



THE LOIS ROTH ENDOWMENT

1870 WYOMING AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20009
TELEPHONE: 202-232-3027
FAX: 202-745-3849

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Dear Friend of Lois:

This week we mourn the death of Senator Fulbright, whom Lois loved and admired. Nine years after her death, Lois' smile is consoling, reminding us that some will be remembered for their humanity as well as their works.

The Endowment has had a mixed year: despite heroic efforts by some, we added only \$5100 in new contributions, \$400 less than in '93, a gain of under 4%. Our earnings turned up, however. Grisselle reports we earned just over 7.5% and that prospects are brighter now.

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The big news: we were at last able, with the help of USIA's Dell Pendergrast, to merge the Fund into the larger Endowment. Thus we added the Fund's \$26,000 to the Endowment's total capital, now about \$156,500 (last year's report was a bit overestimated, for the interest of the sharp-eyed reader). This new revenue will permit the Fund, its USIA trustees still in place (Bemis, Gawronski, Gosende, Ogilby, Pendergrast; Burnett, Pistor, Ransom and Russell, Emeriti), to consider wider activities. Already we have agreed with USIA's Women's Action Organization to double our contribution and increase the Roth Award for Excellence in Informational and Cultural Diplomacy to \$1500 (this year's laureate is Kiki Munshee, currently serving in Dar-es-Salaam). WAO has helped by revitalizing recruitment and selection.

Sad news: in Denmark, Lois' friend Sonja Bundgaard-Nielsen, director of the Danish American Foundation (whom Lois helped train years ago), died of the same malady which took Lois. We are seeking special funding to start a Danish program commemorating this great friendship, to be named for Sonja.

In the program, there has been innovation: a supplemental grant last year to Laura Grasso enabled her to produce a film with Finnish TV, aired widely there in English, comparing immigration-assistance programs in the US and Finland. The Endowment is clearly credited and we have a copy, thanks to Ms. Grasso, now at American University's school of law. Also, in this year's program with Finland, we decided to wait until grantees were in place, then entertain requests for supplemental funding. And in Italy, Dr. Alba Della Fazia, an old friend of ours, set up a special grant in honor of Hunter College Professor Sidonia Taupin to help an American or Latin-American student at the Libera Università Italiana per gli Studi Sociali (LUISS): \$600 was awarded to Santiago Martín Villalpando.

For the main program, we cooperated in Scandinavia with three Fulbright Commissions. In Finland by a new formula we divided \$2000 among three

grantees: Anna Minkinen, Brown University, is studying Finnish women's identity and we are helping her film her work; Diana Ben Aron, of Columbia University, was enabled to visit Sweden to compare its immigration policy with Finland's; and paleontologist Tracy Popowicz, also from Brown, was helped to use high-tech equipment for studying changes in prehistoric mammalian teeth in response to different available foods. In Sweden, Fulbrighter Kristen Walstedt of Cornell did comparative study on the runes of ancient Götland; and Teresa Napolitano, Seton Hill University, worked on civil-based defense systems in the Baltic region. We also helped American Scandinavian Foundation scholar Susan Holmberg of the University of Washington look at Swedish immigration policy. In Norway Fulbright-grantee Julia Olsen is doing a political-economic study of coastal eco-environments.

For Italy this year's Aquarone Prize laureate was the impressive Tiziana Stella of the University of Pavia; we supported book purchases for her historical work on Clarence Streit and the Federal Union in the 1930s. In France we contributed to the Coindreau Prize which this year went to Michèle Herpe-Voslinski for her translations of the work of black Louisiana writer Ernest Gaines. There was no candidate for the E.B. Smith award for US historians from Russia, nor was there an opportunity to contribute to a project involving Iran.

Family news: Lois' niece Judy this year had her first child, Rebecca Nesheim. The paperback edition of The Fulbright Difference, with my essay on Lois' first year in Tehran, is in preparation. As for me, I seem somehow to be spending more time in Italy.

The annual plea remains ever appropriate: we need support if we are to continue to grow. I urge you to think about how you can help, either by regular contributions, by a living bequest, by a gift of appreciated securities, or by writing the Endowment into your will. All contributions whether to Fund or Endowment may be sent to this address.

With warm regards and continuing gratitude.

Yours sincerely,

Richard T. Arndt, Chairman