

This is provided as an example proposal. It is important that you follow the current guidelines. The mentor letter has been removed.

PURF COVER PAGE

TITLE OF PROJECT: _____

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

CAMPUS/LOCAL ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

BUDGET: Total Request _____
(May not exceed \$1,500)

CLASS RANK: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

GPA: _____

EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION: _____ *

* Note: Students must be enrolled and maintain undergraduate student status during the proposed project period.

FACULTY MENTOR INFORMATION:

NAME: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CAMPUS ADDRESS: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

DEPARTMENT ADMIN/E-MAIL: _____

We the undersigned have read the PURF Guidelines and understand the responsibilities we undertake should funding be granted.

We certify that the application has been conceived, written and completed by the student.

Student signature: Eli S Wanner Date: _____

Faculty signature: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Advisor's Dept. Chair signature: _____ Date: _____

IRB AND IACUC APPROVAL:

To ensure that the University is in compliance with all federal regulations, complete the checklist below. *Note: your proposal can be approved prior to IRB or IACUC approval (put "pending" or "to be submitted" instead of approval number), but funding will be withheld until notification of approval or exemption.*

Yes	No	Office of Research Compliance	Policy #
		Human Subjects in Research (including surveys, interviews, educational interventions): Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval #:  Expiration Date:	19.052
		Animal Species: Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC) Approval #: Expiration Date:	19.049

Optional:

If selected for funding, I give permission to the Research Division to use my proposal as an example during training and workshop exercises. (Sign below)

Signature: Eli S Wanner Date: _____

PURF COVER PAGE

TITLE OF PROJECT: President George W. Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives: How Faith and Welfare Intertwined at the Turn of the 21st Century

NAME OF APPLICANT: Eli Wanner

CAMPUS/LOCAL ADDRESS: 17 E Stimson Ave, Athens, OH 45701

E-MAIL ADDRESS: ew354116@ohio.edu

DEPARTMENT: History

BUDGET: Total Request \$1000.00
(May not exceed \$1,500)

CLASS RANK: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

GPA: 3.976

EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION: May 2021 *

* Note: Students must be enrolled and maintain undergraduate student status during the proposed project period.

FACULTY MENTOR INFORMATION:

NAME: Paul Milazzo

E-MAIL ADDRESS: milazzo@ohio.edu

CAMPUS ADDRESS: 449 Bentley Annex, Athens, OH 45701

DEPARTMENT: History

DEPARTMENT ADMIN/E-MAIL: history.department@ohio.edu

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Student signature: _____  _____ **Date:** _____

Faculty signature: _____  _____ **Date:** _____

Faculty Advisor's Dept. Chair signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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 E-MAIL ADDRESS: milazzo@ohio.edu
 CAMPUS ADDRESS: 449 Bentley Annex, Athens, OH 45701
 DEPARTMENT: History
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Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Faculty signature: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Advisor's Dept. Chair signature: *Ben Schen* Date: 7/30/2020

IRB AND IACUC APPROVAL:

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ABSTRACT

I am currently working on my senior thesis for the HTC History program, which examines the intellectual history of George W. Bush's White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (WHOFBCI). The WHOFBCI controversially provided federal funding to religious charities and continues to impact today's world. Understanding the WHOFBCI and its precedents provides a valuable perspective on the relationship between faith and government in today's society. Aided by the analysis of primary sources related to the WHOFBCI, obtained from the George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas, Texas, I intend to explain how Bush's project came to fruition.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

GOALS AND SCOPE

I intend to use the George W. Bush Presidential Library's records to supplement my existing research. I have currently been relying on secondary sources purchased online or borrowed from university libraries, and on primary sources (including bills, congressional hearings, and White House reports) that are available to the general public on the internet. However, the George W. Bush Presidential Library is home to a number of additional primary sources related to Bush's Office of Faith-Based and community Initiatives (WHOFBCI). These include surveys, letters, memos, and other files from the offices of those involved in the WHOFBCI, and promise to provide valuable and interesting information for my research.

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing pandemic and to current restrictions both at Ohio University and the Bush Presidential Library, I am currently unable to travel to Dallas and to view these sources. I am requesting funding for the digitization and electronic scanning of sources related to the WHOFBCI at the Bush Presidential Library. Although digitization is presently suspended, as the Bush Presidential Library is unstaffed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I am hopeful that digitization will become available again in the next few months. In the event that conditions change after January 1 and travel restrictions are lifted by Ohio University and the Bush Presidential Library, and with permission from the funder, I may repurpose this funding to make a physical trip to the archive and personally photograph the sources there.

By accessing the primary sources at the Bush Presidential Library, I will have a "behind-the-scenes" look at what WHOFBCI officials were thinking and talking about. This will grant me a deeper understanding of the approach the WHOFBCI took to providing federal funding to

small religious charities and social service organizations. Access to these sources will also provide insight on the internal structure of the WHOFBCI and its inner workings, and how these affected its mission. This thesis will shed new light on the nature of Faith-Based Initiatives, which still operate today on the state and, to an extent, federal level. It is important because it will provide an intellectual background to today's relationship between church and state and to the evangelical Christian rise to political power.

CONTEXT:

To date, there is limited historical work available on Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives. Amy E. Black, Douglas L. Koopman, and David K. Ryden wrote one of the more in-depth works on the subject, *Of Little Faith: The Politics of George W. Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives*. This is a broad survey of the congressional battles over the constitutionality of Faith-Based Initiatives and the WHOFBCI's supporters' efforts to court private charities. Lew Daly's *God's Economy* provides a philosophical and religious history of Faith-Based Initiatives, tracing them back to Catholic and Dutch Calvinist ideas about shared power between the government and religious institutions. Two other major works on Faith-Based Initiatives include Robert Wuthnow's book on the WHOFBCI's efficacy, *Saving America?: Faith-Based Services and the Future of Civil Society*, and David Kuo's memoir on his time as Deputy Director of the WHOFBCI, *Tempting Faith: An Inside Story of Political Seduction*.

My thesis will build on this small body of work by placing Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives within a broader historical context. Although Lew Daly's work does examine the historical background to faith-based initiatives, his is a more philosophical perspective. My thesis will draw significantly from the philosophical background of Faith-Based Initiatives while also tying

them to concrete historical events, including Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty.

METHODS:

My historical research will take a qualitative approach, focusing more on how Faith-Based Initiatives came to be than on the statistics and numbers behind the WHOFBCI. My primary research objective is to determine how the changing culture of public-private charitable partnerships over the 20th century ultimately affected Bush's efforts to provide funding to religious organizations. As historical research, much of my methodology will be based on source analysis. I will read and analyze a wide variety of textual sources regarding Faith-Based Initiatives and the history of public and private welfare programs. It is for this aspect of my work that I am requesting funding to obtain additional useful sources that will enrich my research.

I also intend to virtually interview people who are knowledgeable about the WHOFBCI, although this research method falls outside the scope of what I am requesting funding for. I will submit the required paperwork for IRB approval so that I can use these interviews to supplement my textual analysis.

TIMELINE:

Although it is difficult to ascertain exactly how many hours I will dedicate to thesis research or writing, I expect to dedicate at least five hours a week to thesis work, and often more.

- First half of October 2020 – file for IRB approval of interviews
- October – November 2020 – continue textual research/interviews and begin writing thesis

- December 2020 – January 2021 – have Bush Library sources digitized or visit Bush Library archives, as restrictions allow
- January 2021 – finish research component of thesis work
- February – March 2021 – complete writing of thesis
- April 2021 – make final edits to thesis and submit for final approval

STUDENT'S ROLE:

Although I will enjoy the guidance and advice of my thesis advisor, this project is my original research and I will be the only student working on it. I conceived the idea to research the history faith-based initiatives for my thesis after attending a panel discussion on faith-based initiatives in Ohio and having a discussion with my boss about it. My thesis advisor has recommended some sources, helped me refine my ideas, and generously connected me with some knowledgeable people to interview, but ultimately it is my responsibility to complete this research and communicate my findings in my final thesis. After completion, my thesis will be submitted to Ohio University's Honors Tutorial College.

SIGNIFICANCE:

By examining the intellectual history of the WHOFBCI, my thesis will connect the relationship between public and private sector charity at the turn of the 21st century with that same relationship throughout the 20th century. It will trace the philosophies behind faith-based initiatives from the New Deal Era through the Great Society all the way up to George W. Bush's first term as president. As the current body of historical work on faith-based initiatives is relatively small, my thesis will be a significant contribution to my discipline's understanding of

this particular element of welfare policy. Furthermore, Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives were strongly influenced by the evangelical Christian right, who generally supported the prospect of religious charities being given more funding (and hence more power) by the federal government. The story of Faith-Based Initiatives are intertwined with the story of evangelical interest groups in American politics.

My work is important to the general public because the religious and political background to Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives has clear connections to today's political climate, as questions arise about the separation of church and state and the importance of evangelical voters to Donald Trump's rise to presidential office. Understanding the intellectual history of the WHOFBCI can help us to understand the philosophical impulses behind present American evangelicalism and religious conservatism. This will allow us to view current events in their historical context.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Black, Amy E., Douglas L. Koopman, and David K. Ryden. *Of Little Faith: The Politics of George W. Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004.

Daly, Lew. *God's Economy: Faith-Based Initiatives & the Caring State*. Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2009.

Kuo, David. *Tempting Faith: An Inside Story of Political Seduction*. New York, NY: Free Press, 2006.

Wuthnow, Robert. *Saving America? Faith-Based Services and the Future of Civil Society*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2004.

BIOGRAPHY

I have completed 3 years of classwork as a history major in the Honors Tutorial College. As part of that experience, I participated in one tutorial each semester. These tutorials, taken in conjunction with classes, involved deeper discussions over historical material with my professors. This education equipped me with a historical perspective and the ability to effectively analyze historical sources, both secondary and primary. Through my history classes, I have also learned the value of archival research, which is what I intend to do (provided I can do so in compliance with Covid-19 restrictions) at the George W. Bush Presidential Library.

I am also proficient with using computers to write and research, which will be very important as I request, sort, and analyze digitized records from the Bush Library. For the interview component of my research, I have learned interview skills from a grad-level class on qualitative research methods that I took last year.

BUDGET

Item	Amount	Source	Justification
1250 pages of sources photocopied	\$1000.00	PURF	\$0.80/page
Round-trip Airfare**	\$400.00**	PURF	Round-trip to Dallas is about \$400.
Lodging**	\$210.00**	PURF	Dallas hotel rooms cost roughly \$70 a night
Self-Service Photocopies (1,560 pp)**	\$390.00**	PURF	In person photocopies are significantly cheaper, at \$0.25/page
<u>TOTAL REQUESTED</u>	\$1000.00		

**IF travel opens up, and with permission from the funders, I will fly to Dallas and photograph the sources myself, and this amount will go towards an airplane ticket, lodging, and in-person photocopies instead of a digitization request.