

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

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TITLE OF PROJECT: Trans-National Adriatic Identities and the Scientific Culture of Olive Oil

Time Period of Grant: 18 June – 25 June 2015
Amount of Award Received: \$315
Original Abstract as Submitted:

Drawing on the archival resources of scientific research institutes in Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, and the United States, and the bibliographic and scientific record, it is possible to construct a template against which the national aspirations of ethnic groups within the Austro-Hungarian empire and its successor states can be measured at the micro-level of scientific (agriculture/agronomy) networks, particularly in the years just before and after the First World War. The historical and archival record indicates that the scholarly ambit of international and regional scientific communities in Southern and Southeastern Europe during this period was characterized by paradoxically and simultaneously complementary international and regional allegiances regarding the dissemination of scientific discoveries (against pests and plant diseases) and technical improvements (in cultivation, processing, and harvesting) of domestic agricultural commodities closely associated with areal (national and regional) identities such as olives and wine-grapes. By examining publication trends and patterns (proceedings vs. periodicals, language use, and language choice) and paying particular attention to discursive strategies most commonly employed by scholars during this period (e.g., choice of topic, venue, or language; self-translation), inferences regarding national and regional identity and identification can be drawn from a close study of the scholarly literature on olives and olive oil as reflected in the publication record and its dissemination (in Croatian, Slovenian, Italian, and German-language periodicals and articles), revealing the agricultural geography of the circum-Adriatic as a significant, albeit overlooked, component in the construction of Habsburg identity(ies).

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION

- Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.

During this week in June, I was able to attend and present my research at the 12th Congress of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore in Zagreb. More importantly, for the purposes of this grant, I was also able to conduct research on olivoculture in the former Yugoslavia in Zagreb (at the National University Library), and in Ljubljana (at the National Library). My paper was well-received, and comments made both during my session and at informal meetings afterward will prove highly valuable as I revise my work for publication.

- What aspects were completed as proposed? If your study could not be completed as proposed, explain how your plans were altered.

The research, writing, and presentation of my paper were completed as planned and anticipated. The additional research I was able to do onsite was more than adequate for the purposes of my conference participation, but would have benefited from additional time spent both in libraries and archives and talking to scholars and researchers in the region.

- Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?

I was very fortunate that I was able to conduct additional library research onsite before presenting my paper on June 24th. I was very pleased by the positive response and level of engagement I received from other participants and attendees at the conference. I was the sole presenter at a conference hosted in Croatia to discuss Croatian and circum-Adriatic topics, which local and regional attendees found especially valuable, and which the organizers of the panel presumably appreciated.

I remain confident that the bibliographic research I am doing is already extending and expanding scientific knowledge and scholarly awareness of research on olives and wine grapes in Southeastern Europe to a much broader audience, particularly since I am disseminating much of this information via online resources such as eScholarship for the very first time.

I would advise any applicant to make sure their research plans and research goals are stated as clearly as possible. I would strongly encourage applicants to emphasize that their research advances the information sciences as well as librarianship.

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED? No

While my presentation was successfully completed, the research I was able to do onsite was completed to the extent that it supported my conference attendance and allowed me to verify and validate earlier research conducted in the United States. As I said above, more time in the archives is always beneficial. Since my research is largely bibliographic in nature, I can do quite a bit with citations themselves, but since much of the literature I'm researching is "grey," and since I am currently building an annotated bibliography of olivoculture in Europe, it will be necessary to consult the actual scholarly and scientific literature, much of which is uniquely held in Southeastern Europe.

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Estimated budget:

Roundtrip airfare (SFO > ZAG / ZAG > SFO): ca. USD 1600.

Estimated lodging (Zagreb) - six nights (90/night): USD 540.

Meals (Zagreb) - six days (60/day): USD 360.

Miscellaneous (Zagreb) - six days (10/day): USD 60.

Total: USD 2560

See attached expense report.

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS

My previous bibliographic work has been published on eScholarship. I plan to publish subsequent work there as well.

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.