

Special Collections & Archives  
UCR Libraries  
University of California, Riverside  
P.O. Box 5900  
Riverside, California  
92517-5900

January 3, 2011

Ms. Margaret Hogarth  
Chair, LAUC R&PD Committee  
Electronic Resources Coordinator  
Science Library, Room G43  
University of California, Riverside  
900 University Avenue  
Riverside, CA, 92521

Dear Margaret,

Please accept my application for a Presentation Grant to fund my travel to the Thirty-Eighth Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies, 14-15 October 2011, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri.

I have been asked to give a presentation on my project of ten years' duration to produce a census of the medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, fragments and single leaves in United States and Canadian repositories. The title of my presentation is, "How to Create an Address Book for 30,000 Manuscripts in Ten Years or Less: Compiling a Census of Pre-1600 Manuscripts in North America."

**a. Summary and current status of the research project/activity**

I worked with Lisa Fagin Davis on an updated census of pre-1600 manuscripts in North American collection from 1998 to 2008. The results of our research, *A Directory of Institutions in the United States and Canada with Pre-600 Manuscript Holdings*, was accepted for publication by the Bibliographical Society of America in 2008, and presented on the website BibSite, where it is updated by us annually as new manuscripts are discovered.

**b. Description of and timetable for the activities to be funded by the Presentation Grant**

The timetable for the activities for which I seek this Presentation Grant are Thursday, October 13 to Sunday, October 16, 2011. This time period will cover the two days of the conference and two travel days on either end of the trip. As October 15 and 16 fall on the weekend, I have requested only two days release time from work. An electronic copy of my travel request, signed by my supervisor Dr. Ruth M. Jackson, is forthcoming..

**c. Summary of the budget**

My expenses for travel to the conference to present my paper are as follows:

Registration for conference	\$	150.00
US Air Ontario International to St. Louis, MO		629.00
Transportation to and from LAX (32 miles each way at \$.50 a mile)		30.00
Parking at Ontario Airport for 4 days at \$18 a day		72.00
Three nights at Hotel Indigo Central West 1 @ \$130 a night (incl. taxes)		390.00
Two airport shuttle rides (to and from Kalamazoo airport)		72.00
Meals for 4 days @\$46.00 a day		184.00

---

---

\$1065.00

**d. Status in the bargaining unit represented by the UC-AFT**

As a manager, I am a non-represented librarian. As such, I receive less funding from LAUC-R for professional development than represented librarians. I shall more than deplete my funding for 2010-2011 in attending the following conferences *in addition* to the Manuscripta Conference in October: 1) Midwinter Conference of the American Library Association in San Diego, California; 2) The Eaton Science Fiction Conference in February 2011, in Riverside, California at which I am moderating two panels and a participant in a third panel; 3) The Medieval Academy Annual meeting in April 2011 in Arizona where I am moderating a panel; 4) 45<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Medieval Studies, May 2011, in Kalamazoo, Michigan where I am moderating a panel. 5) Rare Book and Manuscript Preconference in Baton Rouge Louisiana in June 2011, where I am an invited speaker on a panel about Special Collections Collection Development and Diversity); 6) The American Library Association Annual Meeting in June in New Orleans, Louisiana in June 2011; I anticipate that the combined expenses of travel and lodging for these conferences will exceed \$7000, for which I shall receive less than \$1000 in reimbursement.

**e. Abstract of the paper or poster accepted for presentation.**

This presentation will detail my and Lisa Fagin Davis' ten years of research in compiling the *Directory of Institutions*, the first phase of a continuation of the Seymour de Ricci's and H.W. Wilson's *Census of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the United States and Canada*, published in 1935 and 1937, and its 1962 *Supplement*. The result was the current location and contact information for 475 repositories holding more than 30,000 manuscripts, including an additional 281 North American repositories of pre-1600 European manuscripts in Western languages that were not included in the earlier works. The presentation will include a discussion of the various stages of the project, including strategies used for reaching and successfully enlisting the library community, without the participation of which we would not have been able to complete this work.

**Name and sponsoring organization(s) (if applicable) of the conference.**

St. Louis University's Vatican Film Library and the, *Manuscripta*, annually host the Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies.

**a. Description(s) of any funds that have been requested from other sources.**

My sole source of funding for conference attendance is through LAUC-R.

I wish to thank you and the members of the Committee on Research and Professional Development for the opportunity to present this application for a Presentation Grant. I shall look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Melissa Conway  
Head, Special Collections & Archives

