

**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 2018-19 COMPETITION

March 2019

REPORT OF THE FINAL PANEL
BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS)
SUBPROGRAM
FY 2018-19

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Sixty-seven (67) proposals requesting a total of \$2,852,831 were submitted for funding consideration in fiscal year (FY) 2018-19 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-seven (67) 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 2018-19 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, convened in Phase II of the process. This panel met on March 16, 2019, 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. Forty-nine (49) proposals were included in the discussions held during this conference.

The panel was informed that \$300,000 had been budgeted to fund ATLAS projects in fiscal year 2018-19. 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 \$815,164 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 2018-19 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 publish 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	013ATL-19	LSU A&M	Vince LiCata	\$50,000	\$40,000
1	027ATL-19	LSU A&M	Leslie Tuttle	\$50,000	\$50,000
1	051ATL-19	Tulane	Tatsuya Murakami	\$44,074	\$44,074
4	036ATL-19	McNeese	Amy Fleury	\$24,115	\$24,115
5	047ATL-19	Tulane	Martin Dimitrov	\$50,000	\$50,000
6	052ATL-19	Tulane	Emilia Oddo	\$49,050	\$44,050
7	033ATL-19	Loyola	Valerie Goertzen	\$28,884	\$28,884
8	031ATL-19	LA Tech	Andrew McKevitt	\$40,360	\$40,360
9	009ATL-19	LSU A&M	Hayley Johnson	\$41,684	\$34,084
10	039ATL-19	SELU	Alison Pelegrin	\$34,417	\$34,417
11	024ATL-19	LSU A&M	Andrew Sluyter	\$50,000	\$50,000
12	035ATL-19	McNeese	Janet Allured	\$30,685	\$28,185
13	063ATL-19	UL Lafayette	Leah Orr	\$44,102	\$44,102
14	066ATL-19	UNO	Milton Walsh	\$40,438	\$40,438
15	043ATL-19	Tulane	Ryan Boehm	\$50,000	\$50,000
16	004ATL-19	LSU A&M	Lauren Coats	\$37,361	\$37,361
17	054ATL-19	Tulane	Stephanie Porras	\$50,000	\$50,000
18	026ATL-19	LSU A&M	Daniel Tirone	\$49,994	\$49,994
19	044ATL-19	Tulane	Courtney Bryan	\$50,000	\$50,000
TOTAL				\$815,164	\$790,064

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 nine (9) proposals for a total amount of \$355,567.

APPENDIX B

MERITORIOUS PROPOSALS RANKED PRIORITY II BY THE SUBJECT-AREA PANELS BUT NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (30)

002ATL-19	003ATL-19	005ATL-19	006ATL-19
008ATL-19	010ATL-19	011ATL-19	014ATL-19
015ATL-19	016ATL-19	017ATL-19	018ATL-19
019ATL-19	021ATL-19	022ATL-19	029ATL-19
032ATL-19	037ATL-19	040ATL-19	041ATL-19
042ATL-19	046ATL-19	048ATL-19	055ATL-19
056ATL-19	057ATL-19	058ATL-19	060ATL-19
065ATL-19	067ATL-19		

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 2019.

APPENDIX C

PROPOSALS RANKED PRIORITY III BY THE SUBJECT-AREA PANELS AND NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING (18)

001ATL-19	007ATL-19	012ATL-19	020ATL-19
023ATL-19	025ATL-19	028ATL-19	030ATL-19
034ATL-19	038ATL-19	045ATL-19	049ATL-19
050ATL-19	053ATL-19	059ATL-19	061ATL-19
062ATL-19	064ATL-19		

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 2019.

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. 013ATL-19

Rank: 1

TITLE: “HIYA DOLLY: A Science Play about Dolly the Sheep”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Vince LiCata

In 1996 it was international news when it was announced that a sheep named Dolly had been cloned at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland. Dr. LiCata proposes to finish and stage a one-act documentary musical in three parts about the Dolly story. The book for the musical includes Dolly’s life story, the media response to her creation, and the relationship between her creators. The music is Scottish folk melodies with new lyrics, drawing on Dolly’s origins. The team plans to present the work in 2020 at the Edinburgh Fringe, a major annual festival of experimental theater with a wide range of work from all over the world.

The significance of the piece begins with the story itself. Besides the scientific and historical importance of the subject, there is an interesting challenge as to how the musical theater form can be at once entertaining and communicate accurately the science behind the wonder of the accomplishment. Starting from the view that science is not only an interesting subject but THE subject of our time, many competitions for scientific plays aim to make the population at large more scientifically knowledgeable. Distinct from science fiction, which often uses scientific research as a departure point for its narratives, *Hiya Dolly* aims to stay close to real science and to the story of the creators of Dolly. Dr. LiCata’s background as a professor in biological sciences gives him the knowledge to produce a work that is factually accurate. In addition, Dr. LiCata’s career trajectory includes both science and theater, which uniquely qualifies him for this project, and he has enough theater experience to form his knowledge into an appropriate and entertaining dramatic form. The piece could attract a broad audience, though initially will be of interest primarily to audiences interested in experimental theater.

Dr. LiCata envisions a “dramedy” that uses parody. The “General Plot Prospectus and Arc of the Story” is a clear account of the narrative progression of the work, which has a nice A B A structure. The submitted portion of the play sets up the story and instructs the reader (and assumedly the spectators) in the method of the narrative: episodic scenes that are related via montage/mosaic. The proposal also clearly describes how the practical considerations of staging such a performance will be managed. The characters are the least defined element, though it is clear that extensive workshopping with the actors will be undertaken to prepare the work for the stage.

The work plan is focused on anticipating production, rather than on a schedule for writing. Workshopping plays is the method of the moment and the applicant is following this model, which allows the writing to evolve with the performers. The project is well progressed, and very likely to be ready for the Fringe at the end of the grant period.

The budget for the project is high and largely consumed by travel costs, which can easily be reduced. Partial funding of \$40,000 is recommended, with reductions to be made at the PI’s discretion.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$40,000

PROPOSAL NO. 027ATL-19

Rank: 1

TITLE: “Dreaming in the Age of Reason: Sleep, Passions and Knowledge in Early Modern France”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Leslie Tuttle

The origin and nature of dreams pose a particular problem within the context of the Enlightenment. Traditionally, they had been held to offer guidance, sometimes from a supernatural source; a conventional understanding of “the Age of Reason” contradicts that perspective. Dr. Tuttle wishes to challenge convention, and “offer a useful way to think through how humans learn within a cultural setting to differentiate and evaluate their experiences.” The project, offering insight into the transition from the pre-modern to the modern world, is intended to be accessible to a broad audience of readers across a number of scholarly fields.

Dr. Tuttle brings together insights from the history of science, of religion, and of culture to consider how, since the Reformation, the mind has been conceived to function. Increasingly, a materialist explanation located dreams in an ancillary position. Of particular interest, the aim is also to factor in medieval developments in the conception of dreaming, which raised the problem of evil in a fresh way. The focus of the work on French culture provides an excellent sense of intellectual horizon, and a departure from the more expected (American, British, and German) literatures of dreaming.

Dr. Tuttle has traced an excellent trajectory of research, and has prepared the way for the current project. The panel raised some questions of the logical sequencing and contextualization of the narrative to be traced, but these issues did not challenge the excellence of the project.

The project work plan as presented in the proposal is entirely reasonable, and ATLAS support is requested to provide release time for Dr. Tuttle to finish. The research for the project is complete, and the manuscript seems on track to be in the hands of a publisher by September of 2020. Full funding is recommended for this excellent project.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 051ATL-19

Rank: 1

TITLE: “The Making of an Ancient City: Materiality of Power and Identity at Teotihuacan”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Tatsuya Murakami

Traditional research approaches conceptualized the ancient city as an engine of stratification, for it typically featured a hierarchy consisting of kings and priests at the top, merchants in the middle, slaves at the bottom, and peasants in the periphery. The “top-down” take is typically preoccupied with the decisions, interests, and infighting of the elites. Recent research has emphasized broader social transformations. The “bottom-up” take emphasizes common people and their interaction with elites. The early cities juggled two forces: social differentiation (the creation of social inequality) and social integration (the creation of a shared social identity, an integrated community, and a functioning polity). Moreover, these two forces played out in the physical setting of a city, with the buildings and grounds reinforcing both social inequality and the shared cosmos. Dr. Murakami seeks to study the entanglement of elites and commoners and thereby merge these approaches.

In an ambitious and exciting project studying early urbanization and state formation in Teotihuacan, Dr. Murakami will analyze urban processes as they unfold over time and operate at multiple scales. The proposal comes across as very well conceptualized and planned. His theoretical approach juggles several tensions in a dialectical fashion—social inequality vs. social integration, top down vs. bottom up, physical vs. sociopolitical—which is an improvement on the dichotomous approaches that came before him.

In a broader context, starting about 10 years ago—for the first time in history—more than 50% of the world’s population lives in cities. Understanding cities, and in particular the dialectical tensions listed above, is urgently important. Also significant, the early civilizations rose and fell, and given the hypercomplexity of modern civilization, it would be useful to understand what drove the flourishing and collapse of complex societies in the past. The tension between social differentiation and social integration is very topical. The panel suggests that Dr. Murakami take a look at the work of Peter Murphy, a professor at La Trobe University in Australia who has studied the interaction between the built environment of great portal cities and sociopolitical forces such as innovation.

Dr. Murakami is supremely well equipped to undertake the proposed project. Among other things, he has studied archaeology and anthropology at the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán. He has participated in numerous archaeological digs, including Teotihuacan. His Ph.D. is from Arizona State University, which arguably has the world’s leading program on the flourishing and collapse of early complex societies.

Though leading archeology and anthropology journals are not well represented in his publication list, the list is nevertheless impressive in its thick detail, and the details are very much in sync with the proposed research. Dr. Murakami clearly has the requisite expertise and skills to execute his ambitious project. The proposed plan appears feasible, and it appears likely that he will complete the project in a reasonable timeframe. Full funding is recommended to provide the release time needed to finish this major work.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,074

PROPOSAL NO. 036ATL-19

Rank: 4

TITLE: “What the Living Owe the Dead, a Collection of Poems”

INSTITUTION: McNeese State University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Amy Fleury

Professor Fleury plans to use ATLAS funding to complete a four-part, book-length collection of poems about illness and death, interspersed with autobiographical poems about the author’s son. Included throughout the work are treatments of the losses of literary and historical personages and the ways that loss of children shaped their lives. The collection is deeply personal but, as the best art does, finds within the personal the universal.

Poetry is an art form with a long elegiac tradition and the book this project envisions fits in that tradition both in terms of its expression of personal loss of a mother for her son but also in the way that the book channels such a loss through historical figures. It calls to mind a 2014 book by the poet Edward Hirsch on the death of his son, Gabriel. In an interview with the New York Times, Hirsch recounted the response from other grieving parents who had found solace in his book. This book promises to attract a similar readership: general readers of poetry, but particularly readers who have experienced this kind of grief. The applicant imagines *What the Living Owe the Dead* as being read by instructors and students of literature and creative writing, but also medical professionals, including those working in hospitals.

The application is exemplary in its specificity, feeling, and accomplishment. The project work plan is detailed and admirably realistic. Professor Fleury’s previous work is of a quality that predicts success for this project. Her poetry has appeared in notable literary magazines such as *Prairie Schooner* and *Crazyhorse*; her book *Beautiful Trouble* won the Crab Orchard First Book Award and was published in the solid poetry series of Southern Illinois University Press. Her collections of poems have been adopted frequently for college courses in poetry and creative writing. Moreover, the work sample suggests that this book well might be her best work to date. The poems submitted are beautifully and skillfully written, and reflect meaningfully on the experience that has generated the work. Professor Fleury’s past record of accomplishment along with the readiness of this moment in her life promises successful completion of the project.

This is a writer who has been shouldering a demanding academic load and ATLAS will provide her the needed time to complete the book. Her goal for the project is to finish five polished poems per month starting in June of 2019. In January of 2020, the poems will be completed and the spring semester can be spent editing and refining the manuscript and preparing it for submission to presses. Full funding is recommended.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$24,115

PROPOSAL NO. 047ATL-19

Rank: 5

TITLE: “Dictatorship and Information: Autocratic Regime Resilience in Communist Europe and China”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Martin Dimitrov

In autocratic regimes there is a dearth of information on levels of popular discontent with the regime. For lack of information, it would appear that autocrats should face a high risk of losing office to a coup or a revolution. Single-party autocracies would appear to be especially vulnerable because they cannot take information cues from competitive election results. The standard argument is that they rule through fear. But ruling through fear would appear to exacerbate the problem of not being able to get reliable information about the regime’s popular support, given that fearful citizens may express support for the regime in public even though they reject it in private. Dr. Dimitrov seeks to develop a theory of information-gathering institutions in Communist autocracies. He poses three questions: How do autocrats become aware of the importance of monitoring popular discontent? How do they go about measuring it? And how do they use the information in normal times and in times of crisis?

In Dr. Dimitrov’s account, autocrats who replace “ex-post governance” (ruling through fear) with “ex-ante-governance” (setting up complex institutions to monitor popular discontent) face a tricky dilemma. To extract information about latent discontent from their populace, they need to give people incentives to respond truthfully, which requires reducing repression, making political concessions, and responding to complaints. The result is to decrease fear and increase people’s expectations of what the regime will deliver for them. If a time comes when the regime’s ability to deliver economic growth or redistribution declines, the populace mobilizes against the regime. It then becomes apparent that the regime’s coercive capacity is insufficient to clamp down the protests because levels of fear are too low.

Dr. Dimitrov seeks to back up his theory empirically by comparing and contrasting the practices in single-party Communist autocracies with the practices in other types of autocratic regimes. The empirical materials include a corpus of Chinese archival sources and internal-circulation materials; Bulgarian, East German, and Soviet state security and Communist Party archival documents; interviews conducted in China, Bulgaria, Germany, and Cuba; and primary and secondary sources from non-Communist autocracies. Dr. Dimitrov will lay out his theory and evidence in the form of a book. The proposed project would be an ambitious contribution to comparative politics and neighboring subfields.

The comparative approach proposed will allow Dr. Dimitrov to break with the standard practice of treating China as a *sui generis* case. Instead, he will integrate the Chinese case into a more general theory of autocracy that attends to the varieties of authoritarianism even as it retains the ability to compare and contrast across countries. Dr. Dimitrov is to be commended for taking on the challenge of coping with so many different languages and cultures, though discussion as to how he will overcome the challenges of such an approach would have been welcome.

Third, somewhat surprisingly, autocracies are dominating today’s world—in the 1990s there was an expectation that liberal democracy would take over the world, and instead liberal democracy is stagnating and in some respects struggling. In the case of China, though, even the most knowledgeable scholars disagree radically as to whether it will continue to flourish, sink into a malaise, or collapse altogether. Such radical disagreement among experts suggests that we have a poor understanding of what makes China (and autocracies more generally) function. In addition, autocracies are quite diverse, and any theory of why they will flourish, sink into a malaise, or collapse has to accommodate this

variety. For all of these reasons, there is an urgent need for a theory of autocracy that explains why autocracies are doing well; analyzes under what conditions they might do poorly; and is attentive to empirical variety. On all of these counts, Dr. Dimitrov has the potential to provide a real contribution.

Dr. Dimitrov appears to be well prepared for this particular project based on his life experiences (among other things he was born in Bulgaria), his training, his scholarships and grants (including research grants to fund his field research in China and Russia), and his publications. He has published a book with Cambridge University Press, which is arguably the leading university press in political science. Moreover, the many articles he has published on the various countries included in this project suggest that Dr. Dimitrov will be able to pull off his ambitious comparative project. The proposed plan appears feasible, and it appears likely that the project will be complete by mid-2020. Full funding is recommended.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 052ATL-19

Rank: 6

TITLE: “The House of the Frescoes at Knossos”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Emilia Oddo

Dr. Oddo is at work on one of the most important sites in archaeology and history: the palace complex at Knossos. The site was first identified in 1923, but is currently subject to extensive new investigation. Although her particular expertise is in pottery, Dr. Oddo will be undertaking a broad, multifaceted study of the remains at Knossos from the Neopalatial Period. Ritual function is an especial interest, and becomes an argument for how the site may be interpreted.

The applicant has set out the work in exemplary form, and has made significant progress in the research and writing. The project is beautifully conceptualized, offering an argument for the regional consideration of ceramics, yet at the same time showing how Knossos was linked more broadly, in ritual and political and economic terms, within the culture of Crete. It is extremely important work and will be broadly influential, read by everyone from high-level scholars to lay readers and undergraduate students interested in archaeology.

Peer-review of previous work has established its high standing, and the promise of quality, and the importance, of the current study is evident. It is worth noting that Dr. Oddo’s stature is so great that she was invited to undertake this work, among the most important in the field.

Submission for the Supplement series of the British School of Athens in 2020 seems practicable, if ambitious. There is little doubt, however, that this major work will be completed as planned. Partial funding of \$44,050 is strongly recommended. The request for travel is to conduct a final check of the catalogue and, given ATLAS’s limited resources, should be covered by another funding source.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,050

PROPOSAL NO. 033ATL-19

Rank: 7

TITLE: “View from the Piano Bench: The Arrangements of Johannes Brahms”

INSTITUTION: Loyola University New Orleans

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Valerie Goertzen

Dr. Goertzen proposes to complete a volume of the piano arrangements of Johannes Brahms, to include twenty-two arrangements of his own works and twelve of other composers’ contributions. The fully critical edition will also address histories of composition, publication, and performance, the compositional process, and issues of sources. The historical critical edition and discussion of the arrangements are recognized as key components of current scholarship on Brahms. In addition, the applicant has established a reputation that makes her a bridging figure between German-speaking and English-speaking scholars. The project, dealing with hitherto neglected parts of the repertoire, is likely to exert a major influence and several excellent publishers have expressed interest.

The project is very strongly conceptualized, involving dealing with Brahms himself, the role of the piano during the nineteenth century, and a systematic analysis of the types of arrangement (categorized by purpose and the intended applications). Because Dr. Goertzen has a career-long interest in the subject, she is poised to make a discipline-shaping contribution with the volume. A key figure in both the *Johannes Brahms Gesamtausgabe* and the American Brahms Society, the applicant’s standing in the field is incontrovertible.

The conservative request for funding is a reflection of the maturity of the scholarship that is to come to fruition in this volume. The panel wondered whether, in view of the strength of the scholarship, a widening of scope to emphasize historical and social context might be contemplated, simply in the interest of drawing a broader readership. Nevertheless, as currently conceived, the work is of exceptional quality and reach. Full funding is recommended.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$28,884

PROPOSAL NO. 031ATL-19

Rank: 8

TITLE: “America’s Worst Disease: The Killing of Yoshi Hattori and the Struggle for Gun Control”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana Tech University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Andrew McKevitt

The debate over gun control remains a central issue of American politics, a fault line that divides the nation politically, culturally, and regionally. Like immigration, gun control brings to the surface deeply rooted views on the character and direction of national life. Dr. McKevitt’s project examines the shooting death of a Japanese exchange student in Baton Rouge in 1992. Since Yoshi Hattori’s tragic death occurred in Louisiana, the project has a strong local connection, but it also has global resonance because he was a Japanese exchange student. By setting this issue in a global context, Dr. McKevitt suggests an original perspective on what is often a parochial debate.

The proposal is well written and carefully constructed. While Dr. McKevitt leaves no doubt about his position on the issue, this is a scholarly work, with a well-defined documentary basis and a forceful argument. He has worked on Japan and Japanese popular culture, which has given him the tools he needs to examine both local and international dimensions. It will be a scholarly book that should appeal to a broad audience.

Dr. McKevitt has completed an important book, published by the University of North Carolina press in 2017, on Japanese popular culture. He has also published a number of scholarly articles. Particularly considering his heavy teaching obligations, he has an admirable record of publication.

The work schedule seems feasible. Dr. McKevitt will finish his research by the time the grant begins and is very likely to have a completed manuscript in hand by the end of the ATLAS year. Full funding is recommended.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$40,360

PROPOSAL NO. 009ATL-19

Rank: 9

TITLE: “Beneath Heavy Pines: Louisiana, Camp Livingston, and Japanese Enemy Alien Internment”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Hayley Johnson

This project has two investigators: Hayley Johnson and her colleague, Sarah Simms, both librarians at LSU A&M. Together they plan to write a history of Camp Livingston, an internment camp for Japanese in Louisiana. Japanese internment has received a good deal of scholarly attention and continues to have political and ideological resonance both within and outside of academic communities. Little work has been done on Camp Livingston, and its location in Louisiana makes it particularly appropriate for ATLAS support. The book that will result will have a wide audience, including scholars interested in Asian-American history (a new and active field), and in the Second World War (always a lively subject with special connection to Louisiana).

This is a beautifully written, convincing proposal. Equally important, it displays the applicants’ commitment, both to the subject and to the scholarly enterprise. They provide a well-considered account of the camp, its organization and development, and the wider significance of internment for American history.

The applicants have located a rich collection of documents, which they describe clearly and effectively. As librarians, they are experienced researchers, and the presentation in the proposal displays a firm grasp of their subject’s shape and significance.

It is important to keep in mind that the applicants do not have the advantages of faculty members and are largely without access to research support or release time. The progress they have made to date has been accomplished while working separate full-time jobs. In this way, their accomplishments are most impressive, in terms of both quality and quantity. They have written two chapters out of a proposed twelve. With release time, there is a good chance they will finish a draft as planned, as well as complete final archival work.

Partial funding of \$34,084, supporting release time and travel, is recommended for this excellent project. The panel strongly encourages the campus to provide laptop computers, a fairly typical expense, as part of its support of this important work.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$34,084

PROPOSAL NO. 039ATL-19

Rank: 10

TITLE: "Feast Days: Poems"

INSTITUTION: Southeastern Louisiana University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Alison Pelegrin

Professor Pelegrin plans to use ATLAS support to complete a book of poems whose setting and subject is both a contemporary real and simultaneously figurative Louisiana. The poems will consider cycles of destruction and rebirth that take place on both of these planes, as well as religion-infused secular traditions, imaginary saints, and secular 'holy' days. In leaning toward the sacred, the title of the book aptly captures the sacredness of place and of life within the cycle.

If jazz, born in Louisiana, is a music of the profane with roots in the spiritual, then Professor Pelegrin's work reverses the equation. These lively, colorful, jazzy poems often go from the profane to the spiritual, arriving at their own definition of creolized sacred order. The writer has an affection for many of the tropes associated with Louisiana culture and often it is the linguistic ride she makes of them rather than any conclusions drawn from their open endings, that forms the main pleasure of this work.

The place of this book in Professor Pelegrin's overall work is well described. The work plan should have provided more detail, but it is clear that the book is well along and the work remaining is straightforward. This is a well-done, persuasive application. The applicant's previous work – five books of poetry, publications in excellent magazines such as *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *Southern Review*, and *Tin House*, an NEA and several other awards – all confirm that both her talent and industry will make this project a success. A chapbook titled *Our Lady of the Flood*, published in March of 2018, won the Diode Editions chapbook prize. Some of the poems to be included in this collection have already appeared in national journals, and the LSU Press has expressed interest in publishing the book. Professor Pelegrin is clearly well positioned to finish this work at a high level of quality.

The manuscript appears to be more than halfway to completion. Performance measures include publication in top-tier journals and anthologies, reviews of work, readings, and manuscript publication. The work remaining can certainly be completed within the grant year, though its full scope is not well described in the proposal. Full funding is recommended if sufficient monies are available, though the panel recommends that if partial funding can be provided the residency travel be cut to ensure that the maximum release time is funded.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$34,417

PROPOSAL NO. 024ATL-19

Rank: 11

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

The aim of this project is to publish an online analytical database and website with interactive features for accessing Louisiana’s colonial land survey maps. The audience would be university and high school instructors aiming to engage their students with primary research material. This proposal is a revised and enhanced version of one recommended for funding in 2018 but not supported due to a lack of available monies.

A great deal of archival material on land-use patterns in Louisiana remains inaccessible to many researchers and lay people with an interest in this history, which has bearing on “our understanding of differences in the acquisition and use of land by people of African, French, Spanish, English, German, and mixed origin.” Dr. Sluyter’s project proposes an innovative means of accessing this material and navigating it in a comprehensive manner. He aims to publish *LandscapeLouisiane: A Database of Colonial Land Grant Maps*, consisting of a dynamic, interactive online Geographic Information System and website through which users can search and analyze the database of colonial maps. Easy access to these maps will likely offer insights into “environmental changes such as coastal erosion, social changes such as ethnic settlement patterns, political changes related to territorial integration, family genealogy, and other topics.” This is a significant array of subjects and concerns. The database will likely be of great interest to historians, geographers, and anthropologists. This project will be developed in QGIS, a sophisticated open source and free GIS, rather than Google Maps, which has limited functionality and capacity.

Dr. Sluyter’s project is quite strong. He has identified important materials (some 1,400 colonial maps), discerned their possible relevance to researchers, and 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 addresses this 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. Working from a previous proposal, Dr. Sluyter has improved the project by doing considerably more advanced work in incorporating additional surveys into the prototype website; as well, this progress has been presented at three conferences and incorporated into a book chapter in an edited volume, currently in press. Importantly, too, he has generated some preliminary findings that suggest how revealing these maps and surveys are of “this borderland region on the eve of its incorporation into the US.” Finally, a clear strength of this proposal is that Dr. Sluyter has secured seed funding from the Omohundro Institute and LSU’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences to inventory and scan important documents and to develop a prototype of the website.

Dr. Sluyter is an accomplished historian of the Atlantic world, with an impressive record of publication including 37 articles in leading journals and a book with Yale University Press based upon research that was supported by an ATLAS grant. Of great importance to this project, 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 (2012-2013). This record attests to the likely high quality of the finished project.

Dr. Sluyter's plan of work sketches out a reasonable schedule of "tasks to be completed," which indicates he will likely finish this project within the grant's timeframe. He faces a challenge in geographically locating a large number of land grants in the GIS and entering their coordinates and links to related documents in the online American State Papers and archive of the Louisiana Office of State Lands into the database. But given his experience, expertise and well-conceived work schedule, this challenge will quite likely be addressed during the course of this funding period. Full funding is recommended if sufficient resources are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 035ATL-19

Rank: 12

TITLE: “Southern Methodist Women, 1940-1990: Agents of Progressive Change”

INSTITUTION: McNeese State University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Janet Allured

Dr. Allured has uncovered a body of materials that led her to an unknown chapter in the history of civil rights in Louisiana engaging on interconnected issues of race, religion, civil rights, and women’s movements. These issues are of central importance to American history, and together they touch on problems that have deep historical roots and enduring contemporary significance. This will be an important work and of interest to broad audiences, both within and outside the borders of Louisiana.

The clarity and force of the proposal are impressive. In addition to her refreshing enthusiasm for the subject, Dr. Allured demonstrates a firm command over its scholarly context and broader significance. The proposal was very well written and persuasive. She has a clearly defined empirical basis for her book and has completed almost all of the research. Considering her scholarly record, there is every reason to believe that she will have a finished manuscript by the end of the summer of 2020.

Dr. Allured was awarded an ATLAS grant in 2012 for a book that she completed as planned and which is now in print. The subject of this project is quite different from her previous work, but has some useful overlap, both chronologically and methodologically.

If sufficient monies are available, partial funding of \$28,185, for salary and fringe benefits, is recommended. The travel request is not well justified and includes conference travel, which is strongly discouraged in ATLAS; this should be eliminated should funding be provided. If insufficient monies are available this year, Dr. Allured is encouraged to continue work and resubmit a revised proposal in the next ATLAS competition.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$28,185

PROPOSAL NO. 063ATL-19

Rank: 13

TITLE: “Constructing the Woman Writer in England, 1670-1750”

INSTITUTION: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Leah Orr

The principal aim of Dr. Orr’s project is to present quantitative and qualitative analysis, to establish the preponderance of non-literary production (religious tracts, instruction manuals, etc.) by female authors in England in the late seventeenth through mid-eighteenth centuries, and study how publishers marketed female authors to constitute an English reading public for them at the time. Other goals include expanding the definition of “authorship” for the period, to include the accepted practices of imitation, translation, revision, and editing, which “fall outside post-Romantic ideas of authorial creation” and demonstrating the efficacy of “a reception-centered history” in the study of texts from the period, underscoring the constructed nature of authorial identity in paratexts, driven by market concerns (i.e., *constituting* a readership, to create demand).

Dr. Orr’s first book was highly original, and the work in progress seems to follow in a similar vein. The proposal here is well written and shows great promise for another innovative piece of scholarship. The project is conceptually sound, aimed at producing as comprehensive a survey of female-“authored” texts as possible. It is also methodologically innovative, focusing on “paratextual materials” (prefaces, dedications, author biographies, introductions, etc.) and their operations in printed materials, where they work to consolidate the very readership they address as well as construct the identity of “the female author.” Dr. Orr is too modest in identifying the fields to which the work will contribute. In addition to the discipline of English, scholars engaged in Women’s Studies, Gender Studies, early modern studies, eighteenth-century studies, and the history of the book will undoubtedly find the work invaluable.

The timeline is feasible, given the current state of the work. A draft of the manuscript is in place, but there is sufficient work to do during the ATLAS year to bring the project to completion. The panel recommends full funding if sufficient monies are available. If support is not available this year, Dr. Orr is strongly encouraged to continue working and submit an updated proposal in the next cycle if sufficient work remains to justify ATLAS funding.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$44,102

PROPOSAL NO. 066ATL-19

Rank: 14

TITLE: “The Big Door Prize”

INSTITUTION: University of New Orleans

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Milton Walsh

Professor Walsh is part of a contemporary Southern literary tradition that focuses on the way people live now. This work-in-progress, his second novel, follows *My Sunshine Away*, published in 2015, which became a prize-winning bestseller. His new work, *The Big Door Prize*, is set in the town of Deerfield, Louisiana, and engages questions of contemporary Louisiana life. The novel will be very attractive to lay audiences, as well as a major work of fiction.

This is an extremely well-developed proposal. After explaining his intention as to where in the Southern tradition of writing he wants to locate his work, Professor Walsh explains how that tradition influences his decision to write a book in a clear, accessible style. The work sample is helpful in demonstrating exactly the intention described in the proposal as well as a deep understanding of the way the pressures of life, whether real or imagined, determine human behavior. In order to portray the life of the town of Deerfield, the novel will alternate chapters detailing the lives of four characters, whose fates will cross as the novel develops. The style is not only accessible, but so clear as to somewhat flatten the narration, giving it the tone of a tale. While the book seems to be realistic, the sly, central invention has a fabulist flavor: a strange new machine that can predict what a person is capable of achieving. The machine’s predictions match people’s secret desires and the presence of the machine begins to affect “normal” life in the town as the people have to decide to continue the lives they lead or pursue what the machine says they can achieve. Marriages are reevaluated, workers quit their jobs, high school students imagine new futures. The story is complex, ambitious, fresh, and substantial. This writer’s work has the potential to make a genuine contribution to the Southern literary tradition.

The quality and reception of Professor Walsh’s previous books are impressive. Both won literary awards. *The Prospect of Magic*, a collection of stories, won the Tartts First Fiction Award and the novel that followed, *My Sunshine Away*, was a New York Times bestseller, an Amazon Debut Book, an NPR Top 100 Book for 2015, and winner of the Pat Conroy Book Award and the Housatonic Book Award for Fiction. The current work appears to be of similar promise.

The applicant has timed his application well to coincide with the point when a grant would most help in completion of the work. He currently has a first draft of 260 pages – approximately 75% of the book – which consists of 26 chapters. His plan is to consult with his editor after the first draft is complete and then make revisions. He has a contract for publication. Professor Walsh knows his writing process very well, making his estimation of the work schedule entirely realistic.

The budget is reasonable. Full funding is recommended if sufficient monies are available.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$40,438

PROPOSAL NO. 043ATL-19

Rank: 15

TITLE: “The Land Beyond the River: Palestine in the Persian and Early Hellenistic Periods”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Ryan Boehm

The project deals with the southern Levant (the “Palestine” of the title) during the Persian Empire, a time of profound development. Research on the Persian Empire has improved in recent years, but Dr. Boehm proposes to refine the region targeted, and to take account of the evidence for a diversity of cultures there. The project is likely to attract a broad scholarly audience.

Dr. Boehm will draw on his experience with the excavation at Ashkelon, and he has an excellent record of research and productivity. His previous work demonstrates mastery of the field, and he is poised with the current work to make a major contribution. The deployment of a thematic treatment of the Persian impact on the diverse cultures of the region is an asset. Dr. Boehm notes that the Iron Age has been privileged in the past as a result of an interest in “biblical archaeology,” but that the Persian period actually saw the emergence of the canon, as well as the composition of foundationally important Biblical books. The issue of the interface between material and literary culture inevitably arises, and should be explored.

The project is sound, though it seems to be at a fairly early stage and the timeline for completion seems overly ambitious. The promise of the work, however, is clear. The panel recommends full funding if sufficient monies are available. If support is not available this year, Dr. Boehm is strongly encouraged to continue working and submit an updated proposal in the next ATLAS cycle.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 004ATL-19

Rank: 16

TITLE: “Terra In/Cognita: Mapping the New United States”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Lauren Coats

The project will produce a monograph that studies the social construction of space in the United States in the nineteenth century, with a particular focus on “mapping,” not just understood as cartography (map making) but including as well an archive of supplementary written and pictorial materials generated by cartographic expeditions. Dr. Coats’ work speaks directly to current issues of interest to nineteenth-century Americanists and the “spatial turn” in American studies. She is active in the field and has a sharp sense of how to craft a project that promises to make a significant intervention in it.

The applicant’s conceptualization of the project is not entirely successful. The problem is that the book, at least as presented in the proposal, appears to lack a through-line of argument. Each chapter is a case study, and an interesting one, but its internal argument is not always clear. It is also difficult to pick out a larger argument accruing as we move from chapter to chapter, and to understand why the chapters are in the order proposed. In short, the parts, strong in themselves, do not yet appear to have been assembled into a whole. A second issue is a lack of precision in the description of the project. For example, the summary of Chapter 4 uses the verb “considers” three times (“the chapter considers” appears twice, and “I consider” appears once) in crucial places; a sharper presentation of the chapter’s argument, driving question, or hypothesis would focus the project. Though the project is fundable now, with another year of work, Dr. Coats should be able to present a project on the cusp of completion at a very high level of quality, and likely to be at the top of the rankings.

Dr. Coats’ principal expertise to date has been in the digital humanities, and though this will be her first monograph she seems well prepared to undertake it. A digital humanities project for which she sought but did not receive ATLAS funding previously was brought to successful completion and is now online. Clearly, the applicant completes the projects she undertakes. As an indicator of the quality of her work, she has an article published in *J-19*, the journal of record in the field of nineteenth-century U.S. literary and cultural studies. As well, she is the founding editor of the important *Archive Journal*. For the current project, Dr. Coats has written two chapters (of four) and would use ATLAS funds to complete the remaining two and to revise the manuscript as a whole. This is a feasible work plan. However, as noted above, the project is still at an early stage of its development and would benefit from additional time to solidify its central and unifying argument.

The proposal is recommended for full funding should additional resources become available. If funding is not available this year, the panel strongly urges Dr. Coats to consider panel comments, continue working, and revise and resubmit her proposal next year.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$37,361

PROPOSAL NO. 054ATL-19

Rank: 17

TITLE: “The First Viral Images: Maerten de Vos, Antwerp Print and the Early Modern Globe”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Stephanie Porras

Dr. Porras’ project examines how an image of St. Michael the Archangel created by Maerten de Vos in Antwerp became the source of works produced by Filipino ivory carvers, Mughal miniaturists, and Spanish and Latin American painters. Like a number of recent scholarly works, Dr. Porras’ study aims to transcend the national divisions that once dominated European scholarship. This project will be a contribution to European art history, but also to the understanding of the transmission and transformation of European culture as its moves into a global context. It is an interesting and timely project, and likely to be attractive to both scholars across disciplinary boundaries and readers interested in art history.

Dr. Porras presented an impressive list of publications and has a varied background in art history and collections. She has an established record of accomplishment, with a number of prizes and awards. The quality of the sample presented speaks to the strength of the work. Though this is an extremely strong, well-conceptualized, and well-presented project, two questions were raised about its design and trajectory. First, does the archival work have the depth required for a substantial piece of scholarship, or is the intent not to ground the work in deep archival study? If this is the case, the proposal should be clear about the scope and boundaries of the work. Second, was the subject matter broad and rich enough to sustain a major book, as opposed, for example, to a long article? These concerns led to a lower ranking among those projects recommended for funding, despite the clear strength of the work.

The timetable seems feasible for the project as it is currently defined. Additional archival work, if needed, would certainly add to the time needed to complete the project. The panel recommends full funding if sufficient monies are available. If support is not available this year, Dr. Porras is strongly encouraged to continue working, respond to panel questions, and submit an updated proposal in the next cycle if sufficient work remains to justify ATLAS funding.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$50,000

PROPOSAL NO. 026ATL-19

Rank: 18

TITLE: “A Political Economy of Piracy and Maritime Crime”

INSTITUTION: Louisiana State University and A&M College

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Daniel Tirone

International law defines piracy as acts committed outside of a state’s territorial waters and maritime crime as acts occurring within 12 nautical miles of shore. The scholarship on piracy and maritime crime disregards the role of state territory and state sovereignty. Together with a collaborator, Dr. Tirone is seeking to address this omission by developing a more nuanced political-economic theory of piracy and maritime crime. He has come up with a typology that distinguishes between state-sponsored piracy, criminal enterprises, and privation-driven piracy. To drive this work, Dr. Tirone has assembled an original data set covering the period 1991-2016. The unit of observation is the maritime attack, defined by its date, latitude and longitude, whether it occurred in territorial or international waters, the attacker’s home state, the distance between the attack location and the attacker’s home state capital city, whether violence was threatened or utilized, the types of weapons used, which state possesses the nearest territorial waters to the attack location, and the distance between the attack location and the nearest maritime border. Dr. Tirone will complement the quantitative data analysis with case studies from Africa (Horn of Africa and Gulf of Guinea vs. South Africa and Egypt) and Asia.

The project is well conceptualized in that Dr. Tirone advances a three-fold typology and a detailed empirical work plan. Moreover, the subject matter is significant. Piracy and maritime crime are important phenomena in the real world, with consequences for economics and security. Dr. Tirone’s argument that political elements (territorial boundaries and so forth) need to be included in the analysis is convincing. Dr. Tirone’s typology and empirical analysis will advance security studies and international law.

Dr. Tirone received a Ph.D. in political science (subfield of world politics) and has been an assistant professor of political science at Louisiana State University and A&M College since 2012. His publication list is impressive, including articles in leading political science journals. Dr. Tirone comes across as a highly accomplished scholar with the expertise and skills to execute this project successfully. The proposed work plan appears feasible, and it is likely that he will complete the project in the time made available by the ATLAS award. Full funding is recommended if sufficient monies are available. If support is not available this year, Dr. Tirone is strongly encouraged to continue working and submit an updated proposal in the next ATLAS cycle.

BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDED: \$49,994

PROPOSAL NO. 044ATL-19

Rank: 19

TITLE: “Treemonisha Reborn: a Musical”

INSTITUTION: Tulane University

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Courtney Bryan

Treemonisha is an early American opera written by a celebrated and African-American composer who influenced both jazz and popular genres. The breadth of work written by Scott Joplin remains under-appreciated and Dr. Bryan’s project, by way of tribute, will present an experimental reinterpretation of the original work from Afro-futurist and feminist perspectives. She plans to workshop a musical response to Scott Joplin’s 1911 opera *Treemonisha* in the form of a new opera, with book by Suzan-Lori Parks and libretto by Lileana Blain-Cruz. The work is to premiere in June/July 2020 at the Bard College Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, which has commissioned the work. Bard College attracts a wide audience to its music programming in general and particularly to its summer programming, so the premiere will be a high-profile event attracting both lay and specialist audiences.

The intention of the project is to provide “not a recreation but a response” to Joplin’s *Treemonisha*. The proposal suggests that the response will be rooted in contemporary concerns, looking back at Joplin’s 1911 work through a feminist/social justice perspective. Dr. Bryan writes that she will “workshop with musicians over this period so that their unique musical contributions will be part of the final score, which will include thorough composed notation as well as improvisation.” She intends to research Joplin’s opera through “site visits, music scores, books, and recordings,” but she does not identify the sites she intends to visit nor the research to be conducted and its purpose. Also unclear is the relationship between funding provided by the commission and monies requested from ATLAS. If a full, detailed work plan had been provided, these issues might have been resolved and its absence undercuts a strong project with evident importance.

The level of musical talent and theater experience assembled for the project is impressive. Dr. Bryan has been awarded many prizes, honors and residencies. Her work has been presented in a wide range of venues, including Lincoln Center, Miller Theatre, Symphony Space, The Stone, Roulette Intermedium, La MaMa Experimental Theatre, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Gallery of Art, Blue Note Jazz Club, Jazz Gallery, Bethany and Abyssinian Baptist Churches, Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro, New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, and Ojai Music Festival. She has produced two independent albums: “Quest for Freedom” (2007) and “This Little Light of Mine” (2010). She is clearly well prepared to take on this work, and her collaborators are leaders in their fields.

A detailed work plan/schedule is not provided, though the production date of summer 2020 makes clear the timeframe under which the work must be completed. There is no doubt, given the experience of the artists involved, that the work will be completed at a high level of quality by the end of the ATLAS year.

If sufficient monies become available, full funding is recommended.

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

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

Karen Edis Barzman
Professor
Department of Art History
Binghamton University (State University of New York)

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 2018-19
SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

67 TOTAL PROPOSALS

38	HUM	Humanities
14	SOC SCI	Social Sciences
15	ARTS	Arts

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: \$2,852,831

**Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) Program
FY 2018-19 Competition
Proposals Submitted**

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
001ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Stephen Andes	LSU A&M	Zorro's Ghost: How A Mexican Legend Became America's First Superhero	\$50,000
002ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Nichole Bauer	LSU A&M	Qualifications Count: Why Women Must be Better than Men to Win Political Office	\$50,000
003ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Paolo Chirumbolo	LSU A&M	Green Screens: Industrial Landscapes and the Environment in Twenty-First Century Italian Ecodocumentary	\$48,207
004ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Lauren Coats	LSU A&M	Terra In/Cognita: Mapping the New United States	\$37,361
005ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Craig Colten	LSU A&M	A Place for People: Society and Culture on Louisiana's Fragile Coast	\$50,000
006ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Serap Erincin	LSU A&M	Towards a Rich Theatre: Technology, Reperformability, and The Wooster Group	\$49,390
007ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Lara Glenum	LSU A&M	Rehearsal for Extinct Anatomies	\$50,000
008ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Dorota Heneghan	LSU A&M	Gender Relations and Nation in Sofia Casanova's Writings from Poland [1913-1933]	\$46,437
009ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Hayley Johnson	LSU A&M	Beneath Heavy Pines: Louisiana, Camp Livingston, and Japanese Enemy Alien Internment	\$41,684

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
010ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Benjamin Kahan	LSU A&M	Sex Under Necropolitics	\$50,000
011ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Isiah Lavender III	LSU A&M	Critical Race Theory and Science Fiction	\$50,000
012ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Alexandre Leupin	LSU A&M	Beginning and Decadence of the Modern Individual	\$50,000
013ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Vince LiCata	LSU A&M	HIYA DOLLY: A Science Play about Dolly the Sheep	\$50,000
014ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Ashley Noel Mack	LSU A&M	Motherhood in Modernity: Twenty-First Century Hegemonic Motherhood in the United States	\$47,496
015ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Bryan McCann	LSU A&M	“The Idea of the Negro”: Debating Black Protest Fiction after the Harlem Renaissance	\$50,000
016ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Andrea Morris	LSU A&M	Dominican and Cuban Im/mobilities in Contemporary Literature and Film: A New Ethics of Encounter	\$23,459
017ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Megan Papesh	LSU A&M	Modern Pupillometry: Cognition, Neuroscience, and Practical Applications	\$28,827
018ATL-19 HUMANITIES	John Protevi	LSU A&M	Support for book project: ‘Human Nature: Between Philosophy and Anthropology’	\$50,000

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
019ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Pallavi Rastogi	LSU A&M	Postcolonial Disaster: Narrating Catastrophe in the Twenty-First Century	\$50,000
020ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Maria Rethelyi	LSU A&M	A Documentary History of Jewish Life in Modern Hungary	\$49,980
021ATL-19 HUMANITIES	William Saas	LSU A&M	The Pay-For: A Multimedia Rhetorical History of Modern Monetary Theory	\$48,068
022ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Charles Shindo	LSU A&M	From Protest to Propaganda: The Americanization of The War of the Worlds	\$50,000
023ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Irina Shport	LSU A&M	Acquiring Word Prosody in Second Language Learning	\$23,376
024ATL-19 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
025ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Casey Stannard	LSU A&M	Flora Louisienne: A Wearable Art Exhibition	\$31,757
026ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Daniel Tirone	LSU A&M	A Political Economy of Piracy and Maritime Crime	\$49,994
027ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Leslie Tuttle	LSU A&M	Dreaming in the Age of Reason: Sleep, Passions and Knowledge in Early Modern France	\$50,000

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
028ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Joshua Wheeler	LSU A&M	Saw the Deep	\$50,000
029ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Samuel Cannon	LSU Shreveport	Ashes in the Gutter: Politics and Culture in Chile's Post-Dictatorship Comics	\$14,726
030ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Alexander Mikaberidze	LSU Shreveport	Global History of the Napoleonic Wars	\$6,000
031ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Andrew McKevitt	Louisiana Tech University	America's Worst Disease: The Killing of Yoshi Hattori and the Struggle for Gun Control	\$40,360
032ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Gregory Schelonka	Louisiana Tech University	Crime, Vengeance, and the City: How Crime Fiction and Film Narrates the Story of Contemporary Life in Latin America	\$37,028
033ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Valerie Goertzen	Loyola University New Orleans	View from the Piano Bench: The Arrangements of Johannes Brahms	\$28,884
034ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Daniela Marx	Loyola University New Orleans	Researching, Designing and Producing Public Typographic Murals and Sculptures	\$42,598* Budget # on cover/budget pages incorrect
035ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Janet Allured	McNeese State University	Southern Methodist Women, 1940-1990: Agents of Progressive Change	\$30,685

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
036ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Amy Fleury	McNeese State University	What the Living Owe the Dead, a collection of poems	\$24,115
037ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Todd Furman	McNeese State University	Good Shoot, Bad Shoot?: A Legal and Ethical Analysis of Shootings by Law Enforcement	\$49,982
038ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Gary LaFleur, Jr.	Nicholls State University	From a Strange Land to a Strange Sea: A monograph with photos and text describing Explorations of the La Coast 2000-2018	\$13,269
039ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Alison Pelegrin	Southeastern Louisiana University	Feast Days: Poems	\$34,417
040ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Adrian Anagnost	Tulane University	Organic Architectures: Forms of Belonging	\$50,000
041ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Melissa Bailes	Tulane University	Nature's Clockwork: The Natural History of Time in British Literature of the Long Eighteenth Century	\$49,280
042ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	William Balee	Tulane University	Historical Ecology of the Lower Amazon	\$49,999
043ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Ryan Boehm	Tulane University	'The Land Beyond the River: Palestine in the Persian and Early Hellenistic Periods'	\$50,000
044ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Courtney Bryan	Tulane University	Treemonisha Reborn: a Musical	\$50,000

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
045ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Amy Chaffee	Tulane University	A LadyCaper Project	\$50,000
046ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Xiaojin Chen	Tulane University	Parental Migration Caretaking Arrangements and Children's Wellbeing in Rural China	\$48,493
047ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Martin Dimitrov	Tulane University	Dictatorship and Information: Autocratic Regime Resilience in Communist Europe and China	\$50,000
048ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Eric Herhuth	Tulane University	The Animated Conscience: Interiority and Mental Life in Animated Media	\$49,939
049ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Michael Hoerger	Tulane University	Psychologist: Reluctant Warrior in Care for the Seriously Ill	\$50,000
050ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Laura-Zoe Humphreys	Tulane University	Fidel Between the Lines: Paranoia and Ambivalence in Late Socialist Cuban Cinema	\$50,000
051ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Tatsuya Murakami	Tulane University	The Making of an Ancient City: Materiality of Power and Identity at Teotihuacan	\$44,074
052ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Emilia Oddo	Tulane University	The House of the Frescoes at Knossos	\$49,050
053ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Menaka Philips	Tulane University	The Liberalism Trap: John Stuart Mill and Our Crisis of Certainty	\$46,926

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
054ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Stephanie Porras	Tulane University	The First Viral Images: Maerten de Vos, Antwerp print and the early modern globe	\$50,000
055ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	John Proctor	Tulane University	Peggy and Paul: The Politics of Identity	\$49,906
056ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Gary Remer	Tulane University	Friendship across Religious Lines: Renaissance Jewish and Christian Kabbalists in Dialogue	\$50,000
057ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Ana Sanchez-Rojo	Tulane University	Troubling Modernity	\$49,494
058ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Allison Truitt	Tulane University	Gold Matters: Materializing Money in Vietnam at the End of the Twentieth Century	\$49,333
059ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Yeon Choi	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	3D Character Rigging	\$29,622
060ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Elise Franklin	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Disintegrating Empire: Algerian Family Migration, Welfare, and Decolonization	\$20,102
061ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Allison Leigh	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Masculinity and Modernity in 19th-Century Russian Painting	\$20,645

Proposal # & Discipline	PI Name(s)	Institution	Proposal Title	Amount Requested
062ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Ramona Mielusel	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Understanding Islam in France. Representations of Muslims in Contemporary French and Francophone Cinema	\$23,885
063ATL-19 HUMANITIES	Leah Orr	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Constructing the Woman Writer in England, 1670-1750	\$44,102
064ATL-19 SOCIAL SCIENCES	Fallon Aidoo	University of New Orleans	New Orleans Historical Live! Revitalizing a Local Register of Historic Places	\$51,979* Multiple eligible faculty enable request >\$50,000
065ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Yotam Haber	University of New Orleans	The Lime Works: an opera in two parts and three experiments	\$37,464
066ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Milton Walsh	University of New Orleans	The Big Door Prize	\$40,438
067ATL-19 CREATIVE ARTS	Juliana Haynes	Xavier University of Louisiana	'Preacher Man, Precher Man,' An original, historical, musical production	\$50,000* Budget # on cover/budget pages incorrect

2018-19 COMPETITION: SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

NUMBER OF PROPOSALS: 67

Creative Arts: 15

Humanities: 38

Social Sciences: 14