

Rockefeller College Research Incentive Fund Award Report

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My original intent for this award was to hire a research assistant and work towards creating a proposal for externally funded research as well as a preliminary book proposal.

I hired Owen Lynch in January 2015 to work as a research assistant on a preliminary research project I conducted for a book on the politics of public debt accumulation in the US. Owen read and summarized for me six books and a dozen articles on current politics in the US.

Based on his research, I decided to shelve this project for now and not to expand it into a full-blown book proposal. Instead, I gave a talk based on this research at Oregon State University at the end of February 2015 and I included the US as a shadow case in my recently completed book manuscript on the comparative politics of sovereign debt accumulation. This book manuscript is currently in the final stages of revision after a successful book workshop on February 5, 2016 and will be sent off to potential publishers before the end of March 2016.

Owen's research also indirectly provided the impetus for a different grant proposal that I submitted this February to the Fritz Thyssen Foundation through the Center for Policy Research.