In 2006 I received a SAIF Category A grant of $4000 for my project *Henry Vane, Godly Republican*, a new biography of Sir Henry Vane the younger. This money was expended on travel to England in the summer and winter of 2006 to study unpublished sources. These included correspondence to, from and about Vane and his family; allusions to him in contemporary memoirs, including the original of Edmund Ludlow’s ‘Voyce from the Watchtower’; and a new manuscript account of Vane’s trial. Most of these documents were held in the British Library, London, the Bodleian Library in Oxford, or the National Archive (formerly the Public Record Office) at Kew, but the grant also enabled me to access materials in more distant archives, including Cumbria Record Offices at Carlisle and Barrow.

This research has yielded considerable benefits, expanding my understanding of Vane’s actions, ideas and relationships with his contemporaries, while raising some new questions to explore. Remaining active in research has also enhanced my teaching, since it assists me in showing students that history is not petrified in textbooks, but rather is an organic process of constant discovery. Participation in the research/poster day in March enabled me to share concepts from this project with the wider campus community. I anticipate further benefits for myself and UWP when the results of this research reach the scholarly community through conference papers and eventual publication of the biography.