

2005
SSRC

Administrative budget

February 2, 1950

INTERVIEWS: LCD

JHW		JHW
RFE	7/14	RFE
REM	2/21	REM
ME BH	FEB 22 '50	ME BH

Pendleton Herring and Paul Webbink
Social Science Research Council

MAY 3 1954

LCD discussed the reasons for the present review of SS relations to SSRC and proposals for the character of that review. It was agreed to get together data on (1) grants for fellowship program, (2) grants for SSRC's maintenance and operations, (3) grants for SS projects handled by SSRC at our request, (4) functions performed by the SSRC.

PW is going to get together information on the grants in a form which will permit comparison with other sources of similar funds to SSRC. PH is going to prepare a memorandum about SSRC functions with special attention to those which are especially useful to foundations but often overlooked. In this connection he mentioned (1) the opportunity to share the responsibility of decisions about expending our trust fund with a representative group of professional people, (2) a large amount of preliminary screening of potential requests, (3) the development of new ideas and pioneering projects to the point where they are ready for submission, (4) the mobilization of the judgments and services of a wide range of well-qualified social scientists pretty much without cost to the Foundation, (5) accepting the onus for heading off or declining many ill-considered proposals, and so forth.

PH and PW make the point, which I think is an important one, that RF would be greatly impoverished without the consultation and assistance from professional social scientists which is made available through the SSRC, and also that if we paid for what we get along these lines at normal consultation rates it would cost us a great deal more than the amount we spend to keep SSRC operating.

L.C.D.
L.C.D.

LCD:bh