

Charles Phelps Taft Research Center
at the University of Cincinnati
Collections Purchase Application

Each section (I-IV) should be placed at the start of a new page. All required materials must be included in a single document, uploaded to the electronic submissions system, no later than 5PM on the published day of the deadline. Intradepartmental review is required for this program. Applicants should submit their application with enough time to receive intradepartmental review prior to the close of the deadline. Taft does not accept an obligation to review applications that have not received intradepartmental review by the close of the deadline.

I. General Information

- a. Name: **Erika Gasser**
- b. M#: **0xxxxxxx**
- c. Department: **History**
- d. Position: **Assistant Professor**
- e. Author/Editor/Compiler: **[Readex]**
- f. Title of Requested Materials: **1. Evans Supplement from the Library Company of Philadelphia [LCP] 2. Evans Supplement from the American Antiquarian Society [AAS]**
- g. Publisher/Distributor: **Readex**
- h. Date of Publication: **2010- [Series 1, Supplement from the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1670-1800] / 2015- [Series 1, Supplement from the American Antiquarian Society, 1652-1800]**
- i. Edition: **Digital continuously updated**
- j. Format: **Digital**
- k. Series: **Archive of America**
- l. Price: **1. \$17,307 2. \$25,535**
- m. ISBN/ISSN: **N/A**
- n. OCLC# (if known): **646199431 [LCP] / 905721988 [AAS]**
- o. Place of Publication: **Naples, Fla.**
- p. Other Funding Applied For or Received for This Project (list source and amounts requested and awarded): **\$7,842.00 from Library pending Taft purchase approval**

- q. Is this a joint application? If “Yes” complete the following section for all participating faculty. **Yes**

II. Taft Grant History:

Please list your grant history with Taft for the last 5 years, in reverse chronological order. Please list project title, the name, date, and amount of award, as well as development of the project subsequent to the grant, e.g. publication.

1. **Taft Center Research Fellow** for “Manhood, Possession, and Witchcraft in Old and New England,” Mar 2013-May 2014. The Center Research Fellowship provided the time and space I needed to write and revise my book manuscript, which I subsequently submitted to publishers; the manuscript is currently out for review.
2. **Taft Conference Travel Grant**, for two conference presentations: “Power, Agency, and Ambivalence in Anglo-American Witchcraft,” at the annual meeting of the *National Women’s Studies Association* in Cincinnati, OH and “‘Thou Shalt Not Speak Evil of the Ruler of thy People’: Contesting Manhood after the Essex County Witchcraft Trials,” at the *Southern Association of American Studies*, Charleston, SC; Fall 2013, \$521.70 and \$180.00 (total: \$701.70).
3. **Taft Summer Research Grant** for “Witchcraft and Possession before Salem: New England Cases, 1640-1660,” Summer 2012, \$8,000. The grant allowed me to pursue research in Massachusetts that helped me lay the foundation for the revision of my book manuscript.
4. **Taft Conference Travel Grant** in support of two conference presentations: “1776 in California: the De Anza Expedition and Colonial ‘America’” at *The National Council for the Social Studies* and “‘The Refuse of the Whole Creation’: Manhood, Misogyny, and Race in Anglo-Caribbean Travel Narratives” at “Race, Gender, and Sexualities in the Atlantic World,” the Program in the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World’s 2012 conference; Spring 2012, \$700. My paper from the second conference has been solicited for publication in an edited volume slated for publication with the University of South Carolina Press.

III. Project Proposal

We are applying for the funds to purchase two updated primary source databases: *Early American Imprints, Series I: Supplement from the American Antiquarian Society, 1652-1800* and *Early American Imprints, Series II: Supplement from the American Antiquarian Society, 1801-1819*. Both supplements represent a major expansion of what is the premiere resource of American history documents before 1819, containing over 2,250 early books, pamphlets, broadsides, personal and captivity narratives, criminal confessions, poetry, speeches, military records, regional histories, maps, and musical scores. These supplemental resources are not currently available to University of Cincinnati scholars or students, and they cannot be attained via OhioLink or other loaning networks. While scholars of early America in History, English, Political Science, Religious Studies, Sociology, and Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies have long relied upon the Evans collection, and its companion archive the Shaw-Shoemaker, these supplements contain significant new material. We hope to gain the necessary funds to support the purchase of both collections because they will have a profound effect on the ability of faculty and students in a variety of academic disciplines at the

University of Cincinnati to produce scholarship representing the fullest possible picture of early American life.

The Evans Collection draws from the archive at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts, a major independent research library that contains more than two-thirds of all known material created in America before 1821. The first supplement we hope to acquire includes 750 new and previously unavailable imprints the early holdings from 1652-1800, and the second supplement provides over 1,500 imprints printed between 1801-1819. Both these databases are integrated into Readex's *America's Historical Imprints* site, which allows for browsing and cross-searching. For scholars of Colonial America and the Early American Republic, these sources offer an unparalleled opportunity to access rare and unique items that will enrich our understandings of myriad aspects of early American cultures, literatures, religions, governments, and histories.

In the History department, Wayne Durrill and I already have concrete plans for work in these supplemental databases, and it is very likely that other faculty working in nineteenth-century American history will as well. Robert Arner of the department of English & Comparative Literature has also contributed a letter in support of this purchase [*Professor Arner was not able to send an abbreviated C.V. and I was uncomfortable with the prospect of editing it myself, so I have included his materials as I received them at the end of the application file*]. In addition to the databases' potential use in undergraduate classes, there are at least three graduate students who use the existing Evans collection extensively, and would benefit from the new materials. I asked one of these graduate students, Michael Rehm, to submit a letter and have included it below.

Because these collections will provide unprecedented access to these noted archives, we believe that the advantage gained by the university exceeds the cost. At \$17,307 and \$25,535, respectively, the total cost for the collections is \$42,842, \$7,842 of which the University Library will bear pending Taft approval. The History Department's DARS balance for the 2015/2016 academic year is \$3,000 plus \$1,297 in DARS rollover, which comes to a total of \$4,297. To my knowledge, and having checked with Sean Keating in Taft and with Chris Phillips (History's Department Head), no additional expenditures have been made against the Taft Departmental Allocated Research Support funds this year.

IV. Curriculum Vitae

Please include here a current (updated within the last month) curriculum vitae of no more than two pages for each faculty member benefiting from the purchase, along with support letters from those faculty.

(See below)

ERIKA GASSER, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of History
University of Cincinnati; P.O. Box 210373
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0373
(513) 556-2173 • erika.gasser@uc.edu

EDUCATION:

- Sep 1999-Aug 2007 **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Ph.D. in History and Women's Studies, May 2007
M.A. History, Dec, 2000
- Sep 1990-May 1994 **Brown University**, Providence, RI
B.A. American History and B.A. Educational Studies (Honors)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Sep 1, 2011-present **Assistant Professor of History, University of Cincinnati**
Courses: U.S. History I to 1877; Historical Thought and Methods; Witchcraft and Religion in Early America; Gender in Britain and North America, 1600-1850; Senior Seminar: Conflict and Rebellion in Early America. Graduate Seminars: Literatures of Early America; Comparative Seminar in Atlantic Histories, Graduate Teaching Practicum (co-taught), Directed Readings
- Sep 2007-Aug 2011 **Assistant Professor of History, California State University-Sacramento**
Courses: U.S. History, 1607-1877; Introduction to Historical Skills; Colonial America; Age of the American Revolution; Young Republic, 1790-1840; Women in Britain and North America, 1600-1850; Senior Seminar: Methods and Sources in Native American History. Graduate seminar: Gender, Religion, and Power in Colonial America
- Sep 2005-Dec 2005 **Instructor, University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Course: Contact, Captivity, Religion, Slavery: Early American Gender History
- Sep 2000-May 2004 **Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Courses: History of Witchcraft; Introduction to Women's Studies; Survey of U.S. History to 1865; History of the Family in the U.S.
- Sep 1996-June 1999 **History/Social Studies Teacher, Andover High School**, Andover, MA
Courses: World Civilizations (ninth grade); U.S. History (tenth grade)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

- Out for Review **Book manuscript:** "Vexed with Devils: Manhood, Demonic Possession, and Witchcraft in Old and New England"
- Forthcoming **Journal article:** "Witchcraft, Possession, and the Unmaking of Women and Men: A Late Sixteenth-Century English Case Study" in *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*, Vol. 11, No. 2 (Fall 2016)
- Forthcoming **Chapter:** "'The Refuse of the Whole Creation': Manhood, Misogyny, and Race in an Anglo-Caribbean Travel Narrative," in Stephen R. Berry and Laura R. Prieto, eds. *Race, Gender, and Sexualities in the Atlantic World*, University of South Carolina Press

- Forthcoming **Review** of Francis Timbers, *Magic and Masculinity: Ritual Magic and Gender in the Early Modern Era* (I.B. Taurus, 2014) for *Preternature: Critical and Historical Studies on the Preternatural*
- Forthcoming **Dual Review** of Ann Marie Plane, *Dreams and the Invisible World in Colonial New England: Indians, Colonists, and the Seventeenth Century* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014) and Christopher Pastore, *Between Land and Sea: The Atlantic Coast and the Transformation of New England* (Harvard, 2014) for the *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*
- Oct 2014 **Review** of Philip C. Almond, *England's First Demonologist: Reginald Scot & 'The Discoverie of Witchcraft'* for *Preternature: Critical and Historical Studies on the Preternatural*, Vol. 3, No. 2 (2014), 408-413.
- Oct 2012 **Chapter**: "Samuel Harsnett, John Darrell, and the Use of Gender as an English Possession Propaganda Strategy, 1599-1603" in Richard Raiswell and Peter Dendle, eds., *The Devil in Society in the Premodern World* (Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, University of Toronto, 2012).

RECENT CONFERENCES:

- Nov 12-15, 2015 "Precarious Disciplinarity: Early Modern Studies, Feminist Scholarship, and Histories of Gender" at the *National Women's Studies Association* conference, Milwaukee WI
- Oct 1-3, 2015 "A Minister, a Merchant, and an Indian: Competing Discursive Masculinities after Salem," *Ohio Valley History Conference*, Eastern Kentucky University
- Nov 7-10, 2013 "Power, Agency, and Ambivalence in Anglo-American Witchcraft," at the *National Women's Studies Association* conference, Cincinnati, OH
- Jan 31-Feb 3, 2013 "'Thou Shalt Not Speak Evil of the Ruler of thy People': Contesting Manhood after the Essex County Witchcraft Trials," at *Southern Association of American Studies*, Charleston, SC

RECENT AWARDS:

- Mar 2013-May 2014 **Taft Center Research Fellow**, Charles Phelps Taft Research Center, Cincinnati, OH
- Fall 2013 **Taft Conference Travel Grant**, to present at the 2013 annual meeting of the *National Women's Studies Association*, Cincinnati, OH and the *Southern Association of American Studies*, Charleston, SC
- Jan 2013 **Faculty Development Research Grant**, University Research Council, University of Cincinnati
- Summer 2012 **Taft Summer Research Grant**, Charles Phelps Taft Research Center, Cincinnati, OH
- Spring 2012 **Taft Conference Travel Grant**, for the *National Council of the Social Studies* in Washington, D.C. and the *Program in the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World* in Charleston, SC.



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October 16, 2015

Charles Phelps Taft Research Center
University of Cincinnati
Edwards I, Suite 1110
PO Box 210369
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0369

To the Research Support Fund/Collections Committee:

I am writing, along with Sally Moffitt of the University Library, to apply for the Taft Center's Research Support Fund in hopes of purchasing supplemental databases of primary sources from two of the nation's premier archives of early American material. These collections, the Evans Supplement from the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Evans Supplement from the American Antiquarian Association, include extensive collections of religious texts, literary works, maps, broadsides, political tracts, and magazines and newspapers. In addition to supporting my own historical work, these databases make it possible for my graduate students to do original research. Because of the breadth of the holdings, they are likely to serve researchers in a variety of disciplines, such as English, Sociology, Political Science, and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies.

I know that I will benefit personally from having access to these expanded collections, particularly as I will cast a wide net for eighteenth-century documents that will provide the foundation of my second major research project. And, as I continue to develop my undergraduate and graduate courses in Colonial American History these sorts of databases make it possible to assign the kinds of targeted research assignments that enhance students' skills as well as content knowledge. I also currently have three graduate students who use the Evans and related databases extensively; given the challenges and expense of traveling to these archives in person, this electronic access is crucial to their success.

The Evans database is a particularly important early American archive, and being able to access its newly updated supplements will enable me and other faculty and students to produce work that reflects the most current knowledge about the field. Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,
Erika Gasser



To: Taft Research Committee Members
From: Sally Moffitt, Bibliographer for Africana Studies, Anthropology, Asian Studies, History, Judaic Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Cohen Library Enrichment Collection
Re.: Taft Collections Request
Date: October 20, 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally Moffitt".

Dear Professors Allen, Hogeland, and Zhang:

I am writing to support the requests of Professors Gasser and Durrill for acquisition of two supplements to *Early American Imprints*, the digital edition of the publications listed by Charles Evans in his monumental *American Bibliography: a Chronological Dictionary of all Books, Pamphlets and Periodical Publications Printed in the United States of America from the Genesis of Printing in 1639 Down to and Including the Year 1800; with Bibliographical and Biographical Notes* (14 volumes, 1903-1959), a work still considered the most important general listing of early American publications. First supplemented in 1962 by Roger Bristol, who added another 11,200 entries to Evans' original work, the Readex Company has now issued two additional supplements to *Early American Imprints*, their digital edition of the publications listed by Evans and Bristol. These two supplements digitize works from the collections of the Library Company of Philadelphia and the American Antiquarian Society, both renowned for their holdings of early Americana.

These newly digitized items consist of publications listed by Evans or Bristol, copies of which could not be located for digitization at the time Readex issued *Early American Imprints*, as well as works missed by Evans and Bristol, including variant editions along with newly discovered titles printed in the United States before 1801. Taken together these two digital supplements add some 3,300 items covering all aspects of 17th and 18th century America, as may be seen by these sample listings of genres and subjects:

Genres:

Addresses, Allegories, Almanacs, Anthologies, Ballads, Biographies, Booksellers' catalogs, Broad­sides, Campaign Literature, Captivity Narratives, Catechisms, Cautionary tales, Chapbooks, Devotional literature, Elegies, Fables, Folk tales, Hymnals, Juvenile literature, Letters, Libretti, Maps, Nautical Charts, Novels, Plays, Poems, Prayers, Primers, Psalters, Questions and answers, Quotations, Readers, Satires, Sermons, Sheet music, Songs, Spellers, Textbooks, Trade catalogs, and Treaties.

Subjects:

Agriculture, Economics and Trade, Education, Geographic Names, Government, Health, Historic Events, Indian Affairs, Labor, Languages, Law and Crime, Literature, Military, Peoples, Personal Names, Philosophy, Politics, Religion, Science and Technology, Slavery and Race Relations, Society, Manners, and Customs, and Theology.

It should also be noted that Evans, Bristol, and now the Readex Company include any work printed in the United States between 1639 and 1800 regardless of language. As a consequence there are works not only in English but also in Dutch, French, German, Italian, and Spanish.

The price of these two supplemental collections is:

Early American Imprints, Series 1, Supplement from the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1670-1800= \$17,307

Early American Imprints, Series 1, Supplement from the American Antiquarian Society, 1652-1800=\$25,535

University of Cincinnati Libraries will contribute \$7,842 towards the purchase of these two supplements.

MARC records come with these supplements. MARC records are electronic records that are loaded into the library's catalog. MARC records allow researchers to discover individual items contained in the *Early American Imprints* database through normal searching of the library's catalog using author, title, keywords, and subjects. MARC records add another discovery layer beyond searching within the database itself.

Addition of the new material from the Library Company of Philadelphia and from the American Antiquarian Society to the basic *Early American Imprints* database strengthens and adds depth to the library's collections in areas that support historical research in a number of fields such as history, education, music, philosophy, history of science, literary studies, politics, and race and ethnic studies. *Early American Imprints* compliments and supplements the *Sabin Americana* database which includes the digitized contents of Joseph Sabin's *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America from its Discovery to the Present Time* (29 volumes, 1868-1936), a work that extended coverage beyond the United States to include items printed in the Western Hemisphere from 1500 to 1926. Ralph Shaw's and Richard Shoemaker's *American Bibliography: a Preliminary Checklist for 1801-1819* (22 volumes 1958-1966), the contents of which are digitized as *Early American Imprints, Series II Shaw-Shoemaker (1801-1819)*, builds on Evans expanding coverage into the Federal Period. Together these databases, with the inclusion of the two new Evans supplements, raise the level of the library's research holdings of early American imprints and add to our ability to provide an unequalled depth of primary source materials for the University's research scholars and their students.

WAYNE K. DURRILL

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Email: Wayne.Durrill@uc.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., 1987; M.A., 1980, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
Master of Arts in Teaching, 1976; B.A., 1975, Northwestern University.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professor, History Department, University of Cincinnati, 2006- .
Associate Professor, History Department, University of Cincinnati, 1994-2006.
Co-editor, *Ohio Valley History*, 2000-05.
Fulbright Scholar, University of Cape Town, South Africa, Jan.-Dec. 1996.
Assistant Professor, History Department, University of Cincinnati, 1990-1994.
Assistant Editor, Freedmen and Southern Society Project, University of Maryland, 1987-1990. Formerly directed by Ira Berlin, the Project produces *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation*.

PUBLICATIONS—BOOK

War of Another Kind: A Southern Community in the Great Rebellion. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990; paperback, 1994.

PUBLICATIONS—ARTICLES and CHAPTERS

- “Nat Turner and Signs of the Apocalypse,” *Varieties of Southern Religious History: Essays in Honor of Donald G. Mathews*, Regina D. Sullivan and Monte Harrell, eds. (University of South Carolina Press, 2014), pp. 77-93.
- “Becoming Refined: Market Society and Academic Reputation in the Early American Republic,” *Nineteenth Century American History* 9 (2008): 121-37.
- “Ritual, Community and War: Local Flag Presentation Ceremonies and Disunity in the Early Confederacy.” *Journal of Social History* 38 (2006): 146-64.
- “Political Legitimacy and Local Courts: ‘Politicks at Such a Rage’ in a Southern Community during Reconstruction.” *Journal of Southern History* 70 (2004): 577-602.
- “A Tale of Two Courthouses: Civic Space, Political Power, and Capitalist Development in a New South Community, 1843-1940.” *Journal of Social History* 35 (2002): 657-81.
- “Shaping a Settler Elite: Students, Competition, and Leadership at South African College, 1829-1895.” *Journal of African History* 41 (2000): 221-39.
- “The Power of Ancient Words: Classical Teaching and Social Change at South Carolina College, 1801-1860.” *Journal of Southern History* 65 (1999): 469-98.
- “New Schooling for a New South: A Community Study of Education and Social Change, 1875-1885.” *Journal of Social History* 31 (1997): 156-81.
- “Routine of Seasons: Labour Regimes and Social Ritual in an Antebellum Plantation Community.” *Slavery and Abolition* 16 (1995): 161-87.
- “Slavery, Kinship, and Dominance: The Black Community at Somerset Place Plantation, 1786-1860.” *Slavery and Abolition* 13 (1992): 1-19.
- “Atrocious Misery: The African Origins of Famine in Northern Somalia, 1839-1884.” *American Historical Review* 91 (1986): 287-306.

“Producing Poverty: Local Government and Economic Development in a New South County, 1874-1884.” *Journal of American History* 71 (1985): 764-81.

PUBLICATIONS—EDITED

Ohio Valley History, 2000-05. *Co-edited with Christopher Phillips, OVH is a refereed scholarly journal with a circulation of about 6,000. It is published quarterly and co-sponsored by UC, the Cincinnati Museum Center, and the Filson Historical Society in Louisville.*

AWARDS

University Faculty Achievement Award, University of Cincinnati, 1997. For excellence in research.

Louis Pelzer Memorial Award, Organization of American Historians, 1984. For best article, “Producing Poverty,” submitted by a graduate student to the *Journal of American History*.

MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Taft Research Center, University of Cincinnati, 2008.

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 2006.

Spencer Foundation, 1997.

Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, 1995.

Taft Memorial Fund, University of Cincinnati, 1995.

National Academy of Education, 1993.

Spencer Foundation, 1992.

American Council of Learned Societies, 1990.

National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, 1986.

BOOK PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

“Nat Turner and the Great Slave Conspiracy of 1831.”



Wayne K. Durrill
Professor

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Erika,

I have had a look at the two supplements to the Evans collection and both seem to me very useful. They have about the same range as the larger collection—lots of sermons, addresses, almanacs and such, as well a few abolitionist tracts and travel narratives. Also, although it may seem obvious, it is important to stress how valuable the ability to search by word is—so much more efficient than searching page by page in microfilm.

Most interestingly, one of them has a collection of about 245 songs, including the musical notation, which would be extremely useful for a course in the History of American Music that I will be teaching for the first time next fall. In all my courses now I require students to write a paper based on primary documents, and this is just the kind of thing to which I can point students when they are looking for a paper topic.

It is also a very useful feature that we can search all the Evans databases in one search, although the place where you can get to feature is a little hard to find.

In short, I think the Library would be well advised to acquire these two collections.

Wayne

October 25, 2015

Dear Erika Gasser,

The Evans Collection of Early American remains a vital source of materials for my master's project, which is an investigation of the little-known shared ministry of Richard Woodbury and Nicholas Gilman. The essay will hopefully illuminate the way revivalist ministers in the First Great Awakening altered modes of acceptability within the religious meeting and formed consensus in relation to heterodoxy. The Evans Collection offers sermons and conversion narratives that make that project possible, including those from prominent ministers such as Gilbert Tennent, James Davenport, Charles Chauncey, and George Whitefield. These sermons and conversion narratives, such as those in *The Christian History* by Thomas Prince, provide valuable sources for analysis of the way both ministers and lay-people understood the excesses of the revival. Without the continued use of this valuable resource, I will have to make other plans for accommodating the scope of my master's project.

Apart from providing valuable access to sermons and conversion narratives, the Evans Collection also offers important access to broadside and pamphlet materials necessary to researching my topic and composing my essay. More importantly, the addition of the American Antiquarian Society's (AAS) collections would bolster this already important resource. Broadsheets and pamphlets, especially in the eighteenth century, became the most common avenue for public expression. Thus, they could potentially offer an important glimpse into the way Woodbury and Gilman were perceived and received by New England society. The AAS's online database showcases their vast array of published broadsheets and pamphlet, which is seemingly unmatched by any other resource available at the University of Cincinnati. Thus, it is my sincere hope that UC Libraries and the Charles Phelps Taft Research Center will maintain our access to the Evans Collection of Early American Imprints and will purchase the additional materials provided by the American Antiquarian Society.

Sincerely,

Michael Rehm
Graduate Student
History Department
University of Cincinnati



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College of Arts & Sciences
University of Cincinnati
PO Box 210069
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0069

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(513) 556-5924 (Phone)
(513) 556-5960 (Fax)

Taft Research Support Committee
47 Corry Boulevard
Edwards 1
Suite 1100
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH 45221

Dear Members of the Taft Research Support Committee:

I am writing in support of Professor Erika Gasser's request for funding to make possible the library's purchase of to the Evans Early American digital collection, featuring many titles that were not known at the time the original Evans series was microfilmed, then digitized. Although I have concentrated my teaching and research lately mostly on film, I used the current digitized Evans quite extensively in preparing a paper entitled "Varieties of Visual Experience in the Early Republic and Antebellum America: Wax Museums and Cabinets of Curiosities, 1790-1840," which I delivered before the Taft Visual Studies group in March, 2014. I have connected with the trial access to the Evans supplements, and within a short time located a number of advertisements, in some cases with full descriptions of the figures on display, that I had not seen before. Several of them had to do with wax statues of Othello's pausing by Desdemona's bed, getting ready to smother her. This is a display that was widely exhibited along the Atlantic seaboard in early America where it caused quite a stir and elicited many angry reactions in the form of editorials and letters to various newspaper editors. As I look forward to expanding that paper into something of book length, these newly recovered advertisements—and I am sure there are more that I haven't yet found—will increase the inventory of valuable references that I did not previously have access to. Certainly I would want to devote one chapter to the Othello controversy, but there is other new evidence that, to repeat, I located with only a cursory check of the supplements' content. The search engine, by the way, works very efficiently.

With this continuing project in mind, I am happy to support Professor Gasser's request for research support in the form of this addition to UC's library holdings. They will complement what we already have in digital holdings of early Americana, which I know from colleagues in other universities is already the envy of other institutions in the state.

Very truly yours,



Robert D. Arner
Professor English & Comparative Literature
McMicken College of Arts & Sciences
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0069

Curriculum Vita

Personal

Name: Robert D. Arner

Place of Birth: Lehigh, PA

Date of Birth: January 17, 1943

Home Address and Telephone:

444 Stout Road

Winchester, OH 45697

937-442-0315

Professional Address and Telephone:

Department of English & Comparative Literature

University of Cincinnati

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(513) 556-5924 (Department); 3916 (Office)

Educational Background

Lehigh High School, 1960

B.S. in Education, Kutztown State College (now Kutztown University), Kutztown, PA, 1964.

M.A. in English, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, 1966.

Ph.D. in English, The Pennsylvania State University, 1970.

Professional Experience

Teacher, American history and English, Harrison-Morton Junior High School, Allentown, PA, January-June 1964.

Teacher, English, Bald Eagle Area High School, Wingate, PA, 1964-1966.

Graduate Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University, 1966-1968.

Instructor, Department of English, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI, 1968-1969.

Assistant Professor, Central Michigan University, 1969-1971.

Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, 1971-1972.

Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati, 1972-1975.

Professor, University of Cincinnati, 1975--present.

Administrative Experience

Assistant University Dean for Graduate Education and Research, University of Cincinnati, 1978-1980.

Head, Department of English, University of Cincinnati, 1980-1983.

Committees and Service

Member, International Committee on Bibliography, Modern Language Association of America (General Literature Section), 1968-1976.

Member, Executive Committee, American Literature I Group of the MLA, 1972 -1975.

Editorial Board, Early American Literature, 1981-1984.

Member, Local Committee on Arrangements, Midwest Modern Language Association, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1986.

Departmental, College, and University Committees include Collective Bargaining Advisory Committee; University Graduate Council; Review Committee, Latin American Studies

(Chairman); Headship Search Committee, Communications and Speech Department; Summer Graduate Fellowships Committee, Humanities and Social Sciences; Taft Library Committee; Steering Committee (departmental); Ad Hoc Committee on Work Load Policy; and others.

Courses Taught

Undergraduate

Freshman Composition; Major American Writers, 207-208-209; Survey of American Literature, 300-301-302; Topics: Classic Literature for Children; The American Western; Detective Fiction; Mark Twain; Nineteenth-Century American Poetry; Early American Fiction; Colonial American Literature; Literature of the American Renaissance; American Fiction, 1860-1920; American Fiction, 1920-1950; Seminar: Bicentennial America (two quarter sequence); The Films of Alfred Hitchcock; Ernest Hemingway; Hemingway and Fitzgerald; American Gothic: Charles Brockden Brown to Shirley Jackson; William Faulkner; F. Scott Fitzgerald; Classic Film Comedy; Masterworks of American Humor; American Non-Fiction: Autobiography; The Films of John Huston, Film Noir and Neo Noir, Western Films, and others.

Graduate

Hemingway; The Fiction of F. Scott Fitzgerald; William Faulkner; American Autobiography; Cooper, Poe, and Contemporaries; Hawthorne and Melville; Early American Fiction; Emerson and Whitman; American Humor; The American Puritans; Literature of the Antebellum South; Poe; Bibliography and Research; Problems in Film Studies; and others.

Grants and Awards

John-Carter Brown Post-Doctoral Fellow, John Carter Brown Library of Brown University, Providence, RI, 1970 (Early American Humor).

Charles Phelps Taft Summer Faculty Fellowship, University of Cincinnati, 1972.

Fred Harris Daniels Fellow, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, 1975 (Early American Humor).

Henry E. Huntington Research Fellow, Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, 1975 (Early American Humor).

Project Director and Proposal Author, Ohio Program in the Humanities, 1976-1977; 1977-1978 (The Role of the Humanities in a Changing Society: Focus on Cincinnati).

Project Director and Proposal Author, Title IX Graduate and Professional Opportunities Program, 1978-1979; 1979-1980.

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