

February 2007 – Grant Opportunities in Humanities

Dear Humanities Faculty Members –

Here is our February 2007 listing of grant opportunities for faculty members in the Humanities. We are still working on establishing a good list of grant opportunities, and would appreciate any suggestions you might have.

Please let my office know if we can help in any way with grant proposals for these or other opportunities.

1. National Endowment for the Arts (DEADLINE – April 12, 2007)

Synopsis - The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services designed to revitalize the role of literature in American popular culture and bring the transformative power of literature into the lives of its citizens. Created by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Arts Midwest, The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage citizens to read for pleasure and enlightenment.

More Information - <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=12710>

2. National Archives and Records Administration (DEADLINE – October 1, 2007)

Synopsis - The Commission is particularly concerned that some historical collections in archives and repositories are difficult for most researchers to find because they are not processed or represented in national catalogs. It hopes to encourage repositories to reveal these "hidden collections" by concentrating on materials in their "backlogs." In addition, the NHPRC wishes to continue support for planning for archives, collection development, and appropriate preservation. As a result, the Commission seeks proposals for projects that support backlog processing and collections cataloging, phased preservation, and/or collections development. Proposed projects must employ the best and most cost-effective archival methods. Activities included under Basic Projects may be any one or combination of the following: 1. Basic Processing, 2. Preservation Planning, 3. Collections Development, and 4. Establishing Archives. Although projects focused exclusively on professional development are not eligible in this grant category, we strongly encourage each application to include professional development components necessary for the success of the project.

More Information - <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=12736>

3. National Archives and Records Administration (DEADLINE – October 1, 2007)

Synopsis - This grant category supports detailed processing and preservation of collections of national significance. The collections should also have high research

demand or substantial preservation challenges. Applicants must have virtually all of their collections processed sufficiently so that researchers can find them. In addition, they must have procedures in place to prevent the creation of new backlogs that delay access to their holdings. If archives have not achieved these goals, they should review the Archives - Basic Projects announcement to see if their projects are better suited to that funding category. Detailed Processing Projects may include reformatting records onto microfilm or other media in order to ensure their permanence in the face of high demand. Applicants may process and create detailed descriptions at the series or file level. Such descriptions will improve user access to historical records and help preserve collections. If parts of collections deserve processing to the item level, applicants must provide specific justifications for this detailed degree of work and provide estimates of the percentage of collections to be processed to the item level. Projects should revise corresponding collection-level records and submit them to national library catalogs. They must also create or revise detailed finding aids using Encoded Archival Description (EAD) and provide them to a national archival database and appropriate regional and institutional databases. If other search mechanisms, descriptive methods, or name indexes are necessary for parts of collections, applicants should explain the reasons for creating these tools. Applicants should also outline their publicity and outreach plans for promoting use of collections. Applicants should describe the level of preservation treatment to be carried out in the project. The Commission expects that most preservation work will take place at the file level and may include selective refolding and basic cleaning of loose dirt and other foreign matter. Applicants must explain whether any item level treatment will be necessary. Item level treatment generally includes removing fasteners, opening envelopes, and flattening, copying, encapsulating, de-acidifying, and mending documents. For collections of fragile textual materials, applicants may apply for grants in support of preservation microfilming. When appropriate, applicants should consider hybrid microfilm/digitization (using dual head cameras, or microfilm-to-digital or digital-to-microfilm techniques). Applicants who wish only to engage in digitization should see the Digitizing Historical Records announcement. For collections of unstable audio or video materials, applicants may propose preservation reformatting or migration. Applicants may propose limited digitization of series or items that have the most potential to reach a broad public, or to provide illustrations of the type of records and documents found in the series and collection. Applications should detail the standards to be used in this process, itemize anticipated expenses, and estimate the percentage of the collections to be digitized.

More Information - <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=12738>