UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The University of California and the National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

- NEH is the only federal agency dedicated to promoting and enhancing research, education and public programs in the humanities.
- Nationally, NEH-supported research has resulted in 18 Pulitzer Prizes, 20 Bancroft Prizes and numerous awards for documentary films.
- Funds for the NEH leverage significant, non-federal contributions totaling more than \$2 billion over the last few decades.
- Since its creation in 1977, the NEH Challenge Grant program has leveraged federal funds at a ratio of 3:1, raising more than \$3 billion in private support for humanities projects.
- State humanities councils, which help fund university projects, leverage \$5 for every dollar in federal investment. In 2015, state councils reached over 5,300 communities in the U.S. working with more than 9,000 partner organizations.
- Demand for humanities support far exceeds available funding. In FY 2015, NEH received 4,928 competitive grant applications representing \$482.8 million in requests, but was only able to fund 15.4 percent of these peer-reviewed proposals. Further, NEH's funding has declined by 19 percent—when adjusted for inflation—over the past six years.



NEH and the University of California

- Over the past 10 years, all 10 of the UC campuses have received funding from the NEH.
- In FY 2015, six UC campuses received NEH funding, totaling more than \$1.8 million.
- Since 2001, UC has received more than \$37 million from the NEH.



Action Needed

Recognizing how important knowledge and research in the humanities is at a time of rapid globalization—not only to explore our own history and civilization, but to encourage international cooperation and expand our understanding of world languages and cultures—**UC urges Congress to increase its investment in the humanities**.

To address the global challenges we face, the U.S. must strengthen its commitment to fund research and scholarship in the humanities as well as related fields that serve the nation's economic, diplomatic, defense and national security needs. The University of California urges Congress to provide robust and sustained funding in the following areas:

- NEH: As previously stated, NEH provides fundamental support for humanities projects that is matched through private, institutional and foundation support. UC requests a minimum of \$148 million for the NEH.
- The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC): The NHPRC was created to promote and preserve access to historical records of national significance. Funding for this account, which was at \$13 million in 2011, has steadily eroded. UC requests a minimum of \$5 million for the NHPRC.
- Title VI, Fulbright-Hays: Title VI supports the vital infrastructure of the federal investment in international education, allowing the expansion of America's awareness of the world, an understanding of languages and cultures, and enhanced global perspectives in a modern world. UC requests a minimum of \$76 million for Title VI.