

Report to the Louisiana Board of Regents
Review of Proposals Submitted for Funding Consideration
In the Board of Regents Support Fund R & D Program
Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) Subprogram
Report of the Final Panel

March 27, 2006

Prepared by:

Dr. Nicholas Bromell
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies
Department of English
University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Dr. Carol Martin
Professor
Department of Drama
Tisch School for the Arts
New York University

Dr. Susanne Lohmann
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of California – Los Angeles

REPORT OF THE FINAL PANEL

BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS
AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS) SUBPROGRAM
FY 2005-06

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Forty (40) proposals requesting a total of \$1,613,604 in first-year funds were submitted for funding consideration in fiscal year (FY) 2005-06 to the Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) subprogram of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) R & D Program. Proposals were solicited for creative and scholarly activities undertaken by established faculty in all arts, humanities, and social sciences disciplines. A summary of proposals submitted in the ATLAS subprogram is attached to this report and provides the following information for each proposal: proposal number, title, subject area, institution, principal investigator, and BoRSF funds requested. A two-phase evaluation process conducted exclusively by out-of-state experts was used to review these applications. Panels of out-of-state experts evaluated all proposals and provided funding recommendations to the Board of Regents. Additional specialist reviewers were solicited for proposals outside the expertise of subject-area and final panel reviewers. A list of the out-of-state experts who served as members of the subject-area and final panels is appended to this report.

THE REVIEW PROCESS

To conduct as thorough, objective, and expert a review as possible within the Board's monetary constraints and timeframe, a two-phase review process was adopted.

Phase I: In-Depth Review by Subject-Area Panel

In Phase I of the review process the forty (40) proposals were distributed among three subject-area panels, corresponding to the general disciplines eligible for funding consideration through ATLAS. Each panel was comprised of one to four out-of-state experts with broad expertise in the disciplines represented by the proposals, as well as familiarity with similar competitive grants programs for arts, humanities and social sciences disciplines. Using the criteria set forth in the FY 2005-06 ATLAS Request for Proposals (RFP), panel members worked individually and then collaboratively by telephone and e-mail to determine which proposals in each subject area met all eligibility requirements and were most likely to produce results of high quality and impact. In this phase of the review process, each subject-area panel member acted as "primary discussant" for an assigned portion of the proposals and completed an in-depth critique form for each of his/her assigned proposals after discussing its relative merits and shortcomings with the other panel members. For proposals requiring expertise not held by members of the subject-area panels, additional specialist reviewers were solicited. Through a telephone conference, the subject-area panel members jointly ranked the proposals in the order in which they believed that the proposals should be funded. The panels carefully scrutinized the budgets of those proposals ranked as fundable and recommended modifications where appropriate.

Phase II: Final Panel Review and Interdigitation of Recommended Proposals

A final panel (hereafter referred to as the “Panel”), comprised of three senior out-of-state professionals whose expertise spans the eligible disciplines and who had served as chairs of the subject-area panels, was convened in Phase II of the process. This Panel met on March 27, 2006, through a teleconference, to discuss and compare the various groups of top-ranked proposals and, ultimately, to interdigitate the rankings of the various proposals across the subject areas and devise final funding recommendations for the Board of Regents.

The four principal criteria used by the Panel in making its funding recommendations were as follows: (1) The intellectual and/or artistic significance of the project to the discipline in which it is submitted and to broader professional and lay audiences; (2) the quality of previous work and/or promise of quality of the applicant’s current work; (3) the quality of the conception, definition, organization, and description of the project; and (4) the feasibility of the proposed plan of work and likelihood that the applicant will complete the project. The Panel also considered the appropriateness of the budget request in making final funding recommendations. Twenty-one (21) proposals were included in the discussions held during this conference.

The Panel was informed that \$500,000 would be available to fund ATLAS projects in fiscal year 2005-06. Utilizing the criteria described previously, the Panel recommended twenty-one (21) proposals, requesting a total of \$828,489, which it strongly believed were worthy of support and placed them in the “Priority I” category, detailed in **Appendix A**. Twelve (12) proposals are ranked #1 and listed in ascending order of proposal number and the remaining nine (9) proposals are ranked in descending order according to merit. Though funds are available to support only twelve (12) of the highly recommended proposals, the Panel strongly urges the Board of Regents to seek supplementary resources to provide support for as many additional proposals as possible. Should additional resources become available, the Panel recommends that proposals be funded in descending rank order.

The budgets for each of the top-ranked proposals were scrutinized closely and found by the Panel to be reasonable. Thus the Panel recommended only minor reductions for one proposal. The rationale for this approach is presented in the comments and recommendations, below.

Appendix B lists those proposals that were ranked Priority II by the subject-area panels but, due to a variety of considerations including lack of available funds, not recommended for funding by the final panel. In general, proposals listed in Appendix B are considered of high quality and recommended for funding in the event that additional monies become available after all Priority I proposals are funded, but raised questions or concerns among the reviewers that precluded them from being ranked among the Priority I proposals. Applicants whose projects were listed as Priority II are encouraged to study the reviewers’ comments and, if appropriate, revise and resubmit their projects when ATLAS proposals are next solicited.

Appendix C lists proposals that were ranked Priority III by the subject-area panels, and are not recommended for funding at this time. Priority III projects are ranked as such because the review panels had serious questions about their feasibility, potential for impact, or scholarly/artistic merit. Applicants whose projects were listed in Appendix C are encouraged to

review the consultants' and reviewers' comments and, if appropriate, revise and resubmit their projects for funding consideration in future ATLAS competitions.

Appendix D gives comments and funding stipulations for each of the twenty-one (21) proposals highly recommended for funding.

Appendix E lists the out-of-state experts who served as members of the final and subject-area panels.

Appendix F summarizes all proposals submitted for funding consideration to the ATLAS competition and provides the following information for each proposal: proposal number, title, discipline, institution, principal investigator, and BoRSF funds requested.

FINAL PANEL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) subprogram of the Board of Regents Support Fund's Research and Development Program is designed to provide support for major scholarly and artistic productions with potential to have a broad impact on a regional and/or national level. The Panel again applauds the Board of Regents and the State of Louisiana for their continuing support for this program, which provides funding to important disciplines with limited opportunities for grants funding. The extremely high quality of the proposal submissions in the program's pilot year was followed by equally strong submissions in the second year. This is remarkable given the enormous strain placed on higher education in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The opportunities for Louisiana to bolster its reputation for supporting the arts, humanities, and social sciences extend well beyond the faculty members who receive these awards. The out-of-state experts who serve on subject-area and final panels, as well as those who serve as expert reviewers for single proposals, have been extremely impressed with the State's efforts and have endeavored to voice their positive impression in professional circles. Moreover, the excellent quality of the proposals, now reviewed by experts across the country, speak to the submitting institutions' and the State's emphasis on research and artistic production at the very highest levels. The Panel commends the researchers, artists, administrators, and State governing bodies for their work and support of these traditionally under-funded disciplines.

In light of this comment, the Panel notes that in this year's competition many more quality proposals were received than could be funded with available resources and, unfortunately, several proposals ranked as highly recommended will not be able to receive support. This indicates the great need for this kind of program. The ATLAS subprogram is important not only for the funds it distributes, but also for the increases in morale it fosters among arts, social sciences, and humanities faculty and for its tacit recognition of the significance of these kinds of serious scholarly and artistic projects to the State and its citizens. **Given the importance and potential long-range impact of the ATLAS Program, therefore, the Panel strongly recommends that the Board of Regents make every effort to institutionalize it and allocate additional resources to support a greater number of quality projects.**

Finally, the Panel acknowledges that, though nine highly rated proposals were left unfunded, funding recommendations generally requested that full funding be awarded. Budgets submitted in ATLAS this year were reasonable, and reductions would necessitate changes in work plans and timelines, dramatically affecting the feasibility and, in some cases, quality of the projects. While more projects could be funded if budgets were reduced, the Panel believes that this approach would diminish the positive impact of the awards and adversely affect the success of the ATLAS subprogram.

APPENDIX A

**ATLAS PROPOSALS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING
 (PRIORITY I) (21)**

| Rank | Proposal # | Institution | Principal Investigator | Amount Requested | Amount Recommended |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 002ATL-06 | LSU-BR | James V. Catano | \$47,175 | \$47,175 |
| 1 | 006ATL-06 | LSU-BR | William W. Demastes | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| 1 | 008ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Sylvie Dubois | \$29,331 | \$29,331 |
| 1 | 011ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Stacia L. Haynie | \$49,991 | \$49,991 |
| 1 | 012ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Joyce Marie Jackson | \$50,000 | \$47,379 |
| 1 | 013ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Katharine Ann Jensen | \$44,200 | \$44,200 |
| 1 | 020ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Laura Mullen | \$19,040 | \$19,040 |
| 1 | 023ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Francois Raffoul | \$35,450 | \$35,450 |
| 1 | 024ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Husain F. Sarkar | \$46,528 | \$46,528 |
| 1 | 026ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Gregory B. Stone | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| 1 | 031ATL-06 | SLU | Kenneth O. Boulton | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| 1 | 040ATL-06 | UL L | Jennifer C. Vaught | \$30,906 | \$30,906 |
| 13 | 015ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Vince J. LiCata | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| 14 | 019ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Michelle A. Massé | \$45,172 | \$45,172 |
| 15 | 036ATL-06 | UL L | Mark A. Rees | \$28,537 | \$28,537 |
| 16 | 035ATL-06 | UL L | Jeffrey Lush | \$19,689 | \$19,689 |
| 17 | 021ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Lisi Oliver | \$42,664 | \$42,664 |
| 18 | 033ATL-06 | UL L | Lynda Frese | \$34,156 | \$34,156 |
| 19 | 037ATL-06 | UL L | Mary J. Reichling | \$43,582 | \$43,582 |
| 20 | 027ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Meredith Veldman | \$40,550 | \$40,550 |
| 21 | 005ATL-06 | LSU-BR | Bainard Cowan | \$21,518 | \$21,518 |
| TOTAL | | | | \$828,489 | \$825,868 |

The first twelve (12) proposals in Appendix A are ranked “1” (i.e., first). In the Panel's opinion, these proposals are of nearly equal merit, and these are listed in ascending order of proposal number. Proposals ranked 13 through 21 are listed in descending order of merit and, thus, priority for funding.

The total amount of funding recommended for Priority I proposals is \$828,489, exceeding the amount available for ATLAS projects by \$328,489. The Panel recommends, therefore, that the Board fund the twelve (12) projects ranked “1” with the available monies. Should additional monies become available, the Panel recommends funding as many additional proposals as possible, in descending order according to rank.

APPENDIX B

**MERITORIOUS PROPOSALS RANKED PRIORITY II
BY THE SUBJECT AREA PANELS AND CONSIDERED BY THE FINAL PANEL
BUT NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (8)**

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 003ATL-06 | 004ATL-06 | 007ATL-06 | 016ATL-06 |
| 017ATL-06 | 022ATL-06 | 032ATL-06 | 039ATL-06 |

Note: These proposals are listed by proposal number, and not in order of merit. The subject-area panel reviews for each proposal will be provided to the applicants in July 2006.

APPENDIX C

**PROPOSALS RANKED PRIORITY III BY THE SUBJECT-AREA PANELS
AND NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (11)**

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 001ATL-06 | 009ATL-06 | 010ATL-06 | 014ATL-06 |
| 018ATL-06 | 025ATL-06 | 028ATL-06 | 029ATL-06 |
| 030ATL-06 | 034ATL-06 | 038ATL-06 | |

Note: These proposals are listed by proposal number, and not in order of merit. The subject-area panel reviews for each proposal will be provided to the applicants in July 2006.

APPENDIX D

COMMENTS AND FUNDING STIPULATIONS ON PROPOSALS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (PRIORITY I)

General Comments and Stipulations

This section provides comments and stipulations set forth as conditions of funding for the twenty-one (21) proposals highly recommended for awards by the Panel. Proposals are listed in ascending order of proposal number. Each proposal's rank is provided in the upper right corner of the comment page.

Although the Panel carefully scrutinized the budgets of all projects recommended for funding, the Panel did not reduce any budget to such an extent that achievement of a project's goals or execution of its work plan would be impaired. **No reductions in the scope of work plans of projects recommended for funding should be allowed in any case.** If the work plan submitted for a project does not correspond in scope to that of the original proposal, the award should be vacated and funds thereby made available should be used to fund other worthy projects. The Panel recommends that any returned or unawarded ATLAS funds be allocated to projects recommended in Appendix A, in descending order according to rank.

| | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| PROPOSAL NO. | 002ATL | Rank: 1 |
| TITLE: | “Documenting Reality: Memory, Heritage and the Public Life of Communities” | |
| INSTITUTION: | Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge | |
| PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: | James V. Catano | |
| <p>James Catano is proposing work for two projects: the completion of the documentary project <i>Steel Voices</i> and the development of his new Katrina documentary project. The study of civic memorials is very timely. The ways in which we transform, construct, keep and lose our collective memory have great implications for professional and lay audiences. In addition, the need to preserve cultures in the wake of disaster or failure has resonance for audiences across the U.S., particularly in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.</p> <p>This is a deeply felt proposal informed by a passionate investment in public discourses of art and industry. Previews have taken place (very important for the development phase of film and theater), additional research needs are outlined, and project goals are defined. The rough cut of <i>Steel Voices</i> included as a work sample was a bit disappointing, because the power of the history was not conveyed with sufficient force. That a historic event and an industry have been largely forgotten by the community does not excuse the filmmaker from attempting to recapture the power of the event for its time. Nevertheless, the work is timely and the film likely to be of high quality.</p> <p>Complicating the proposal is the addition of the Hurricane Katrina project, which is not significantly underway as yet. The proposal argues that these two projects are closely linked in theme, and the Panel believes that it makes sense to provide seed money for the second project while enabling Catano to complete the first. The preparations for the <i>Steel Voices</i> section of the project are excellent and work is well advanced. Previous project support and collaboration are all in place. The resources that this ongoing and nearly complete project can provide to the new project are significant. For the Katrina project, initial development can take place without affecting the completion of <i>Steel Voices</i>, but using the continuing work as a springboard. Moreover, the Katrina documentary would be an important investment for Louisiana at this moment, when rapid action to track an evolving event is essential.</p> <p>The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.</p> <p>BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$47,175</p> | | |

PROPOSAL NO. 005ATL

Rank: 21

TITLE: “*Virgil’s Epic for a New Age*”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Bainard Cowan

Virgil’s *Aeneid* is a critical work for all scholars interested in Western civilization, and it has been studied intensively by humanists for centuries. It is a central book for many universities’ humanities courses, and virtually every critic who discusses the epic form must eventually confront Virgil. Cowan’s project is not to pursue philological or historical minutiae but to take a fresh look at Virgil’s *ideas* about empire and civilization, about freedom and slavery, about independence and colonization. Without doubt, Virgil was the greatest poet of the Roman Empire, but what was his connection between empire and civilization or between empire and globalization? What enables or prevents civilizations to decline or disappear – or to flourish? Such questions sound very contemporary, and that is Cowan’s point. The central thrust of his book will be to position Virgil as a contemporary and to use Virgil’s values to illuminate the tensions and contradictions of our own civilization. We are, after all, citizens of an American empire (<http://www.americanempireproject.com/>).

Cowan is a scholar of American literature as well as comparative literature. He has published essays and chapters on an impressive range of authors (Faulkner, Melville, and Poe are not surprising, but Sophocles, Dante, and Hegel might be). He has taught a broad range of humanities courses – what used to be called “core courses” required of every student in higher education – and it is clear that his book on Virgil and global civilization is aimed at readers who want to investigate large philosophical questions that have enduring relevance.

The argument for the book is well defined in the first five chapters. Probably the most exciting material is in chapter two, “Modernity, Postmodernism, and Beyond in Ancient Rome,” and chapter 4, “A Geopolitical Poem and the Role of Juno.” Cowan’s goal is to offer a close reading of the text and to bring out not just the surface meanings, but also the philosophical and literary dialogue with the *Iliad* and Stoic philosophy. These five chapters will make a coherent argument that should interest both academic and popular audiences.

The plan of work is very clear, but the writing schedule is ambitious. With released time from teaching and departmental responsibilities, it is likely that Cowan can complete a draft of his manuscript within the time provided.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient resources be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$21,518

PROPOSAL NO. 006ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: "Spalding Gray: A Critical Biography"

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: William W. Demastes

Spalding Gray is perhaps the most important white male solo performer of the 20th century. His life tells a story of twentieth-century American experimental theater as well as the emergence of alternative consciousness and ways of being in the latter half of the decade. Gray's very rich story includes his ongoing and often very humorous attempts to overcome his formidable neurosis and depression. William Demastes is distinctively qualified to write a critical appreciation of Gray's work. In addition, his access to an array of unique resources gives this project even greater importance.

Demastes commands immense respect in his field and is one of the most highly qualified applicants in this pool. In addition, his work has significant intellectual force. His book *Beyond Naturalism* anticipated later debates provoked by feminist theater scholars about the ideological function of certain styles of theater, while his subsequent focus on non-linear causality and chaos theory helped ground postmodernist thinking in the field of theater studies. These contributions suggest that his work on Spalding Gray will be of high quality and importance.

The weaknesses of this application are in its planning and organization. The project is rather sketchily described and preliminary work seems to be only in the early stages. Demastes has done previous work on Gray, and the proposal seems to review that work rather than present ideas for a new project. Moreover, the applicant does not make clear exactly how he plans to negotiate the distinction between biographical and critical analysis. Nevertheless, the Panel has no doubt that Demastes will work out his approach to the project as he goes along. A critic of his stature will not get "lost" in this material. Moreover, Demastes has extensive expertise in the fields of study relevant to the proposal, which will allow him to work more efficiently among the source material. Thus, the Panel believes his timetable is feasible. His significant experience as a writer and researcher makes him likely to finish his project in a timely manner despite its relatively early stage of development. Its significance and timeliness argue that funding the project at this stage will be a good investment.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 008ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “A Corpus-Based Analytical Study of Written English Practices in Pre-Civil War Louisiana”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Sylvie Dubois

This is one of the strongest proposals presented to ATLAS this year, in terms of both its contribution to Louisiana history and culture and its scholarly rigor. Sylvie Dubois makes a compelling argument for the significance of the primary source material she is working with and for the results of the data collection and analysis she plans to undertake. The lack of any serious scholarly attention to this field of study and the difficulty in accessing some of the materials suggest that this project will be of great importance to many researchers in a variety of fields, including history, anthropology, linguistics, literature, and cultural studies. The accessibility of these materials will enable serious analysis that before might have been difficult to undertake.

Dubois is among the most impressively qualified of the ATLAS applicants. Her experience as a scholar and linguist more than assures that this project will be well done and of great significance. Preliminary research has prepared her to undertake the project in an efficient manner, and has already yielded some interesting results that underscore the necessity of this project.

The project is so thoroughly and clearly described that one imagines that she’s already very close to finishing. This application could serve as a model of conceptual coherence. An application (and applicant) of this strength leaves no doubt that the project would be completed on time and with exceptional quality.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is extremely reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$29,331

PROPOSAL NO. 011ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “Winners and Losers: Appellate Court Outcomes in Comparative Perspective”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Stacia L. Haynie

This project proposes to undertake an international comparison of court decisions to determine whether they are biased in favor of the “haves” or the “have-nots.” It is widely known that in the United States – a developed country – people with greater resources fare relatively better in the courts. Stacia Haynie’s recent work suggests that in at least some developing countries – the Philippines and South Africa – people with fewer resources fare relatively better. She conjectures that this is so because judges in developing countries, working in politically unstable court systems, are concerned about the institutional legitimacy of the courts in the general population, whereas judges in developed countries, working in politically stable courts, are relatively more independent in their decisions, which seems to favor the rich. In the current project, Haynie now proposes to extend her data set to many more countries and years, to produce a book-length study.

This project promises to be highly significant in its discipline and to broader professional and lay audiences. Law as a discipline has generally been fairly parochial; that is, lawyers and law scholars tend to focus on their own national system of law and courts, and it would be most useful for the discipline to become more aware of approaches to the law in other countries. For broader professional and lay audiences, the project contributes to the vital discussions of why some countries are rich and others poor and why some poor countries are successfully growing out of their poverty while others seem unable to do so. This larger discussion draws on issues of great contemporary intellectual interest as well as immense practical importance to developing nations. Haynie is extremely well prepared to undertake this project, and she has already published some related findings. All indications are that the project will conclude with an important book. The conception of the project is excellent. The finding thus far (which obviously needs to be checked on a broader set of countries and years) that the law is biased toward the rich in developed countries and toward the poor in developing countries is surprising and, like all surprising results, the underlying mechanism must be clearly defined, as Haynie clearly plans in her investigations of the effects of resources, ideology, institutional structure, economic development, and democratization.

This project is highly significant, both for the discipline and for broader audiences; the applicant’s record and future promise are exceptionally strong; the project proposal is well designed; and the project is likely to be completed in a timely fashion.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$49,991

PROPOSAL NO. 012ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: "Hidden Currents: The Rural Roots of Jazz in South Louisiana"

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Joyce Marie Jackson

This is a project that significantly enhances our understanding of rural musicians' contributions as well as the local context in which they were nurtured. Joyce Marie Jackson proposes to interrogate cultural and political implications, as well as the construction of identity and history, within a distinctly local context. The project proposes to produce a multimedia interactive CD-ROM and companion book that will combine existing primary and secondary resources, oral histories, current ethnographic field research, and interactive computer mapping into a database that will allow the audience to gain an understanding of the musicians and musical traditions in the rural communities that influenced the development of New Orleans traditional jazz. The author proposes to merge folklorist-ethnomusicology, sociocultural anthropology, and African-American culture and music, with a measure of gender and diasporic performance issues, and with a focus on New Orleans jazz, to produce an ambitious and comprehensive study. Particularly in light of the recent history of New Orleans, this cultural history project seems all the more relevant in terms of generating a shared understanding that might bring people together again.

The quality of the study and the preparation in the form of the CD-ROM are impressive. The Panel is aware of only one other project with a similar design, though its focus was somewhat different and was rooted in secondary sources. The use of primary sources and an ethnographic orientation suggests that this project will be the benchmark by which future studies of this nature will be judged. Jackson is highly qualified to bring this research to fruition. She has given careful thought to the problem she wishes to solve and has developed a highly original and solid theoretical framework and a clear methodology. This project is innovative and presented with engaging immediacy and a breadth of coverage that allows Jackson to attract a vast array of audiences.

The project has been refined over a considerable amount of time and Jackson now needs the requisite time and resources to bring it to fruition. The project is well conceived and her publication record is exemplary. There is no doubt that this will be a landmark study which Jackson is likely to complete in a timely fashion. Moreover, such a project, addressing the cultural history of rural Louisiana and New Orleans, is urgently needed after the 2005 hurricanes.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable, but contains significant requests for supportive expenses that are not fully justified. The Panel recommends funding of \$47,379, with cuts to be made at the discretion of the PI.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$47,379

PROPOSAL NO. 013ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “Ambitious Mothers, Determined Daughters: Subjects in Search of Recognition in Writings by French Women, 1671-1928”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Katharine Ann Jensen

Katharine Ann Jensen raises very important critical questions about how relationships between mothers and daughters illuminate the formation of the self. By creating a broad historical framework (1671-1928), Jensen is able to include larger social and political issues: personal autonomy, individual self-expression, social and political expectations, and gender definitions. At stake is not just the mother-daughter relationship, critical though that is. The decisive issue is how children grow into adults and how adults choose to raise children. Gender affects the question because “autonomous” women are not really expected to be autonomous by fathers and husbands. By asking the same hard questions over a longer historical period than the *ancien regime*, Jensen significantly complicates and enriches her argument. By focusing on seven pairs of mothers and daughters, she will be able to analyze the issues in a highly nuanced way, drawing on the insights of such psychoanalysts as Freud, Lacan, and Jessica Benjamin.

Jensen is a very productive scholar. The current book builds on her well-received monograph, *Writing Love: Women, Letters, and the Novel in France, 1605-1776* (1995), which combined textual analysis and shrewd psychological observation. She has also edited a volume for MLA publications and serves on the MLA advisory board, strong indications of the quality of her work. The success of her recent articles augurs well for this project, and several of them demonstrate her methodological approach. Four of the six chapters and part of the introduction are already drafted and two have been published in an abbreviated form, so the Panel is confident that the project will be sustained at the same level of excellence as her research.

The project is very clearly outlined, and the definition and description of the project are well presented. This is a book that will build sequentially from its methodological assumptions to its crisply argued conclusions. She is building on her first book – which makes sense – but she is working on a much larger historical and psychological canvas. It should attract a wide audience because of the importance of the topic. Jensen’s major challenge in writing the final chapter on Sand will be to engage substantively with the critical community, which has grown large in recent years. With the release time requested through ATLAS, she will complete this book and submit it for publication during the grant period. As she revises the manuscript for publication, the Panel would also like to see her extend her engagement with Colette scholars, as connections with the top critics in fields outside her own should ensure a stronger analysis.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,200

PROPOSAL NO. 015ATL

Rank: 13

TITLE: “Writing and Production of the Play *Cocktail*”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A & M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Vince J. LiCata

Certainly Vince LiCata has identified and engaged an important subject – an untold story that combines scientific knowledge with a theatrical approach. As such, it has great potential interest for both professional and lay audiences. Moreover, there is a current movement to examine the ways in which artists can be brought into the academy and vice-versa. This particular project is requesting funds to stage a small theatrical production, so by definition the initial audience may be small. LiCata suggests ways, however, that the audience might be broadened by publication of the script and possible additional productions. These should be explored further as the initial production is undertaken.

As a playwright, LiCata has limited credentials and experience, having participated in only a few productions. His career narrative, however, is interesting and his unusual combined experience in science and art makes him qualified for this particular project. The collaboration of the renowned theater artist Ping Chong in the project makes it attractive and highly likely to succeed. The work’s concept is interesting, the project clearly delineated, and the work plan solid. The script is somewhat weak – its dialogue stiff and more expository than conversational. The play as a whole is somewhat didactic and lacking in surprise. Nevertheless, Ping Chong is an excellent visual theater artist and the expository nature of the script should play to his strengths. In addition, the play is only in draft form and should be revised heavily during the grant period, in preparation for production. The timeframe presented in the proposal is adequate for this kind of work.

Though mounting a theatrical production is by nature a risk, this project is ambitious and feasible given the combined experience of LiCata and Ping Chong. The novelty and strength of the partnership between science and art at all levels of this project make it important and worthy of support. Its potential impact stretches far beyond the Swine Palace Theater.

**The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available.
The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.**

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 019ATL

Rank: 14

TITLE: “Great Expectations: Gendering Age, Narcissism, and the Bildungsroman”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Michelle A. Massé

One of the classic forms of the novel, the bildungsroman, has attracted a rich and varied critical literature. Michelle Massé promises to add to this literature in two ways: first by deploying the psychoanalytical category of narcissism in relationship to the bildungsroman tradition, and second by showing how issues of age and gender change the selected novels’ structure and meaning. There is no doubt that this project has synthesized a number of significant issues in the study of the novel, in gender analysis, and in aging. In particular, Massé’s focus on aging is innovative, promising to add new dimension to discussions of this familiar genre. As such, it will be widely read across a variety of disciplines, including literature, literary theory, psychoanalysis, gender studies, and cultural studies.

The applicant’s previous book, *In the Name of Love: Women, Masochism, and the Gothic*, was of high quality and quite successful. This project promises to be equally so. In support of this assessment, the Panel found the project description significantly stronger than last year's. Massé's examples were well selected and described. She has mastered the necessary theoretical literature and, more important, has integrated it into her literary analysis. Though she covers a great deal of theoretical ground, in the end Massé returns to the books themselves, illuminating the individual novels as well as the genre. The Panel is slightly concerned that her concept of bildungsroman may be too elastic, stretched to fit the novels of greatest interest. It may require more explicit definition, though this concern will doubtless be addressed as Massé drafts and revises.

Given the progress the applicant has made since last year and the strength of the new work, the Panel is confident that Massé is likely to complete a draft of what is a wide ranging and highly ambitious book.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$45,172

PROPOSAL NO. 020ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “Troposphere”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Laura Mullen

Poetry created out of a commitment to a multilayered dialogic reality, as undertaken by Laura Mullen in her proposed project, is an approach that radically departs from the world-defining stance of much twentieth-century poetry. The poems presented in the work sample are beautiful and deeply moving. In light of this, it is conceivable that Mullen’s work might be more accessible than standard contemporary poetry and thus encourage more readers to try this means of understanding experience, though the claim that decidedly postmodern poetry will draw the general literary reader seems somewhat optimistic. Certainly, however, Mullen’s book will be widely read by the established audience for poetry.

The applicant is well published and this project seems a natural step in her evolution as a poet. Mullen expresses a critic’s comprehension of the critical attention her work has received, which is important to her own understanding of the impact of this new approach on her creative development. She seems wholly aware of what she wants her prospective book and its individual poems to accomplish. Some of the claims made in the proposal for the poetry’s general significance seemed self-important, but the poems themselves are of high quality and evoke strong reader responses. In writing about clouds, Mullen seeks to provoke her poetic form into a dialogic form that speaks with readers and writers, past and present, in order to shake and confirm identity. The project is presented primarily in technical and formal terms rather than in terms of subject matter, and the applicant seems almost obsessed with the impact of form on meaning and on the reader.

As evidenced by the submitted writing samples, the project is well underway. Based on Mullen’s past accomplishments, completion is almost assured. In addition, she is requesting \$19,040 – a much more modest amount than most applicants, and sufficient to achieving her goals as presented in the proposal.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$19,040

PROPOSAL NO. 021ATL

Rank: 17

TITLE: “The Body Legal in the Dark Ages”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Lisi Oliver

In her extremely scholarly application, Lisi Oliver proposes to use the tables establishing personal injury tariffs from early “barbarian” law codes to illuminate several aspects of early English culture and society: the vocabulary for body parts and sociolinguistic theories about language change, medical knowledge, and the value of objects and their role in social relations. Oliver builds on the work of the late Patrick Wormald to contribute to this significant and extremely demanding field of research that requires her to synthesize and analyze a daunting array of knowledge.

In a somewhat unusual career trajectory, Oliver spent fifteen years working in Opera production before returning to Harvard, where she received her Ph.D. in 1994. Her dissertation was published in 2002 by the Toronto University Press, a prestigious publisher of medieval scholarship. Her current project extends her dissertation and, like her earlier work, concentrates on a linguistic analysis of legal documents. The quality of her previous work as well as the samples provided with the proposal suggest that this new project will be of high quality and potentially extremely useful to medievalists, linguists, historians, and legal scholars.

In evaluating this project it is important to keep in mind the technical challenges posed by the evidence. This is a subject about which it is difficult to say anything at all, given the dearth of information and difficulty in determining meaning from the limited resources still extant. Given these challenges, it is not surprising that Oliver’s project sometimes seems narrow, especially when compared with proposals that have a richer and broader empirical base. Nevertheless, this is serious and significant scholarship that could have a dramatic impact within the academic community.

The Panel believed that the project description was stronger and more accessible than last year’s and commends Oliver’s progress. Over the last year, she seems to have made significant strides in the conceptualization of and research for this project, and has a solid record of productivity. She has the wide variety of skills necessary to do this work and, with ATLAS support, is highly likely to finish within her proposed timeframe.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$42,664

PROPOSAL NO. 023ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “The Origins of Responsibility: Towards a Phenomenology of Ethics”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Francois Raffoul

Francois Raffoul, a specialist in Continental Philosophy with extensive training and experience in theories of the subject, seeks to fashion a sense of ethical responsibility out of a non-metaphysical conception of self. In fact, he argues that the self of continental philosophy is “eminently ethical” precisely because it is subjective. The key to his proposal is the shift from seeing responsibility “as the consequence of an agent in the position of subject, but is instead approached in terms of a response to an event which is also a call.” This very promising statement, followed by an ellipsis, is tantalizing. Although the term “call” here is used with a firmly existentialist meaning, its precise sense will need to be teased out. In this connection, the work of the late Edinburgh ethicist, J. I. H. McDonald, might be of interest. In every way, however, this applicant is prepared to write the work as described, and he is widely and well published within the many fields germane to the proposal.

The project promises to be of pivotal significance, and has been well conceived. The complex ideas of the work are outlined clearly and have been carefully devised. The Panel might have wished to be a little more than tantalized by the proposed work when it comes to defining “call,” but the author gives every indication of being on the verge of the breakthrough in thinking that he has in mind: portraying subjectivity as the ground of ethics. Once his central questions have been addressed and theory clearly articulated, all of which can easily be achieved during his ATLAS award year, this work should be a valuable work of philosophical thought.

In its detail and rigor, and in the applicant’s experience with the material, the proposal demonstrates its feasibility. The timetable is reasonable, the work well advanced, and the Panel has no doubt that Raffoul will complete his project as proposed.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$35,450

PROPOSAL NO. 024ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “Descartes’ Metaphysics: The Trunk of the Tree”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Husain F. Sarkar

It would be difficult to overstate the importance of Descartes to the history of modern philosophy. Husain Sarkar is the author of an important, highly original book about the Cartesian method published in 2003 by Cambridge University Press. In the current proposal, he hopes to extend his argument by looking afresh at Descartes’ metaphysics, specifically at the second part of the *Meditation on First Philosophy*. This book is both a commentary on and an interrogation of Descartes, and it engages with some of the most important issues in Descartes’ philosophical thought (e.g., the mind-body distinction and the *kinds* of arguments for the existence of God).

Sarkar brings to this project more than three decades of scholarship. While he has not been a prolific scholar, this new work should progress to completion much more quickly than his previous book because he will be building directly on his earlier arguments and methods. Sarkar’s scholarship is of exceptionally high quality, and he has published steadily in professional journals while working on his previous monographs.

The conception and definition of the project are clear and well framed, and the subject lends itself well to the chapter divisions that Sarkar has proposed. The author demonstrates a keen awareness of and engagement with both contemporary scholarship and traditional philosophy. Because he knows precisely where his argument fits in the critical dialogue, he is able to incorporate the work of others in explaining his approach to Descartes while supporting his own claims to originality. He also writes with exceptional clarity, so one can be confident that his book will be useful to advanced students as well as to his peers.

Given the amount of work already finished, it is feasible for the author to draft the remaining four chapters in twelve months. He does not need access to archival materials or library collections but rather time to frame and formulate his arguments. The ATLAS award will provide ample release time, and with it Sarkar will almost certainly complete the book in the timeframe described.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$46,528

PROPOSAL NO. 026ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: “DANTE AND THE DIVERSITY OF MANNERS”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Gregory B. Stone

Gregory Stone is a prolific medievalist with three substantial monographs published between 1994 and 2006. His previous work features a dual focus on contemporary critical theory and canonical medieval authors (Boccaccio and Dante) or well-established genres (like the anonymous troubadour lyrics). He is very sensitive to the texts and contexts of medieval authors, but at the same time he seeks to establish fresh critical frameworks for viewing those texts. The proposed new work, *Dante and the Diversity of Manners*, grows out of the forthcoming *Dante’s Pluralism and the Islamic Philosophy of Religion* by shifting from religiously grounded claims to claims about *mores*. In a society of at least nominal multiculturalism and deep respect for individual liberties, Stone’s questions about “diversity of manners” suddenly take on renewed importance. Stone situates Dante’s ideas about manners within a distinctly modern context.

Stone is a scholar whose reputation is established and growing. He has three monographs already in print, and this new book is full of potential. Given his record of scholarly efficiency and productivity, there is no doubt that this work will be completed in a timely manner. Moreover, his approach to Dante is important and promises to have a major impact on this field of study.

In the application and work sample provided, Stone proposes a highly original reading of Dante, one that is well informed by other scholarship. He is unafraid to tackle large questions and received opinion, not only offering fresh insights into some of the most intriguing passages in the *Divina Commedia* but also demonstrating Dante’s underlying “cosmopolitan” project. The volume will be of great interest to a wide range of medieval and Renaissance scholars as well as to critics interested in diversity issues, broadly conceived.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 027ATL

Rank: 20

TITLE: “Jesus in Britain, 1850-1970”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College – Baton Rouge

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Meredith Veldman

In her new work on Jesus in Britain, Meredith Veldman proposes to factor the issue of beliefs in and about Jesus into the cultural history of modern Britain, especially in regard to its alleged secularization. The project proposes to mount an argument that the Victorian Jesus continues to serve as an iconic figure, but one that has promoted “a more secular national identity.” The promise of the proposal lies in its analysis of whether Britain has become “secular,” what is meant by secularization, and how a religious belief can serve its purposes. The completed work is likely to attract broad attention in a variety of scholarly fields, including history, literary criticism, cultural studies, and the history of religion.

Especially in its engagement of scholarly issues, coordinated with the cultural historical approach, Veldman’s conception is very strong. The reference to the “Third Quest” of the historical Jesus does not fit the chronological frame envisaged, but that is a minor matter in comparison to the bold engagement with the history of scholarship as well as the history of opinions. She also has done significant work on the conceptualization of the project as a whole in the preceding year, and seems poised to engage this challenging subject in an accessible and eminently intelligent way.

Veldman is well established in the field of British popular culture, and her first book, *Fantasy, The Bomb, and the Greening of Britain*, was well received. In addition, she has contributed to a major textbook that constructs Western civilization in cultural terms. In preparation for this project, she has pursued an intensive program of reading and field research. She has published preliminary articles on the subject, which demonstrate her progress. By means of these preparations, she has honed her particular aim: to relate portrayals of Jesus to the perceived secularization of modern Britain. Given this preparation and her strong record of previous work, the timetable for completion seems reasonable.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$40,550

PROPOSAL NO. 031ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: "Louisiana: A Pianist's Journey"

INSTITUTION: Southeastern Louisiana University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Kenneth O. Boulton

Kenneth Boulton's CD project is well conceived, strongly researched, and highly significant to pianists and the music profession at large. The historical and regional significance of the musical repertoire chosen for the project should have wide appeal to lay audiences, particularly audiences in Louisiana and the American South. It is also highly likely that the project will have international appeal, given the inclusion of composers like Niemann and Milhaud. The selection of the repertoire not only supports the theme of the project, it also allows never-before recorded pieces to be heard and archived. The definition, organization, and description of the project are clear and exceptionally well-written. This is a model grant proposal for projects of this nature.

Of great importance to this project's prospects for success, Boulton has significant experience with recordings, both as a soloist and collaborative musician; his preparation for the current project is in an advanced state and extremely impressive. He has a history of completing CD projects in a very timely fashion, and most of his recordings have been released by companies recognized and respected in the music profession. The company he has chosen for the current project is appropriate, and his previous work with the same company on a completed CD project assures that this project will be of the highest quality.

When it is completed, this CD project will provide an invaluable service to many groups: national and international lay audiences, the music profession (in particular the classical, scholarly branch), pianists, Louisiana and its region, and Southeastern Louisiana University. The proposal's work plan and budget seem fair and appropriate for the high-quality product Boulton is preparing to produce. Southeastern Louisiana University is to be commended for the support shown to a young, not-yet-tenured faculty member. Such a show of support indicates the University's confidence in Boulton's ability and its commitment to the production of high-quality research and creative effort.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 033ATL

Rank: 18

TITLE: “Buried Cultures: Themes of Lost and Found in Hurricane and Tsunami Images”

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Lynda Frese

In this project, Lynda Frese plans to engage with two separate, disparate, heterogeneous cultures to represent the impact of community loss and reconstruction. The resulting works, though beautiful and interesting, are likely at least initially to attract a limited audience largely confined to academic and art communities. Nevertheless, significant artwork portraying, sympathizing with, mourning for, and simply making visible the recent events Frese has targeted has yet to be done, which gives this project significance. Frese’s work with hybrid landscapes and “lost” cultures seems like an excellent way to approach the twofold subject of devastation and renewal in hurricane and tsunami images. The Panel urges her to consider ways to expand the viewership for her art, to make it part of international dialogues about cultural loss and reconstitution.

Frese’s past work is of high quality, and her current project is already underway. Her awards, residencies, fellowships, and numerous exhibitions are all testimony to the appeal and creativity of her work. Most of all, the three-dimensional collage, concrete yet abstract pictorial space, and surreal visual ground of the work samples indicate that her previous work is a good point of departure for the proposed project. The preliminary images for the current project, presented in the proposal, show great promise, evoking memory within the context of a renewed, changed, and fragmented space.

The project description is clear, well-conceived, professional, and well-organized. There is also an intuitive logic to the project that strengthens its vision. The individual examples of Frese’s work, both completed and in process, are compelling, though sometimes seeming mannered without an intent to be so. Frese should consider this tendency in her works, and determine whether it is of use to her as an artist. The works certainly are developed rigorously and, as a consequence, they tend to provoke an intense response from the viewer.

The work plan as presented, which includes additional travel to collect images in tsunami-devastated areas, studio time to create finished works, and marketing of the project, seems feasible. The Panel is confident that the project will be completed in the time allocated.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$34,156

PROPOSAL NO. 035ATL

Rank: 16

TITLE: “Advertising and Commerce: Graphic Design and Ecology”

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Jeffrey Lush

Jeffrey Lush’s project is compelling and has the potential to generate significant and wide-ranging responses. It is linked to points introduced and explored by artists such as Barbara Kruger, Sue Coe, Hans Haacke, John Heartfield, and Kathe Kollwitz, who use design and media to drive their political content forward. As investigative visual art, this project works within a sphere that is under-explored in visual art yet accessible to most Americans. Lush’s sketchily described plan to use public spaces, particularly billboards, to display his work strengthens this proposal and helps to alleviate concerns that the work will be limited in scope and audience. The Panel’s support for and interest in this project is largely due to the inclusion of the public aspect, and we urge the applicant to pursue the billboard/public display component aggressively should funding be awarded. It seems unlikely that submission of posters to contests will, by itself, generate the kinds of public awareness that he claims to be seeking.

Though his career is still in its early stages, Lush’s previous work is dramatic and concise, and thus appropriate to his medium. He has begun preparation for this new project, and the work samples he has presented are clear and effective.

The conception, definition, and organization of the project are of high quality. The narrative description of the project could have profited from editing and the inclusion of additional supporting information. The degree to which posters and billboards can be successful in raising political and ecological consciousness is not addressed, nor is the issue of the impact of their placement in communities. The Panel likes the idea of placing the work on highly visible billboards, but the proposal did not address practical and logistical questions about how this would be accomplished. Still, the quality of the design is excellent and this modest project seems likely to succeed. This ambitious work schedule is feasible, and there is a strong likelihood that the applicant will complete it in the prescribed time period.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$19,689

PROPOSAL NO. 036ATL

Rank: 15

TITLE: "Mississippian Archaeology: Native American Communities in Southeastern North America, ca. A.D. 1000 - 1700"

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Mark A. Rees

This project proposes to investigate Native American communities of the Mississippi period, *ca.* A.D. 1000-1700, in southeastern North America. Mark Rees seeks to combine archaeological evidence with cultural anthropology, ecological approaches, and the history of the political development and decline of complex societies. This project is of importance both within its discipline and to larger professional and lay audiences. It promises to contribute to a paradigm shift in thinking about past societies, namely to reinterpret archaeological findings in the light of newly emergent ecological, systemic, and political concerns. The work relates in significant ways to a larger debate about the rise and collapse of complex societies whose cultural practices and political institutions cannot cope with systemic and ecological change and is similar in its focus to the work of Jared Diamond.

The author has a good record of publications and appears to be equipped to undertake this project. All indications are that the project will conclude with an important book. The proposal includes a prospectus of book chapters along with two sample chapters, which look most promising. The project is strongly conceived and, in its proposed form, should yield important and insightful results. The author is far advanced in the work, and it is very likely that he will complete the project as proposed within the award period.

The primary strength of this project is in its combined local and global focus, as it addresses topics of interest for audiences from local to global arenas. Its contributions promise to be significant to a global debate on the rise and collapse of complex societies whose cultural practices and political institutions cannot cope with systemic and ecological change.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$28,537

PROPOSAL NO. 037ATL

Rank: 19

TITLE: "BOOK: *SUSANNE LANGER AND MUSIC PEDAGOGY*"

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Mary J. Reichling

This is an elegant, mature proposal, which combines issues of music theory and performance with well-informed considerations of aesthetics and philosophy. By addressing issues of symbol, feeling, illusion, and imagination, Mary Reichling's project, under contract with the Indiana University Press, promises not only to revive awareness of the thought and influence of Susanne Langer, but to help bring music back into its central role within the liberal arts. Reichling's work will help illuminate music as experience and performance without resorting to the conflation of music and language which is prevalent among some theorists.

The applicant is well established as an expert on Susanne Langer, as well as a talented musician and theorist in her own right, so is well-positioned to undertake this study. At every point, the project is clearly conceived and described. Moreover, a substantive analysis of Susanne Langer is overdue. The Panel is somewhat concerned, however, that Reichling's focus on Langer's work is so narrowly concentrated on the pedagogical aspects. This tight emphasis will limit somewhat the audience for and impact of the proposed monograph, though it will be of use to students and faculty interested in music pedagogy. Reichling's clear, cogent explanations of Langer's categories and theories will be an important first step in encouraging consideration of Langer's philosophical import.

Given that both the underlying research and the animating conception are in place, this is a feasible project. The writing of the final draft will no doubt prove challenging, however, owing to the multiple strands of consideration involved in each chapter. The Panel therefore urges the applicant to assure that a schedule of multiple drafts and careful revision is maintained throughout the whole of the writing period until the final manuscript is submitted.

The project is strongly recommended for funding, should sufficient monies be available. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$43,582

PROPOSAL NO. 040ATL

Rank: 1

TITLE: *“Men Who Weep and Wail: Masculinity, Emotion, and Domesticity in Early Modern England”*

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Jennifer C. Vaught

Jennifer Vaught’s well-articulated project aims to undertake an up-to-date intervention in Renaissance studies by focusing on the cultural construction of masculinities in that period. This is a fascinating topic and, given the focus in recent years on female sexuality in literary sources, much under-studied. The writing sample submitted with the proposal articulates Vaught’s rich and promising approach to the material, and suggests that the finished work will be of significant interest to a wide scholarly audience. Nevertheless, the proposal does not clearly articulate the project’s place in its academic field, or its relationship to other scholarship focusing on gender and sexuality. The applicant should address this explicitly as she continues work on the prospective book, to ensure that the finished work properly addresses the interests and concerns of her audience.

The project is clearly conceived and well designed. The clear focus on literary representations is a positive element of the project, as it allows Vaught to control her broad topic tightly and adds strength to her arguments. Given this narrow focus, however, the work is not likely to yield as much historical information as the applicant suggests about either the ideology or lived experience of manhood in the period. As a work of literary scholarship, the project is very strong and does not require this additional direction to be influential.

Vaught is perhaps the youngest scholar in the pool, but she has a strong publication record and has edited a significant collection of essays. The work she has done on the current project seems significantly advanced and likely to be completed in a timely fashion. This fellowship would enable her to complete her first monograph, which should confirm her burgeoning reputation as a literary critic.

The project is strongly recommended for funding. The budget is reasonable and should be maintained in full.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$30,906

APPENDIX E

OUT-OF-STATE EXPERTS WHO SERVED AS FINAL AND SUBJECT-AREA PANELISTS

I. Final Panel

Nicholas Bromell
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies
Department of English
University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Susanne Lohmann
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of California – Los Angeles

Carol Martin
Professor
Department of Drama
Tisch School for the Arts
New York University

II. Arts Subject-Area Panel

Carol Martin, Chair
Professor
Department of Drama
Tisch School for the Arts
New York University

Stuart Dybek
Professor
Department of English
Western Michigan University

Cora Cohen
Professor
Department of Painting
Maryland Institute College of Art

III. Humanities Subject-Area Panel

Nicholas Bromell, Chair
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies
Department of English
University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Bruce Chilton
Bernard Iddings Bell Professor of Philosophy and Religion
Department of Religion
Bard College

Kathryn Grossman
Professor
Department of French
Penn State University

James Sheehan
Dickason Professor in the Humanities
Stanford Humanities Center
Stanford University

IV. Social Sciences Subject-Area Panel

Susanne Lohmann, Chair
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of California – Los Angeles

APPENDIX F

**AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS) SUBPROGRAM
FY 2005-06
SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

40 TOTAL PROPOSALS

| | | |
|----|---------|-----------------|
| 24 | HUM | Humanities |
| 12 | ARTS | Arts |
| 4 | SOC SCI | Social Sciences |

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: \$1,613,604

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$500,000

**Regents Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) Program
2005-06 Competition
Proposals Submitted**

| Proposal#/ Discipline | PI Name(s) | Institution | Proposal Title | Funds Requested |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 001ATL-06 H/Foreign Langs & Lits | Maureen Spillane Murov | Centenary College of LA | Rewriting the Revolution: Representing the Intellectual in Contemporary Latin American Historical Fiction | \$28,738 |
| 002ATL-06 ARTS/ Filmmaking | James V. Catano | LSU-Baton Rouge | Documenting Reality; Memory, Heritage and the Public Life of Communities | \$47,175 |
| 003ATL-06 ARTS/Creative Nonfiction | Andrei Codrescu | LSU-Baton Rouge | Born Dada: Tristan Tzara (1896-1963) | \$50,000 |
| 004ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | Kevin L. Cope | LSU-Baton Rouge | Under the Enlightenment: Earth's Extreme Environments and the Eighteenth-Century Idea of Expansiveness | \$50,000 |
| 005ATL-06 H/Humanities – Other | Bainard Cowan | LSU-Baton Rouge | <i>Virgil's Epic for a New Age</i> | \$21,518 |
| 006ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | William W. Demastes | LSU-Baton Rouge | Spalding Gray: A Critical Biography | \$50,000 |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|----------|
| 007ATL-06 H/Foreign Langs & Lits | Irene S. Di Maio | LSU-Baton Rouge | Emancipation/Integration: The “Jewish Question” in the Works of Berthold Auerbach and Fanny Lewald | \$40,516 |
| 008ATL-06 H/Linguistics | Sylvie Dubois | LSU-Baton Rouge | A Corpus-Based Analytical Study of Written English Practices in Pre-Civil War Louisiana | \$29,331 |
| 009ATL-06 ARTS/Creative Arts – Other | Femi Euba | LSU-Baton Rouge | From Rough Draft to Stage-Ready: Developing CRATERS into a Full-Length Play | \$49,631 |
| 010ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | Angeletta K. M. Gourdine | LSU-Baton Rouge | Storying Nation: Caribbean Women Writers Narrate History and Place | \$41,206 |
| 011ATL-06 SS/Political Science | Stacia L. Haynie | LSU-Baton Rouge | Winners and Losers: Appellate Court Outcomes in Comparative Perspective | \$49,991 |
| 012ATL-06 SS/Anthropology | Joyce Marie Jackson | LSU-Baton Rouge | Hidden Currents: The Rural Roots of Jazz in South Louisiana | \$50,000 |
| 013ATL-06 H/Foreign Langs & Lits | Katharine Ann Jensen | LSU-Baton Rouge | Ambitious Mothers, Determined Daughters: Subjects in Search of Recognition in Writings by French Women, 1671-1928 | \$44,200 |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|--|----------|
| 014ATL-06 ARTS/Creative Nonfiction | Rodger L. Kamenetz | LSU-Baton Rouge | A BRIEF HISTORY OF DREAMS | \$50,000 |
| 015ATL-06 ARTS/Drama | Vince J. LiCata | LSU-Baton Rouge | Writing and Production of the Play <i>Cocktail</i> | \$50,000 |
| 016ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | John Lowe | LSU-Baton Rouge | The Americanization of Ethnic Humor | \$48,311 |
| 017ATL-06 ARTS/Fiction | Jerry David Madden | LSU-Baton Rouge | London Bridge in Plague and Fire | \$50,000 |
| 018ATL-06 H/Humanities – Other | Mustapha B. Marrouchi | LSU-Baton Rouge | Islam and the West – Equal Distance, Equal Difference | \$47,490 |
| 019ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | Michelle A. Massé | LSU-Baton Rouge | Great Expectations: Gendering Age, Narcissism, and the <u>Bildungsroman</u> | \$45,172 |
| 020ATL-06 ARTS/Poetry | Laura Mullen | LSU-Baton Rouge | Troposphere | \$19,040 |
| 021ATL-06 H/History | Lisi Oliver | LSU-Baton Rouge | The Body Legal in the Dark Ages | \$42,664 |

ATLAS Proposal Submissions
 FY 2005-06
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|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|----------|
| 022ATL-06 H/Philosophy | John Protevi | LSU-Baton Rouge | Political Physiology: Consciousness, Emotion, and Social Groups | \$38,241 |
| 023ATL-06 H/Philosophy | Francois Raffoul | LSU-Baton Rouge | “The Origins of Responsibility: Towards a Phenomenology of Ethics” | \$35,450 |
| 024ATL-06 H/Philosophy | Husain F. Sarkar | LSU-Baton Rouge | Descartes’ Metaphysics: The Trunk of the Tree | \$46,528 |
| 025ATL-06 H/History | Charles J. Shindo | LSU-Baton Rouge | 1927 and the Making of Modern America | \$38,873 |
| 026ATL-06 H/Foreign Langs & Lits | Gregory B. Stone | LSU-Baton Rouge | DANTE AND THE DIVERSITY OF MANNERS | \$50,000 |
| 027ATL-06 H/History | Meredith Veldman | LSU-Baton Rouge | Jesus in Britain, 1850-1970 | \$40,550 |
| 028ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | James R. Simmons, Jr. | Louisiana Tech Univ. | <i>The Regency Worlds of Jane Austen and Patrick O’Brian</i> | \$22,235 |
| 029ATL-06 ARTS/Creative Arts - Other | Heather Ryan Kelley | McNeese State Univ. | The Midden-heap (Inside the Black Cube) | \$49,167 |
| 030ATL-06 H/Philosophy | Jeffrey Bell | Southeastern Louisiana Univ. | The Scottish Enlightenment, Postmodernism, and the Critique of Culture | \$50,000 |

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| 031ATL-06 ARTS/Creative Arts – Other | Kenneth O. Boulton | Southeastern Louisiana Univ. | “Louisiana: A Pianist’s Journey” | \$50,000 |
| 032ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | Molly Anne Rothenberg | Tulane University | The Cause in Question: Social Change Theory and the Disavowal of Psychoanalysis | \$33,164 |
| 033ATL-06 ARTS/Digital Art | Lynda Frese | UL at Lafayette | Buried Cultures: Themes of Lost and Found in Hurricane and Tsunami Images | \$34,156 |
| 034ATL-06 SS/Anthropology | Jacques M. Henry | UL at Lafayette | Ethnography of a Hurricane: Accounts, Analysis, Images | \$18,525 |
| 035ATL-06 ARTS/Design | Jeffrey Lush | UL at Lafayette | Advertising and Commerce: Graphic Design and Ecology | \$19,689 |
| 036ATL-06 SS/Archaeology | Mark A. Rees | UL at Lafayette | Mississippian Archaeology: Native American Communities in Southeastern North America, ca. A.D. 1000-1700 | \$28,537 |
| 037ATL-06 H/Music History | Mary J. Reichling | UL at Lafayette | BOOK: <i>SUSANNE LANGER AND MUSIC PEDAGOGY</i> | \$43,582 |
| 038ATL-06 ARTS/Design | Corey Saft | UL at Lafayette | STUDIOIPLAY | \$49,969 |

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| 039ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | Helen Thompson | UL at Lafayette | Territories of Desire: Reconstituting Irish Womanhood in the Works of Edna O'Brien | \$29,049 |
| 040ATL-06 H/English Lang & Lit | Jennifer C. Vaught | UL at Lafayette | <i>Men Who Weep and Wail: Masculinity, Emotion, and Domesticity in Early Modern England</i> | \$30,906 |

SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

40 TOTAL PROPOSALS
 24 HUM Humanities
 12 ARTS Arts
 4 SOC SCI Social Sciences

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: \$1,613,604

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$500,000