

END OF FUNDING PERIOD REPORT
LAUC Statewide Grants, Research & Professional Development Committee

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TITLE OF PROJECT:

Time Period of Grant: FY 2010/2011
Amount of Award Received: \$500
Original Abstract as Submitted:

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.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION

My grant funding was used to finish a publication project. The project had been delayed for a number of years, so it was very helpful to have funding to move it forward to completion. During the grant period I updated some sections of the work to make sure that it was current as of the time of publication. I also worked with the publisher to finalize last-minute details. The work was finally published in December 2010.

This work is the first to thoroughly document the symbols of NASA and the use of flags in the U.S. Manned Space Program from Project Mercury through the International Space Station Program. The grant allowed me to include color illustrations. Since many of these flags have not been reported in print before this work, color illustrations are especially important. The publication also includes detailed notes that will be useful to other scholars interested in this aspect of space and flag history.

Without the assistance of this LAUC grant, I either would have had to solicit alternative funding from donors or would have had to pay the additional expenses from my own pocket.

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED? Yes X No

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

I received a \$500 mini-grant from LAUC for this publication. It was combined with \$822.50 from my professional development funding to cover the \$1322.50 additional cost for publishing this work in a combined double issue with color illustrations. There was a slight cost increase from my original estimate.

The actual costs for a circulation run of 575 copies were:

- Perfect binding of a combined issue:
 - Cost per copy: \$0.80
 - Total cost for 575 copies: \$460
- 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: \$1,322.50

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS

At this time, the only version of the work that has been published is the print version. The full citation is:

Anne M. Platoff, "Flags in Space: NASA Symbols and Flags in the U.S. Manned Space Program," *The Flag Bulletin* No. 230/Vol. XLVI, Nos. 5-6 (Sept.-Dec. 2007), p. 142-222.

Please note that, while the issue date says "2007," it was actually published in December 2010. *The Flag Bulletin* is a small publication published by the Flag Research Center. They are behind in publishing the journal and have continued to backdate issues. What I think is most significant about this publication is that *The Flag Bulletin* has an international readership. Subscribers include institutions and vexillologists around the world.

I am now in the process of distributing copies of the publication to various NASA facilities and libraries so that it is available to researchers. I have already negotiated with the publisher a tentative agreement for re-publication once all their remaining copies have been sold. I hope that NASA might be interested in republishing it, so that it will be more widely distributed in the space community. I will also be mailing a copy of the final publication to the chair of statewide Research & Professional Development Committee. On the first page is a statement acknowledging funding from LAUC. Thank you again for your support in this endeavor.

V. NOTE

Information included in this report may be reprinted or posted on the web for dissemination to UCOP, other UC Libraries, and future potential LAUC grant applicants.