

**Faculty Development Grant Report**  
**Clarence W. Tweedy III**  
**May 15, 2010**

**I. Non-stipend budget expenditures:**

I had no major non-stipend budget expenditures

**II. Review of Results:**

**a. Brief summary of the project**

In my application, I requested a development grant in order to re-write the Richard Wright chapter of my dissertation. The works of Richard Wright continue to be of interest to literary scholars. In recent years, critics have specifically focused on masculinity and violence in Wright's fiction. My project, "In My Father's Absence," focused on challenging assertions of African American critics who argue that misogyny in Richard Wright's fiction is predicated upon an infantile rage directed at the women of his texts. Rather, I contend that the violence of his fiction stems from psychological trauma caused by his absentee father.

**b. Achievement of goals:**

In my application, I stated that I would deem this project successful if I completed four goals by the end of summer 2009

1. Outline and finalize reading list and research methodology.
2. Draft first three sections of essay by the end of May.
3. Complete entire draft of essay by end of June.
4. Send completed draft to peers for suggestions and begin revision process.

**Results:**

1. Done.
2. Done.
3. Done.
4. Done.

**III. "Assess the adequacy of the project's procedures and approaches."**

No problems at all, other than having to track down some rather hard to get research materials.

**IV. "Comment on how the results of this project have been or will be disseminated."**

I presented key sections of the essay as conference paper entitled, "Ritual and Repetition: the Manifestation of Violent Agency in Richard Wright's *Native Son*" at The Midwestern Conference on Christianity and Literature, Chicago, on September 26, 2009. I completed an article with the help of my summer grant entitled, "In My Father's Absence: the Making and Unmaking of

Violent Agency in Richard Wright's Fiction." The article was submitted for review to the journal, *African American Review*, in November 2009. While they were unable to accept the article at the time, I am currently in the process of revising and resubmitting it to another journal in the field of African American Literature.