



Rothermere American Institute 2011-12 Travel Awards: Recipients' Reports

Edward Adkins, DPhil candidate in American History

“Opening Pandora’s Box: Richard Nixon, South Carolina and the southern strategy”.

Award given for research in Department of Health, Education, and Welfare records in the US National Archives, Washington DC.

Students of Nixon’s southern strategy have tended to approach the topic in segmented ways: whether through examining the White House, the civil service, or even an increasingly vocal and influential southern electorate. As a result, study of the southern strategy has yielded diverse conclusions. Whilst political scientists have emphasised presidential impotence, liberal scholars have decried the racial polarisation they believe was precipitated by Nixon’s cynical efforts to win over white southern conservatives. The purpose of my thesis is to examine just how much influence Nixon’s southern strategy actually exerted.

Accordingly, a core component of my research has been examining the records of federal departments to evaluate the success of Nixon’s southern strategy in transforming policy outcomes. In 2009, I visited the National Archives in Washington DC for a period of four weeks to examine the records from federal departments that are available for research. After this, one trip remained incomplete.

Using my travel grant, I travelled to Washington D.C. in April 2012. The purpose of this trip was to examine sources at the National Archives II, College Park, that I had opened up through a Freedom of Information Request. These proved to be extremely valuable in both their novelty value as well as the insider information and insight offered up. For example, I had not realised just how concerned the high-level federal bureaucrats were about the arrival of Richard Nixon in the White House in terms of implications for civil rights enforcement.

Moreover, by following up a memo including in this cache I ended up interviewing a civil rights lawyer who had first-hand experience of Mississippi school segregation in 1967, and was able to provide valuable details of the lengths to which white state elites went to preserve the schema of racial separation in schools.

To conclude, my trip was as successful as I had hoped, and more. By spending additional time in Washington D.C., I was able to consult rare primary sources in the Library of Congress that would otherwise have been excluded from my thesis.

Patrick Andelic, DPhil candidate in American History

“Beyond the New Deal Order: Debating the Democratic Future in an ‘Age of Conservatism’, 1972–1980”.

Award given for research in the Tip O’Neill, Margaret Heckler and Edward Boland papers at Boston College; and the Edward Kennedy papers at the JFK Presidential Library, Boston.

I arrived in Boston at the beginning of April, 2012, having completed six months at the Library of Congress as a fellow of the John W. Kluge Center. My dissertation seeks to recapture the fascinating political climate of the United States in the 1970s and early 1980s, and to understand it not simply as a transitional era but as a period in its own right. In particular, my doctoral research focuses upon the Democratic Party and its inability to construct a popular liberal message.

The central purpose of this trip was to consult the papers of Thomas P. ‘Tip’ O’Neill, in the John J. Burns Library of Boston College. O’Neill was a Massachusetts Democrat who occupied the positions of Whip, Majority Leader, and finally Speaker in the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives during the 1970s and 1980s. Although by the late 1970s O’Neill had become a dinosaur, a relic of the New Deal and the decaying urban political machines, he was to become, by the time of Reagan’s ascent, the de facto leader of the Democratic Party and a rallying point for liberals who wanted to preserve the New Deal and Great Society welfare state from resurgent conservatism. My reading of the most recent biography of O’Neill, by John A. Farrell, suggested that the Speaker’s papers would be a rich source. I was not disappointed.

Also held in the Burns Library were the papers of Robert Drinan. A Catholic priest from Massachusetts, Drinan had won a seat in the House as an anti-Vietnam war candidate in 1970, serving his constituency until 1980, when a Vatican edict compelled him to vacate the seat. Although a peripheral figure in many of the political debates I am studying, the career of this most unlikely politician offers a means to explore the increasing importance of single-issue activist groups, for financial and logistical reasons, to the Democratic Party.

I was also able to make use of the papers of Paul Tsongas, elected to Congress in 1974 as a member of the ‘Watergate Babies’ (young Democratic legislators who came to office exploiting public disaffection over that scandal) who would emerge as a leading ‘neoliberal,’ at the Center for Lowell History in Lowell, less than an hour from Boston by train. At present, the CLH are digitising a large portion of Tsongas’ collection, and before finishing my researches I was able to leave with the archivists a list of the boxes that I time constraints had prevented me from consulting. Though it was certainly not guaranteed, I am hopeful that they will prioritise those boxes as the digitisation project continues.

I was also able to make use of collections at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library. The papers of Senator Edward M. Kennedy, whose primary challenge to President Jimmy Carter is sometimes pointed to by historians as postwar liberalism’s dying gasp, are currently closed for processing, and are likely to remain closed for several years. However, I was able to make use of the collections of several Kennedy associates, including those of Adam Clymer, a *New York Times* journalist and the Kennedy’s biographer, and Nancy Korman, a woman’s advocate and Kennedy campaign worker. I was also able to use the papers of Theodore Sorensen, the former speechwriter for John F. Kennedy who remained heavily involved in Democratic politics after leaving the White House, most notably serving as the national co-chairman of Senator Gary Hart’s 1984 presidential campaign. Finally, I was briefly able to dip into the papers of Frank Mankiewicz, campaign director for 1972 Democratic presidential nominee George McGovern and a part-time advisor to Hart’s campaign.

I remain sincerely grateful to archivists across Massachusetts for their kindness, forbearance and generosity. Most of all, I should like to thank the Rothermere American Institute for financing this trip. I hope that the resulting doctoral thesis will do justice to the unparalleled opportunity I have been given here.

Marissa Benoit, DPhil candidate in American History

“Attitudes toward infertility in colonial New England and in early modern England, 1650–1800”.

Award given for research in the Countway Library for the History of Medicine, Harvard University.

I was very grateful to receive a travel grant from the Rothermere American Institute to undertake archival research in September 2011 at Harvard’s Countway Library for Medicine in Boston, MA. I accessed many key materials for my research project on attitudes toward infertility in early modern England and colonial New England, and it was a very productive first trip to the archives. The sources located at Harvard are critical for the colonial portion of my thesis, and I was very happy to be based in New England for several weeks.

Whilst at the Countway Library, I divided my time between examining early printed medical texts and personal papers and letters. I first focused on early modern midwifery and sex manuals such as early American editions of Henry Bracken’s *Midwife’s Companion* (1737) as well as Aristotle’s *Masterpiece* (NY edition, 1793). I tried to determine when these manuals arrived in the collection, from what personal libraries the works originated, and also looked for annotation, dedications and personal references within the works. I also spent time looking at eighteenth-century tracts on venereal disease that mention barrenness to determine changes in attitude over time and to try to trace the development of a particularly ‘American’ attitude toward infertility over the eighteenth century.

Harvard has very rich archive of private papers of colonial obstetricians, and I explored these papers and other correspondence within New England for references to unusual birth or unsuccessful reproduction. The most exciting discovery that I made was a tiny, handwritten note addressed to John Winthrop, Jr. from a woman seeking medical help in 1653 after suffering multiple miscarriages. This letter was a particularly rewarding discovery for its early date and its personal nature. In short, it was exactly the type of source that I was hoping to find. I was also able to access the ledger of Dr. James Lloyd, a renowned obstetrician in colonial Boston. His ledger was full of information about frequency of deliveries and generally helpful in providing information about the medical infrastructure surrounding childbirth in early New England.

I was especially grateful for the opportunity to visit the Countway due to the fact that Harvard’s online database includes only a very small part of the library’s actual collection. I spent many hours going through the physical card catalogue, finding new sources and making notes for future visits as well. The Countway Library is located at the Harvard Medical School (Longwood Medical Area), but I also took the opportunity to gain reading rights at the Houghton Library (a rare books and manuscripts collection) on the main college campus in Cambridge. Access to this library will be helpful for future research, as I hope to also study legal records and non-medical sources in order to assess the social implications of infertility in colonial New England.

My time at Harvard’s Countway Library of Medicine was incredibly helpful to my thesis, and I thank the Rothermere American Institute for helping to fund the trip. I am very appreciative of your generous grant, and I look forward to returning to Boston to continue to work with the rich sources that I identified whilst working there in September 2011. My thanks for your support.

Tom Cutterham, DPhil candidate in American History and holder of the 3-year RAI Graduate Studentship.

“The Federalist Persuasion, 1782–1786”.

Award given for research on the Noah Webster papers in the New York Public Library, and the Hitchcock papers in the Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence.

The purpose of this trip was in two main parts: 1) to access the Noah Webster papers at the New York Public Library, and 2) to access the Enos Hitchcock papers at the Rhode Island historical society. These sets of papers both relate to a chapter/article I am writing on ideas about education in

the 1780s, and to the broader subject of post-revolutionary Federalist thought and networks. The grant awarded by the RAI covered the cost of my flights to and from the USA. Other funding, which covered my accommodation, was provided by the Royal Historical Society and the Barbinder Watson Fund at St Hugh's College.

I spent five days with the Webster papers, reading them on microfilm as per the regulations at the NYPL, and transcribing documents relevant to my work. Key among these were letters Webster wrote to the publishers of his spelling and grammar books in the late 1780s, which relate not only to the progress of book sales but to political developments in the states (e.g. "The state of Rhode Island is in a wicked shambles and the Lord only knows what will be the end of their wickedness – The books I know are mostly sold there..." NW to Hudson & Godwin, 9 Aug 1786), and a letter he received from the radical thinker Richard Price situating him as part of a transatlantic intellectual community.

Also among Webster's unpublished miscellanea were two drafts of a "History of Political Parties," which identifies the beginning of parties in the USA with the contest over army pay in the mid-1780s (rather than with the ratification of the constitution, as commonly thought). I believe this work is not available to scholars in any published form, and I will pursue the possibility of journal publication.

I spent two days (one full day and two half-days) in Providence, Rhode Island, and read through all correspondence received by Enos Hitchcock (letter written by him are not collected, and he did not make copies) during the 1780s. I took 65 photographs of these which were particularly relevant, including most importantly letters by Joel Barlow to Hitchcock, showing that the two men were good friends (Barlow called Enos "Nosh") who had worked as army chaplains together, and were in close contact through the post-war decade. Barlow was also a close friend, and Yale classmate, of Webster, so the discovery of these letters uncovers a personal connection between these two educational thinkers.

While in New York, I was also able to spend one day at the Butler Library of Columbia University, in order to access the papers of Gouverneur Morris, a Federalist leader from New York. There I took 75 photographs of documents, including drafts of addresses on liberty, justice, and other political topics. I also attended the Columbia University Early American History seminar, at which Rutgers professor Andy Shankman spoke, and the Early American seminar at CUNY Graduate Center. These functions allowed me to make academic contacts among both graduate student peers and senior scholars, and to exchange ideas and references about our work.

The trip was therefore a great success, in several different aspects, and will prove useful both to my thesis and to my general academic development. I'd like to express my gratitude to the RAI and its donors, without whose contribution the trip would not have been possible.

Alexander Blake Ewing, DPhil candidate in political theory

"The impact of September 11th on the idea of historical progress"

Award given for research in the Library of Congress and the attendance of 10th anniversary memorial events and lectures at the Smithsonian Institution.

A Rothermere Travel Grant of £500 offered me the unique opportunity to travel to New York and Washington this past September to conduct primary research in the Library of Congress and meet with experts in the academic and public policy fields. My DPhil topic at Oxford looks at liberal ideology and September 11 to explore a more general question: how do historical events and ideas relate to each other? Do historical contingencies, in this case a terrorist attack of great magnitude, affect how we think politically; or do our existing ideas shape how we react to history? Does American liberalism act differently to European variations? This last question also hints at why I am looking at 'ideologies' as opposed to what others may call political philosophy or a political tradition. Ideologies interact 'in politics' (not just in the academy) and can be understood as a set of political concepts (toleration, liberty and equality) that are defined, bundled together and attached to a

specific political agenda or programme. Ideologies, then, unlike a tradition, use ideas for a purpose, often a political one. And since Puritan days, different forms of American political thought have come through ideologically – to many it is a nation born and raised on the language of an enduring vision and mission.

But one challenging element of my topic is looking at how an ideological reaction to a recent event – say a terrorist attack last month – looks different compared to how we might interpret the same event a decade later. It was often said that everything changed on September 11. Ten years later, we may want to revise that. I thought being in Washington and New York during the ten year anniversary was critical to unpacking this dilemma. Are we changed by history or more so by our memory of history?

I spent roughly eight days in Washington and two in New York. The trip comprised of three activities. I first visited the Library of Congress and spoke with staff about the 9/11 materials highlighted in the American Memory Collections (September 11 Documentary project) held by the American Folklife Center. After looking at some of the holdings, staff showed me how to use their extensive online database (found [here](#)). There is also a library-wide digital archive (September 11 Web Archive: [here](#)).

The second aim of the trip was to attend events surrounding the anniversary. I will highlight three events. At the New America Foundation I heard two talks with distinguished panellists: 'Reflections on the Post-9/11 Decade' with Peter Bergen, an expert on Al Qaeda; and 'Liberal Leviathan' a discussion between Professor John Ikenberry, author of a new book with the same title about liberalism and foreign policy, and Steven Clemens, a well known foreign policy expert in Washington. At the American Enterprise Institute I heard Congressman Howard McKeon deliver an address about American security after 9/11.

Lastly, I interviewed a number of academics, journalists and policy experts. This required travelling to New York to interview Peter Beniart, former editor of The New Republic and author of The Icarus Syndrome, a book on American liberalism and foreign policy. I also interviewed (among others) William Galston, a political theorist at the Brookings Institution and contributor to The New Republic; Peter David, Washington Bureau Chief of The Economist; and Justin Viasse, author of Neoconservatism: The biography of an Idea. The last interview was particularly useful for a journal article I am working on about the relationship between neoconservatism and liberalism after 9/11. I will submit a portion of this project to the Rothermere digital journal.

Rachael Fowler, History undergraduate

"The impact of the Black Power Movement on Martin Luther King."

Award given for research on the National Urban League and A. Philip Randolph papers at the Library of Congress; and on Department of Justice papers at the US National Archives.

During the summer vacation 2011, I spent five weeks in Washington D.C. undertaking some preliminary research for my undergraduate thesis which I am due to write in Hilary term 2012. The title of my thesis is 'The Presidency and Civil Rights 1961-65'.

During my stay, I spent the majority of my time at the Library of Congress. Here I was able to have access to both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson's private tapes, as well as transcripts of important meetings and interviews regarding Civil Rights. I also had access to transcripts of telephone calls with Martin Luther King.

I also spent some time in the Department of Justice in order to have a look at some important White House papers relating to Civil Rights. This has proven to be vital to my research as I would not have been able to access this information in Oxford and it has added an interesting dimension to my research.

During my stay, I also took advantage of the cultural opportunities available in D.C. A particular highlight was the Martin Luther King memorial. Apart from visiting the memorials, I was also treated to an exclusive tour of the White House which my Uncle (who works for the government) organised for me.

I am very grateful for the grant awarded to me from the RAI as it has allowed me to conduct research which I would not otherwise be able to do in Oxford.

Philip Hoyle, History and Politics undergraduate

Award given for research in the O'Neill papers at Boston College and the Albert papers in Norman, Oklahoma, for a thesis comparing the use of power by two Speakers of the House – Tip O'Neill and Carl Albert.

As my undergraduate thesis focused on the Speakerships of Carl Albert and Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, the opportunity awarded to me by the RAI Travel award to travel to Boston, Massachusetts and Norman, Oklahoma to conduct research in their respective archives was invaluable, both in terms of experience gained in archival work, and in discovering material otherwise not available for the thesis. Additionally, working through congressional archives offered remarkable insights into the more general functioning of the House of Representatives in the 1970s, and the role the leadership played in ensuring that the House continued to function, and how the fulfilment of this role evolved over time. For example, although I had read a lot of material on the role of Whip Notices (announcing which bills will be taken up on the floor and in committees in the coming week) and Whip Advisories (explaining the provisions of the bills to be voted on) prior to undertaking the trip, it was only clear after seeing the paucity of information otherwise easily available to the typical member of the House just how much of a service such devices were to the membership, and how these notices could be turned to the advantage of the leadership. Similarly, it soon became quite clear why a member who is pressed for time would not spend much of it reading committee reports and the many drafts of bills!

The work-room at the Carl Albert Center was immediately adjacent to a replica of the Speaker's office as it had been during Albert's tenure, right down to the little foot-stool which had been made for him so that he could sit comfortably behind the rather large desk, and to the framed collection of presidential signing pens which Albert had collected over the course of his service in the House. The most useful and most interesting pieces in Albert's archive were undoubtedly the memos written by John Barriere, the Staff Director of the Steering and Policy Committee under Speakers McCormack and Albert. Barriere was widely credited, by a man of Richard Bolling's (D-Mo.) standing no less, with an exceptional understanding of the House, both its rules and its members, and this reputation was thoroughly deserved judging by these memos. Not only do they describe the political calculation that need to be made on almost every important piece of legislation which required the Speaker's involvement for the entirety of Albert's speakership, but they detail at which members the leadership are targeting various arguments, and document Barriere's extensive efforts to bring outside interest groups in to help the leadership lobby members. These memos proved not only to be an invaluable resource for my thesis, but also an exceptional introduction to the politics of the House and of the Speakership in particular, so much so that is a great loss that Barriere's successor, Ari Weiss, by all accounts as brilliant or even more so, moved his offices closer to O'Neill's so that the two would not have to communicate by memo. Whilst Barriere's memos focused primarily on the politics inside the House, the letters Albert received from around the country often revealed more light-hearted, and in hindsight rather amusing episodes of the politics of the 1970s, such as a number of particularly irate letters complaining about the subversiveness of the musical "Hair" and Albert's reply assuring one sender that he had in fact not attended the show (as the sender had accused him of doing).

Working in O'Neill's archive after working in Albert's demonstrated just how different their organizational styles were. Whereas most letters and memos in Albert's papers were marked by Albert in some way – whether merely indicating that he had read the item or noting what the

response should contain – O’Neill’s papers were rarely marked directly by him as he preferred to discuss matters in person rather than through notes and memos. Of particular interest for my work were memos sent to and fro between O’Neill’s key staffers regarding Carter’s energy legislation as well as the minutes of the Democratic leadership’s weekly Thursday breakfast meetings with President Carter. The staff correspondence regarding the setting up of the *Ad hoc* Energy Committee and their extensive efforts to ensure the prior support of the relevant committee chairmen was an especially useful and welcome find. Additionally it was very interesting how stark the difference in O’Neill’s archive was between the Carter years and the Reagan years. Once Reagan was in the White House O’Neill’s staff began to transcribe and dissect O’Neill’s press conferences, the leadership developed newsletters providing their members with counter-arguments for use in their districts, and O’Neill’s media image was far more closely crafted than it had previously been (thanks in large part to Chris Matthews). Whilst the Reagan years eventually ended up outside the scope of my thesis, the change was nevertheless a fascinating one to see so clearly documented.

In addition to the excellent material gathered for my thesis, the trip was also my first to the United States, and that in itself was almost as welcome as to the access to the archives. The usual image of southern friendliness was confirmed during my stay in Oklahoma. Having arrived in Norman by train from Oklahoma City I had expected to be able to take a taxi from the train station to my hotel. However there were no taxis at the station and I had not thought to find a number before leaving Oklahoma City. It being early on Saturday morning, few shops were open and I was wondering around feeling (and clearly looking!) rather lost when someone pulled up and offered me a ride to wherever I was staying, an experience which was rather unexpected having been in England for so long but which in 40 degree temperature was very welcome. Similarly the archivists were especially helpful and ever so patient as I went through box after box and requested a remarkable number of photocopies, for which I am incredibly thankful. In Boston on the other hand, thanks to the “T” transport was certainly easier. Having arrived on the Saturday from Oklahoma and with O’Neill’s archive closed over the weekend, I was able to spend Sunday seeing the city’s historic sites which added an exciting dimension to my stay there, most notably the Kennedy museum at the University of Massachusetts, which boasted a very enjoyable display on the 1960 presidential campaign and copies of Kennedy’s and Sorensen’s notes for his inaugural address.

The trip was an excellent and exciting experience, both academically and personally as someone who has had a deep and longstanding interest in the history of the United States and yet had never been, and for that I am incredibly thankful.

Mandy Izadi, DPhil candidate in American History

“Why Black-Indian History Matters”.

Award given for archival work in Washington, DC, and New York.

In the summer of 2011, I made significant progress on my research in Washington, D.C. and New York with the support of the Rothermere Travel Award. My archival investigations contributed to the larger aim of my dissertation, which is to unite Native America and African America under the rubric of United States history. Mostly broadly, I investigate the lives of antebellum blacks and Indians who lived in Florida—in particular, those who had friends and family in the Caribbean, and who took interest in the Caribbean politics of Britain and Spain that they sometimes shaped. My inquiry into the history of the two groups aims to understand how and why their paths merged when they did, the cultural production that ensued from such contact, and the impact such contact made on imperial structures within the United States and beyond its borders, beginning with local centers of power in the Caribbean and extending to headquarters in Europe. The award thus enabled me to return to the U.S., where I could examine several collections critical to answering these questions.

In New York, I spent a week completing work at the National Archives Northeast Regional Branch on the following State Department holdings: Notes from the Spanish Legation, vol.3; Miscellaneous Letters to the Department of State; and Domestic Letters to the Department of State. Further to

this, I spent two weeks in Washington, D.C. At the National Archives, I examined the Territorial Papers for Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. These records, similar to the State Department papers, provided insight into the international dimensions of my work. Research at the Library of Congress complemented my work at the National Archives. I consulted following collections at the L.O.C.: The West Florida Papers (British, 1525-1845), as this collection consists of minutes of papers relating to British presence in region (particularly significant are the “Miscellaneous Papers Relating to Civil Commotions in West Florida...1799-1827, West Florida Papers”); and The Vincente Sebastian Pintado Papers (which record the Spanish/Indian relations of the period, from the 1803 Louisiana Purchase to the 1813 United States occupation of West Florida and the 1819 cession of the Floridas to the United States). The holdings at the three archives in which I worked provided an invaluable addition to the investigations which I have already completed, while offering direction to the work I intend to complete this summer. Over the past two years, the support of the award has enabled my dissertation to have the investigatory depth and breadth it necessitates; for this support, I am incalculably grateful.

Zach Miller, MPhil candidate in Economic and Social History

“The role of ASEAN in US Foreign Relations.”

Award given for research at JFK, LBJ, and Nixon Presidential Libraries, and in the US National Archives.

This past year of research has taken my project in a different direction than the one I had originally anticipated. The first challenge I faced came from the locations and nature of the source materials I was hoping to use—the archives I hoped to target were spread over such a distance that it would have been impossible to work in all of them in one year, and it also quickly became clear that, in focusing on Southeast Asia, my original topic would benefit from the ability to read sources in Indonesian at a level that I have not yet reached. These issues, along with consultations with my supervisor in which I was encouraged to focus on the theoretical economic component of the project in order to make it a better fit with the general content of my M.Phil in Economic and Social History, led me to redirect my research toward a greater emphasis on the life and work of Walt Rostow, a prominent economic historian who also played a critical role in shaping American foreign policy in Southeast Asia broadly and in Vietnam more specifically.

Having done previous work on Rostow and his intellectual contributions as an economist and policymaker, I decided to examine more closely how he fit within the history of economic thought in America during the twentieth century in order to explore to what extent and how these ideas impacted his actions as a policymaker. This necessitated substantial review of the major topics, themes, and debates in twentieth century economic thought, and, as a result, I spent more time than anticipated working through secondary literature. However, I also made use of materials contained in the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, which holds a rich depository of biographical information on Rostow, in order to explore Rostow’s early work and his contributions as a policymaker. In addition to the David Armstrong files—a rich collection of documents collected by one of Rostow’s biographers and deposited at the library—I also worked with Rostow’s personal papers and the National Security Files. Finally, librarians at the Lyndon B. Johnson library were instrumental in assisting me in locating files from Rostow’s work on Vietnam and sending along electronic copies.

I believe the end result of this research will be an intellectual biography of Rostow as an economist that will shed important light on his contributions to American foreign policy and, more broadly, on existing interpretations of American participation in the Cold War. More specifically, the historiography that treats ‘modernization theory’—the intellectual framework that is widely held to have underpinned American interventions in the postcolonial world during the Cold War—generally interprets the movement as either an expression of older, more deeply engrained American ideological concepts, such as ‘American exceptionalism’ and ‘Manifest Destiny’, or as a hollow, rhetorical justification for geopolitical opportunism. In contrast, my research has allowed me to trace how various intellectual traditions contributed in disparate ways to the formation of ‘modernization theory’ and how, far from a monolithic concept, it was actually quite heterodox and

contested. In Rostow's case, many of his ideas were rooted in some of the most important issues in economics in the middle of the twentieth century, including the rise and fall of American institutional economics, the 'Socialist Planning Controversy', and the mathematical formalization of the discipline after World War II. In this light, many of the concepts that motivated American foreign policy in Southeast Asia during the Cold War can be seen as calling on a pool of ideas that have been inaccessible to diplomatic historians who have focused strictly on the political realm.

Zach Morris, MPhil candidate in Comparative Social Policy

"Comparative analysis of incapacity benefit's rights and responsibilities."

Award given to support participation in an exchange at the School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley.

For Michaelmas Term 2011, I represented the Department of Social Policy and Intervention while on exchange at the University of California- Berkeley School of Social Welfare. The exchange was facilitated through the Oxford-Berkeley Collaboration Program. While at Berkeley, I presented to faculty and students on my research comparing US and UK disability policy. Moreover, I audited a doctoral seminar with Professor Neil Gilbert on the History and Philosophy of Social Welfare and met with Professor Gilbert periodically concerning my MPhil research. My Berkeley hosts were incredibly kind and welcoming. I think it was a very beneficial exchange in total. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Rothermere American Institute for sponsoring my trip.

Ella Sands, History undergraduate

Award given for research at the Wagner Archives, the Elmer Holmes Bobst library and the Centro archive at Hunter College, City University, New York for a thesis on Nuyorican activism 1969-1975.

From the 1st until the 22nd of August 2011, I was fortunate enough to be in New York City, conducting research for my undergraduate thesis on the Young Lords Party (a Puerto Rican nationalist organization strongly influenced by the Black Panther Party, but which has received little scholarly attention).

I spent most of my time in the New York Central Library, the Wagner Labor Archives and the Avery Fisher Center; reading a range of primary and secondary material that is unavailable in the U.K. This included publications by the Young Lords such as the newspapers *Pa'lante* and *La Luchadora*, audio-visual material such as documentaries, photographs and interviews with Young Lords activists.

Being in New York also gave me the opportunity to meet Professor Johanna Fernandez at Baruch College, who is writing a book on the Young Lords and was kind enough to discuss some initial ideas for my thesis with me. She generously gave me the contact details of some former Young Lords who were not in New York at the time but who I hope to interview by telephone.

I found my stay in America valuable in enabling me to study a wider range of sources than those in the U.K. and, in the case of those in Spanish, to read them in their original language. Visiting the areas of New York that are important to the history of the Young Lords really deepened my interest in and excitement for my topic. Based on my reading and discussion with Professor Fernandez, I plan to focus on the participation of women in the Young Lords, and hopefully to analyse this alongside this the Black Panther party and the wider movement of 2nd wave feminism.

I am very grateful to the Rothermere Institute for the grant that helped make my trip possible.

Aelwen Wetherby, DPhil candidate in History

“Aid Incorporated: American Medical Relief to China and the Development of Medical Diplomacy, 1937–1949”.

Award given for research in the John Foster papers in St Paul, Minnesota; the American Red Cross archives; and US State Department papers in the US National Archives.

When war broke out between China and Japan in the summer of 1937, a number of American citizens began to organise private relief efforts to send in support of the Chinese people. My project examines the foundation and activities of United China Relief, Inc. (UCR) and its member agencies, focusing on their work in the medical sphere. Formed out of dual political and humanitarian motivations, their story contributes an important chapter to the history of international medical relief in the twentieth century. Organisations such as the American Bureau for Medical Aid to China (ABMAC), China Aid Council, and UCR formed in response to a highly political situation abroad through the traditionally apolitical – and increasingly secular – medium of medical relief.

By funding a visit to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, the Rothermere American Institute Travel Grant awarded to me in June 2011 has proven enormously helpful in my research. Thanks to the RAI’s £200 grant, I was able to spend one week of my recent extended research trip to the United States in Hyde Park, New York.

In visiting the Roosevelt Presidential Library, I wanted to investigate federal and executive branch attitudes towards relief work being organized by private American citizens in the wake of the outbreak of the war in China. Searching the collections for materials related to ‘China’, ‘relief’, the American Red Cross, National War Fund, War Relief Control Board, etc., I looked at multiple collections and took nearly 1000 digital photos of documents. Of particular interest were the papers of Harry Hopkins (special assistant to the president), as well as papers from the President’s Secretary’s Files.

Although I didn’t find as much as I had hoped regarding Roosevelt’s own attitudes towards the role of private or state relief to China, I was able to learn more about some of the activities of the federal agencies set up to help organize and coordinate American relief efforts abroad during WWII. With the argument of my thesis hinging on the transition of UCR’s medical agencies from relatively small, private, grassroots efforts, to a larger enterprise backed by the U.S. government, the activities of federal agencies involved in American relief to China are incredibly important parts of my historical narrative. Of particular interest in funding UCR work in China are the National War Fund (established in 1943) and the President’s Emergency Relief Fund. As American involvement in the Second World War gained momentum, the activities of the American Red Cross, Lend-Lease Administration, and President’s War Relief Control Board also become important in coordinating state relief with the work of private agencies such as UCR. Although Lend-Lease funds were primarily directed towards armaments and war materiel, at Hyde Park I learned that the program also directed some money towards medical aid, primarily through China Defense Supplies, Inc. – an organisation set up in the U.S. to distribute Lend-Lease funds in China. Dr. Frank Co Tui, already important in my thesis as one of the founders of the ABMAC (one of the eight agencies working under UCR), worked for China Defense Supplies as a consultant in the medical field. As the war continued, and Chinese medical forces improved, I learned how U.S. state involvement in relief in China became more interested in educational enterprises and missions to improve ‘cultural’ relations, which included cooperation in the medical sphere.

In addition to the archival resources housed in Hyde Park, the library’s shelved collections of books relating to FDR and the United States in the 1930’s and 1940’s offered easy access to a wide selection of texts and references not included in Oxford’s own extensive collections. Of particular interest were the bound series of diplomatic papers, ‘Foreign Relations of the United States’, references on Civilian Agencies of the federal government during WWII, and a number of books on the history of the OSS. Through scattered references to private American relief work in the series of Foreign Relations of the United States, I was able to gain a glimpse into the ways that efforts of private American citizens registered amongst the community of professional diplomats.

In the end, while direct references to United China Relief, Inc. were scattered and limited in scope in the archives of the Roosevelt Presidential Library, I believe my time spent there prove extremely valuable to my overall project. By learning more about federal attitudes towards the provision of humanitarian aid to China in the late 1930's and 1940's , I will be able to provide a critical context for the development of private American relief efforts, from an example of medical activism to an exercise in medical diplomacy.

Daniel Wilson, PPE undergraduate

Award given for research for a thesis entitled "John F. Kennedy's political relationship with vice-president Lyndon Johnson" at the JFK Presidential Library.

After Trinity term let out last year, I flew back to my hometown of Huntsville, Alabama, for a few days before flying up to Boston to conduct my research. In Boston, I was fortunate enough to stay in a dormitory of MIT with some of my friends which was in a very good location in the city. After arriving, I was able to contact the head librarian of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, which is located in Boston, about my research proposal for my undergraduate thesis: analyzing the extent to which Vice President Johnson influenced Kennedy's decision to send a man to the moon. He was very helpful with providing some advice about which collections to look at in the archives. I then proceeded to go the archives each day, working in the library until about 4 in the afternoon, when it closed, and then I would take the underground to the Boston Public Library which had an excellent collection of secondary sources on Kennedy and Johnson. I continued going to the JFK Library until the middle of August, when it closed for renovations, but I stayed in Boston a couple more weeks so that I could use the public library's impressive collection of resources.

Overall, I found my time spent at the JFK Library was extremely successful in that it provided me with access to many primary sources, such as memos between Kennedy and Johnson and tapes of their meetings, that I would not have had access to had I not traveled to Boston. Such resources will enrich the content of my thesis beyond what it would have been. On a personal note, I really enjoyed my time spent conducting research in the archives, and the experience has inspired me to apply to graduate school in political science.