October 12, 2012.

James Hoch  
Associate Professor of Creative Writing  
Ramapo College of New Jersey

Re: SBR report for summer 2012 grant

Dear Dean Hassan Nejad and Provost Beth Barnett,

In accordance with SBR grant procedures, I am submitting a report detailing the outcomes of the grant that was awarded for the summer 2012. My grant was focused on developing individual poems that may be part of a new manuscript, *Small Busy Flame*. The scope and description of this project was indicated in the SBR application.

Briefly, over the summer I draft several new poems and found publication in a few venues. Most notably, my poems *Afghanistan* and *Moose Spectacle* have been accepted and are forthcoming from American Poetry Review, one of the most prestigious publications in the world. *Afghanistan* is part of a larger sequence of poems meditating on my brother’s experience of serving in the US special forces in Afghanistan after September 11. *Moose Spectacle* is a poem about a cop shooting a moose and my father, and the way our private worlds collide with the public. Oddly, “Moose” also incorporates certain geographical and linguistic elements that pertain to Newfoundland, Canada and President Mercer’s use of the term “dunch”. I doubt that this serves as an example of how what we do at Ramapo may serve the wider academic community, but here you have it.

Additionally, my poem, *Body*, about a NYC firefighter who committed suicide in the apartment building where we used to live was accepted by Green Mountains Review published through Johnson State College in Vermont. *Baggage Claim* was accepted for publication in the excessively hip Meade: A journal of Drink and Literature. Lastly, the SSAIS unit council inspired poem, *Global Studies*, an existential meditation regarding a stink bug, will appear in the 30th Anniversary issue of Alaska Quarterly Review. Drafts of other poems exist a various stages of completion and I will continue to work on them through AY 12-13.

Headway on these individual poems is a small but significant step toward preparing my manuscript, *Small Busy Flame*, for publication. I look forward to completing this manuscript and possibly another in the coming years during a projected, much longed for, sabbatical.

If you wish, you can view the new poems and the published work as they are attached to this email.

Sincerely,

James Hoch
Afghanistan

Somewhere inside your brother—
brown river dragging brown land, field of poppies,
ragged mountains, miles of caves wind-bored.

Stand still long enough, you can hear a boy with one leg
throwing stones at a boy with no legs,
because he takes pity, because he can.

Look harder, the body of a friend halved in the middle
of telling a joke, and another
snagging flies out of the air in his sleep.

Somewhere inside the goat you’ve turned your brother into—
A Pashto prayer for what he has done and silence
and a shrug when you try to say what matters matters.

And blood.

And bones which you have filled with sand
which time spills back.
And if you try to steady, fix,
he'll tell you in his casual way

*fuck off*, as he hauls his body
along a ridge marked by hooves.

~

Somewhere inside your brother
– knock, wind opens him –

there are two skies:   sky, sky of martins
                     returning to their boxes.

This is when you pray the choir of skies
and birds inside the goat that is the body of your brother

conspire and lift him out of Afghanistan.
And Afghanistan becomes a cough you can clear.

This is when you tire of making
your brother into some other,

when the song of making becomes
the song of unmaking, the unsayable psalm

of the body and body’s possessions,
the one you’ve been telling yourself

that works him back into a man.
Moose Spectacle

Lifting its enormous head, its rack of years, having strayed too far from the shore of Back Bay, back-lit fog, falling moon, its comic book shadow amorphous slicking the gray, the moose stalled, as if weighing whether to lean and take the drag oceanward, or slog back through the ruck-a-muck, or just still there – as the Guide to Newfoundland English has it – dungh.
Poor moose, you think but can’t help but think Poor father, who belonged to The Loyal Order of Moose, who, thumbs on temples, fingers fanning into horns, sung across the bar, Moo miming bull, drawing the sound out as if trying to hypnotize his already perplexed children sit-spinning on stools oriented under the smoke-glazed gaze of one sad-ass trophy. Poor punch-drunk, moose-headed father, poor life of bay mud, bay light, poor song of confusion, one unknowing diced off the wall of another. Is this how it ends, the shape drawn back? Is this what cartographers of early America considered when drafting jetty and crag?
You look toward a fogged horizon, then the sky. You see a moose and ask what the stars say—Sometimes nothing, sometimes it is all you’ve ever loved slow-churning in a cloud, cackling like the scanner of a cop who’d rather stay kissed in the warmth of his wife and television, who, a minute ago, couldn’t have known that he’d rise and wade into the bay and kill something so damn elegantly dumb, even as light drew and the moose stalled, someone who wouldn’t have believed he’d crack, that a camera would fling his tears toward the sky, that the sky would fling them back where they pool in the laps of La-Z-Boys, even if this kind of thing happens all the time.
Where the hell are we one wonders when one has spent the night meandering the blind alleys of some ancient city where you wake vertiginous, not knowing what *where* means, let alone the *you* you left in the streets. It's an old scene playing on the television— a man wakes just after dawn and lingers at the railing of a hotel balcony overlooking a piazza. And when the shot demands a profile, it pans, turns the protagonist urn-still, and the sea suddenly appears behind him. Beautiful toomuchness is one way of describing the cinema of the mid-century, though one could say the same for early cartography. Is this lost on you, alien? Are you lost in a volute of talking? I am speaking to you, little stink bug, etching the silo cell of a milk glass. You don't seem to worry your home; lethal, though, to not know how it works, how this glass was once some earth. Yes you, lover of filth, draining the simple thing you need, *This is no way to live*, I shout from my manufactured shore. It's me, your scorn-loving eye-baller. There's Rome, Bilbao, Secaucus. You haven't even learned yet how to read the semiotics of dying. But you shrug in your bug shruggery way, stuck-in, seeing-through, trying to skirt under the heavy rim, dreaming scat and sun. And even in your dream, shrewd whim, which I have placed between us, a field between two stones, where window and sewage are the mucky regulars of entry and decay, where someone's pranked the field with one-way signs every which way, there's nothing I want more than to trespass, and nothing
you want more than to traverse the face
of a world that will not let you be,
and looming behind us the sea
the vast improbable common sea
blue and black as any hour of the sky.
Baggage Claim

No one claims the heart any more
than luggage sitting in a line-up

of the lonely, roomful of orphans
staring blankly back at others

waylaid on a carousel. Hours
mark the bad deals— the trades,

the dull unkind mistaken hand.
I know, I know, this is not

what you came for. You were after
a blue bag, and someone says: bird.

And soon you’re wandering around
the terminal with your poor vision

and field guide to airport metaphors,
wandering and calling for what

you have forgotten, bird, goddamn it.
Eventually, you leave, you enter

a door, head through another— A café
that turns still when you walk in,

where everyone looks up, waiting
for you to look back, and you do,

as if your eyes carry their past,
as if theirs carry yours,

your blue shabby-feathered heart,
and the air holding whatever it does.
Body

It hangs there, in the entry,
so it will be known simply
unmistakenly as fact, the way
when you were born
you were merely a body
umbilic, barely breathing.

He could hold you against
his chest and sleep, not hear
the sky falling metallic
nor dead friends all night
pacing around the room.
Son, when you cut it down,
you’ll have to lift it kindly
so as not to disturb
evidence. And if they ask
about the pills or empties
strewn around the apartment,
say he tried to make his body
pure again, nothing more—
a fireman swaying from a cord
smartly tied back on itself.
Hudson River School

Lessons. Hard to come by, Lord knows.  
Try whistling through your hand. Now there's  
A pity, a hole, if you will, where everyone  
Eventually ends up. In droves, they go down  
Indian Brook Road. A swim. July. *Fuckin’ Scorcher* the well digger says. And man!  
What our bodies do in that old cavity  
Before the brook empties into the Hudson  
Is purer than any joy I can bare. Lord knows,  
I can bare me some joy, pain too, and that  
In-between world that is the usual.  
Know what I mean? Minor chords hurt  
Not so much, but fall with greater regularity.  
Like vines of ivy snaking up the hickory  
While we brush pass in ridiculous pairs  
Of flipflops and join every walk of life  
That has had the good sense to keep the week  
Day clear. Truck driver in underwear,  
Dishwasher in cut-offs, a mother trying out  
A pale bikini. And a herd of teens badass  
And bare-assed rushing down the ravine.  
Calamine lotion. A lesson, for sure. And still,  
Every kid takes his trick being baptized: First  
Waterfall. Then the salve of a pink bath.  
Temporary is the goodness of each;  
Briefer the nutmeat we wrench out.  
Look at that! A painting—The luminosity  
And quiet wild, the sense it would be ours;  
Though the hew, a clear lack of irony.  
Which means something's left out. Cole  
Seemed preoccupied with the coming light  
And, perhaps, the foreboding—copper, iron,  
West Point, the dinghy that dropped him  
On shore, the cycle and course of empire.  
But isn't this all starting to sound essayish,  
a little ouroborean even for me?  
We don't need my two boys tumbling through  
This foray or my brother sticking a gainer  
Off the back of a humvee or my father cutting  
A swath through the bar to have a fling  
With the archetypal. Yet there they are
Still as summer birch in the undergrowth.
Time to toss out a line of wisdom, as if it were
Hard candy falling out of the clear dish
Of the sky. And if it were, you’d come
Scrounging, heart-stoked and wrong-headed
As everyone has driven themselves to be.
But that’s easy. And easy and safe not to
Say a thing about what one knows—This light
Aches through these limbs, and the frolic below
As old as any religion we’d never need.
And the pool between what a painter sees,
What history speaks I call my school, my hole
Which only cures itself, where I lay my body.
Gainer

Not the clutch of groceries we smuggled
way late to the park where we conspired
to rendezvous as if we were spics or worse
French. Not the rivulets of smoke that poured
into the bongy rafters as his friends gathered
disbelieving, but not in disbelief that a father,
his father, could do something like that
to a son, his son, to him who we considered
too good-looking to be condemned. Not
the spoked lights of patrol cars that follow
the young when one suddenly vanishes from bed,
nor how trees cut the lights, that if you stood
trunk-still in their presence the cops would half-
forgive you and circle again, before closing in,
nor the look— the pasty, shifty face of someone
about to run. Comrades, why does wax loathe
the candle it soon becomes? None of that,
what I remember are the perfect gainers
at the town pool. How we lined the gutters
watching him tumble and turn, twist and enter
the water, as if the water knew him.
And the strangeness— not that he was perfect,
but that he’d rise from the bottom and breach
our pool-mirrored faces and be perfect again.
Rare, somehow beyond skill and luck,
like he was made for it— I remember that,
and the sinking feeling that all of this soon
would be leaving us, which said more about me
than him. Of course, we move like time,
working from one inconceivable world
into another, forward and backward facing,
churning through all at once, the way one night
he flipped off his parents, slipped a warrant,
and we torqued our tongues, lied our faces off,
a story in which we practice losing a little
as we become the understudies of our selves.
Catapult

Flaming corpse. Heap of burning peat.
Sulfuric water balloons school bus sized—
There’s nothing that won’t come to mind.
Animal hair. Carpet tacks. Used septic tank.
Bagful of maggots, anyone? Shouldn’t we
get rid of those pickle jars of excrement
we’ve been keeping in the shed?
There’s nothing love won’t make us do,
nothing we won’t load into our catapult,
as we lay all night in wait, imagining
the wobbly desperate munitions protracting
a near perfect arc over the heads of our children
who amble away, packs full of pencils,
apples, molotovs, oblivious, stinking
of roasts and sweat and whatever scent
– languid guilt, fetid fear – our bodies left
as we pulled, hugged them close
before waving our long distant wave
from our teetering porch, crooked posts,
and suddenly quiet smoldering stations.
Memorandum

To: Joan Capizzi, Provost Barnett

From: Dominique Johnson, Assistant Professor, Law & Society, SSHS

Re: Summer SBR Funding 2012 Report

Date: December 21, 2012

I am respectfully submitting this report of activities from my 2012 SBR funding period. I previously submitted a version of this report to Dean Rosenberg (SSHS). My project, Habits of Hope: Education at the Heart of American Life, benefitted greatly from this dedicated time over the Summer sessions. Thank you very much for supporting this research project.

**Project Title: Habits of Hope: Education at the Heart of American Life**

**Project Rationale and Goals Accomplished during SBR Funding**

This project is an ethnographic case study utilizing participant observation to examine a dual language rural school district facing challenges in educating their students usually only associated with urban school districts. This case study provides an example of one of the legacies of the famous Supreme Court case *Mendez v. Westminster* in contemporary society.

The town where I am conducting my research is only one of a few in the state to have a dedicated Spanish/English dual language program. Upon the most recent U.S. Census it has also become the first majority-minority town in this state since the nineteenth century. I have many connections in the town, particularly through family.

The SBR funding allowed me to devote the summer months solely to this work and I made good progress on the project’s goals. During the funding period, I continued reviewing relevant research literature utilizing the holdings of Ramapo’s Potter Library. I also drafted the table of contents and continued the process of writing the first chapter draft of the book manuscript. I plan on publicly sharing this work ultimately through a published book.
Implementing Benefits of the Research Project to the Ramapo College Community

I intend to implement the materials, knowledge, and techniques I have gained into my teaching in the future. Specifically, I plan to use the knowledge and materials I gained from my work on this project to augment my teaching in my Education and the Law course this coming semester (Spring 2013). The project will also enhance my classroom effectiveness by discussing the work with students in relevant class sessions.

I am also using this work to enhance my service capacities to the College. The intersections of education, particularly public education, and civic engagement are a major focus of this manuscript. I am working with the Civic and Community Engagement Center at Ramapo as well as in my capacity as chair of Ramapo’s American Democracy Project to use my scholarly work on this project to enhance our work on civic engagement here at the College.
FDF 2012 Summary Report

I was awarded a Summer 2012 FDF Grant/Stipend (Ramapo College) in the amount of $4,000 towards completing my research project, “The Use of Islamic Court Records in the Study of the Status of Women in Ottoman Society.” I am happy to report that I have just heard from the editors at the peer-reviewed *American International Journal of Contemporary Research* that my paper has been accepted for publication with minimal revision. The new title of the article is: “The Use of Male Legal Representatives by Ottoman Women in Their Interactions with the Islamic Courts, 1550-1650.”

I could not have completed this research project if it were not for the significant amount funding provided to me by the SBR Grant. I thank the FDF All-College Committee and Ramapo College of New Jersey for their generosity.

Sincerely,

Pinar Kayaalp, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Islamic and Middle Eastern History
School of American and International Studies
Ramapo College of New Jersey
505 Ramapo Valley Road
Mahwah NJ 07430-1680
201-684-6211
pkayaalp@ramapo.edu
Separately Budgeted Research Final Report
Kristin Kenneavy, Sociology, SSHS
AY 2011-2012
Type: Stipend
Amount Awarded: $5000

Title
The Green Dot Project: Evaluating and Promoting Bystander Intervention

Goals facilitated through funding:

1. **Data Entry of Wave 3 respondents (N = 392)**
   Status: Accomplished
   These cases will now be available for students in the Public Sociologies course to utilize for projects, and conference submissions to the Eastern Sociological Society meeting in March 2013. Each of the cases corresponds to a 14-page paper survey.

2. **Cluster Analysis of Survey Data for Social Marketing Purposes**
   Status: Abandoned
   I proposed to use a market segmentation technique (cluster analysis) in SPSS to group students into “types” for whom we could craft messaging. After teaching myself three types of cluster analysis and running the data in a variety of ways and with a variety of variables, I found that I was not learning anything about the students’ responses that I did not already know. Part of the problem is that certain demographic characteristics (such as sex, male/female) have a tendency to “swamp” the analysis, meaning that they have so much explanatory power that they muscle out other predictors. However, it doesn’t make sense to exclude such variables since they are very important. I will continue to look at this problem, but was not making any headway this summer and didn’t want to waste time on an aspect of the project that was speculative. Rather, I completed an additional manuscript.

3. **Manuscript 1: Student Extracurricular Participation and Bystander Intervention: A Special Case for Greeks and Athletes?**
   Status: Accomplished

ASA Abstract:
Recent implementation of primary prevention violence programs on campuses have utilized a Popular Opinion Leader model that hypothesizes that trained student leaders will disseminate information about prevention to their peer groups, thereby changing social norms in the college community relative to violence. A natural constituency for recruitment is students engaged in on-campus extracurricular activities, but little is known about whether student extracurricular participation relates to increased willingness to intervene in situations that could lead to violence. Athletes and Greek-
affiliated students are often the focus of violence prevention efforts and can therefore be viewed as “special cases” of student involvement. While prevention efforts have begun to treat student athletes and Greek-affiliated students as potential allies in increasing bystander intervention, much of the research has focuses narrowly on large Division I schools where athletes and Greeks are more likely to be segregated, physically and symbolically, from the general student body. This paper investigates whether student involvement in extracurricular activities related to bystander intervention, with particular attention to student athletes and those affiliated with fraternities and sororities. Data are derived from a cross-sectional random cluster sample of students at a relatively small, public liberal arts college in the Northeast (N = 377). Willingness to intervene is measured using both an index of responses to brief statements as well as responses to specific vignettes that describe potentially violent scenarios. Data were collected by undergraduate students in a Public Sociologies course, in service to an overall evaluation of a violence prevention initiative on their campus.

The above manuscript was submitted to the journal *Violence Against Women*, which is the premier publication for those working on issues of interpersonal violence prevention. The co-authors are two Ramapo College students (T. L. Kushner ‘12 and Jessica Alexander ‘12, both Sociology). T. L. also attended the American Sociological Association (ASA) meeting in Denver, CO in August 2012 where he co-presented the paper. The conference information is below.

Individual Submission Type: Paper
Unit: Applied Social Research/Evaluation
In Session Submission: Regular Session. Applied Social Research/Evaluation
Scheduled Time: Fri, Aug 17 - 2:30pm - 4:10pm

4. **Manuscript 2:** *The Influence of Social Norms on Advancement through Bystander Stages toward the Prevention of Power-Based Personal Violence*
Status: Added and Accomplished

**VAW Abstract:**
This research attempts to clarify the relationship between social norms and advancement though the bystander stages toward prosocial (active) intervention in five types of power-based personal violence (PBPV): emotional abuse, physical abuse, controlling behavior, sexual abuse, and stalking. Results are mixed regarding the influence of social norms on bystander behavior across stages and types of violence. Accurate social norms perceptions are associated with routine intervention, although social norms misperceptions are not a strong deterrent to intervention. An individuals’ interpretation of violent situations as problematic is predictive of increased willingness to intervene. Recommendations for constructing a social norms campaign are discussed.
The co-authors for this paper are Jacqueline Deitch-Stackhouse (Princeton) and Richard Thayer (TCNJ). I will be second author since I did not initiate the data collection (Jackie will be first author, the data are Green Dot related but gathered from students at TCNJ). However, Jackie and I co-wrote the paper, I planned all analyses, and Dick executed all analyses. The manuscript has also been submitted to *Violence Against Women*.

If you would like to see full text and tables of the above manuscripts, or would like to see a copy of the SPSS dataset, or any of the cluster analysis output, please let me know. I can be reached at kkenneav@ramapo.edu or by cell at 917-710-5093.

Thank you for this award. I hope to be considered again in the future.

Sincerely,

Kristin Kenneavy
Assistant Professor of Sociology
Ramapo College
Progress Report
Ramapo SBR Grant (2011-2012, summer 2012)

1. Principal Investigator
Seung-Sup Kim, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry
School of Theoretical and Applied Science (TAS)
Ramapo College of NJ

2. Title of Research Project
Biochemical and Structural Studies of Bacterial Recombination & Repair Proteins (long term title)

Title of Proposed Study (2012 summer)
Molecular cloning, over-expression and purification of recombination proteins (RecR, RecO, RecF, RecA and SSB) from Deinococcus Radiodurans and biochemical studies of complexes among recombination proteins and the DNA target

3. Research Summary and Plan

Molecular cloning, over-expression and purification of recombination proteins (RecR, RecO, RecF, RecA and SSB) from Deinococcus Radiodurans and biochemical studies of complexes among recombination proteins and the DNA target (2012 summer)
Throughout the proposed study, we were planning to produce the expression clones of bacterial recombination proteins including RecF, RecA and SSB from D. Radiodurans. The expression clones of RecR and RecO proteins have been cloned previously in our laboratory (see Figure 1, the arrow indicates purified recombinant form of RecR protein from D. Radiodurans). Once the expression clones are established, using the clones (RecR, RecO, RecF, RecA and SSB) we will over-express and purify recombination forms of the various proteins to use for future studies.

The long term goal of the proposed research project is to understand the functions of bacterial recombinant proteins and the mechanisms of bacterial recombination and repairing processes. For the long term studies, site-directed mutagenesis will be introduced if it is necessary to produce mutant forms of the target proteins to study structure-function relationships of the proteins. To over-express and purify the target proteins and their mutant forms, T7 bacterial expression system and various protein chromatography techniques (affinity, size exclusion and ionic exchange chromatography) will be utilized. The purified proteins will be subjected to biochemical and functional studies including analyses for oligomerization states or complex formation analyses between different binding partners using different combinations of the
target proteins and DNA targets. Various gel electrophoresis, protein chromatography and binding assay techniques will be applied for the studies.

![Figure 1. A picture of SDS-PAGE for the purification of RecR](image1)

1: Protein Size Marker
2: Uninduced cell extract
3: Induced cell extract (expressed HisSUMO RecR DR)
4: Empty
5: Supernatant from sonication
6: Empty
7: Pellet from sonication
8: Flow-through from 1st Ni-NTA chromatography
9: Wash from 1st Ni-NTA chromatography
10: Elute fraction # 2 from 1st Ni-NTA chromatography
11: Elute fraction # 4 from 1st Ni-NTA chromatography
12: Purified HisSUMO RecR before HisSUMOase digestion
13: After SUMOase digestion
14: Flow-through from 2nd Ni-NTA chromatography
15: Wash from 2nd Ni-NTA chromatography

4. Data and Results

The progress of the cloning were not fast as we planned, but so far we were able to establish expression clone of SSB protein (HisSUMO_SSB_DR) from *D. Radiodurans* addition to the previously established expression clones (HisSUMO_RecR_DR and His_SUMO_RecO_DR). Also the cloning processes for RecF and RecA proteins from *D. Radiodurans* were attempted several times and even though the clonings were not smooth as we expected, several trouble attempts and trials, we are very close to the last stage to establishing the expression clones for RecF and RecA proteins. Figure 2 shows a picture from the agarose gel analysis for the obtained PCR products of RecF and RecA cDNA. The works are still going on and it will be continued through next semester (spring 2013) as one of the TAS Honor Research project.

![Figure 2. A gel picture from agarose gel analysis of PCR reactions for RecF and RecA encoding gene from *D. Radiodurans*.](image2)

Lane 1: 100 bp-1 kbp DNA size marker; Lane 2 & Lane 3: PCR product of RecF gene (red arrows); Lane 4: PCR product of RecA gene (blue arrows); Lane 5: negative control for PCR reaction (no PCR product).
5. Student Research Activity and Learning

Several Ramapo college students were involved in the proposed research project after the project has been initiated by the Principal Investigator since summer 2012. They were worked on the studies through TAS Research Honors Program.

Alicia Miller (fall 2012 – spring 2013) is a junior student majoring Biochemistry and she worked on the RecF cloning project through TAS Research Honor Program during fall 2012. She is going to continue to work on both cloning projects for RecF and RecA for next semester (spring 2013) through same research program.

Sean Eccles (fall 2012) is a junior student majoring Biochemistry and he worked on the RecF cloning project through TAS Research Honor Program during fall 2012. He is going to rejoin my research lab to continue to work on the studies for the various bacterial recombination proteins after he return from his study abroad semester during spring 2013.

Through the research projects, the students were exposed various advanced biochemical research techniques and experienced academic research lab environment. The students exposed to various research techniques such as general molecular cloning (including DNA primer designing, PCR, restriction enzyme digestions, DNA purification, DNA ligation, competent cell production, plasmid transformation, bacterial cell culture, etc.), and agarose and poly acrylamide gel electrophoresis analyses for DNA and protein samples. The research experiences will help the future career of each student in the area of scientific research and other areas require independent research skills.

6. Supports by Ramapo SBR Grant (summer, 2012)

The Ramapo SBR Grant (summer, 2012) for the proposed research project has been used to support the summer 2012 stipend for Principal Investigator and the purchases of necessary laboratory consumables, reagents and instruments. The support by SBR Grant has been essential parts of successful initiation and continuation of the research project for my research laboratory and the TAS Research Honor projects, which provided valuable research experiences and opportunities to the Ramapo students, could not have been possible to be carried out without the support.
SBR Report: Summer 2012

I am pleased to report that I was able to use the summer stipend SBR awarded me for Summer 2012 in order to work on my project “Words, Deeds, Gender, and Genre.” My project examines the interplay between words and deeds in Old English literature as a function of both gender and genre, considering heroic poems such as Beowulf, Judith, and Cynewulf’s Juliana and Elene, as well as some female saints’ lives. The award enabled me to devote most of the months of July and August to work on this text as I was relieved of the necessity of teaching. I was able to utilize library resources at the University of Minnesota, where I was located during those months. I was able to expand my draft of the article, and produce a significant piece of work.

In addition to my major work on this article, I worked on several other projects. In June I was able to travel to Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts and spend a week working with my collaborators, Profs. Michael Drout, Mark LeBlanc, and Michael Kahn, on the project I received SBR funding for in Summer 2011, applying some computer techniques they have been developing with the help of an NEH grant to the poem Beowulf (“What Can Lexomics Tell Us about Beowulf?”). We were able to run numerous dendrograms and craft new experiments, greatly expanding our techniques and adding to our draft of the article we are working on. In addition, I completed revisions for my essay “Poor Sméagol: Gollum as Exile in The Lord of the Rings” which has been accepted into the prestigious festschrift for T. A. Shippey, the leading scholar on J. R. R. Tolkien, entitled Author of the New Century: T. A. Shippey and the Creation of the Next Canon; this text is forthcoming from McFarland.

I would like to thank the college again for this award; it enabled me to devote a significant period of time to furthering my research goals and allowed me to substantially expand an important article.

Sincerely,

Yvette Kisor
To: Dean Samuel Rosenberg  
Dean School of Social Sciences  
Rampapo College

From: Sanghamitra Padhy  
Assistant Professor of Law and Society, SSHS  
Rampapo College

Subject: SBR travel grant and Stipend for Summer Research in July-August 2012

During the summer of 2012, in July and August, I researched on water rights law and especially, studied conflicts over access to clean water in India and California. My larger question was how well do our laws protect community’s access to ground water. The research involved reading of legal materials, review of literature and also field visits to sites which have been in the limelight of people’s struggle to access clean water.

In the first month of July, I mostly reviewed literature and researched at NYU library. The research entailed review of water rights in common law countries, riparian and appropriation doctrine, ground water law, and laws of nuisance. I reviewed materials on precautionary principle in International law. I reviewed scholarly sources on the Commons and issues with privatization. I also spend some time connecting with people in the field and planning for my field visits.

I conducted field visits to India and California in August. My India visit focused on study of two debates relating to water rights: Vellore tannery case and Plachimada’s Campaign Againsts coke factory. I began my trip in Delhi, where I spent 1.5 days, and had one meeting with a researcher at IELRC working on groundwater rights. How work has been on Plachimada specifically and the meeting provided an insight into social mobilization.

From Delhi, I visited Chennai, which is central to my study of tanneries as this is where most governmental offices and research centers are housed. In my three day stay here, I had meetings with activists, academia, Lawyers, scientific researchers and government agencies, the idea being to understand stakeholder positions on how to protect people’s rights and how Supreme Court ruling is being enforced. The Indian Supreme Court has set up a body to enforce its ruling to clean up water pollution, and this visit offered me the opportunity to see how the ruling was read and implemented at the state and local level. I met with Nitya Jayraman, an activist in Chennai who has been involved with farmer’s rights in the Vellore case. I also met with researchers at CLRI and TN pollution control board, and these interviews provided information on leather tanning processes, water pollution prevention, setting up of RO plants and needs of the industry, and met with officials at the Loss of ecology authority—the chief implementing agency. While
this is a long term project, some of these initial findings will be presented at the Rachel Carson symposium in college and I will be writing a journal article on this.

My next site visit was to Coimbatore, Trivandrum, Plachimada and Cochin in Kerala. My meetings over here mostly involved meeting activists, community leaders, Panchayat leaders, Journalists, academia etc involved in the people's movement against Coke. While on the one, my interviews focused on the social movement politics especially given that the state has a very active left based movement, on the other I also focused on understanding the complexity of the right to water challenge, high court position on ground water rights, and local government's definition of who should own water. This is critical to my work on groundwater rights and governance. I plan to advance on this in Summer of 2013 with additional research in India and through a water workshop at MIIT in June, 2013.

I also visited Northern California in August. My field visit here entailed following up some of the water privatization debates and emerging conflicts over depleting ground water. I researched mostly from Stanford University and I plan to advance on this through my research and draw comparisons on groundwater management.

Attached below is a small sample of literature and case laws that I have reviewed.


_M.C Mehta v. Kamal Nath 1997 1 SCC 388


Rose, Carol M. Joeseph Sax and the Idea of Public Trust. Faculty Scholarship Series, Yale law School.


_Vellore Welfare Forum vs. Union of India, AIR 1996 SC 2715._