

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS
BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND**

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**REVIEW OF COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR FUNDING
CONSIDERATION IN THE
AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS)
SUBPROGRAM**

FY 2017-18 COMPETITION

March 2018

REPORT OF THE FINAL PANEL
BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS)
SUBPROGRAM
FY 2017-18

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Sixty-five (65) proposals requesting a total of \$2,939,973 were submitted for funding consideration in fiscal year (FY) 2017-18 to the Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) subprogram of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) Research & Development Program. Proposals were solicited for creative and scholarly activities undertaken by faculty in arts, humanities, and social sciences disciplines.

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. Panels of out-of-state experts evaluated all proposals and provided funding recommendations to the Board of Regents.

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

In Phase I of the review process the sixty-five (65) proposals were distributed, based on the primary discipline selected by each applicant, among three subject-area panels corresponding to the general disciplines eligible for funding consideration through ATLAS. Each panel was comprised of two 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 2017-18 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 of each of his/her assigned proposals after discussing its relative merits and shortcomings with the other panel members. Through a telephone conference, the subject-area panel members jointly ranked the proposals in the order in which they judged 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, respectively, of the three subject-area panels, was convened in Phase II of the process. This panel met on March 19, 2018, 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 criteria used by the panel in making its funding recommendations are: (1) the significance of the project as described to its current field of study or art practice and its interest for broader academic and/or lay audiences; (2) the strength of the proposal's argument for the conceptualization, definition, and organization of the project; (3) the quality of the applicant's previous work and/or promise of quality based on the applicant's preparations for the current 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. Thirty-six (36) proposals were included in the discussions held during this conference.

The panel was informed that \$330,000 had been budgeted to fund ATLAS projects in fiscal year 2017-18. Utilizing the criteria described above, the panel recommended nineteen (19) proposals which it strongly believed were worthy of support and placed them in the "Priority I" category, detailed in **Appendix A**. These proposals request a total of \$880,227 and are ranked in descending order according to merit. Though funds are available to support only a limited number of the highly recommended proposals, the panel strongly urges the Board of Regents to seek supplementary resources to provide funding for as many additional proposals as possible. Should additional resources become available, the panel recommends that proposals be funded in order of rank.

The budgets for the top-ranked proposals were scrutinized closely during the review process. Budgetary reductions were recommended in several cases, as noted in the panel comments. Unless indicated in the panel's comments, project work plans and timelines should not be affected by the budgetary reductions.

Appendix B lists those proposals that were ranked Priority II. In general, proposals listed in Appendix B are considered of high quality, but raised questions or concerns among the reviewers that precluded them from being ranked among the Priority I proposals. Applicants whose projects were ranked Priority II are encouraged to consider 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 not recommended for funding in this competition. Priority III projects are ranked as such because the review panels had serious questions about their feasibility, potential for impact, and/or scholarly/artistic merit, or because the proposal raised questions of whether ATLAS funds were needed to complete the project. Applicants whose projects were listed in Appendix C are encouraged to review the consultants' 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 nineteen (19) proposals highly recommended for funding.

Appendix E lists the out-of-state experts who served on 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.

PANEL COMMENTS REGARDING FY 2017-18 PROPOSALS

1. Comment to Applicants

Given funding constraints in the ATLAS program resulting from substantial budget decreases (approximately 40%) since the program was initiated in 2004, the panel notes that it is extremely difficult to fund projects at the top of the range of maximum allowed funding (\$50,000). So few of the many high-quality and high-value projects submitted can be accommodated with the dollars available, and often panels must weigh more expensive against less expensive projects of equal merit. Applicants are urged to be aware of this dynamic and budget prudently to request only those items that are essential to complete the proposed work as planned.

2. Comments to the Board of Regents and Other Program Stakeholders

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 regional and/or national levels. Particularly during these times of uncertain resources, the panel applauds the Board of Regents and the State for their continuing support of this program, which provides funding to important disciplines, many of great cultural significance to Louisiana, with limited outlets for grant funding.

It is important for stakeholders in this program to bear in mind that the impact of Louisiana's support of the arts, humanities, and social sciences extends well beyond the faculty members who receive these awards. Departments and campuses across Louisiana are strengthened by the presence of such successful faculty who model scholarly and creative excellence both to other faculty and to students. The out-of-state experts who serve on subject-area and final panels are extremely impressed with the State's forward-looking support of these areas of study and say as much across professional circles. Proposals and the carefully designed and managed peer review process are evidence of the submitting institutions' and the State's commitment to research and artistic production at the very highest levels. The panel commends the researchers, artists, administrators, and State governing bodies for their support of these traditionally under-funded disciplines and strongly encourages the Board of Regents to continue its investments. The State should make every effort to publicize the accomplishments of ATLAS recipients and the program as a whole within and outside of Louisiana and to propose the program as a model for other states seeking to link local culture, creativity and research to the global circulation of ideas.

APPENDIX A

**ATLAS PROPOSALS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING
(PRIORITY I) (19)**

Rank	Proposal #	Institution	Principal Investigator	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
1	003ATL-18	LSU A&M	Jeremiah Ariaz	\$45,016	\$30,016
1	010ATL-18	LSU A&M	Nathan Kalmoe	\$50,000	\$50,000
1	043ATL-18	Tulane	Emily Clark	\$50,000	\$50,000
4	039ATL-18	Tulane	Katherine Adams	\$50,000	\$50,000
5	009ATL-18	LSU A&M	Zack Godshall	\$48,126	\$44,396
6	049ATL-18	Tulane	Amy Lesen	\$46,837	\$46,837
7	060ATL-18	UL Monroe	Jana Giles	\$49,301	\$38,057
8	016ATL-18	LSU A&M	Wilfred Major	\$22,932	\$22,932
9	065ATL-18	UNO	Chris Surprenant	\$47,523	\$47,523
10	038ATL-18	SELU	Alison Pelegrin	\$30,208	\$30,208
11	018ATL-18	LSU A&M	Lori Martin	\$50,000	\$50,000
12	037ATL-18	SELU	Joel Fredell	\$49,643	\$49,643
13	044ATL-18	Tulane	Christopher Dunn	\$50,000	\$50,000
14	027ATL-18	LSU A&M	William Saas	\$44,823	\$44,823
15	030ATL-18	LSU A&M	Joshua Wheeler	\$48,642	\$48,642
16	050ATL-18	Tulane	Wei Long	\$50,000	\$50,000
17	032ATL-18	LSU A&M	Sunny Yang	\$47,176	\$44,929
18	057ATL-18	UL Lafayette	Michele Feist	\$50,000	\$50,000
19	028ATL-18	LSU A&M	Andrew Sluyter	\$50,000	\$50,000
TOTAL				\$880,227	\$848,006

The first three (3) proposals in Appendix A are ranked “1” (i.e., first). In the panel’s opinion, these proposals are of nearly equal merit; as such, they are listed in ascending order of proposal number. Proposals ranked 4 through 19 are listed in descending order of merit and, thus, priority for funding.

The panel recommends that as many Priority I projects as possible be funded in the order of their ranking and at the levels specified. At a minimum, the panel recommends funding the top eight (8) proposals for a total amount of \$332,238.

APPENDIX B

MERITORIOUS PROPOSALS RANKED PRIORITY II BY THE SUBJECT-AREA PANELS BUT NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (17)

005ATL-18	014ATL-18	015ATL-18	021ATL-18
024ATL-18	026ATL-18	034ATL-18	035ATL-18
036ATL-18	040ATL-18	042ATL-18	045ATL-18
047ATL-18	048ATL-18	052ATL-18	054ATL-18
064ATL-18			

Note: Priority II proposals are listed by proposal number, and not in order of merit. Subject-area panel reviews for these proposals will be provided to the applicants in July 2018.

APPENDIX C

PROPOSALS RANKED PRIORITY III BY THE SUBJECT-AREA PANELS AND NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (29)

001ATL-18	002ATL-18	004ATL-18	006ATL-18
007ATL-18	008ATL-18	011ATL-18	012ATL-18
013ATL-18	017ATL-18	019ATL-18	020ATL-18
022ATL-18	023ATL-18	025ATL-18	029ATL-18
031ATL-18	033ATL-18	041ATL-18	046ATL-18
051ATL-18	053ATL-18	055ATL-18	056ATL-18
058ATL-18	059ATL-18	061ATL-18	062ATL-18
063ATL-18			

Note: Priority III proposals are listed by proposal number, and not in order of merit. Subject-area panel reviews for these proposals will be provided to the applicants in July 2018.

APPENDIX D

COMMENTS AND FUNDING STIPULATIONS FOR 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 nineteen (19) proposals highly recommended by the panel. Comments are provided in rank order. Each proposal's rank is located in the upper right corner of the comment page.

Unless specified in the panel's review comment, no reductions in the scope of work 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 and/or does not reflect reductions recommended by the panel, the award should be vacated and funds thereby made available should be used to fund other worthy projects. Any returned or unawarded ATLAS funds should be allocated to projects recommended in Appendix A, at levels suggested by the panel and in descending order according to rank.

PROPOSAL NO. 003ATL-18

Rank: 1

TITLE: "Louisiana Trail Riders"

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Jeremiah Ariaz

Louisiana Trail Riders is a photographic study that blends the real and the fictional to document trail riding clubs across South Louisiana in order to preserve Louisiana's culture and history. Professor Ariaz has been photographing these clubs since 2014 and has created a body of work for exhibition and publication that reflects Creole culture and the celebratory spirit of the rides.

The project is exemplary in demonstrating photography's power to capture and preserve a particular place and time, and provide a lasting record of a culture – in this case, the regional subculture of African American trail riding clubs. The rides are an intriguing part of Louisiana culture – incorporating "multigenerational gatherings, the mix of rural and urban sensibilities, and the Zydeco music that provides an ongoing soundtrack" – that is little known. The published photographs and essay would be of interest for the wide audience for art photography, as well as scholars in related fields and the general public. The visual and verbal account of this unique cultural world will be an addition to our knowledge of Creole southwest Louisiana.

The applicant's description of his photography over time gives a clear image of his pursuit of American Western mythology, whether in the U.S. or as represented in non-American cultures. The photographs for this project reveal the almost magisterial beauty of the subjects they represent. They call to mind documentary photographs commissioned by the Farm Security Administration, notably those of Walker Evans. The photographs, rather than capturing iconic images with the narrative "auras" about a mythic American sense of identity, document this subculture on an absolutely human scale. The portraiture is skillfully non-posed, in the moment, and what narrative there is rises fresh from the subjects.

The project is clearly presented, well describing Professor Ariaz's interests and concerns, and is almost ready for its publication phase. He has already done a number of solo exhibitions that include the photographs for publication. He has secured a contract with the Center for Louisiana Studies, UL Press for this project, which in published form will include writer Herman Fuselier, who will contextualize the trail rides. Lil' Nathan will share his lyrics for "She Wanna Ride" in an acknowledgment that the rides happen with and are characterized by music. Along with publication, Professor Ariaz has commitments to exhibit his work at national venues, including the prestigious Duke Center for Documentary Studies and the Kansas State University Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art. There is every reason to believe the project will be completed as described.

The panel strongly recommends partial funding of \$30,016 for this excellent project. The publishing costs, totaling \$15,000, are not well justified and, given the extremely limited ATLAS budget, are not recommended.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$30,016

PROPOSAL NO. 010ATL-18

Rank: 1

TITLE: “With Ballots & Bullets: Partisanship and Violence in the American Civil War”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Nathan Kalmoe

Dr. Kalmoe is seeking ATLAS support for the completion of a single-authored book titled *With Ballots & Bullets: Partisanship and Violence in the American Civil War*. Historically, the project will address the partisan politics surrounding the American Civil War. Conceptually, it will explore how partisanship mobilizes men into killing and dying, and how partisanship colors voters’ responses to hundreds of thousands of dead. The book has the potential to revolutionize the way we think about Civil War-era politics and, more broadly, about individual and community-based partisanship in voting and war. The primary audience consists of academic political scientists in two subfields of the discipline: American political development and political behavior. A larger, general audience is likely.

Partisanship is arguably the most potent force in mass political behavior. For example, currently in American politics people tend to hate opposing partisans, and they segregate themselves socially by partisan loyalties. Dr. Kalmoe suggests, provocatively, that the survey-based view of American partisanship—which is the standard view in the political behavior subfield over the last 60 years—blinds us to the truly awesome power of partisanship: it can motivate mass killing and rationalize even extreme violent outcomes to fit preconceived partisan views. It is only by incorporating insights from the politics surrounding the Civil War that we will be able to recognize “what lurks beneath.”

The project is well conceptualized and organized, and the work sample is powerful and persuasive. Dr. Kalmoe lists several specific insights about the partisan politics surrounding the American Civil War, all of which are interesting and many of which come across as novel. He employs a mixed-method approach on massive amounts of data. Overall, the impression one gets is of an intensely exciting and ambitious project. The project is also very timely. Partisanship is currently at a high that is often compared to the time just before the American Civil War, which makes it more urgent and important for political scientists to spell out the way ordinary partisanship can turn dangerous and deadly.

Dr. Kalmoe holds a PhD from the Political Science program at the University of Michigan, arguably the leading department in the subfields that relate to the proposed topic (American politics, quantitative research methods with a focus on public opinion, psychology, and communication). Having joined LSU A&M as an assistant professor in Fall 2016, he is extraordinarily accomplished. His resume includes several articles in peer-reviewed journals and a coauthored book published by the University of Chicago Press, a leading press in the field. His work is well cited and has attracted media attention.

It is clear that Professor Kalmoe’s project, once it takes the form of a sole-authored book, will be snapped up by a leading university press, and it may well turn out to be a path-breaking work, both in political science and in the larger culture. The proposed plan of work is realistic, and it appears likely that the applicant will complete the project within the proposed timeframe.

The panel strongly recommends full funding for this project.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 043ATL-18

Rank: 1

TITLE: “Noel Carriere’s Liberty: From Slave to Soldier in Colonial New Orleans”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Emily Clark

Dr. Clark’s project follows the life of a soldier, born a slave, whose experience provides fresh insights into this great national story, exposing its deeply ambiguous meaning for some of those who fought for freedom. The work has a powerful local connection, but it also touches on some of the most fundamental issues of American history: race, the ambiguities of freedom, and the power and limits of individuals to shape their own destiny. It is an essential story to tell, with concerns well beyond the boundaries of the individuals and locales involved.

Dr. Clark has presented a model application, which captures the excitement of the project as well as its larger significance. In concise, articulate paragraphs, she demonstrates her command of the field and sets her work in its scholarly and political contexts. Moreover, this work continues and expands on a most impressive career with international reach. In the two decades since receiving her doctoral degree, Dr. Clark has written two important books, edited others, organized conferences, won prizes—in short, done everything a successful, productive scholar can and should do. In some ways, this biography is a new and welcome departure for her, while it continues to build on a firm scholarly foundation.

The panel has no doubt that her timetable is reasonable and, given her record as a productive scholar working at an exceptional level of quality, that she will finish this valuable work within the ATLAS year and attract a significant readership.

Dr. Clark’s outstanding project is highly recommended for full funding.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 039ATL-18

Rank: 4

TITLE: "Reconstructing Value: Cotton Culture and Blackness after Emancipation"

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Katherine Adams

There have been a number of important works on the history of commodities, including Sven Beckert's magisterial work on cotton, and Dr. Adams's project will contribute significantly to the field. She uses the post-emancipation cotton economy as a window through which to view the social, cultural, and political history of race relations in this tragic but fundamentally important era.

Dr. Adams's proposal, which is interdisciplinary in the best sense, draws extensively on methods, evidence, and insights from a variety of scholarly traditions. This should give the resulting book broad appeal. Her command of her subject is very impressive, as is her ability to weave together so many disciplinary strands and to combine global with local historical developments. The account of her project is lively and cogent, and the argument set forth in the work sample is compelling and convincing.

Dr. Adams has shown herself to be a productive and efficient scholar. She has published an important and well-received monograph as well as several articles and conference presentations. In addition, she has recently completed a visiting fellowship at the British Library. It is clear that her scholarship is of extremely high quality.

The ATLAS grant would come at just the right moment in Dr. Adams's career, enabling her to finish a second book project in time for tenure review. The project will be well positioned for the ATLAS year, with four of six chapters drafted by the end of spring 2018. There is every reason to believe she will complete the work as planned, and that it will be well received and influential.

The panel strongly recommends full funding. Dr. Adams's project is just the sort ATLAS was created to bring to fruition.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 009ATL-18

Rank: 5

TITLE: "Thomas, a film"

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Zack Godshall

Thomas is a film about the life of Thomas Williamson, an East Texas man who lives on less than \$900 a month, who is schizophrenic and who has diabetes and other ailments, some of which resulted from a traumatic brain injury in a car accident. The subject's attraction for the filmmaker is his innocence, charm and hopefulness. The filmmaker will be Thomas himself, with the scenes written, directed and edited by Professor Godshall. The film is intended for a general audience, and particularly those who attend film festivals or other public screenings.

On a narrative level, *Thomas* is inspired by works of social realism, including *How the Other Half Lives* by Jacob Riis and *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men* by Walker Evans and James Agee. Thomas Williamson himself is a unique subject who falls into the category of the tragedy of the common man—specifically an outcast. Looking to make amends with his father, Thomas returns to his childhood home only to be kept out of the house. Living on the streets is his destiny and the plan is to capture the precarity of his life there and in hospitals. Professor Godshall's technique continues his exploration of the fault line between fiction and nonfiction, and he aims to "provoke a political argument while also creating a dynamic connection between society's outcasts and the audience."

Professor Godshall has directed eight films and a music video. For this work he has received significant notice in major publications, been named the Louisiana Filmmaker of the Year in 2009, received other awards for his filmmaking, and attracted a popular audience and local press attention for his recent web series, *Hogwash*. He has productively continued to develop his ideas in film over a number of years. In other words, he is a serious, prolific artist pursuing his creative vision.

In some previous films Professor Godshall has explored working with untrained actors and in others, such as *Lord Byron* and now the proposed *Thomas*, the film features the person it is about – a docu-drama in which the character plays himself. In the work sample, he provides a coherent and engaging overview of the film, which was moving to read. The work plan is well organized, with a clear timeline from pre-production through to screenings. Professor Godshall can certainly complete the project during the ATLAS period.

Partial funding of \$44,396 is recommended for this excellent project. The small travel budget for local and regional casting calls should be eliminated, given severe funding constraints in the ATLAS program.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,396

PROPOSAL NO. 049ATL-18

Rank: 6

TITLE: “Oral Histories of Scientists at the Boundary: Interdisciplinarity, Public Engagement, and Transformation”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Amy Lesen

Dr. Lesen proposes to write about environmental scientists as they grapple with the challenges of interdisciplinary research and addressing their work to diverse audiences. She is right to assert that her project will be of interest to “biophysical scientists, to sociologists of science and STS scholars, to historians of science and environmental historians, to policy makers, and also to academic institutions that are seriously pursuing a change in how they train environmental scientists or reward their work.”

Dr. Lesen aims to account for current environmental science at a moment of tumult and transition, as this varied discipline struggles to contend with shifting methods and analytics amidst charged political contestation over its central claims and findings. She approaches this task via a collection of life histories of researchers, generated by asking them to reflect on their experiences contending with interdisciplinary challenges and the difficulties of pursuing value-neutral work in an era of heightened partisanship. Guided by ideals of making scientific findings accessible and intelligible to a wider public, these scientists confront disparate politicized receptions of their research. Dr. Lesen recognizes we can learn a great deal from their experiences—in terms of career trajectory and public understanding of science—through close analysis of their social and institutional dimensions. Her approach is geared to address policy and social impacts from “the way climate and environmental change research and policy is carried out in the future.” The work should “contribute to the growing body of research in science and civic engagement, as well as how the scientific community views the boundaries of disciplinarity”; further, this research speaks to “our understanding of how to nurture communication between scientists, policy makers, community members, and other stakeholders.”

Dr. Lesen has assembled an impressive collection of interviews from a range of scientists, targeting those who work at the edges of particular disciplines. Her sample is well selected, featuring diverse social and gender perspectives. She is savvy concerning how to treat these as distinct case studies but also as evidencing patterned interactions that reflect challenges facing ecological researchers in institutional settings that alternately hamper, enable and structure scientists’ undertakings. Importantly, she is cognizant of “how the environmental and scientific problems of our time are influencing scientific social and cultural practices and institutions”; she is astute about these dynamic relationships and recognizes that the ways scientific problems are studied, analyzed, and addressed to various audiences warrant as much attention as the findings themselves. Dr. Lesen applied previously for an ATLAS grant, and this version of her proposal features a fuller elaboration of the larger theoretical and analytical concerns informing this project.

Dr. Lesen’s research record is strong. Her work has been supported multiple times by the National Science Foundation, National Oceanographic and Atmosphere Administration, and Louisiana Board of Regents, for projects centered around environmental change in Louisiana. She recently co-edited a book (*Scientists, Experts, and Civic Engagement*) that sets an intellectual foundation for the project she has proposed here and has co-authored articles in *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, *Sustainability*, and *Aquatic Microbial*

Ecology, along with a single-authored article in the *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*. She is well positioned to complete this work at a very high level of quality.

The proposed plan of work is entirely feasible. Since she has completed the life histories research, drafted the book's introduction and outlined the chapters, she has only to write the manuscript. Her goal of completing the writing by the end of 2018 is reasonable.

The panel strongly recommends full funding for this excellent project.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$46,837

PROPOSAL NO. 060ATL-18

Rank: 7

TITLE: “The Post/Colonial Sublime: Aesthetics, Politics, and Ethics in the Twentieth-Century Novel”

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Monroe

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Jana Giles

Dr. Giles’s project explores the nexus of aesthetics, politics, and ethics in the twentieth-century British novel, considering especially the aesthetics of the sublime in a post-colonial context. While the subject might seem dauntingly esoteric, it is not in Dr. Giles’s hands. She explores the “aesthetic turn” in post-colonial and colonial studies, addressing authors (Conrad, Forster, and Rhys in her dissertation and now adding Lindsay, Coetzee, and Ghosh) whose works exploit these tensions. The study marks a significant revision of her 2009 Cambridge dissertation. Dr. Giles’s central thesis is to demonstrate “common ideological practices across different cultural and environmental settings while emphasizing themes and variations arising out of gender, race, culture, historical, or ecological moment.” Her choice of texts, of course, is critical to the generalizability of her thesis, but she is clear about her criterion for selection: an overt concern with the sublime.

Dr. Giles has revised her proposal since it was originally submitted, based on the panel’s feedback two years ago. In so doing, she has reduced and reworked what was previously an extensive three-chapter theoretical introduction, thereby shifting her focus to the post-colonial argument regarding the works to be discussed. The panel urges her to adhere to the outline offered in the prospectus, without expanding its scope to other writers, in order to bring the project to fruition. If she does so, the project is likely to be manageable in the time envisioned. She will have two chapters to update (along with the bibliography), an introduction and conclusion to write, and final revisions to make in order to complete the book. Some research at LSU A&M and the University of Texas at Austin remains to be conducted as well.

Dr. Giles has published ten essays, has one accepted, and another two submitted; a volume published by a good university press would be a major advance in her career. Her previous work is of very good quality, and the current project promises to be a fine addition to the critical literature.

Partial funding of \$38,057 is recommended for this excellent project. Travel for research and citation checks should be eliminated. It is not a wise investment of very limited ATLAS resources, particularly as the applicant should be focused fully on moving the manuscript to publication.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$38,057

PROPOSAL NO. 016ATL-18

Rank: 8

TITLE: "Love in the Age of War: The Soldier in Menander"

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Wilfred Major

Dr. Major's project focuses attention on Greek dramatist Menander as a political playwright, by using the view attributed to soldiers as an index of ideology. By means of that approach, a principal poet of the Classical world is located within his social and political environment. Dr. Major wishes to update his ideas about how Menander's comedies fit into their socio-political context. Specifically, the argument is that his plays are most consistent with supporting Macedonian imperial control over Greece. That involves a fresh look at the ways Menander's scripts would have worked in performance in the distinctive theatrical conditions of his lifetime. The importance to anyone interested in Menander is the insight that the playwright addresses the cultural anxiety about mercenaries in his time in ways that make his plays relevant and valuable for the dialogue today about the challenges that combat soldiers face when working to adjust to civilian life. As presently conceived, the work's audience would consist of Classicists, but it has the potential to reach a wider readership.

The applicant has developed a crisp outline of the work, to include both updated versions of his previous research and fresh scholarship. Chapters will orient the reader in the importance of socio-historical context in understanding Menander, and then explain the significance of the characters and roles of soldiers in the plays. The latter focus demands attention to characters used as foils, with which Dr. Major proposes a contrast. The soldier, this work argues, exemplifies a dramatic paradigm in its own right that demands attention. Finally, reception history will help to explain why the central role of soldiers in Menander has been overlooked in the past.

Dr. Major has an exceptional record of scholarship while maintaining an impressive level of collegial and pedagogical engagement within his institution. His current project is admirably planned and the work is well in hand. Prompt completion of the work seems assured, if ATLAS support is secured.

Full funding is recommended for this excellent project.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$22,932

PROPOSAL NO. 065ATL-18

Rank: 9

TITLE: "Criminal Justice Reform in the US: Three First Steps"

INSTITUTION: University of New Orleans

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Chris Surprenant

Reform of the criminal justice system in the United States has become a critical focus of discussion across the spectrum from scholars and legal experts to the general public. Dr. Surprenant proposes to deploy a philosophical perspective with respect to the issue. He also wishes to bring insights of empirical psychology, sociology, criminology, and economics to bear, in order to diagnose problems and suggest practical solutions to an entrenched social condition. Three issues need to be addressed, in his view: the over-criminalization of behavior, the profit incentive associated with incarceration, and the overuse of imprisonment as a form of punishment. The work is conceived to address readers in the field of philosophy, but could easily be accessible to policy/practice and lay audiences.

The project, rethought since a previous ATLAS submission, is bolder and perhaps less overtly philosophical than before. Recourse to philosophy promises to focus the detailed examples that Dr. Surprenant has analyzed. These are taken from the secondary literature as a whole, as well as from contributions to a collection he recently edited. Clarification of ethical issues involved in crime and punishment are the intended result. The proposed focus on the issue of financial incentives for incarceration would be innovative, especially as analyzed philosophically. There is less reflection on how philosophy itself might be affected by considering the issue.

The applicant has been impressively active as a teacher and scholar, showing leadership in the interface between his discipline and contemporary discussion of key issues. He appears to be well prepared for the current project, and has made significant progress since the last proposal submission. The chapter list provided does not align clearly with the description of the project in the proposal, but the writing sample is excellent.

Approximately half the manuscript has been brought to submission form, while the remainder is in draft or detailed outline. Completion by the contract date with Routledge is entirely feasible. Dr. Surprenant intends to use the ATLAS grant to reinforce a non-residential fellowship grant from King's College in New York, to develop courses on criminal justice reform, which would likely be a benefit to both.

Full funding is recommended, if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$47,523

PROPOSAL NO. 038ATL-18

Rank: 10

TITLE: "Feast Days: Poems"

INSTITUTION: Southeastern Louisiana University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Alison Pelegrin

Feast Days is a collection of poetry in celebration of Louisiana's environmental, political, religious and racial realities, organized around the cycles of destruction and rebirth. The collection engages contemporary New Orleans' complex social realities through an exploration of imaginary saints and secular 'holy' days in free verse. The work engages in interesting and thought-provoking ways with many of the traditions of Louisiana and the American South. The audience would include poetry readers and readers interested in Louisiana's culture and environment. A writer with an established reputation and repertoire, Professor Pelegrin would further raise her literary profile and that of Southeastern Louisiana University through this new book.

The book-length collection proposed is a continuation of the applicant's work over the past several years—exploring an assembly of made-up saints presiding over a world of patchwork beauty and decay. Professor Pelegrin's proposal is clear and straightforward. The section on her prior publications is especially strong, and she provides a generous sampling of the work in progress, which amply demonstrates its quality. The poems provided are beautifully crafted, inventive, unpredictable, and smart. Wisely, she intends to take time to understand how her poems speak to one another as a whole, in order to determine the direction for the second half of the manuscript. The ATLAS grant would enable her to do this, and complete the manuscript for publication.

Professor Pelegrin's previous work has won several contests, she has received an NEA award in poetry, and her work has appeared in many of the leading journals in the country—*Ploughshares*, *Southern Review*, *Iowa Review*, *Black Warrior Review*, and many others. For the current project, the work plan is clearly proposed and feasible, with half of the poems complete and a well-defined plan for finishing the manuscript. Professor Pelegrin has been highly productive throughout her career, and there is every reason to expect a successful outcome to this project.

Full funding is recommended if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$30,208

PROPOSAL NO. 018ATL-18

Rank: 11

TITLE: “The Untold Story of Abe Hawkins: Horse Racing, Romanticizing, and the Myth of Privilege on Southern Plantations”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Lori Martin

Dr. Martin proposes to complete a book about a “race rider” jockey, whose biography conveys “how the system of slavery impacted the lives of persons treated as chattel on plantations.” She has chosen as a subject an individual, Abe Hawkins, who opens up debate about the relative forms of privilege in slave life on Louisiana plantations. Hawkins and his owner, Duncan Kenner, figure into shifting historical interpretations of relationships between whites and blacks during and after the Civil War. Too often this relationship has been romanticized; Dr. Martin argues that historians “mistakenly characterize the experiences of slaves, such as Abe Hawkins, as representing various forms of privilege.” Her studiously researched account aims to correct this misinterpretation. As she explains, “There is a need to unpack and address the complexity of the relationship between slave owners and slaves and this can be accomplished quite well by looking at the life of Abe Hawkins and other black jockeys.” The choice of Hawkins and Dr. Martin’s ability to orient his story in a larger context will likely make a significant contribution to the study of slave/owner relations.

A key strength of this proposal lies in the keen sense of the larger context revealed by Hawkins’ life, while another lies in the clear account of the book Dr. Martin plans to write. She delineates the book’s argument in detail and conveys its overall scope and depth. The book will deftly treat current interest in plantation life before turning to the historical particulars that disrupt romanticized images of slave life. Her approach is to frame myths pertaining to Hawkins and then subsequently dismantle their distortions through careful historical research. Hawkins’s life is revealing because he was a prominent figure in horse racing, which during antebellum America offers “a microcosm of American society, especially at it relates to intergroup relations between blacks and whites.” Dr. Martin makes the case for seeing jockeys like Hawkins, as well as black athletes, as “rebel sojourners,” “figures who traveled around the country and the globe exposing white supremacy, particularly after the Civil War.” Martin’s last chapter mirrors the book’s opening by orienting to current concerns by speaking “to perceptions about black people, including black athletes today, and the need for contemporary race riders and the challenges they face.”

Dr. Martin is an accomplished scholar. She has authored two books, co-authored another (*Pay to Play*, exploring “the linkages between the historic criminalization of black male bodies to the unwillingness to pay athletes in high-revenue generating sports”), and edited *Color Struck*, “a collection of essays about role skin tone plays in determining the life chances and opportunities.” This strong record of scholarship testifies to the likely high quality of her proposed book, work on which is well advanced. Most of the manuscript is drafted; the remaining chapters still “require a great deal of time spent in state and local archives.” Given uncertainties of archival research, this may present a challenge for Martin’s timeline, but her record of finishing major projects indicates she manages her time efficiently.

The panel recommends full funding for this project if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 037ATL-18

Rank: 12

TITLE: “Documentary Editions and Multiple Witnesses in the Age of Smartphones: John Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*”

INSTITUTION: Southeastern Louisiana University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Joel Fredell

A significant contribution to the field of digital humanities, but also to early modern literary studies, Dr. Fredell’s project would provide the “first documentary editions for a major late-medieval poem, John Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*...”—more specifically, “documentary editions for early witnesses to the three main forms of the *Confessio* in the poet’s lifetime.” These digital editions would be scaled to the small screens most in use today and would be available to the public without charge through Creative Commons licensing.

As Dr. Fredell notes in his proposal, there has been no major edition of this important work since 1901, much less a digital edition with all the features—searchability, accessibility, readability—thereof. The project could also inspire similar efforts to increase access, particularly on digital platforms, to medieval manuscript materials, which would be a boon to scholars and students across a number of disciplines.

Dr. Fredell makes a very strong, clear case for this project, explaining it in terms a layperson can understand. As an editorial project, it is an unusual ATLAS submission, but the sample is critically very well informed and argued.

The applicant is a distinguished scholar in his fields, with numerous publications in prestigious venues. Clearly a leader in digital humanities, Dr. Fredell received a coveted Leverhulme Fellowship in 2010-2011. Judging by his past work and by this proposal, the panel has no doubt that the completed project will be of very high quality and extremely useful across a spectrum of users. His experience with similar projects gives confidence that he can complete this project within the timeframe of the ATLAS award.

The panel recommends full funding if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$49,643

PROPOSAL NO. 044ATL-18

Rank: 13

TITLE: “Stray Dog in the Milky Way: Tom Zé and Brazilian Popular Music”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Christopher Dunn

Dr. Dunn proposes an analysis of the music of Tom Zé, a Brazilian popular artist associated by many with the *tropicala* movement but whose career has spanned more than five decades and whose music has evolved significantly over time. Since the re-release of some of his best early work by the label Luaka Bop, Zé has become an internationally famous musician and performer with a strong “cult” following in the United States. Because his music has always engaged explicitly with modernization, politics, structural inequality, and other social justice themes, it does seem to offer—as Dr. Dunn claims—a unique prism through which to study the relations among Brazilian art, politics, and popular culture in that long period. This will be the first monograph in any language devoted to Zé’s work, so it is certain to have a significant impact on Latin American studies and popular music studies.

Dr. Dunn’s previous work is extensive and impressive. He has already published two monographs and co-edited two volumes concerned with Brazilian popular music, not to mention several articles, including one in a leading journal in the field, *Popular Music*. The proposal for the current project lays out an unusually detailed book outline; the chapters’ subjects and their sequencing are manifestly important and logical. Dr. Dunn’s previous work, the writing sample, and the description of the project all indicate that the completed project will be of very high quality.

The applicant has completed the archival work the project requires and has published or given papers on several parts of the book-in-progress. Along with his publication record, the detailed chapter descriptions indicate that he is realistic in thinking he could complete the book in one year with ATLAS support.

The project is recommended for full funding if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 027ATL-18

Rank: 14

TITLE: “The Politics of Privation: Barack Obama and the U.S. Fiscal Situation, 2004-2017”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: William Saas

This project explores the nature of presidential discourse about economics, in particular the speeches of Barack Obama. As such, it touches a broad number of academic disciplines: rhetoric, sociology, and political science. In light of ongoing discussion in both scholarly and policy circles, as well as among the press and the general public, of the Obama administration’s approach to the U.S. and global economies, a fresh look at how the Obama presidency understood, communicated, and acted upon economic (not just fiscal) issues should be attractive to academic as well as general readers.

Dr. Saas directs his work to an academic audience, and the study assumes that the reader is conversant with economic theory as well as fiscal policy analysis. This background is essential to an understanding of how Obama framed his presentations to both citizens and Congress, especially at a time of economic crisis. Dr. Saas has largely rethought, refocused, and rewritten his previous ATLAS proposal and the result is a more concrete project that is theoretically informed and very timely. It can also lead to a second book on a related topic. His work sample, from chapter 1, is both engaging and well documented. Though the project is clearly outlined, the title, “The Politics of Privation,” does not seem to describe accurately its scope and content. The focus is rhetoric, i.e., presidential economic discourse, not economic or fiscal theory and policy. Moreover, was “privation” really as central to Obama’s framework as Dr. Saas stipulates? The language of accountability seems like a more accurate touchstone, given the Obama administration’s extensive policy directives (with Congressional support) after the financial meltdown of 2007-2008.

Dr. Saas has established a promising start to his career by publishing articles in well-regarded journals. That one chapter section has been accepted for publication in a top outlet since last year and another won a best conference paper prize speaks to the quality of the current project. The panel is somewhat concerned about the work’s accessibility, since four chapters do not seem to provide enough space to introduce the topic, establish a methodology, clearly define the historical context, and provide a summary of thirteen years of American history, including walking non-specialist readers through the thickets of Modern Monetary Theory. Words like “privation” will not have meaning without being operationally and situationally defined. The manuscript seems to need further scaffolding before the argument can ensue. Even with such an addition, however, Dr. Saas would begin the grant tenure with approximately 50% of the manuscript already drafted and his timeline for completion seems reasonable.

The proposal is recommended for full funding should additional resources become available. If funding is not available this year, the panel urges the applicant to continue working and to revise and resubmit his proposal next year.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,823

PROPOSAL NO. 030ATL-18

Rank: 15

TITLE: "Saw the Deep"

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Joshua Wheeler

Saw the Deep is a novel that takes place in the near future when a wall has been built between the U.S. and Mexico, leaving people trapped in the zone created by the wall. The project alludes to citizenship, isolationism, and a transformed America in the context of the idea of borderlands, all topics of current interest in the U.S. Unlike similar futuristic novels, the goal is to convey transcendence rather than dystopia, which will make it a welcome addition to an already extremely popular genre with a wide readership. The esteemed publisher Farrar, Straus and Giroux has already expressed interest.

The project is well conceived, combining aspects of the plot of Gilgamesh with the idea of the Chorus in Greek tragedy, which comments on the action of the play. The novel is heavily figurative and written in an amplified style reminiscent of David Foster Wallace and Denis Johnson, with Hunter Thompson as perhaps a distant relative. At the heart of the narration lies a collision between a profane world of hedonistic American values and religious transcendence, recalling Flannery O'Connor.

Professor Wheeler is hitting his professional stride; he has a series of essays published in well-regarded places as well as some fiction, criticism and interviews; his previous book received critical praise. Accordingly, this proposal and accompanying sample of work are extremely well crafted. The organization, work plan, and timeline are straightforward: the novel is in progress, and Professor Wheeler needs time to finish. Given the nature of this project, his decision to include writing samples from two different genres was illuminating.

With Farrar, Straus and Giroux about to publish one book and prepared to consider another, the applicant seems intent upon keeping his schedule. If past performance is a valid measure, there is a strong likelihood that the project will be successfully completed in the near term and draw critical and popular attention upon publication.

The panel recommends full funding if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$48,642

PROPOSAL NO. 050ATL-18

Rank: 16

TITLE: “An Investigation of the Ferguson Effect and How Publicized Events Impact Behaviors of Law Enforcement and Criminals”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Wei Long

Dr. Long is seeking ATLAS support for a coauthored paper on the policing, trust, and crime effects of highly publicized police use-of-force incidents. He will employ sophisticated econometric methods that exploit patterns in data arising from the 2014 fatal shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. The resulting paper will contribute to two literatures within the economics discipline: urban economics and the economics of crime. The primary audiences include both academic economists and policy-oriented scholars and policymakers in the criminal justice field, though the work could attract media attention. The topic is timely and of great practical importance.

The project is well conceptualized and clearly organized, and the plans for project execution have been carefully considered. Dr. Long’s proposal outlines well what he is seeking to achieve, and it is clear that his project is important and worthy of funding. The narrative is could be more sharply focused and the writing carefully edited to show the project and its importance to best advantage.

Dr. Long holds a PhD in Economics from Texas A&M and joined Tulane as an assistant professor in 2015. Relative to the stage of his career, his list of publications is impressive. His publication record shows that he began by doing econometrics-in-the-abstract (a co-authored article of his appeared in the *Journal of Econometrics*, which is a leading econometrics journal) and recently has pivoted to applying econometrics methods to the topic of crime. The proposed project fits nicely into his career trajectory, and he appears likely to be able to finish if release time can be provided by ATLAS.

The panel recommends this project for full funding should additional resources be available. If the project cannot be funded in this cycle, the panel suggests that Dr. Long revise and resubmit the project in the next ATLAS cycle. If he decides to revise and resubmit, Dr. Long should include a more detailed description of how sophisticated econometrics methods make a difference for extracting information from and understanding police use-of-force incidents. In other words, if we just casually look at the data and then we apply sophisticated econometric methods to that same data, what is the value added of the latter approach? What is the nature of the “hiddenness” of the information that requires sophisticated econometric methods?

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 032ATL-18

Rank: 17

TITLE: “Fictions of Territoriality: Legal and Literary Narratives of Race, Geography, and US Empire”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Sunny Yang

Dr. Yang plans to study the ways in which literary texts propose new (anti-hegemonic) conceptions of citizenship in four “‘contestation zones’, or spaces where hegemonic U.S. understandings of race, geography, and governance were forced to confront at least one other competing system of sovereignty (e.g. British, Spanish, Californio, Native American, etc.)” The study of U.S. empire is now a well-established subfield in U.S. literary and cultural studies, and this project promises to make a major contribution by focusing on the ways in which inventive conceptions of U.S. citizenship emerged from the collision between the U.S. empire, with its own notion of citizenship, and competing notions in a range of locations.

This is an elegantly conceived and rigorously and creatively developed project. Especially impressive is the way in which Dr. Yang has designed each chapter as having a two-part structure, which will pay off both by allowing readers easily to compare one chapter with another and by sustaining the ‘conversation’ between archives.

The applicant has a demonstrated ability to win grant support for this project, which certainly attests to its quality. As well, her description of the project and her ATLAS application as a whole are meticulously thorough, clear, and compelling. The panel notes, however, that the project was nearing completion a year ago. On the one hand, this augurs well for it being completed within the year of funding that Dr. Yang projects in the proposal; on the other hand, the panel wonders whether a full year of funding is actually necessary at this point. The proposal did not clearly answer this question or make a strong case for the release time requested.

The proposal is recommended for partial funding should additional resources become available; the request for attendance at a book manuscript workshop is not appropriate for a scholarly grant and should be eliminated. If funding is not available this year and the work is still substantially in progress during the next cycle, the panel urges the applicant to continue working and to revise and resubmit the proposal with a full discussion of the work that remains and a timeline for completion.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,929

PROPOSAL NO. 057ATL-18

Rank: 18

TITLE: “Exploring Time, Metaphor, and Language”

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Michele Feist

Dr. Feist proposes a wide-ranging theoretical treatment of the metaphoric representation of time, one that draws on its connections to the domain of space but also on its reliance on the embodied mental simulation of the language user. Of all the metaphors that ground or inform human cognition, “time is space” is a central interest of cognitive scientists, psychologists, and linguists. Referencing time involves simulating physical experiences, often at the cost of understanding temporal dynamics more abstractly. There are analytical concerns here about “the metaphoric representation of time which draws not only on its connections to the source domain of space, but also on its connections to the embodied mental simulation of the language user.” Dr. Feist plans a collaborative approach that will generate theoretical advances leading to “new insights into the processing of metaphor and, by extension, into the interpretation of language.”

Dr. Feist’s proposal rests upon a great deal of collaborative work conducted over the past six years, which has already resulted in articles in top-tier journals. She envisions a book that conveys a theory of metaphor in relation to cognitive systems concerned with mapping space to time, yet also exploring larger philosophical concerns related to “the intrusion of space on temporal thinking.” These are big ideas, deeply researched and rendered in an accessible manner. She describes a well-developed intellectual foundation for the co-authored monograph and effectively sketches the overarching thematic coherence of the volume, while also detailing the content and argument of individual chapters. Each chapter draws upon a considerable amount of material, ranging from synthetic treatment of various literature to original perspectives generated by Dr. Feist and her co-author. The final product promises “to expand upon prior theories of metaphor to produce a novel perspective on the metaphoric representation of time.”

Dr. Feist has a solid record of publications, featuring both single-authored and collaborative articles in scholarly journals. She has presented the research in international forums and developed a well-earned reputation for her work on motion language and cognition. Her collaborative work extends her range of expertise and also affirms the quality and strength of her core intellectual concerns. The data required for this project are already assembled, and Dr. Feist has a contract with Cambridge University Press. The remaining work to see this project through to publication can be completed during the grant period, and the proposal breaks down the preparation of the monograph into six short phases, each clearly feeding into the next, culminating in the completed volume.

The panel recommends full funding if additional resources become available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 028ATL-18

Rank: 19

TITLE: “Publication of an Online Database of Colonial Maps for the Analysis of Social and Environmental Change in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Andrew Sluyter

Dr. Sluyter’s project will produce an online analytical database and front-end website with interactive features for accessing Louisiana’s colonial land survey maps. There is a great deal of archival material (particularly maps) on land-use patterns in Louisiana, potentially bearing on “our understanding of differences in the acquisition and use of land by people of African, French, Spanish, English, German, and mixed origin.” The problem is accessing this material and navigating it in a comprehensive manner. Dr. Sluyter envisions that colonial maps can offer insights into a significant array of subjects and concerns, including “environmental changes such as coastal erosion, social changes such as ethnic settlement patterns, political changes related to territorial integration, family genealogy, and other topics.” The database he aims to produce will likely be of great interest to historians, geographers, and anthropologists, though its full significance can only be judged by use over time by scholars and students.

The matter of conceptualization and organization here is less intellectual than technical: digitizing large quantities of historical materials. In that regard, the project is well organized. Dr. Sluyter has targeted some 1,400 colonial maps and discerned their possible relevance to researchers; and he has diagnosed a notable problem: “The Louisiana Digital Library does not have any analytical functionality...and cannot perform the analyses necessary to use the survey maps and documents to understand spatial-temporal patterns of colonial land acquisition and use by people of varied ethnic origins.” The project aims to address this deficiency by georeferencing already-scanned items in GIS so they relate readily to modern base maps, while also translating text features and making all this available through an open-access website. The project has a well-aligned problem and defined digital solution.

Dr. Sluyter is an accomplished historian of the Atlantic world, with an impressive record of publication, which includes a book with Yale University Press based upon research supported by a previous ATLAS grant. Importantly for the current work, he is digitally dexterous and astute, as manifest in such online projects as *Hispanic and Latino New Orleans* and *The Atlantic Network Project*, which was supported by a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies. This record attests to the likely high quality of this finished project, and his preparation for the work.

Dr. Sluyter’s plan for the ATLAS period is ambitious but based on a good deal of previous digitizing work. There remain the tasks of locating and scanning 1,000 land grants (the Pintado Papers) and developing the web platform for *Landscape Louisiane*. He has sketched out a reasonable schedule of “tasks to be completed,” which indicates he is likely to complete this project within the grant’s timeframe.

The panel recommends full funding for this project, if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

APPENDIX E

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

I. Final Panel

Nicholas Bromell
Professor
Department of English
University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Susanne Lohmann
Professor
Departments of Political Science and Public Policy and Program on Human Complex Systems
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
Distinguished Writer in Residence
Northwestern University

Cora Cohen
Independent Artist
New York City

III. Humanities Subject-Area Panel

Nicholas Bromell, Chair
Professor
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 Emerita
Department of French and Francophone Studies
Penn State University

James Sheehan
Dickason Professor in the Humanities
Department of History
Stanford University

IV. Social Sciences Subject-Area Panel

Susanne Lohmann, Chair
Professor
Departments of Political Science and Public Policy and Program on Human Complex Systems
University of California – Los Angeles

John Hartigan
Professor
Department of Anthropology and Americo Paredes Center for Cultural Studies
University of Texas at Austin

APPENDIX F

**AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS) SUBPROGRAM
FY 2017-18
SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

65 TOTAL PROPOSALS

31	HUM	Humanities
19	SOC SCI	Social Sciences
15	ARTS	Arts

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: \$2,939,973

**Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) Program
FY 2017-18 Competition
Proposals Submitted**

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
001ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Kelly McDade	BPCC	BPCC Creative Placemaking Program	\$50,000
002ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Jesse Allison	LSU A&M	Social Music, Distributed Performance, and the Concert of Tomorrow	\$49,840
003ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Jeremiah Ariaz	LSU A&M	Louisiana Trail Riders	\$45,016
004ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Lynne Baggett	LSU A&M	Letterform Characters: From Stone Carver to Type Designer. Traveling Exhibition Graphics and Catalog Publication	\$47,541
005ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Jacob Berman	LSU A&M	Citizen, Soldier, Jihadi: The War on Terror's Fictions	\$50,000
006ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Michael Bibler	LSU A&M	Silly Pleasures: Queer, Camp, Nonce, and the Art of Being Literal	\$50,000
007ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Jason Crow	LSU A&M	Architectural Representations: A Compendium on the Use of Drawings, Models and Computers	\$35,600
008ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Serap Erincin	LSU A&M	Reperforming the Classics: Performance, Technology, and Reperformability in the Work of the Wooster Group	\$48,140
009ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Zack Godshall	LSU A&M	Thomas, a film	\$48,126

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
010ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Nathan Kalmoe	LSU A&M	With Ballots & Bullets: Partisanship and Violence in the American Civil War	\$50,000
011ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Kelli Kelley	LSU A&M	Heroes and Monsters	\$48,560
012ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Nina Lam	LSU A&M	Assessing and Enhancing Community Resilience to Coastal Hazards: Methods and Applications	\$50,000
013ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Isiah Lavender III	LSU A&M	Afrofuturism Classics	\$26,433
014ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Alecia Long	LSU A&M	Crimes Against Nature: Sex, Violence, and the Search for Conspirators in the Assassination of JFK	\$28,290
015ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Ashley Noel Mack	LSU A&M	American Moms: Twenty-First Century Hegemonic Motherhood in the United States	\$45,935
016ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Wilfred Major	LSU A&M	Love in the Age of War: The Soldier in Menander	\$22,932
017ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Brian Marks	LSU A&M	Socio-economic effects of the BP oil spill	\$23,592
018ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Lori Martin	LSU A&M	The Untold Story of Abe Hawkins: Horse Racing, Romanticizing, and the Myth of Privilege on Southern Plantations	\$50,000

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
019ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Kent Mathewson	LSU A&M	From Afro-Diasporic Weed to WMD: The Curious Case of the Castor Bean Plant	\$50,000
020ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Heather McKillop	LSU A&M	Presenting the Ancient Maya in 3D	\$50,000
021ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Andrea Morris	LSU A&M	Im/mobility and Belonging in Contemporary Dominican and Cuban Cultures	\$45,557
022ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Hye Yeon Nam	LSU A&M	Sorry Dave, I am afraid	\$44,969
023ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Ana Maria Otamendi	LSU A&M	Commissioning, recording and performing Latin American piano trios	\$41,485
024ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Pallavi Rastogi	LSU A&M	Postcolonial Disaster: Narrating the Catastrophe in the 21 st Century	\$50,000
025ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Maria Rethelyi	LSU A&M	A Documentary History of Jewish Life in Modern Hungary	\$50,000
026ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Malcolm Richardson	LSU A&M	Vernacular Writing and Rhetoric in the London Legal Profession in London, 1292-c. 1550	\$49,975
027ATL-18 HUMANITIES	William Saas	LSU A&M	The Politics of Privation: Barack Obama and the U.S. Fiscal Situation, 2004-2017	\$44,823

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
028ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Andrew Sluyter	LSU A&M	Publication of an Online Database of Colonial Maps for the Analysis of Social and Environmental Change in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries	\$50,000
029ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Christopher Sullivan	LSU A&M	Why not rebel? The micro-foundations of political order	\$47,822
030ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Joshua Wheeler	LSU A&M	Saw the Deep	\$48,642
031ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Yejun Wu	LSU A&M	Classifying English Verb Phrases as Semantic Relations	\$50,000
032ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Sunny Yang	LSU A&M	Fictions of Territoriality: Legal and Literary Narratives of Race, Geography, and US Empire	\$47,176
033ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Michelle Zerba	LSU A&M	Modern Odysseys: Reading Homer with C.P. Cavafy, Virginia Woolf, and Aimé Césaire	\$39,443
034ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Gang Zhou	LSU A&M	Translating Souths: A Search for Translators	\$50,000
035ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Frank Hamrick	Louisiana Tech	Production of a photography monograph	\$49,980

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
036ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	John Biguenet	Loyola University New Orleans	Fiction and Drama: The Blockbuster & Unringing the Bell	\$50,000
037ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Joel Fredell	Southeastern LA University	Documentary Editions and Multiple Witnesses in the Age of Smartphones: John Gower's Confessio Amantis	\$49,643
038ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Alison Pelegrin	Southeastern LA University	Feast Days: Poems	\$30,208
039ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Katherine Adams	Tulane	Reconstructing Value: Cotton Culture and Blackness after Emancipation	\$50,000
040ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Daniel Burnston	Tulane	Intentions, Biology, and Intentional Action	\$47,647
041ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Patrick Button	Tulane	Age Stereotypes and Age Discrimination: Evidence from Field Experiments	\$50,000
042ATL-18 HUMANITIES	John Charles	Tulane	Andean Christianity after the General Resettlement: Viceroy Francisco de Toledo's Church Reform in Colonial Peru [1569-1581]	\$47,374
043ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Emily Clark	Tulane	Noel Carriere's Liberty: From Slave to Soldier in Colonial New Orleans	\$50,000

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
044ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Christopher Dunn	Tulane	Stray Dog in the Milky Way: Tom Zé and Brazilian Popular Music	\$50,000
045ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Maura Kathryn Edwards	Tulane	Reforming the Republican Empire: French Indochina and the Popular Front	\$40,800
046ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Patrick Egan	Tulane	Global Production and the Politics of Monetary Policy	\$41,922
047ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Allison Emmerson	Tulane	Death, Pollution, and the Making of Roman Cities	\$40,802
048ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Thomas Johnson	Tulane	Rhetoric, Race, and Revolution: Contexts for Mark Essex	\$50,000
049ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Amy Lesen	Tulane	Oral Histories of Scientists at the Boundary: Interdisciplinarity, Public Engagement, and Transformation	\$46,837
050ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Wei Long	Tulane	An Investigation of the Ferguson Effect and How Publicized Events Impact Behaviors of Law Enforcement and Criminals	\$50,000
051ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Jason Nesbitt	Tulane	Chavín de Huántar and its Neighbors: Reconsidering the Chavín Phenomenon	\$43,399
052ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Oliver Sensen	Tulane	Kant's Categorical Imperative: A Philosophical Justification for the Requirement to Respect Others	\$48,622

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
053ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Benjamin Sperisen	Tulane	Optimal Policy Under Collusion	\$50,000
054ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Chad Van Schoelandt	Tulane	Moral Norms: A Philosophic Account	\$45,922
055ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Michele White	Tulane	Touch/Screen/Theory Monograph Proposal	\$50,000
056ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Ferruh Yilmaz	Tulane	Media, Crisis and Populist Success	\$49,570
057ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Michele Feist	UL Lafayette	Exploring Time, Metaphor, and Language	\$50,000
058ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Randy Gonzales	UL Lafayette	St. Malo, and Other Poems on Filipino Louisiana	\$37,830
059ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Lena Suk	UL Lafayette	Girls' Night Out: Gender, Cinema, and Movie-Going in Brazil	\$20,912
060ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Jana Giles	UL Monroe	The Post/Colonial Sublime: Aesthetics, Politics, and Ethics in the Twentieth-Century Novel	\$49,301
061ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Richard Goodman	UNO	An Anthology of Environmental Writing about the Gulf South	\$35,485

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
062ATL-18 SOCIAL SCIENCES	D. Gray	UNO	New Orleans Archaeology at the Tricentennial	\$44,570
063ATL-18 CREATIVE ARTS	Yotam Haber	UNO	The Voice Imitator: a chamber opera	\$50,000
064ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Frank Schalow	UNO	A Philosophical Approach to the Study of Addiction	\$41,729
065ATL-18 HUMANITIES	Chris Surprenant	UNO	Criminal Justice Reform in the US: Three First Steps	\$47,523

2017-18 COMPETITION: SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

NUMBER OF PROPOSALS: 65

Creative Arts: 15

Humanities: 31

Social Sciences: 19