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Curran Fellowship Report, 2012

I write to express my sincere thanks to RSVP and the Curran Fellowship for the support that enabled me to undertake the preliminary research in England in July 2011 for my current book project. The support of the Curran Fellowship enabled me to spend three weeks at the Hampshire Record Office in Winchester, England laying the initial groundwork for the monograph I am writing, “Facing Facts: The Tichborne Cause Célèbre and the Rise of Modern Visual Evidence.” Over the course of my time in England, I conducted research at the Hampshire Record Office on a variety of newspaper and magazine reports about the trial that are in the Tichborne Trial Collection. The Tichborne Trial Collection at the HRO has an extensive number of press clippings about the case collected in the materials belonging to the lawyers who argued both sides of the case. These newspaper reports are in many cases inserted into scrapbooks and photo albums and are annotated by the lawyers who argued the case. (e.g. the Bowker collection) They include British press coverage of the case not only from Britain but also Singapore, Australia and Chile. Many of them are from illustrated papers, such as the *Illustrated London News*; others are from Australian papers, such as the *Mercury* (Hobart Town, Australia). The Curran funds enabled me to look at these materials, as well as numerous photographs in the collection, and to reproduce them for study purposes. I also made a short trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum and to Oxford’s Bodleian Library to consult their collections of Tichborne-related cartoons and graphic satire.

A particularly important aspect of this trip was that I was able to begin to trace the rise of the 19th century British press as a mouthpiece for the expression of different social attitudes toward visual and expert courtroom evidence from 1850 to 1900. Working on the newspaper materials for this project illuminated my understanding of how important the 19th century British press is for understanding the wider relations between the British press, visual culture, science and the law as they all underwent fundamental transformations during the 1870s. It provided the seed money to do the initial archival research for this project and led to my being able to lay the groundwork for subsequent research and writing. The research done with the help of a Curran Fellowship produced an essay that will be published with formal acknowledgment in *Documenting the World*, eds. Gregg Mitman and Kelley Wilder (University of Chicago Press, forthcoming) and led to several talks about the project, including one upcoming, on photography, newspapers and ethics, at the Annenberg School of Journalism in Philadelphia.

Thank the committee for the wonderful research opportunity provided by this Fellowship! It assisted me at a critical stage of this project and truly inspired me to do much more research on the role of journalism in the history of photography and visual culture.

Sincerely,

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Associate Professor of History, Science in Society, and Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies (Chair, 2011-2013) and Interim Director of the Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life