I originally requested a 2-course buyout for the Spring semester 2012 in order to complete the editorial work on the *Cambridge Wagner Encyclopedia* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, projected 2013) which had a submission deadline of May 31, 2012. The reason the deadline in this case had to be taken very seriously is that 2013 is the bicentennial of the birth of the composer Richard Wagner (1813-1883) and there was a lot of pressure to make sure the *Encyclopedia* would appear during the bicentennial year. However, I was only given a 1-course buyout. Nevertheless, I made maximum use of the time and completed the project as promised.

During the Spring 2012 semester, I devoted my course release time to editorial work on the *Encyclopedia*, which had grown since the writing of the proposal into a project involving 84 scholars from 11 countries and 9 academic disciplines. The volume ended up being 340,000 words instead of the projected 300,000 (approx. 900 pages). In addition, I wrote 23 entries instead of the projected 13, plus the 7 appendices, listed in my proposal.

Because of the additional number of entries I had to write, combined with the reduced release time I was granted, and some missed deadlines on the part of the contributors, I also worked flat out all summer 2012 and was able to submit the completed manuscript in September 2012. The manuscript is currently “in production” and I will be receiving the preliminary file for indexing on December 20, 2012. The projected publication date is now August 2013, so still during the bicentennial year.

I would add that, because of the *Encyclopedia* project and the contacts I was able to make as a consequence, I have been invited to join the 5-person editorial team of *wagnerspectrum* starting January 2013, as the only non-German member of this German-language journal devoted to Wagner studies.

My thanks to the Provost and the Committee for the release time that was granted, without which I would not have been able to complete the project in the time I did.