It was, on motion,

RESOLVED that the sum of One hundred thousand dollars ($100,000), or as much thereof as may be necessary, be, and it hereby is, appropriated to COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY toward support of the program of the Institute for Urban Land Use and Housing Studies during the three-year period beginning March 1, 1948, not more than $37,000 to be available in any one year.

The following were the considerations presented:

Social Sciences

Previous Interest: None.

General Description: The Institute for Urban Land Use and Housing Studies was established by the Trustees of Columbia University in the summer of 1947. An Administrative Board appointed from the faculties of the Schools of Business, Law, and Architecture, and the Departments of Economics, Sociology and Public Law and Government, is responsible to the Trustees for its operation. Its objectives are the study of the basic and continuing problems of urban land use and housing, the investigation of specific issues and current problems arising out of the development of urban land resources, the combination of the resources and techniques of several disciplines that can contribute to the solution of housing problems, and the training of graduate students in the techniques of investigation and analysis in these fields.

Columbia University has extensive actual and potential resources for research in urban land use and housing. Several of the schools and departments already have as members of their staffs persons who are expert in the field. Courses are offered and research is encouraged. The Libraries contain a considerable body of literature on the subject. There are more graduate students than ever before, many of whom are enrolling in these courses and demonstrating interest in research in this area. Up to the present time, however, the resources of the University have been scattered. The establishment of the new research agency is designed to provide collaboration among the various groups of scholars and to utilize more efficiently facilities now available.

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Specific studies to be undertaken by the Institute will be determined by the Administrative Board as personnel and financing are available. It is hoped that several of the following studies may be initiated at an early date:

- Problems in the Redevelopment of Urban Areas
- Public Housing
- Financing Private Housing
- Provision and Management of Large-Scale Housing Projects
- The Analysis and Improvement of Basic Statistical Series on Urban Land Use and Housing

The Administrative Board would like to start the work of the Institute with the appointment of two major staff members to be responsible with the Director, Dr. Ernest N. Fisher, for the execution of specific studies. They would be chosen to represent the points of view of the economist and sociologist and of the physical planner. To assist these major staff members appointments for a term of at least two years would be offered to younger men.

In addition to pursuing general research projects the Institute will provide a service at cost in connection with specific enterprises upon which its assistance may be sought. It is hoped that the Institute will become a major center for discussion of basic problems and their investigation and for the dissemination of authoritative materials. An Advisory Board consisting of public-spirited men of affairs has been appointed to assist in the development and implementation of this program.

Finances: It is estimated that $40,000 annually will be necessary for the program in addition to the contribution from Columbia University. The latter consists of two-thirds time of the Director, the services of members of the various faculties, incidental expenses such as office space and the use of other University facilities. The $40,000 would be allocated approximately as follows:

- 2 major staff members at $10,000 each = $20,000
- 3 research assistants at $4,000 each = $12,000
- Clerical, stenographic assistance = $8,000

Total = $40,000

A grant of $100,000 over a three-year period is recommended. This will keep support in line with that for similar work at the University of Wisconsin and the Social Science Research Council and will permit the Institute to make a good start on its program.
**Future Implications:** No commitment. The officers may recommend tapering terminal aid if it appears necessary and desirable to insure permanent value and independence to the Institute's program.

**Comment:** With the recent grants made by the Foundation to the University of Wisconsin for research and training in housing and to the Social Science Research Council for a working committee to promote planning and coordination in this field, aid to the Columbia University Institute should provide strength, diversity and a catalyzing effect at a modest total cost. The grant should also demonstrate anew that neutral Foundation aid can simultaneously provide leverage on private funds and assure independence.