

Activity Report
State and Community Program

A. Status of program, fiscal 1972

1. State-based program:

By the end of fiscal 1972, the state-based program is scheduled to have 16 state committees funded to make grants within those states for public activity in the humanities; an additional 20 state committees are scheduled to be created and funded for planning.

As of December 1, eight states were operationally funded, 11 states had planning grants, and one further state had a planning grant in process.

At the February Council meeting, action will be sought on seven applications: two state committees are requesting supplemental planning funds, four state committees are seeking their first operating grant, and one state committee will be seeking its operating grant for second-year activities.

2. Special projects (regional projects):

The special projects program seeks, by grants to local institutions and organizations, to support exemplary public activity in the humanities, particularly within those states which are not presently involved in the state-based program. The program has the capacity in fiscal 1972 to make approximately 25 such grants at an average grant cost of \$30,000.

One grant has been made so far in fiscal 1972, and 17 applications are pending for action at the February Council meeting.

3. Fiscal 1972 funding:

	Available	Expended	Balance
a. State-based program	\$2,787,600	\$342,500	\$2,445,100
b. Special projects	750,900	58,980	691,920
totals	\$3,538,500	\$401,480	\$3,137,020

(The special projects figure for funds expended includes \$36,980 for a project which is being jointly funded by this program, the education program, and the office of planning.)

B. Staff activity, December 6-10

The state-based program staff is heavily involved in three areas during December and January: 1) the identification and invitation of groups from the states to meet here in Washington to discuss establishment of the state-based program in their states; 2) the administration of on-going state-based programs, particularly as it relates to action at the February Council; and 3) heavy staff travel to existing state-based programs to discuss problems, progress, and intentions of these groups.

Steve Goodell, the program officer for special projects, is working on getting the 17 pending applications reviewed by outside evaluators, and setting up dates for a panel meeting to review the applications further. Beyond this, he will be having discussions with the University of Chicago about setting up a conference to discuss how the quality and volume of applications to special projects can be increased.

1. Staff travel:

John Barcroft (director) and Carole Huxley (program officer) to Madison, Wisconsin, December 6---to discuss final draft of operational state-based proposal for February Council meeting.

Len Oliver (assistant director) to Missouri and Oklahoma, December 4-6, to review progress of state committees and to participate in program activities of Oklahoma and Missouri state-based committees.

Carole Huxley to Kansas to attend state-based committee meeting to review progress in program design, Dec. 10.

Signa Dodge (assistant director) to New York, Dec. 10, to discuss changes in film being prepared on the state-based program.

2. Other staff activity:

John Barcroft, Signa Dodge, and the state-based program staff---meeting December 9-10 with five adult educators, academic administrators, and academic humanists from Delaware to discuss the planning and funding of a state-based program in Delaware.

Signa Dodge---review and discussion of second year applications from Oregon and Maine state-based groups.

Carole Huxley---review of first year applications from North Carolina, Ohio, and Wisconsin state-based groups. Processing program design Chairman's grant to South Carolina.

Len Oliver---meeting with Iowa state-based committee staff director, information gathering and scheduling of meetings for five new state-based groups.

Steve Goodell and John Barcroft---meeting with Philip Nowlen, Director of the Center for Continuing Education, University of Chicago, to discuss a proposal for a conference on public programs in the humanities. The object is to assemble some of the strongest university extension personnel in the country to discuss how they can increase their programs in the humanities.

Steve Goodell---mailing of project applications to outside evaluators, planning review panel for January 5.

C. On-going problems

The state-based program is a new venture both for the Endowment and for those who become involved in the particular states. The basic on-going problem is to articulate with increasing clarity the Endowment's intentions in the program, and the seriousness with which the agency has undertaken it. These two matters affect our ability to command the energies of really strong people within the states, and permit us to insist that the program developed within each state be one that the Endowment can defend.

Until October, 1971, the special projects program never had a staff member responsible on a full-time basis for the growth in quality and effectiveness of the activities supported by special projects grants. The result is that in some ways the special projects program is as "new" as the state-based program, the chief short-term objectives are to increase the volume and quality of applications to the program, and to coordinate it with the state-based program (and other Endowment public programs) in such a way that it increases the over-all ability of the Endowment to generate public interest and support good programs in the humanities.