

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1965. As one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States, NEH provides critical support for humanities *research, education, preservation, and public programs* through grants to a wide range of educational institutions, non-profit organizations, and individual scholars nationwide.

Action Needed • We urge Congress to provide continued funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities for FY 2012 at the FY 2010 enacted level of \$167.5 million. *We are concerned about the continued erosion of funding for core programs.*

Current funding status • NEH was funded at \$167.5 million in FY 2010. *NEH did not receive funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.* For FY 2012, The Obama Administration has requested \$146 million in overall funding for NEH. The President's Budget represents a \$21 million (13%) cut. *NEH is funded under the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.*

National Historical Publications and Records Commission

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), commonly referred to as the 'grant-making' arm of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), was established by Congress in 1934, along with NARA, to promote the preservation and use of the American documentary record. NHPRC grants support a wide range of activities to preserve and increase access to historical records and to publish, in print and/or electronically, the papers of significant figures and themes relating to the history of the U.S.

Action Needed • We urge Congress to provide FY 2012 funding of \$10 million for the NHPRC's regular grants programs. This figure would sustain ongoing programs and allow some new investment by the NHPRC.

Current funding status • The NHPRC was funded at \$13.0 million in FY 2010. For FY 2012, the Obama Administration has requested \$5 million in grants funding for the NHPRC, which constitutes a 50% reduction from the Administration's FY 2011 request. *The NHPRC grants program is funded under the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill.*

HEA-Title VI/Fulbright Hays International Education Programs

The U.S. Department of Education's International Education and Foreign Language Studies (IEFLS) programs, including HEA-Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs, form the vital infrastructure of the federal government's investment in the international expertise pipeline. The 14 IEFLS programs support comprehensive language and area study centers with the United States, research and curriculum development, opportunities for American scholars to study and conduct research abroad, and activities to increase the number of underrepresented minorities in international service. Administrative responsibility for these programs falls under the Office of Postsecondary Education, International Education Programs Service.

Action Needed • We urge Congress to continue the current level of funding of \$125.9 million for HEA-Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs in FY 2012, as recommended by the Coalition for International Education (CIE). This level is the same as FY 2010, and includes: \$108.4 million for HEA Title VI-A&B (no change); \$15.6 million for Fulbright-Hays 102(b)(6) (no change); and \$1.9 million for the Institute for International Public Policy, Title VI-C (no change).

Current funding status • Title VI and Fulbright-Hays international education programs were funded at \$125.9 million in FY 2010, broken out as follows:

- Domestic Programs (HEA-Title VI, Parts A&B): \$108.40 million
- Overseas Programs (Fulbright-Hays 102(b)(6)): \$15.6 million
- Institute for International Public Policy (HEA-Title VI-Part C, IIPP): \$1.9 million

For FY 2012, the Obama Administration has requested flat funding of \$125.9 million for these programs at FY 2010 levels. *Title VI/Fulbright-Hays programs are funded under the Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.*

Teaching American History Grants

The Teaching American History (TAH) grant program is a discretionary grant competition funded under Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The largest single source of federal funding for history education in the U.S., the goal of TAH is to support projects that raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of American history. The program provides competitive awards to local educational agencies, and requires that LEA's agree to carry out the proposed activities "in partnership with one or more of the following: institutions of higher education, nonprofit history or humanities organizations, libraries, or museums." TAH is administered by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement.

Action Needed • We urge Congress to provide continued FY 2012 funding of \$119 million (the FY 2010 enacted level) for the Teaching American History grants program within the U.S. Department of Education, maintaining recent levels appropriated for TAH as a discretionary program line.

Current funding status • The Teaching American History grants program was funded at \$119.0 million in FY 2010. For FY 2012, the Obama Administration has proposed, for the second year in a row, to eliminate Teaching American History as an individually funded program, and instead consolidate it into a new authority called "Effective Teaching and Learning for a Well-Rounded Education", along with additional programs emphasizing higher education partnerships and content-based activities. The President's Budget does not provide a FY 2012 allocation for Teaching American History or the consolidated programs. The new "Well-Rounded Education" authority would emphasize "accountability" and "flexibility" for state and local education agencies over current, field-specific opportunities. *Teaching American History grants are funded under the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.*

Foreign Language Assistance Program

The Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) is a discretionary grant program funded under Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. FLAP provides 3-year grants to establish, improve, or expand innovative foreign language programs for elementary and secondary school students. FLAP also provides grants to state education agencies to promote systemic approaches to improving foreign language learning in the state. In recent years, Congress has set aside roughly 30% of FLAP funds for 5-year grants to local education agencies that work in partnership with institutions of higher education to establish or expand articulated programs of study in languages critical to U.S. national security. *The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students (OELA).*

Action Needed • We urge Congress to continue funding of \$26.9 million for the Foreign Language Assistance Program in FY 2012, as recommended by the Coalition for International Education (CIE). As a dedicated, federal funding stream for K-12 foreign language education, this program addresses a national need to foster skill sets supporting U.S. security and global economic competitiveness. Continuation of the program is needed to encourage more effective K-12 foreign language programs, especially at the elementary levels, as well as partnerships with institutions of higher education.

Current funding status • FLAP was funded at \$26.9 million in the FY 2010. For FY 2012, the Obama Administration has proposed, for the second year in a row, to eliminate FLAP as an individually funded program and instead consolidate it into a new authority called "Effective Teaching and Learning for a Well-Rounded Education" along with additional programs in economics, history, civic education and the arts. *FLAP is funded under the Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.*

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program

The Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program, within the U.S. Department of Education, provides up to 4 years of competitively awarded support to students of superior academic ability and high financial need who are pursuing doctoral degrees, or the highest terminal degree, in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. It is the *only* federal fellowship program that provides financial support to students pursuing graduate degrees in the humanities and arts. The Javits Fellowship Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education.

Action Needed • We urge Congress to continue support in FY 2012 for the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program at its FY 2010 funding level of \$9.7 million, as recommended by the Association of American Universities and the Council of Graduate Schools. While the FY 2012 president's budget proposal appears to provide level funding for the fellowships currently covered under Javits, it eliminates Javits as a line item, and leaves out important details as to how the proposed consolidation of Javits with the GAANN program would be implemented, particularly important given the significant structural differences between the two programs. The community is interested in working with the Department of Education to obtain more clarity on the Administration's proposal. In addition, we are open to considering creative ways to approach the consolidation of Javits into GAANN. We remain committed, however, to the principle that the allocation to support graduate students in arts, humanities and social sciences should remain in place.

Current funding status • The Javits Fellowship Program was funded at \$9.7 million in FY 2010, roughly level with funding for FY 2009 (\$9.7 million) and FY 2008 (\$9.5 million). For FY 2012, the Obama Administration has proposed consolidating Javits Fellowships into the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN), a traineeship program administered through the Department of Education supporting graduate students in areas of national need. The proposal provides \$40.7 million for both GAANN and Javits, supporting 909 fellowships. GAANN was funded at \$30.1 million in FY 2010. The President's budget zeroes out Javits, but increases the line item for GAANN by \$9.7 million, the current funding level for Javits, which suggests the possibility of continued, level funding for both programs. *The Javits Program is funded under the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill.*

Institute of Museum & Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. The IMLS Office of Museum Services (OMS) awards grants to all types of museums to support care of collections, lifelong learning, and museums research.

Action Needed • We urge Congress to support increased funding in FY 2012--or at a minimum, level funding--for the IMLS Office of Museum Services (OMS), as recommended by the American Association of Museums (AAM).

Current funding status • The IMLS Office of Museum Services was funded at \$35.2 million in FY 2010. For FY 2012, the Obama Administration has requested \$242.6 million in overall funding for IMLS, including \$193.2 million for library programs and \$32.3 million for museum programs. The President's request for the Office of Museum Services marks an 8.2% reduction from current funding levels. *IMLS is funded under the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.*