



NEH

Budget Review FY 2003

University of California • Office of Federal Governmental Relations

Partners: The University of California & The National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports exemplary work to advance and disseminate knowledge in the humanities disciplines, including human history, thought and culture. Because scholarship in the humanities seldom requires extensive instrumentation or custom-built individual research facilities, the total sums sought and granted for the humanities are far smaller than those in the biological and physical science disciplines. However, the fact that a “little” goes a long way makes each dollar important and enables the humanities to leverage those federal dollars into critical private and foundation support.

The University of California received 15 awards for a total of just over \$1.848 million from NEH in FY 2001. In FY 2001, the University of California, Davis received a \$50,000 planning grant to establish a Pacific Regional Humanities Center and subsequently was selected as one of the ten regional centers across the United States. The Center is dedicated to bringing humanistic knowledge, broadly conceived, to bear on our understanding of how people make sense of living in the Pacific United States and Territories - Alaska, American Samoa, California, Guam, Hawaii, the Northern Marianas, Oregon and Washington. The selected regional centers, slated to receive \$1 million annually from the NEH for five years with a three-to-one matching requirement, saw the amount drastically reduced to only \$126,300 annually for three years. Clearly, the efforts to establish vigorous and dynamic centers based on the anticipated larger budget have been hugely curtailed by this tremendous reduction. The University of California remains supportive of the UC Davis effort but hopes that this funding can be restored to assure the success and viability of this important program.

In addition, major funding went to two ongoing projects at UC Riverside, the English Short Title Catalog and the California Newspaper Project. The Short Title Catalog was able to add bibliographic records for the years 1642 to 1701 and the Newspaper Project moved into its sixth phase, cataloging and microfilming. Another large award went to the Fowler Museum of Cultural History at UCLA for its project, "Documentation and Digital Imaging of Materials in the West African, Indian, and Native and Latin American Collections."

FY 2003 Budget Request (\$ in millions)	FY 2002	FY 2003 Request	% Change FY02 to 2003
Federal/State Partnership	31.8	31.8	0.00%
Preservation and Access	18.905	18.905	0.00%
Public Programs	13.114	13.114	0.00%
Education	12.6	12.6	0.00%
Research	13	13	0.00%
Regional Humanities Centers	1.686	0	-100.00%
Challenge Grant Funds	10.436	10.436	0.00%
Treasury Funds	4	5.686	42.15%
Administrative Funds	18.45	19.7	6.78%
Total NEH	125.679	126.893	0.97%

FY 2003 Budget Highlights

- The Administration's budget request for the NEH is \$126.9 million, a \$1.2 million or almost 1 percent increase over last year.
- The request includes \$90 million for the Endowment's grant programs in support of high quality education, research, preservation, and public projects in the humanities and for the projects and programs of the 56 state humanities councils throughout the nation.
- The request provides \$10.4 million for the NEH Challenge Grants program to stimulate and match private, non-federal donations in support of humanities institutions and organizations.
- The request provides no funding to continue the establishment of ten regional humanities centers.

UC FY 2003 Budget Priorities

- Increase the President's request of \$126.8 million by \$30 million for a total of \$157 million.
- Continue funding for the regional humanities centers. UC Davis was selected as the Pacific Regional Humanities Center and as such was to receive \$1 million from NEH a year for five years with a 3-to-1 matching requirement. Instead, the current allocation is \$126,300 annually for three years.
- Ensure an appropriate and sufficient role for the agency's university programs, including funding for basic research, original scholarship, and NEH-supported fellowships.