I was awarded the following four grants to conduct research in Russia for my sabbatical in the fall of 2012:
--Andrew Mellon Endowed Summer Research Fellowship, Russian & East European Institute, IU wide grant
--New Frontiers in Humanities Research Grant, IU wide grant
--Faculty Research and Development Grant, IUSB grant
--Embroiderer’s Guild of America Legacy Award, national award

The grants were used to conduct research in Russia for my new project on needlework as art during the late Imperial period in Russia. I was in St. Petersburg from 1.August to 7.Sept when I then traveled to Moscow and was there from 7.September to 28.October. At the time of my travels a US citizen could only be in Russia for a 90 day period on a research visa.

I read primary documents as well as secondary sources in the holdings of the National Public Library in St. Petersburg and Lenin Library in Moscow. I also consulted secondary sources through the Ethnography Museum in St. Petersburg.

I examined the needlework objects at the Ethnography Museum and the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg as well as the Decorative Arts Museum and the History Museum of Russia in Moscow. I also made a trip to the artist’s colony of Ambramtsevo just outside of Moscow to examine needlework objects. I analyzed paintings that showed people engaged in needlework activities at the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg and the Tretyakov Museum in Moscow. In addition, at the Stieglitz Museum in St. Petersburg I examined the needlework on a collection of late 19th century dolls that represented varied districts throughout the Russian Empire.

I was honoured to meet with a curator at the Ethnography Museum in St. Petersburg to discuss peasant needlework. I also met with the director of the lace department at the Higher School for Folk Art in St. Petersburg to discuss the varied needlework programs offered through the school. In addition, I had a brief meeting with one of the founding members of the St. Petersburg based Palmyk group that has been established to revive traditional Russian needle handicrafts as a leisure activity.

In the fall of 2013 I presented a paper on my research, *The Art of Embroidery, Women and Russian Fin-de-Siecle Needlework* at the national conference of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies. I am in discussions with a colleague to contribute an article on Russian Imperial period embroidery to an anthology on Women and Russian needlework. The ultimate goal of this research is to produce a book.