Closing Report: Faculty Research Grant 2013

1. Description of grant-supported activity
My ultimate goal for the grant period was to revise my existing dissertation manuscript for publication. To that end, I proposed to use the Faculty Research Grant to support the conceptual overhaul of my research project. More specifically, I intended to achieve four related goals. First, I wanted to review my existing archival materials and ascertain whether additional field research or the procurement of harder to find resources is necessary. Second, I wanted to familiarize myself with new secondary literature that has appeared between the date of my dissertation defense and now. Third, I planned to update my table of contents to reflect the re-conceptualization of my research project. Fourth, I expected to complete a sample chapter and prepare book proposals.

2. Were you able to complete the project? Describe any difficulty you had.
I have not yet completed the revision of my dissertation manuscript for publication. However, during the grant period, I was able to complete several of my most important objectives. I finished the review of my existing archival materials and determined (unfortunately) that additional field research and the location of additional resources is indeed necessary. In addition, I was able to familiarize myself with the new secondary literature. I have not yet settled on the table of contents but have identified important areas in my project where further research is required.

The chief difficulty I experienced was the realization that more research is required in order to carry out the re-conceptualization of my project. For this reason, I was unable to complete the fourth goal for the grant period (composition of a sample chapter and the preparation of book proposals).

3. Did, or will, the project result in a specific product — a manuscript, composition, syllabus, etc? If so, please describe and indicate state of development.
Despite the difficulty, my efforts during the grant period bore fruit. First and foremost, I was able to publish a preliminary overview of my new project as an article in the February 2014 issue of the refereed journal, Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies. The research conducted during the grant period also served as the basis for two academic presentations: the first at the annual conference of the German Studies Association in October 2013 and the second at the CLAS Dean’s Seminar in March 2014. Equally important, my research during the grant period provided the realization that further research is required, which I have begun in the meantime and which I expect to return to during the summer of 2014.

I am very grateful for the funding provided by the Faculty Research Grant and would like to thank the R&D Committee for the financial support of my research project.

Best wishes,

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