Closing Report: Faculty Research Grant
The Greek Military Junta and American Foreign Policy

Description of Grant-Supported Activity: With funding made available through an IU South Bend Faculty Research Grant, I proposed to analyze (with my collaborator, Jonathan Swarts, Purdue University North Central) the U.S. government’s role in Greece during the 1967-1974 military dictatorship. Using documentary evidence culled from recently declassified State Department, U.S. Embassy, National Security Council and other official files, combined with documents from several key private archives, we aim to write a comprehensive book-length account of U.S. foreign policy towards Greece in this period. Funding made available through this grant allowed me to conduct the following research during summer 2012 by reimbursing my travel expenses to the following research sites:

1. Archival Research at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library. In June 2012, I visited the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, Texas to review its holdings for documents germane to this project. During my ten-day visit at the library, I worked with an archivist to identify the most relevant files for this project, reviewing thousands of pages of material and photographing 2,267 pages of relevant materials, which I am currently analyzing and incorporating into the book.

2. Archival Research at the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library. In July 2012, I also visited Yorba Linda, California, to conduct similar research at the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library. During my ten-day visit, I similarly worked with an archivist of the library, identifying the most relevant materials and returning to South Bend with 3,485 pages of photographed documents, which I continue to analyze.

Difficulty Faced: While I have been very satisfied with our progress on this project (though the analysis of documents is more time consuming than I previously thought), I have faced one minor difficulty on this sabbatical. Specifically, while I was hoping to explore archival materials at the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the 2012-2013 academic year (to integrate those materials into this or a related future project), I was disappointed to learn that those archives have not yet been declassified and, thus, remain closed to scholarly research. While disappointing, given the very large number of documents we are currently analyzing (well over 30,000 pages worth of material), perhaps the integration of these additional materials is best left for future research.

State of Development of Current Project. Since I am currently on sabbatical, I continue the analysis of these and other documents unabated (including State Department, U.S. Embassy, National Security Council, other official and several private archival files). Once I complete the analysis of these materials, I will resume my writing of the first draft of a book-length manuscript, focusing on the role of the United States in Greece during this period of time. Currently, my collaborator and I have prepared initial drafts of the first two substantive chapters of the book. Finally, in June 2013, I have also arranged to visit the British Ministry of Foreign Affairs in London, where I will conduct the final collection and analysis of materials for this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

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