develop a new strategic plan to guide the board over the next 5 years.

New Jersey Historical Records Advisory Board, Trenton, NJ: A conditional 2-year grant of \$16,999 to establish a statewide program for basic MARC cataloging of the archival collections of small repositories.

New Mexico Commission of Public Records, Santa Fe, NM: A 2-year grant of \$80,290 (\$20,000 matching) and an additional conditional grant of up to \$79,036 (\$52,300 matching) for a Phase II project to implement the board's strategic plan.

Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board, Boston, MA: A 25-month conditional grant of up to \$100,000 (\$100,000 matching) for a regrant project to continue to assist local repositories, to increase the accessibility of historical records, to improve the documentation of Massachusetts, to develop networks that can have a long-term impact on records and the historical records community, and to implement the board's strategic plan.

Electronic Records and Technologies Projects

The Regents of the University of California: A 2-year grant of \$160,590 on behalf of the San Diego Supercomputer Center for a project to test the ability of a Records Management Application (RMA) to classify, store, and manage the disposition of electronic records.

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN: A conditional 14-month grant of \$105,400 to examine the NHPRC's Electronic Records Research Agenda and to recommend a revised and newly validated agenda.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: A conditional 1-year grant of up to \$78,605 to study current end user practices in managing e-mail and electronically transmitted documents in selected offices throughout the UNC system.

Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City, NV: A conditional 1-year grant of up to \$39,487 to assess the need for state laws that address the management and preservation of government electronic records, to draft necessary legislation, to draft a plan for funding a state electronic records program, and to educate stakeholders about the need for such legislation.

The Research Foundation of the State University of New York, Albany, NY: A conditional 3-year grant of up to \$796,951 to build upon the work of the original InterPARES (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems) Project through InterPARES 2, which will study new types of non-textual and interactive records produced by digital government, electronic commerce, and the digital arts.

The University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC: A conditional 18-month grant of up to \$185,382 on behalf of the Model Editions Partnership to create new versions of (continued on page 19)

Robert Burton, has entered Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) records and finding aids into the Society's recently purchased Sydney-PLUS cataloging system.

For the first time, users will have local and internet access to cataloged records from the Society's Photograph Collection. One of the goals of the NHPRC project is to create catalog records for the images of several important local photographers who worked in San Diego during the first half of the 20th century. Among these photographers are Ralph P. Stineman, Roland Schneider and his wife Florence Kemmler Schneider, Edward Davis, Harry Bishop, and Guy Sensor.

It is the work of these early photographers that presented the real estate, landscape, beaches, mountains, harbor, and businesses of San Diego to the city, state, and nation. While selling their work to newspapers, realtors, the public, and businesses, these early photographers documented San Diego's evolution from a frontier town of the Old West into a dynamic area filled with industry, military, recreation, agriculture, and beauty.

Stineman, who took over 3,000 images of San Diego between 1911 and 1915, showed San Diego as it prepared to face the world prior to the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. The photographs of Schneider and Kemmler show a more recreational, almost weird San Diego, with images of a "human fly" climbing a local hotel, a daredevil being catapulted across a local bay, and an early form of waterskiing with dogs.

Harry Bishop, a local photojournalist, captured tragedies such as a runaway blimp, homicides, and scandalous trials of the 1930s and 1940s. Bishop also found time to photograph strange animal doings, such as a cat caring for baby skunks, or aardvarks from the San Diego Zoo on leashes going out for walk. The photographs of Guy Sensor, while basic images of car dealerships, working persons, restaurants, theaters, and new homes in San Diego, give researchers an in-depth view of San Diego during the Great Depression.

In addition to the work of these early 20th-century commercial photographers, the several thousand negatives in the Norman Bynard Collection represent, to a large extent, the lives of the African American community in San Diego between the 1940s and the 1970s. Additionally, the work of Edward H. Davis (1862-1951), a San Diego photographer, Indian agent, and innkeeper, represents an important view of Southwestern Native Americans. Davis took thousands of images of Indians throughout San Diego County, Southern California, Arizona, and Baja California. The Society also has Davis' journals of his travels and visits with Native Americans.

Many photographs and history features can be found on the Society's web site: www.sandiegohistory.org. The Society has seen a resurgence in use of its photographs for its own exhibitions. Since 1997 photographs have been the main feature of exhibitions entitled: "All in a Day's Work," "Antony DiGesù: A Retrospective," "Faces of San Diego," "Weird San Diego," "Developing San Diego, The Photographs of Ralph Stineman, 1911-1915," and the upcoming "Filming San Diego: Hollywood's Backlot, 1898-2002." ❖

GREGORY L. WILLIAMS IS CURATOR OF PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

the current MEP *Guidelines, Reference Manual*, and document type definitions based upon a new, simplified version of the Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) known as the eXtensible Markup Language (XML).

Non-Founding-Era Subventions

University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK: A subvention grant of \$7,167 for *Louis D. Brandeis: The Family Letters*.

Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale, IL: A subvention grant of \$3,000 for reprinting *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, Vol. 7.

Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale, IL: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, Vol. 25.

Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale, IL: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, Vol. 26.

The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, NC: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Papers of John Marshall*, Vol. 11.

Education Proposals

Wisconsin History Foundation, Inc., Madison, WI: A 1-year grant of \$31,059 to support the 31st Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents.

Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records, Phoenix, AZ: A 1-year grant of \$26,613 on behalf of the First Archivists Circle to help fund organizational meetings.

Host/Fellow for Fellowship in Archival Administration: A 1-year grant of \$45,250.

Host/Fellow for Fellowship in Historical Documentary Editing: A 1-year grant of \$45,250.

THE PAWNEE IMAGES PROJECT (Continued from page 16)

Pawnee Nation Archives. Various institutions were contacted to obtain photo print copies, images to provide "the visual evidence of events and time periods important in bringing the Pawnee Nation to where it is now." A collection of 1,500 photographic copies for reference were obtained from the following institutions: the Field Museum in Chicago, the Mathers Collection at Indiana University, the University of Oklahoma's Western Collection, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the Smithsonian Institution, the Peabody Museum at Harvard University, the Kansas Historical Society, and the Oklahoma Historical Society, as well as contributions of various tribal members' photocopies.

Each photo print copy was preserved individually with mylar covering sleeves in acid-free folders, housed collectively, and acknowledged accordingly. They were placed in acid-free document cases, labeled, and cataloged on a database inventory on Filemaker Pro 4. Seven browse books were compiled by photocopying the photo prints on acid-free paper for public use as a finding aid, thus protecting the original prints. The Pawnee Nation's Archives was linked to the Pawnee Nation's web site www.Pawneenation.org for further access information on these photographs.

The preservation of our governing documents are the basis and foundation of our sovereignty. The NHPRC should be commended and recognized for its contribution to the Pawnee Nation's Records Collection and Archives Department. ❖

DOLLY GONZALES IS A PAWNEE ARTIST TRAINED IN REPATRIATION AND MUSEUM COLLECTIONS, AND DENISE MILLER IS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE PAWNEE NATION OF OKLAHOMA. THEY CREDIT ROBIN KICKINGBIRD WITH TEACHING THEM EVERYTHING THEY KNOW ABOUT ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION.