

To: LAUC Research and Professional Development Committee  
From: Anne M. Platoff, UCSB Library, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9010  
Date: January 7, 2010

**RE: Application for LAUC Mini-grant Proposal for 2010-2011**

**Project Title:**

*Flags in Space: NASA Symbols and Flags in the U.S. Manned Space Program*

**Amount Requested:**

\$500

**Release Time Required:**

None

**A: Current Status of Project and Rationale for Requesting a Mini-Grant:**

In reviewing the description of the LAUC mini-grants program, I found that they are intended to assist librarians in “bringing projects to completion (for example, expenses for statisticians, printers, consultants, etc).” I currently have a project that requires additional funding for completion. Therefore, I am sending this letter as an application for a LAUC mini-grant of \$500 for 2010-2011. I would like to use the grant for additional expenses necessary to publish a historical paper. The work in question is a definitive history of the symbols of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the use of flags throughout the history of NASA’s manned space program. This work has been accepted for publication by the Flag Research Center in its journal *The Flag Bulletin*.

The reason that I am applying for a LAUC mini-grant is to assist with expenses in addition to what the Flag Research Center normally spends to publish an individual issue of their journal. Because of the comprehensive nature of my manuscript, it exceeds the page count of a single issue of *The Flag Bulletin*. For this reason, the Flag Research Center has proposed splitting the work into two parts which would be published as two separate issues of the journal. However, if I can secure funding for the added expense of perfect binding, they would be willing to publish it as a double-issue. The Flag Research Center is a small specialty publisher and cannot cover these expenses with their subscription fees, so it is my responsibility as the author to secure the additional funding. I believe that this would be a better solution as it would keep the entire work together in a single thematic issue of the *The Flag Bulletin*.

In addition to the perfect binding, I would also like to add 10 pages of color printing to the publication. Again, as the author, I need to secure funding to do this. Many of the flags discussed in my manuscript have never been documented in any published work. Therefore, I believe that it is important to portray them in color.

Before listing the costs of publication I would like to explain a little about myself and my unique qualifications to publish this work. My name is Anne M. Platoff (Annie) and I am an associate librarian at the UCSB Library (represented by UC-AFT). In addition to my

professional work, I am active in the field of vexillology (the study of flags). I am a member of the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA) and currently serve as the organization's 2nd vice president. I have published several journal articles on vexillological topics and recently published a book entitled *Russian Regional Flags*. Early in my career I worked as a research librarian at NASA's Johnson Space Center. During this time I merged my interests in vexillology and the history of the space program to produce a history of the lunar flag assembly – the special flagpole designed to place a flag on the moon during the Apollo lunar landing missions. I interviewed the engineer who designed the lunar flag assembly and wrote a historical paper that documented this aspect of the Apollo Program. This work, entitled "Where No Flag Has Gone Before: Political and Technical Aspects of Placing a Flag on the Moon," was awarded the Captain William Driver Award for the best paper presented at the 1992 annual NAVA meeting. This paper was published by NASA as a contractor report (NASA-CR- 188251) and by NAVA in volume 1 of *Raven: A Journal of Vexillology*. This work has been cited in a scholarly journal article, in a master's thesis, twice by ABC News, and also resulted in my providing information for an episode of the Mythbusters television series and for the movie Independence Day. In addition, I have also received flag-related inquiries from NASA because they know of my expertise in this area.

My latest work about flags and the space program (publication pending) is much more expansive. It documents the history of NASA's symbols (seal, flag, insignia and logotype) as well as the use of flags throughout the entire history of the U.S. manned space program. This work will be the first comprehensive vexillological history of NASA and its programs ever published. For this reason, I think that it would be best to 1) pay the extra cost to have the work published in one perfect-bound volume rather than in two periodical issues, and 2) add color pages to more accurately document these flags.

### **B: Summary of Budget:**

The costs cited to me by the Flag Research Center for a circulation run of 575 copies are:

- Perfect binding of a combined issue:
  - Cost per copy: \$0.40
  - Total cost for 575 copies: \$230
- Addition of 10 color pages:
  - Cost per page: \$0.15
  - Cost of 10 color pages per issue: \$1.50
  - Total cost for 575 copies: \$862.50
- Total cost of perfect binding and color pages: \$1,092.50

I hope that you will decide to fund \$500 of the supplementary expenses for this publication. I will be seeking other sources of funding to pay for the remainder.

Anne M. Platoff, LAUC mini-grant application

January 20, 2010

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**C: Timetable for Activities:**

This work is scheduled for publication in late 2010 or early 2011.

**D: Representation by UC-AFT**

I am a member of the bargaining unit represented by UC-AFT.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone at (805) 893-2074 or by e-mail at [platoff@library.ucsb.edu](mailto:platoff@library.ucsb.edu). Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Platoff

Enclosure

Anne M. Platoff: Vexillological Presentations and Publications

“Soviet Children’s Flags.”

- Presented to the North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 43 (Charleston, SC, October 2009).

“Lions and Babrs and Bears: Analyzing the Flags of Russia’s Federal Subjects.”

- Survey of flag designs presented at the Modern Slavic Culture Academic Conference (Santa Barbara, CA, May 2008).
- Full paper presented to the North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 42 (Austin, TX, October 2008). Awarded the Captain William Driver Award for best paper.
- Published in book form as *Russian Regional Flags: The Flags of the Subjects of the Russian Federation* (ISBN 978-0-9747728-2-0, volume 16 of *Raven: A Journal of Vexillology*, 2009).

“Flags in Space: Symbols of NASA and Use of Flags in the Manned Space Program.”

- Presented to the North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 36 (Denver, CO, October 2002). Publication pending in *The Flag Bulletin*; publication scheduled for 2010.

“Panel Discussion on Multi-Disciplinary Research in Vexillology.”

- Panel member, North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 31 (Chicago, IL, October 1997).

“The Pike-Pawnee Flag Incident: Reexamining a Vexillological Legend.”

- Presented to the North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 31 (Chicago, IL, October 1997). Published in *Raven: A Journal of Vexillology*, 6 (1999): 1-8.

“Where No Flag Has Gone Before: Political and Technical Aspects of Placing a Flag on the Moon.”

- Presented to the North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 26 (San Antonio, TX, October 1992). Awarded the Captain William Driver Award for best paper.
- Published in:
  - *Raven: A Journal of Vexillology*, 1 (1994): 3-10.
  - *Final Frontier*, 7 (July/August 1994): 74-75. (short version for a general audience).
  - *JSC Space News Roundup*, 33 (July 22, 1994): 3. (reprint of *Final Frontier* version)
  - NASA CR-188251. Houston: NASA Johnson Space Center, 1992.
- Cited in/Consultant for (selected examples):
  - Gina Sunseri, “Stars and Stripes: Putting the Flag on the Moon. The Astronauts Left Six Lunar Flags, None Flapping in the Breeze,” *ABC News*, July 18, 2009. <http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/Apollo11MoonLanding/story?id=8113235>
  - MythBusters, “NASA Moon Landing,” episode originally aired August 27, 2008.
  - Alice Gorman, “The Cultural Landscape of Interplanetary Space,” *Journal of Social Archaeology* v. 5 #1 (2005): 85-106.
  - Gina Treadgold, “Why Does the U.S. Flag on the Moon Have Ripples?: Engineering Glitch Explains ‘Wave’ in the First Flag on the Moon,” *ABC News*, July 16, 2003. <http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/Story?id=97589>.
  - Larry Albert, “Off to the Moon,” *Houston Wet: a Sprawl Economy* (web documentary/Master’s thesis), 2000. <http://www.rice.edu/~lda/wet/index.htm>.

“Proposed Designs for the State Flag of Kansas.”

- Presented to the North American Vexillological Association, NAVA 23 (Dallas, TX, October 1989).

“The World Flag of the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.”

- Published in *NAVA News*, 22 (1989).