The purpose of my grant was to produce a CD-R of my poetry as an additional project in my sabbatical plans of completing my book manuscript for the 2007-8 academic year. In the fall I was accepted to a highly competitive conference in Massachusetts to work with two poetry editors on this manuscript. Each individual poem was read, discussed, and critiqued, as well as the manuscript as a whole. This process allowed me to look at my work with the objectivity of an editor to help me revise the poems and structure the book.

As part of my project, I also organized a writers’ group of students and English professors, which met at my home every other week to read and discuss our poems. This too helped me gain perspective and feedback on my work.

Upon my completion of the manuscript in May, Lewis Editions Music, LLC then recorded my reading of the poems, using state-of-the-art digital audio recording software and hardware (Digidesign, Protools recording software, Mac 65 computer and AKG recording microphone). The CD-Rs will be burned on a Digidesign Multi-CD burner at the UWP Recording Studio in Doudna Hall this September and distributed to UW libraries to bring poetry to students, faculty and staff, as well as the visually impaired.

The project is unique in that this is the first CD of poetry to be released by faculty. I plan to use the CDs in my Poetry Writing and Creative Writing courses, as well as my literature courses to provide ideas and examples for students’ writing assignments.
In addition to the CD, the manuscript is in the process of being published by iUniverse and will be available at Barnes and Noble and Amazon.com in December.

After the completion of the CD and book publication, I plan to present a poetry reading on campus. Copies of the book and CD will be made available at this event.