A significant portion of the support I received from the 2011 Faculty Research Grant went toward transportation and lodging expenditures during the June and July of 2011. Transportation expenditures pertained to two round trip tickets from South Bend, Indiana to Abuja Nigeria. One ticket was for me, the other was for my primary research assistant, my wife who is member of the Lelna ethnic group and biologist. Most of the lodging expenditures were from our hotel stay in Abuja prior to our research in rural northern Nigeria.

I was able to complete my research project during the two month stay in Nigeria. However, after dealing the difficulties of obtaining participants during the peak of the planting season where both men and women perform a significant amount of agricultural work in addition to their other responsibilities, I altered my data collection techniques. Initially, I planned to conduct 25 semi-structured interviews (SSIs) with primarily open ended questions on adult Lelna females and males but ended up conducting only three SSIs and four focus group discussions (FGDs) on only adult females. The four FGDs had six, six, six, and four participants respectively; and when considered with the three SSIs still resulted in 25 total participants.

Thus far, I have conducted two conference presentations on the data obtained from the summer 2011 research. The first presentation entitled, “Food Security and Market Exchange among Subsistence Farmers in Northwestern Nigeria” was conducted at the Indiana Academy of Social Sciences Annual Meeting in Valparaiso, Indiana in October 2011. The second presentation entitled, “Malaria and Pregnancy Associated Health Seeking Behavior among the Lelna of Northwestern Nigeria” was conducted at the Central States Anthropological Society Annual Meeting in Toledo, Ohio in March 2012. I will conduct a revised version of the presentation I conducted in March at the upcoming annual conference of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) in San Francisco, California in November. This presentation is entitled, “Contextualizing Medical Pluralism among the Lelna of Northwestern Nigeria” and will be conducted within a panel I organized entitled, “Health Care Access, Medical Pluralism, and Biomedical Hegemony in the Modern World”. Within the next academic year I also plan to write and submit a manuscript on the topic I will present at the AAA conference in either the journal, Indilinga: African Journal of Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Omertaa: Journal for Applied Anthropology, or the International Journal of Modern Anthropology.