LAUC GRANTS PROGRAM END OF FUNDING REPORT FORM

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TITLE OF PROJECT

Exploring the material culture of 20th century bound record-keeping systems

Award Amount

500

Original Abstract as Submitted

I have a long term research interest in the material culture of bound record-keeping systems, and in particular the US invention and patenting of various loose-leaf systems for business and other record-keeping. To study the material culture of these materials in detail, it will be important to handle the actual products to examine them carefully. These unique structures are not identified in cataloging records. Like many who do material culture research, purchasing inexpensive examples from E-Bay and similar sites is crucial to moving research forward. There may also be costs associated with getting patent information for some of these materials. This LAUC mini-grant will provide assistance in completing preliminary work, with more in-depth research to follow.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION

Please respond to the following as appropriate:

- -Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.
- -What aspects were completed as proposed? If your study could not be completed as proposed, explain how your plans were altered.
- -Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?
- -Include any relevant quantitative data, if applicable (e.g. How many individuals have benefited from this project? In what way? This may include various output measures such as circulation, reference transactions, program attendance, survey responses, etc. as appropriate.)
- -Include any anecdotes, if applicable.

More time.

- -What would you do differently next time, if anything?
- --Three loose-leaf bound record-keeping structures were purchased in May 2021. The final amount for the three books including shipping was \$400.57.
- --The purchase of the items and the part of the research was completed as proposed. The study is ongoing, and the goal of sharing the research with appropriate book history publications is in progress. My plan were altered by not encountering appropriate structures to purchase until May 2021. The research will not be ready for publication until Fall 2021.
- --I remains to be seen if the project will accomplish what was intended. I believe raising awareness about the material culture and patent history of record-keeping structures is important for scholars. --No quantitative date is available at this time.
- --One of the record-keeping structures is unique to early Los Angeles, and speaks to the fertile spirit of invention in the early 1900's. I believe it will be of interest as a representation of business per-occupations a the time. The book was intended to be fireproof and marketed to salespeople who did not have a fireproof safe to keep records at the end of the day.

--Searching for appropriate structures to buy took longer than I expected.

Is your project completed?
No
0
If No, what is needed to complete the project? More time, funds?

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Please explain how the funds received were spent. Attach your original budget and indicate how well your estimates matched with actual expenditures. Receipts are not necessary.

\$400.57 spent to buy and ship three record-keeping structures from E-bay. This was in line with expectations. I will keep looking for an appropriate structure to spend the rest of the LAUC-Mini Grant fund on. Patent research, so far, has been free.

ORIGINAL BUDGET (\$500) attached

SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS

What are your plans for disseminating the results of your work? If it will be a web page or product, or published article or book, when will it be available to the public? Include citations/ URLs if known.

- --BLOG (after January 2022)
- --Article in the Guild of Book Workers Journal (will submit paper after January 2022)
- --Will post the article on Academia.edu

LAUC Research & Professional Development Committee Last revised 01/2021 reg