

CASE STUDIES: PROPOSAL ABSTRACTS

- 1. Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities**
Discipline: Philosophy
Type of Project: Full-year research fellowship

My aim is to write a book-length study on the role played by the work of analytic philosophers, W. V. Quine and Donald Davidson, in both transforming analytic philosophy in a post-positivist direction and in laying the groundwork for a general critique of positivism in philosophy and the social sciences. The study will be both historical and interpretive. In addition to documenting the work of Quine and Davidson, and its reception within analytic philosophy, I will argue for a particular interpretation of that work. First, I will show the historical context for the attractiveness of positivism for philosophy and social science. Second, Quine's work will be presented as a critique of the Vienna Circle's logical positivism from the inside. Third, I will argue that, for all that he represents an important advance over the positivists, Quine's work is ultimately transitional and keeps one foot inside positivism. Fourth, I will show how Davidson consolidates the post-positivist turn in analytical philosophy by transcending the fact/value distinction of logical positivism and placing the question of value, especially ethical value, once again at the heart of philosophy.

- 2. Agency: United States Information Agency**
Discipline: Law
Type of Project: Community Service Project

This proposal requests \$118,996 from USIA to fund twelve young Czech lawyers for Human Rights Internships in Chicago. Co-sponsors are the International Human Rights Law Institute of DePaul University College of Law, which will administer the Program; the Czech Helsinki Committee; and the Bohemian Lawyers' Association of Chicago. The Program is supported by Czech President Vaclav Havel, the Czech Bar Association, and Charles University Law School.

Modeled on a successful, USIA-funded internship program for Polish lawyers in Chicago also administered by the DePaul Institute, the Czech Program will provide academic and practical training in United States and international human rights law and practice to lawyers from a nation, which, like Poland, is attempting to build the rule of law after decades of undemocratic rule. The three-month internships will include both academic work at DePaul and exposure to the practical work of governmental and non-profit law offices in Chicago relating to human rights.

The Program goal is to share American and international experiences in protecting human rights with promising young Czech lawyers, who will work with the Czech Helsinki Committee upon their return home, and who may be expected to utilize this exposure throughout their careers. In other words, the Program is an investment in building a stable democracy in the Czech Republic. It is also designed to strengthen ties between the legal profession in Chicago and counterpart institutions in the Czech Republic. Interns will be recruited and selected through cooperation with the Czech Helsinki Committee.

- 3. Agency: The German Marshall Fund of the United States**
Discipline: Finance
Type of Project: Research Fellowship

This proposal seeks funds to continue my current research on banking reform and privatization in the Czech and Slovak Republics, and to add to this work by undertaking a similar analysis for Poland. After completing the research on Poland, I will write an article which examines the present state of banking reform and privatization in Poland, similar in content to an article I have just completed regarding the present state of the economic transition in the CSFR. I then plan to further extend this project by writing a paper which compares the economic transition in the CSFR with the transition in Poland. The research I am proposing to undertake takes on added importance with the forthcoming separation of the CSFR into separate Czech and Slovak Republics, and I will update my present article on the CSFR to take into account this change.

- 4. Agency: National Science Foundation**
Discipline: Geography
Type of Project: Individual Research Project

The three-year study will produce an accounting of the physical transformations and processes at work in St. Petersburg that are leading to the emergence of a Central Business District (CBD) and are resulting from the on-going process of elaboration of a land market.

Specific objectives include the investigation of the commercial function in the emerging CBD, the office function both in conserved parts of the city and in the so-called "green fields" sites, other traditional "central" functions that make up our understanding of the classic, market-driven CBD, such as high-level administrative and governmental operations, and the linkages all these emerging functions have with international processes and agents of production and investment.

The method of investigation will rely on four interdependent processes behind succession in land use, building types, management control, and change in the functional character of St. Petersburg's downtown. These are: a planning framework that is still on the drawing board but expected to be approved during the next year, a land market that is, again, in the making but appears to be equally firmly linked to the international capital market and to local business interests, a political process that is influenced by a large number of domestic and foreign constituencies and gives rise to ephemeral local and international regimes of cooperation between these constituencies, and an aesthetic vision and vocabulary to date dominated by desire for conservation of the historic center, but likely to be modified by market considerations.

The project will address the demand in St. Petersburg for urban studies with direct policy implications and will assist local government to assess the impact of market forces in the creation of an effective CBD. Furthermore, the study contributes to the field of urban geography by adding to the bibliography on Russian urbanism and the CBD. Moreover, it provides opportunities to undergraduate students to hone analytical, research and technical skills relevant to geography and the social sciences. Finally, it contributes to the archival resources at DePaul University and the wider academic community by producing and making available a significant database of images of this important case of urban transformation.

- 5. Agency: National Science Foundation**
Discipline: Biology
Type of Project: Individual Research Project

This proposal will use molecular data on chloroplast DNA (cpdna) to test phylogenetic hypotheses at the species, genus, and family level in the conjugating green algae (Order Zygnematales, Division Chlorophyta). Hundreds of species of *Spyrogyra* have been described based largely on differences in cell dimensions. Previous research showed autopolyploid changes in the nucleus result in a series of discrete morphotypes (species complex) that would be classified as different species by conventional taxonomy. Restriction fragment length polymorphisms (RFLPs) of cpdna will be used to identify members of species complexes and in cladistic tests of phylogenetic relationships among morphologically different strains. The 55 genera of unicells, colonies, and filaments in this algal group have been classified in numerous conflicting schemes. We have used morphological data in a cladistic analysis to derive a phylogenetic framework for the group. This phylogeny and existing conventional ones will be tested using RFLPs and sequences of the *rbcL* gene from the chloroplast. The results will enhance our understanding of phylogeny and character evolution in this large and phylogenetically important group of algae and provide outgroup data to complement other ongoing studies of green algae and higher plants.

- 7. Agency: National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases**
Discipline: Psychology
Type of Project: Individual Research Project

Attempts to specify diagnostic criteria for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) have aroused considerable controversy (Armon & Kurland, 1991; Gold et al., 1990; Grufferman, 1991). These difficulties might have contributed to the fact that there are few CFS epidemiological studies. Most of the CFS epidemiological studies have relied on physicians who refer patients having at least 6 months of chronic fatigue and other symptoms. However, there are a number of potential problems when using this method to derive prevalence statistics. For example, some individuals with CFS might not have the economic resources to have access to medical care. Other individuals with CFS might be reluctant to use medical personnel, particularly if they have encountered physicians skeptical of the authenticity of their illness. In addition, physicians that are skeptical of the existence of CFS might not identify cases. For these reasons, this grant application will focus on conducting a study that involves interviewing a random community sample in order to identify and comprehensively evaluate individuals with symptoms of CFS. This study will determine whether these individuals have CFS or if alternative reasons account for their symptoms. In addition, different definitions of CFS will be employed, and they will be compared and contrasted. These definitions will be used in estimating the prevalence of CFS in the Chicago population. There are many methodological benefits in using more rigorous epidemiological methods when estimating CFS prevalence rates.