Known to his many friends as “Cornie,” Dr. Cornelius Loew was brought to WMU in 1956 to introduce the study of philosophy and religion. By 1958 he had founded a Department of Philosophy and Religion, subsequently split in 1967 to become the two departments known today as Philosophy and the Department of Comparative Religion. He subsequently served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1964-77), Vice President of Academic Affairs (1977-79) and Distinguished University Professor (1980-88). During his tenure as Dean of Arts and Sciences Dr. Loew also worked to accomplish the successful split-off from that college of the current College of Fine Arts, while in addition promoting development of WMU’s now world-famous Medieval Institute. Dr. Loew was an ardent advocate for international studies and study abroad, and worked with Honors College Dean Dr. Samuel Clark to secure Fulbright funding and then to help lead two of WMU’s very first ventures in this area: summer seminars in 1964 and 1967 on the humanities in Asia, based primarily in Japan and India.

The Cornelius Loew Study Abroad Grant supports undergraduate and graduate comparative religion or philosophy students to study or conduct research abroad. Study abroad programs must be WMU-sponsored or approved. Students selected can use funds for study abroad trips outside of their course of study. Priority will be given to students who plan extended studies of at least one semester in duration and who have taken one or more courses in philosophy or comparative religion. The maximum award amount is $1,000.

Within 30 days upon return from travel, awardees must conduct a public presentation reporting on their study abroad experience or have published this report on a webpage or blog.

To apply for this grant complete and submit:
- Study Abroad/Study in the States Application
- Study Abroad/Study in the States Faculty Sponsor Form
- Study Abroad Report Commitment Form

Send the completed forms to: Department of Comparative Religion, Attn: Scholarship Coordinator, Mail Stop # 5320 or hand deliver to Moore Hall, room 2004, or email from WMU email address.

8/15/17