FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR THE HUMANITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

16 w 6

Leslie Berlowitz, **Executive Officer**

Malcolm Richardson **Ben Schmidt**

Joyce Infante Steven Lawrence

16

Ben McLaughlin Loren Renz

6- 1- 16

Nina Kressner Cobb

Consultant

John Hammer

National Humanities Alliance

Arnita Jones

American Historical Association

Lynn Szwaja

Rockefeller Foundation

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION CENTER



To achieve our mission, we:

- Collect, organize, and communicate information on U.S. philanthropy
- · Conduct and facilitate research on trends in the field
- Provide education and training on the grantseeking process
- Ensure public access to information and services through our Web site, print and electronic publications, five library/learning centers, and a national network of Cooperating Collections.

Founded in 1956, the Center is the nation's leading authority on philanthropy and is dedicated to serving grantseekers, grantmakers, researchers, policymakers, the media, and the general public.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES

The American Academy of Arts & Sciences was founded in 1780 by John Adams and other scholar-patriots "to cultivate every art and science which may tend to advance the interest, honor, dignity and happiness of a free, independent, and virtuous people." Its current membership of over 3,900 Fellows and 600 Foreign Honorary Members includes more than 150 Nobel laureates and fifty Pulitzer Prize winners. Drawing on the wide-ranging expertise of its membership, the Academy conducts thoughtful, innovative, non-partisan studies on international security, American institutions, education, and the humanities. This report is part of the Academy's Initiative for the Humanities and Culture, a major ongoing project that assesses the challenges and prospects for the humanities in America.

Copyright © 2004 The Foundation Center

Foundation Funding for the Humanities

Creating an Expanded Measure of Humanities Support

he humanities serve the critical role of developing and preserving human thought and culture. Yet their importance can often be underestimated in a society distracted by mass entertainments and the next SUV. Even among U.S. foundations with a commitment to scholarship in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines, cutbacks in government support for human services, global health crises, or other pressing needs may lead them to direct less attention and fewer resources to humanistic studies. Moreover. without full and consistent measurement of this support, proponents of the humanities lack an essential tool for determining the overall wellbeing of the field and the status of its many subfields and disciplines.

This critical need for comprehensive, detailed, and ongoing measurement of foundation support for the humanities has led the Foundation Center and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences to join together to create . Since the early 1980s, the Foundation Center has

HISTNI58HCAL Pb 7Mt

Changes in Humanities Funding, 1992 to 2002

Foundation funding for the humanities increased steadily during the past decade. Overall, humanities giving by funders included in the Foundation Center's annual grants set (see "Sampling Base" for details) climbed two and one-half times from \$134.1 million in 1992 to \$335 million in 2002. The number of grants benefiting the humanities doubled from 1,649 to 3,296. At the same time, humanities support grew more slowly than overall giving between 1992 and 1997 and 1997 and 2002.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation ranked as the largest humanities funder in 2002 and topped the list a total of eight times between 1992 and 2002. Following Mellon by amount of humanities giving in the latest year were the Packard Humanities Institute, Righteous Persons Foundation, Ford Foundation, and Annenberg Foundation. These five funders together provided onefourth of overall humanities giving in the latest year. Interestingly, two of these foundations were not included in the 1997 humanities grants set: the Packard Humanities Institute, an operating foundation established in 1987, which raised its giving following the receipt of a more than \$1.5 billion transfer from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation in 1999; and the Righteous Persons Foundation, established in 1994 by Steven Spielberg with profits from the film

Consistent Humanities Funders

Within any field and discipline, a limited number of generally large foundations will account for a substantial share of overall giving. For example, the top 25 humanities funders in 2002 provided half of humanities grant dollars included in the sample. Still, the composition of this set of top funders will change from year to year. A core group of leading funders — appear consistently, but other funders will move in and out of the top ranks based on variations in their grants budgets or in response to special funding opportunities. For a field to experience relative consistency in foundation support over time, the majority of foundation giving will ideally come from a combination of consistent major donors and a large pool of steady, smaller donors.

An analysis of foundations with a consistent strong commitment to the humanities showed that no single funder or group of funders accounted for the majority of giving during the past decade. Overall, nine foundations made humanities grants each year from 1992 thr t6x713 1 thattotaltedhat least\$1 mwiltion re rp reeunted25 xpecmentformoare of theirtotall givinge

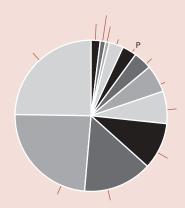


HISTORY/ARCHEOLOGY

History, including archeology, ranked third by share of humanities giving and fourth by share of number of grants. Funding for history scholarship and programs realized a nearly fivefold increase between 1997 and 2002, making it the fastest growing humanities subfield. Almost half of that increase in grant dollars resulted from support for the Los Angeles-based Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, which has created a multimedia, online archive of interviews with Holocaust survivors. In 2002, the organization received \$19.7 million in grants, mainly from the Righteous Persons Foundation. The foundation was the largest funder of history programs in 2002. Other leading funders of history included the Gilder Foundation, which funds the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History; the Packard Humanities Institute, which funds archaeological projects overseas; and the Andrew W. Mellon and Charles H. Revson foundations.

HUMANITIES-RELATED ARTS, CULTURE, AND MEDIA

Arts, culture, and media programs with purposes linked to the humanities and historic preservation received 10 percent of grant dollars and just over 8 percent of grants in 2002. This subcategory included a wide range of programs—from folk and ethnic cultural programs, to film, video, and publishing (including literary presses), to visual arts and art conservation, to theater and other performing arts. Funding for humanities-related arts, culture, and media increased nearly five times between 1997 and 2002, making it the fastest growing subfield after history. Within this broad category, funding nearly quadrupled for ethnic heritage and other cultural awareness programs, while increasing even faster for humanities-related media programs. In the latter area, much of the growth in 2002 resulted from support totaling nearly \$17 million from the Packard Humanities Institute to the Stanford Theater Foundation, a film preservation and historic theater foundation located in Palo Alto, to purchase property for a new film archive.



Gilder Foundation (NY) primarily funds the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, which "promotes the study and love of American history" through support for history-centered schools and academic research centers, seminars and enrichment programs for educators, publications, exhibitions, and lectures, and awards and fellowships.

and subfield, the amons were also major and language field, the top funder was the corence Gould Foundation. In bioethics, the Greenwall Foundation provided more than half of all funding.

Humanities Funding by Recipient Type

Although the humanities encompass a broad range of fields and disciplines, the vast majority of funding is concentrated among a relatively small number of institutional types. The largest shares of 2002 humanities support targeted museums (25.4 percent) and historical societies and historic preservation and commemorative organizations (23.9 percent). Museums accounted for a roughly similar share of the number of humanities grants (23.8 percent), while historical societies and preservation and commemorative organizations benefited from a much larger 31 percent share of number of grants. This suggests that grants to museums tend to be larger on average than grants for historical societies and historic preservation organizations.

Following these institutions were colleges and universities and graduate schools, which benefited from 12 percent of humanities grant dollars and 11.4 percent of the number of grants. The only other types of recipients to account for at least 5 percent of humanities grant dollars in the latest set were history and archeology organizations (10 percent) and media organizations (8 percent).

Top 25 U.S. Foundations by Share of Giving for the Humanities, 2002

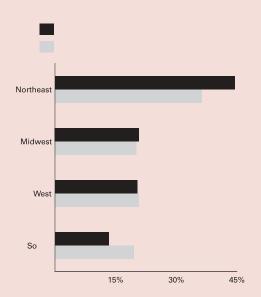
Foundation	State	Fdn. Type¹	Amount	Humanities Giving as a % of Overall Giving	No. of Grants
1. K _ Ft .	1	IN	\$ 2,980,050	95.6	2
2. G_ F t	N N	IN	3,438,390	85.0	26
3t	CA	IN	17,375,387	82.9	5
4. G. Ft	N	IN	5,501,547	65.1	3
5. Ht	I _t_2 CA	•	21,221,916	63.6	17
6. M Bt	t F _ IA	IN	1,010,000	51.5	1
7. A AFt	N	С	2,085,000	50.9	6
8. C N	L B 1	IN	5,000,000	42.7	1
9. J. t G	t ² CA	•	5,900,280	40.6	58
10. C _ H F t \ _	N	IN	5,098,000	40.1	12
11. ţ H. K.	Ft. N	IN	1,618,0000	40.0	55
12. C . N	_ NJ	IN	733,700	38.1	1
13 B	Ft 、 _ GA	IN	2,391,500	37.1	7
14. G K	D N	IN	801,500	30.9	25
15. F. L.E.	Ft. N	IN	1,177,000	30.0	2
16. F G t .	Ft. N	IN	1,806,432	28.2	45
17. t " 👡 "	Ft CA	IN	1,171,429	26.3	1
18	, 1	IN	1,700,229	25.9	4
19. D H. K	C K	IN	729,000	25.8	2
20 G	Ft DC	IN	1,030,000	25.8	2
21. 🖢 、Ft、	A	IN	1,350,000	21.8	3
22 F _ F t	NJ	IN	1,063,700	21.6	4
23. E C. J	Ft 、 MA	IN	3,324,833	21.3	39
24. EM F t 、 ~	MN	IN	655,000	20.8	3
25. M M F t . ~	А	IN	750,000	20.1	7

B t \$10,000 c 683 c t 2002 t t ...

Samuel H. Kress Foundation (NY) seeks to advance "the history, conservation, and enjoyment of the vast heritage of European art, architecture, and archaeology from antiquity to the 19th century"; funding includes support for academic resources, publications, and conferences and for Kress Fellowships, which support "the development of the professional expertise of art historians and conservators."

¹IN=I _ _ ; C =C _ ; • =• _ _ .

²¹ mm m t t man be a substitute of the



Humanities Giving by Funder and Recipient Region

Foundations in the Northeast region provided by far the largest share of support for the humanities in 2002 (44.5 percent). In fact, 13 of the top 25 humanities funders in the latest year were located in the Northeast, primarily in New York and Pennsylvania, and they included a number of national and international funders. Following the Northeast region by shares of foundation giving for the humanities were the Midwest (20.8 percent), West (20.4 percent), and South (13.3 percent).

Not surprisingly given the concentration of humanities funders in the region, Northeastern organizations also benefited from the largest share of grant dollars received (36.3 percent). Overall, nine of the top 25 recipients of humanities grants were based in the region. Western recipients followed with 20.7 percent of grant dollars; Midwestern organizations received 20.1 percent of giving; and 19.5 percent supported recipients in the South. Reflecting the concentration of national humanities organizations, an additional 3.4 percent of humanities grant dollars funded recipients based in Washington, DC. Finally, nearly 5 percent of humanities support was directed to recipients outside the United States, while an additional 12.2 percent of domestic humanities giving supported internationally focused programs.

Types of Support and the Humanities

Roughly two-fifths (39.3 percent) of humanities grant dollars funded special projects and programs in 2002, down from close to half of giving in 1997. (In contrast, the share of number of humanities grants providing program support increased marginally to 46.6 percent during this period.) Historical societies/activities and historic preservation and history and ethnic/folk museum activities benefited from the largest shares of program support dollars in the latest year. This concentration of program support reflects the focus of many of the organizations working in these fields on creating exhibitions, publications, and films, preserving collections, and organizing conferences and cultural events.

Of the remaining funds, nearly 22 percent of humanities dollars supported capital projects (down from more than 29 percent in 1997), especially building and renovation, land acquisition, endowments, and collections acquisition. Museum activities, particularly those related to history and ethnic/folk art museums, historical societies/activities and historic preservation, and commemorative organizations/activities received two-thirds of all capital grants.

An additional roughly 22 percent of humanities grant dollars and grants provided general operating support and capacity-building grants to increase income and improve management. These shares were up substantially from 12.6 percent and 14.1 percent, respectively, in 1997. In the latest year, general support grants favored historical societies/activities and historic preservation, museum

Looking Ahead

Although a larger share of funders provided humanities grants in the latest year, the humanities accounted for a slightly reduced share of foundation support over the past decade. Moreover, the number of foundations supplying support for the humanities remains small. A modest recovery in the nation's economic fortunes should help to boost diminished foundation assets and encourage measured increases in giving for the humanities and other fields over the next several

Defining the Humanities

Members of the advisory committee met in January 2004 to create an expanded definition of the humanities for use in this analysis, drawing from sources such as legislation creating the National Endowment for the Humanities. While broader than the standard definition included in the National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE)¹ and reflected annually in the Foundation Center's report,

the expanded definition does make use of NTEE codes. This enables the Center and the American Academy to compare changes in humanities funding over time and with a high degree of consistency.

The expanded humanities definition developed by the study's advisors also utilizes the Foundation Center's practice of separately coding a grant's primary and secondary purpose, the primary and secondary purpose, the recipient organization, and the types of provided by the grant (when known) the advisors agreed upon a been compassed all grant (when known).



nd renovations, cocus exclusively ough it's likely that distoric preservation research on buildings

> or recipient type code of arts, , or social sciences and a the humanities (based on the dion above).

arpose of African American studies, women's or ethnic studies or a primary recipient type of alcan American studies, women's studies, or ethnic studies and a secondary code for the humanities.

primary purpose of bioethics.





The definition developed for this analysis provides the most comprehensive accounting of foundation support for the

Historical Perspectives on Foundation Support for the Humanities

b_ James Allen Smi h

■he humanities have never found it easy to garner philanthropic dollars. In the early years of the twentieth century, supporting humanistic scholarship was very far from the minds of America's wealthiest donors as they established the first general purpose foundations. Medical research, public health, and applied social science held sway as donors and their advisers grappled with the most urgent social and economic problems of an increasingly urban, industrial nation. Their quest, which they often described as a search for the root causes of social ills, did not lead them to see history, philosophy, or other humanistic disciplines as practical tools for investigation. And to this day, most American foundations have persisted in looking to the future, trying to spark innovation, and pressing for social change. It is a habit that Jacques Barzun once decried as the foundations' "principle of compulsory newness."

To be sure, some donors in the late nineteenth century—most famously, Andrew Carnegie and Enoch Pratt—had seen the value of establishing free libraries and embellishing their cities with new cultural institutions, thereby broadly embracing the humanities. There were, of course, other individuals, such as Johns Hopkins, Leland Stanford, and John D. Rockefeller, who devoted substantial resources to founding or expanding universities where scholars would make their mark on humanistic disciplines. And wealthy PrattTJTtureand Enoch (Thcpkib-26ho .P.uthe)pts,al inmpullyeay haral

While w ne-26 atresouacure, tionm (Phcpki-268 (newnese (ieand Enoch) TjTal)-2n tanford, and *(e(the 3 Td emoving holi. 149 SC mpull)

The funding imbalance was apparent early on to Abraham					

Learned Societies (ACLS), with ACLS receiving approximately two-thirds of its funding from Rockefeller in the years from 1926 to 1950, most of it regranted to individual scholars and university programs.

From the outset, the Rockefeller Foundation staff thought of these initiatives as practical and constructive ways of advancing "international cultural relations." They also made a conscious effort to broaden the definition of the humanities, moving from the early foundation funding for classical archaeology and preservation of western European cultural heritage to projects that would improve American understanding of less familiar parts of the world.

Against the backdrop of the Great Depression, with American institutions and values subject to probing doubts, the search for a more expansive definition of the humanities also propelled American philanthropists to think about their own nation's heritage. Raymond Fosdick, the Rockefeller Foundation president, asked pointedly whether the humanities program in the 1920s had simply supported an "aristocratic tradition" of humanistic activity unrelated to the contemporary era. David Stevens, the director of the humanities program, had himself wondered whether by "holding to the tradition of polite learning and exact scholarship humanistic scholars have kept their disciplines away from active life."

As early as the 1930s, the Rockefeller program for the "the preservation and interpretation of American cultural traditions" began to expose fault-lines that have endured when humanities funding is being debated: How is a balance to be maintained between support for traditional academic disciplines against the demands of new research fields? How are the needs of scholarship to be balanced against the possibilities of reaching a wider public audience?

The Rockefeller Foundation began to move away from some traditional, discipline-based research, focusing on radio, film, and theater (especially regional drama) in order to heighten popular appreciation of the humanities. It also spurred work in new scholarly fields devoted to folk and popular culture, such as J. Frank Dobie's research on southwestern folklore at the Huntington Library and the work of Henry Nash Smith, author of . A very modest grant of \$350 even went to help the Lomaxes purchase recording equipment for their forays on behalf of the Library of Congress to capture the songs and stories of the rural South. Collecting primary source materials became a high priority for the foundation, and oral history would be a field in which it intensified its work in the post-war years.

In the 1930s and 1940s, despite declining financial resources, the Rockefeller Foundation's giving for the humanities also managed to maintain its international outlook. By far the single largest international project before the war was Rockefeller's support (totaling well over \$2 million) for the expansion of Oxford University's Bodleian Library. The

Defining the Boundaries of the Humanities

Whether at the Carnegie Corporation of New York or the Rockefeller Foundation, the boundaries between the humanities and the arts were not clearly drawn in the first half of the twentieth century. The borders seem even less clearly defined today. Indeed, one of the most difficult problems in measuring private philanthropic contributions to the humanities over the years lies in setting meaningful definitional boundaries—and in keeping up with intellectual changes in the humanities as those boundaries have shifted. Throughout the 1930s, for example, the Rockefeller Foundation's Humanities Division made very substantial contributions to the development of American theater on college and university campuses. Does this count as a contribution to the humanities or to the arts? Or

does it matter? In studies of various regions during the 1930s, with strong roots in language training and history, the contributions to the humanities remain clear. However, it becomes increasingly difficult to draw a sharp line between contributions to the social sciences and the humanities when examining Ford Foundation support for area studies after about 1950. And in recent decades, as foundations have promoted women's studies and initiated work on race and ethnicity, these emerging fields have broken through all sorts of disciplinary walls. Boundaries with adjacent social science disciplines, with public policy research, with activities in the visual and performing arts, and with work in some professional fields, especially theology and law, render any assessment of overall support for the humanities a rough (and always debatable) approximation.

foundation also funded construction projects at Cambridge University, cataloguing projects at the British Museum, the expansion of the periodicals collections at the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, and the American Library Association's listings of foreign government publications. But in the 1930s it was the push given to language training and to studies focused on particular regions of the world that ultimately paid the greatest practical dividends when the nation began to mobilize for war. Wartime teaching methods for "exotic" languages emerged directly from the techniques that had been used to capture and analyze the spoken words and sentences of the rapidly dying languages of Native American tribes. When war mobilization got fully underway, a Rockefeller grant went to the government to plan the language teaching program at the Monterey Institute. And several grants helped in preserving and protecting cultural treasures in war-ravaged regions.

Humanities Funding in the Post-War Years

After World War II, the Ford Foundation came of age, receiving a huge infusion of Ford Motor Company stock that left it with assets far outstripping those of Carnegie and Rockefeller. Its work in the humanities soon expanded. attaining far greater international scope. Ford program planners in the 1940s had ruefully acknowledged that "the history of philanthropic support for the humanities may bear the subtitle 'the short and simple Annals of the Poor.'" In 1952 they sought to re-write those annals, providing tens of millions of dollars for graduate students and scholars in diverse disciplines through the foundation's Foreign Area Fellowship Program (administered by committees from the ACLS and the Social Science Research Council). In the early 1960s, institutional support began to flow to U.S. universities to strengthen international training, research, and scholarly exchanges. Between 1960 and 1972, Ford devoted over \$120 million to the support of international studies in American universities—to the benefit of both the social sciences and the humanities.

Purely humanistic scholarship was also supported by Ford in the two decades from the mid-1950s through the mid-1970s. Much of this \$75 million commitment sustained the scholarly infrastructure. The largest single beneficiary was the Council on Library Resources. Other sums went to assist university presses and to support editing and publishing projects, such as one devoted to the papers of the Founding

> Fathers. Over \$15 million was given to the ACLS for a program of postdoctoral fellowships and grants-in-aid. These figures still do not represent a thorough accounting of Ford's support for the humanities in these two decades. Professors and students of the humanities clearly derived benefit from a portion of the \$1.1 billion that went to the general support of higher education, whether for salary support, challenge grants, venture funds, or minority fellowships. While it would be difficult to quantify precisely, it is also fair to add that a wider popular audience for the humanities derived benefit from at least some portion of the \$300 million in Ford funding that went to educational television in the 1950s and to public television in the 1960s and 1970s; nor should one

forget the Carnegie Corporation's role in funding the commission that spurred passage of the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967.

While three large foundations—Rockefeller, Carnegie, and Ford—shaped the over-arching patterns of humanities funding through much of the twentieth century, they have been joined in recent decades by other large foundations with missions substantially devoted to the support of the humanities. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation came into being in 1969 when two older family philanthropies were merged. It has continued a tradition of strong institutional support for leading academic institutions. Mellon resources sometimes served as matching grants for Ford Foundation and U.S. government funding in area studies; they have also been used to strengthen university programs in several specific humanistic disciplines. Mellon has also supported library cataloguing and electronic digitization projects and,

Eastern Europe, and worked to build the university infrastructure in South Africa.

Other grantmaking foundations, large and small, have aided the humanities, as this Foundation Center report shows. But the picture of foundation support for the humanities is not complete without acknowledging, more fully, the role of two very sizeable operating foundations. First, the J. Paul Getty Trust, one of the nation's largest endowed private foundations, was established in 1978 and began to see its assets expand in the mid-1980s. As an operating foundation, Getty is not required to make grants. However, in 1984 it launched a modest (relative to its overall expenditures) grant program that complements its primary functions, which include operating a museum, research institute, and conservation institute. Its grantmaking activities, along with its separate institutes, support art and architectural history, cultural conservation, and work at museums and historical sites. Through the educational programs of the museum, Getty also makes a major commitment to public understanding of the humanities. Second, the Packard Humanities Institute, which was set up in 1987 as a way to continue certain humanities programs of the Packard Foundation, is also a very substantial operating foundation. Among other projects, its efforts have produced electronic databases of Greek papyri and inscriptions, Latin literary texts, and the documents of the Founding Fathers.

Smaller, more specialized foundations have also been important for their sustained support of work in particular humanistic fields. The Samuel H. Kress Foundation, founded in 1929, has been one of the most focused, concentrating exclusively on the European artistic heritage. Early on it made the Kress Collection available widely to the public, most notably at the National Gallery in Washington but also in scores of museums across the U.S. It has devoted its financial resources to the preservation of European art and architecture and to professional training in art history and related fields. More discretely focused both geographically and programmatically, the Kohler Foundation has supported the preservation of folk architecture, art environments, and the works of self-

taught artists, primarily in Wisconsin. Some foundations, though they work across several broad program areas, have also made a mark in specific fields. These foundations include the Charles H. Revson Foundation in Jewish studies; the Henry Luce Foundation in Asian studies, art history, and religion; the Florence Gould Foundation in foreign languages; and the Greenwall Foundation, which expends two-thirds of

its grant budget on a program in bioethics, a sum that amounts to more than half of all foundation funding in that field.

The Current State of Humanities Funding

This brief historical excursion provides a context for examining the Foundation Center's new report on the most recent trends in private foundation support for the humanities. It more than hints at some of the challenges faced by the Foundation Center and the American Academy of Arts & Sciences as they tried

to define the humanities and to create meaningful categ(thpfs] $TJT^{\ast}[(foc\ absolute{thm})]$

determine whether grant dollars aggregated in such encompassing categories as "historical activities" or "museum activities" support scholarly research or public programs or some indeterminable proportion of both. One of the key questions—What is the balance between support for scholarship and support for public programs in the humanities?—still eludes the available data.

Classics

and foreign languages, the fields that apparently received the largest portion of dollars from humanities funders in the 1920s and 1930s, have seen their support diminish drastically, with even further declines over the decade measured

by the Foundation Center. But, as always, the data must be read carefully. Art history and the classics seem to receive relatively little support, although this does not reflect the role of operating foundations. Philosophy seems to have significant support but it is likely that much of the support is for one sub-field: ethics. History seems to be flourishing, yet closer examination suggests that this may be the result of capital investments in history museums, such as Philadelphia's National Constitution Center. Indeed, it is crucial that long-term trends be distinguished from the distorting effects of exceptional projects or the sudden entry of a new funder with a singularly focused mission, such as the Righteous Persons Foundation's commitment to create an online archive of holocaust survivor interviews.

In providing aggregate data on humanities funding, especially the data showing support for new and emerging fields and for multidisciplinary projects, this report prompts at least as many questions as it answers. Recalling

Barzun's "principle of compulsory newness" and his blunt conclusion that where foundations are concerned "the humanities don't fit in," we must continue to ask how they

fit in. This report should encourage us to return to questions about the humanities that foundation donors and staff have been asking throughout the twentieth century:

What is the relationship between the humanistic disciplines and other fields of intellectual inquiry? What is the right balance between supporting the traditionally conceived humanistic disciplines and emerging fields? How are the demands of supporting scholarship to be weighed against the continuing need to improve popular understanding of the humanities? How do the humanities serve cultural and international understanding? How useful (or how urgently so) must

projects in the humanities be to warrant foundation support? What are the obligations to preserve the most endangered aspects of our cultural heritage? And who, if not private foundations, will fulfill those obligations? Despite the recurring sense that the humanities do not easily fit in or, rather, that they cannot compete with seemingly more urgent philanthropic goals, there have been significant achievements whenever foundations have chosen to support the humanities. It is a record worthy of far more extensive exploration.

ENDNOTES

1. Letter of Waldo Leland to Charles Homer Haskins (11 May 1921) quoted in Ariel quoted" 1 Tf0v1E understandinU/N7e dems blunt