USC Social Sciences Grant Program Final Report
Title: South Carolina Native American Folklife and Oral History Project
Amount Requested:
$18,942.54
Amount of Award:
$18,468
Principal Investigator:
Stephen Criswell, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of English and Folklore
Director of Native American Studies
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Accomplishments:
Activities: Over the past 16 months, with the assistance of additional fieldworkers, I have completed dozens of interviews with Native Americans in South Carolina with accompanying audio and video recordings and verbatim transcripts. Through the efforts, I have succeeded in developing an emerging collection of oral histories documenting Native American life in our state.

In the summer of 2012, I interviewed graduates of the Varner town Indian school near Monck’s Corner, SC, and members of the Beaver Creek Tribe in Salley, SC. In October and November 2012, I interviewed Catawba traditional artists, and in April of 2013, I interviewed members of the Edisto Tribe. In the summer of 2013, I revisited the Beaver Creek Tribe and interviewed additional Catawba artists. I also documented Santee Indian traditions. Fieldworkers funded by the grant interviewed members of the Pee Dee, Lower Eastern Cherokee, and Waccamaw tribes and veterans from the Catawba Nation in the summers of 2012 and 2013.

As interviews were completed, I digitized audio and video and have converted most to formats appropriate for sharing via the web. Student workers have transcribed most of the interviews, and these have been reviewed and edited by me and my colleagues. Portions of these interviews are featured in a current exhibit in the USCL Native American Studies Center. In the near future, I will make the transcripts available to researchers, post audio and video clips online, distribute copies of interviews and documentation to tribal leaders, and develop additional materials for an exhibit on South Carolina’s Native communities. I am working with the USCL Native American Studies archivist to catalog documentation from this project and with our gallery curator to develop exhibits.

Achievements of Outcomes: With the assistance of colleagues and student workers, I have completed, or will soon complete, the outcomes detailed in my application. I have completed a series of interviews documenting Native American oral history, narrative traditions, and folklife in our state, and have begun to develop a publicly-accessible digital collection of audio and video interviews with members of South Carolina’s Native American communities. I am creating an on-going series of podcasts to provide regular highlights from our audio collection, and I will soon provide the cultural offices of our state’s Native American communities with copies of our interviews and will distribute cds and dvds among our informants and the immediate family members of those deceased.
**Summary of Funding Expenses:** For the most part, expenses followed the proposed budget. I did request and received approval to move additional funds to the supply line when I was informed by USCL’s IT director that my then-current computer (purchased with grant funds in 2009) was outdated and did not have the memory or processor power to handle the audio and video files associated with this project. Also, due to the availability of addition grant funds and work-study assistance, not all of the funds for personnel were expended (I will be able to report the final amount of the funding surplus once I receive a final accounting of expenses and payroll reports from our Business Office). Details regarding funding expenses are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Expense</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Services-PI</td>
<td>6,560.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Services-Other faculty</td>
<td>2,700.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Services-Temp</td>
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<td>Personal Services-Student</td>
<td>1,900.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringe</td>
<td>2,344.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies/Materials</td>
<td>3529.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$17,694.01</strong></td>
</tr>
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(Tentatively remaining: $773.99)

Supplies and materials included the above-mentioned computer, blank archival gold and standard dvds and cds, a digital audio recorder, a tablet computer for fieldwork notes, frames for exhibiting text panels drawn from field recordings and photos from site visits, and additional audio recording supplies (microphone cords, sd cards, etc.). Personnel funds supported a summer stipend for the PI, daily stipends for three faculty fieldworkers, two professional transcribers, and three student workers.

**Progress:** As noted above, most of the activities and outcomes have been accomplished. Over the coming weeks, I will finalize publically-available transcripts, edit audio and video clips, and complete exhibition materials. I will also later develop my research materials into an essay to be included in a forthcoming collection from USC Press and will seek additional grant funds from external sources to continue my fieldwork and further develop publications and exhibition materials. During the course of this grant project, I successfully submitted a grant application to the National Endowment for the Arts and the South Carolina Arts Commission. These grant awards, in part, draw from my fieldwork with Catawba traditional artists.

**Presentation to Campus:** On November 13, 2012 I gave a presentation for colleagues and the public at the USCL Native American Studies Center. On November 20th, 2013, I will present a portion of my project activities as part of USCL’s monthly faculty seminar.

**Publication and Exhibits:** I am developing podcasts for USC’s ITunesU site and video and audio clips to accompany USCL’s NAS Center’s permanent exhibits. I plan to include an essay drawn from this research in a collection of essays under contract with USC Press that I am co-editing.
Native American Heritage Month Lecture: “South Carolina Native American Oral History and Folklife Documentation Project.”
Dr. Stephen Criswell, Ph.D.
Director of Native American Studies
USC Lancaster
Nov. 13, 2012 1:00 pm
Native American Studies Center
119 South Main Street
Lancaster, SC
"Catawba Indian Pottery and South Carolina Folk Culture"
Stephen Criswell, Ph.D.

November 20  ●  Library Conference Room  ●  12:15p - 12:45p

Dr. Criswell celebrates Native American Heritage Month with his discussion of the world renowned art form of the Catawba – pottery – and its link to the folk culture of the state of South Carolina.