

TELLING THE STORY; THE MEDIA, THE PUBLIC AND AMERICAN HISTORY

A National Conference  
April 23 and 24, 1993  
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston

Remarks: Donald Gibson

It is a deep pleasure to be here. I have been excited about this conference since I read the preliminary proposal. This conference is a significant statement about the progress we have made in advancing the understanding of and commitment to public humanities; to the engagement of scholars with the general public.

This conference could not have occurred twenty or even ten years ago. There weren't enough scholars, filmmakers, museum professionals or librarians then convinced that this was important. This demonstrates that many, many scholars and professionals consider it vitally important to "do" public humanities better.

The Division of Public Programs at NEH recently adopted a mission statement which expresses our goals and interests.

The mission of the Division of Public Programs, at the National Endowment for the Humanities is to engage all Americans in the study and analysis of human culture and history. We see to enrich individual lives and to enhance the common good through the humanities.

We believe that there is a public utility, a public value to the humanities. This conference advances that cause.

Now, a few general thoughts about fundraising. Although I have spent much of career as a fund-giver, I am aware of the difficulties of fundraising. My wife decided a few years ago that she would make films. Thusfar, she has made two and paid for one. Her most recent film dealt with Korean-American women shopkeepers who lived through the Los Angeles riots in 1992. I wasn't too concerned until she called me from Los Angeles and asked for my Visa card number.

Know Thy Funder. Examine why the funder exists. What they want to do. What are the goals. See if you can craft your idea to their interests. Learn how they review. NEH, for example, is not in the business of supporting budding filmmakers or of social advocacy. We see film as a highly effective means of educating Americans about history, literature and philosophy.

Beware of Myths and Rumors. I am amazed by what I've heard as I travel around the country about what NEH would and would not fund. Generally it has been wrong. I have heard that NEH never funds projects dealing with minorities, or social history or feminism. That isn't true, but it has had an impact upon the number of applications we have received in those areas.

Due to some restraints, we at NEH have been responsible for some of those myths. We have not aggressively enough countered them. But, let me say, NEH is going to be more open, NEH is going to listen, NEH will take more risks.

We will still require collaboration with scholars. We will still require applications. We will still have panels. We will still respect the peer review process.

But there will be change. And to change well, we need advice and I assure that we will seek advice.

## JEFFERSON LECTURE REMARKS

GOOD EVENING. I'M DONALD GIBSON, ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES. IT IS MY DISTINCT PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE 22ND ANNUAL JEFFERSON LECTURE. THE LECTURE ATTAINS SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE THIS YEAR AS WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND CELEBRATE THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THOMAS JEFFERSON'S BIRTH.

PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY ONCE TOASTED A GROUP OF NOBEL LAUREATES GATHERED IN THE WHITE HOUSE BY SAYING THAT "NEVER BEFORE HAS SO MUCH INTELLIGENCE BEEN GATHERED IN THIS ROOM SINCE THOMAS JEFFERSON DINED HERE ALONE." DESPITE CRITICISMS OF JEFFERSON RAISED IN RECENT SCHOLARSHIP, HE REMAINS AN INTELLECTUAL TOWER AND THE EMBODIMENT OF MANY OF OUR CHERISHED IDEALS.

THIS LECTURESHIP REPRESENTS THE HIGHEST AWARD THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BESTOWS FOR DISTINGUISHED INTELLECTUAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE HUMANITIES. BUT, IT IS MORE THAN THAT. IT IS A PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE ENDOWMENT--BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT--OF THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF THE HUMANITIES TO A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. FOR THE HUMANITIES ARE MORE THAN A BODY OF KNOWLEDGE. THEY ENTAIL INTELLECTUAL INQUIRY, CRITICAL THINKING AND VIGOROUS DEBATES ABOUT VALUES AND ETHICAL CHOICES. THE HUMANITIES ARE ABOUT QUESTIONING, ABOUT UNCERTAINTY, ABOUT THE SEARCH FOR VARYING TRUTHS AND THE SEARCH FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

MR. JEFFERSON EMBODIED THE ENGAGED INTELLECTUAL AND THE ENGAGED CITIZEN. HE RELISHED SCHOLARLY RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC DEBATE. HE BELIEVED IN THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AND IN THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF AN ENLIGHTENED CITIZENRY FOR DEMOCRACY TO SUCCEED. THAT IS WHY THE ENDOWMENT EXISTS AND THAT IS THE PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THIS ANNUAL JEFFERSON LECTURE.

AND OUR LECTURER THIS EVENING IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE. FOR HE SPEAKS OF THE CHALLENGES OF WRITING HISTORY AND OF THE DIFFICULTIES OF DETERMINING CERTITUDE IN SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE.

THE JEFFERSON LECTURER IS CHOSEN EACH YEAR BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES, A PRESIDENTIALLY APPOINTED ADVISORY BOARD. WITH US TONIGHT TO INTRODUCE DR. CONQUEST IS THE DISTINGUISHED VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THAT COUNCIL, THE HONORABLE EDWIN J. DELATTRE, OLIN SCHOLAR AND DEAN, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

HUMANITIES ON THE HILL

MAY 6, 1993

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Birkson

THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME. AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, I WAS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH STATE COUNCILS FOR MANY YEARS AND FEEL A SPECIAL AFFINITY FOR YOUR WORK. I ADMIRE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS GREATLY AND AM PLEASED TO BE WORKING WITH YOU AGAIN.

THIS IS AN EXCITING TIME AND I FORESEE A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU. WE AT NEH HAVE BEEN ISOLATED--DIVISION FROM DIVISION AND THE ENDOWMENT FROM THE VERY COMMUNITIES IT WAS MANDATED BY CONGRESS TO SERVE. THAT WILL CHANGE AND WE CAN GET ON WITH THE WORK OF ENGAGING ALL AMERICANS IN THE STUDY AND ANALYSIS OF THE FULL DIVERSITY OF HUMAN HISTORY AND CULTURE. THE HUMANITIES ENRICH INDIVIDUAL LIVES AND ENHANCE THE COMMON GOOD. LET US WORK TOGETHER TOWARD THAT GOAL.

cc: Candace Katz  
Martha Chowning

Corrected copy

5/3/93

D R A F T

REMARKS TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES, MAY 7, 1993

GOOD MORNING. I AM HONORED TO DECLARE OPEN THE 108TH MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES. THIS IS, I AM BOTH SURPRISED AND PLEASED TO NOTE, MY 66TH MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. THAT IS A LONG TIME; LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE OBSERVED THE EXTRAORDINARY EVOLUTION OF THIS AGENCY AS A NATIONAL LEADER IN THE HUMANITIES, A LEADERSHIP WHICH GOES FAR BEYOND THE EXCEPTIONAL IMPORTANCE OF THE GRANTS WE HAVE MADE.

AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO NOMINATE SHELDON HACKNEY, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, AS THE NEXT CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES. THE SECURITY CLEARANCE IS STILL UNDERWAY, AND HIS NAME HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY FORWARDED TO THE U.S. SENATE. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE CONFIRMATION HEARINGS WILL BE SMOOTH AND THAT MR. HACKNEY WILL BE SITTING IN THIS CHAIR IN AUGUST. I HAVE HELD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. HACKNEY. HE IS EAGER TO BEGIN HIS WORK HERE. I AM MOST IMPRESSED WITH THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE HUMANITIES, OF THIS AGENCY, AND OF THE

ISSUES FACING US. I BELIEVE THAT WE WILL ALL ENJOY WORKING WITH HIM. HE IS A DISTINGUISHED HISTORIAN, AN ACCOMPLISHED ADMINISTRATOR, AND A HIGHLY RESPECTED PUBLIC LEADER. IN YOUR FOLDERS TESTIMONY IN 1977; COMMENTS ON THE MAPPLETHORPE CONTROVERSY FROM 1990.

THERE HAVE BEEN SOME CHANGES SINCE FEBRUARY. I AM DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL SHAPIRO AS GENERAL COUNSEL AND CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON. MICHAEL IS UNIQUELY QUALIFIED; HE HOLDS A PH.D. IN AMERICAN STUDIES FROM BROWN UNIVERSITY AND A J.D. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM AT GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WHICH IS ONE OF THE PREMIER PROGRAMS IN THAT AREA.

GUIN GRIEST GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO RETURN AS DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS FOLLOWING THE DEPARTURE OF RUFUS FEARS. GUIN, AS YOU ALL KNOW, HAS BEEN A STALWART AT THE ENDOWMENT FOR 25 YEARS, AND I AM DELIGHTED THAT SHE IS WORKING WITH US AGAIN.

CANDACE KATZ, WITH A PH.D. IN LITERATURE AND A J.D., ACCEPTED THE POSITION AS ACTING DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN AND HAS BEEN OF ENORMOUS HELP TO ME IN THE LAST THREE WEEKS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT MARSHA SEMMEL, FORMERLY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR HUMANITIES PROJECTS IN MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS, IS NOW SERVING AS ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE

DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS, AND THAT FRED MILLER IS THE ACTING DIRECTOR FOR MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS.

I'M ALSO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE STAFF HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY VICE-PRESIDENT AL GORE TO WORK ON THE NATIONAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW TASK FORCE--JIM HERBERT AND RAY GLEASON. THIS TASKFORCE WILL BE EXAMINING ALL ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. THIS IS A FEATHER IN THEIR CAPS AND COULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO NEH.

I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE TRANSITION. THIS IS, I BELIEVE, A TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND TO THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THIS AGENCY AND THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT WE HONOR THE MISSION OF NEH AND THE INTEGRITY OF ITS PROCEDURES.

SEVERAL EVENTS ARE ON THE HORIZON, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ACQUAINT YOU WITH A FEW OF THEM.

APPROPRIATIONS HEARINGS IN THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES. NEXT MONDAY, WE WILL APPEAR IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS. A MAJOR THEME OF MY TESTIMONY WILL BE THE "INTERACTIVE ENDOWMENT." AN ENDOWMENT IN WHICH EACH PROGRAM CONTRIBUTES TO THE LARGER WHOLE. EACH IS CRITICAL IN FULFILLING OUR CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE. I WILL EMPHASIZE AS WELL THE CRITICAL ROLE OF THE



HUMANITIES IN ENRICHING INDIVIDUAL LIVES AND IN THE FUNCTIONING OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. FOR IT IS THROUGH THE HUMANITIES THAT WE, AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS A PEOPLE, ADDRESS QUESTIONS OF VALUES, ETHICS, CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL DIVERSITY, AND THE COMMON GOOD. I HOPE THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE THAT CASE EFFECTIVELY.

REAUTHORIZATION. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM SERVICES, AND THE WHITE HOUSE IN AN EFFORT TO PASS A BILL THROUGH CONGRESS WHICH WOULD EXTEND THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE THREE AGENCIES FOR TWO YEARS WITH NO CHANGES. WE RECEIVED APPROVAL FROM OMB AND BELIEVE THAT THIS SHOULD PREVAIL. HOWEVER, I WELCOME ANY COMMENTS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO MAKE.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 26.

INDEMNIFICATION.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506



STATEMENT  
OF  
DONALD GIBSON  
ACTING CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES  
before the  
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES  
of the  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 10, 1993

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am honored to appear here today to speak on behalf of the fiscal year 1994 budget request of the National Endowment for the Humanities. We are pleased that the Clinton Administration is requesting an appropriation of \$177.491 million for the coming fiscal year, an amount slightly above our current year's funding. This budget attests to President Clinton's commitment to the important work being done by the Endowment and his recognition that, even during this time of severe fiscal constraints, significant support for the humanities is a sound investment for the federal government to make in the cultural and educational life of the nation.

The National Endowment for the Humanities operates on the principle that knowledge of the humanities--the ideas, works, and events that make up the record of human thought and experience--is both personally rewarding to Americans as individuals and critical to our common civic life as a nation. As the preamble to our authorizing legislation states: "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens." That act also encourages the Endowment to promote "understanding of the nation's rich cultural heritage," to foster "a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups," and to "relate the humanities to the current conditions of national life."

Three weeks ago at the dedication of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, President Clinton acknowledged the importance of studying and reflecting on the words and deeds of the past when he observed, speaking of that tragic and terrible event, that it is the duty of nations and individual citizens "to learn the lessons, to deepen our memories and our humanity, and to transmit these lessons from generation to generation." As it has for almost three decades, NEH will continue to help the people of the United States deepen their understanding of the humanities and to preserve and pass on the knowledge and lessons of the past--in the words of our legislation--for "a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future."

In my more than sixteen years at NEH, I have come to know firsthand the vitality and importance of the Endowment's work. Having served in the Division of State Programs--first as a program officer and later as division director--and for most of the last decade as director of the Division of Public Programs, I have been intimately involved in the agency's programs that promote public education in the humanities. While I have always been cognizant of the full range of the Endowment's grant programs, in the last few weeks I have had the opportunity to observe the work of all of the Endowment's six program divisions and Office of Challenge Grants from a fresh perspective and to see anew the breadth and depth of the projects that they support. I

have been particularly struck by how complementary and interconnected our efforts on behalf of the humanities often are. By this I mean that a project we support in one area of the Endowment will frequently have an impact on or influence a project or projects supported elsewhere in the agency: For example, an NEH-funded museum exhibition may be grounded in scholarly research that is itself the product of an Endowment research grant, or the exhibition may display documents or objects that are available only because of projects supported through our preservation activities. This hypothetical exhibition may also be visited and studied by teachers of the humanities who are participating in humanities institutes or summer seminars funded by yet other NEH programs. Moreover, this museum may be able to mount quality programming in the humanities as a result of third-party contributions raised in response to an NEH Challenge Grant. I do not mean to belabor this illustration, the point is: Our research, education, preservation, and general audience programs each make valuable contributions to the mission of the agency and are linked by the common objective of engaging all Americans in the study and analysis of human culture and history.

The Endowment's division directors who are present at the hearing today are ready, even eager, to share with the Committee some examples of outstanding projects their divisions have supported in past years that speak to the agency's mandate and vision. I would like to take a moment now to draw your attention to a few of the fine projects we were able to support in fiscal year 1992:

- The Endowment awarded \$130,900 to the Chicago Historical Society in FY 1992 to support the cataloguing of 120,000 architectural photographs produced from 1929 to 1969 that document Chicago's buildings and interiors. This project will help make these important materials more accessible to scholars of historical studies of architecture and design, urban planning, and photography;
- The Ohio Historical Society received \$401,435 in FY 1992 to continue Ohio's participation in the U.S. Newspapers Program, which is funded out of our Division of Preservation and Access. This funding is supporting the microfilming of 405 historically important newspapers, comprising about 1.5 million pages, held in repositories throughout the state;
- The Social Science Education Consortium in Boulder, Colorado, a private nonprofit organization dedicated to improving social studies instruction at the precollegiate level, received \$168,000 to conduct a humanities education institute this summer on the history of the American West. The thirty secondary school teachers in American history and literature who will participate in the institute will be provided with opportunities for integrating the

outpouring of recent scholarship on the West with older, classic interpretations of the history and literature of the region;

- The American West is the subject of another major project the Endowment supported in FY 1992: With funding of \$121,031, the Washington State Historical Society sponsored a conference series at several historical societies, libraries, and museums in the region on the social, political, and cultural history of the Columbia River Basin and its peoples;
- InterCultura, Inc. of Forth Worth, Texas, received \$200,000 from NEH in FY 1992 to develop a major museum exhibition entitled "African Zion: The Sacred Art of Ethiopia." Consisting of 100 objects spanning the 4th to the 18th centuries--including icons, illuminated manuscripts, and metalwork in gold and silver--the exhibition will circulate to seven museums throughout the country, beginning this fall and continuing through the spring of 1995. "African Zion" will be the first exhibition in the United States to present these historically important objects of this unique African civilization;
- Professor Raymond B. Wrabley at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Pennsylvania was awarded \$3,000 in FY 1992 to study recent scholarship on the Jacksonian period in American history. This award was one of 97 grants the Endowment made in the first competition of its new Study Grants for College and University Teachers program, which is providing support for busy teachers to spend a concentrated period of uninterrupted time to read and study subjects in the humanities that will inform their teaching;
- The Seattle Art Museum received \$140,000 from the Endowment in FY 1992--the final installment of its \$640,000 NEH Challenge Grant. NEH funds, which are being matched on a four-to-one basis by third-party donations, are helping the Museum continue and expand its humanities activities by supporting the establishment of an education endowment, the completion of a reference library, and the purchase of new equipment; and,
- In FY 1992, \$4,200 in NEH funds awarded to the Arizona Humanities Council were regranted to the Cochise County Historical and Archaeological Society to support a one-day seminar on the importance of the Apache chief Cochise and the historical events that shaped the lives of his people. The Arizona Humanities Council also provided about \$1,300 in Endowment funds to the Casa Grande Valley Historical Society for a museum exhibit in a 1930s schoolhouse and a companion lecture program about the educational history of the Casa Grande Valley. These projects illustrate the

efforts on the part of the Endowment and the state humanities councils to foster lifelong learning opportunities in small institutions and rural settings all across the country.

In FY 1993 and FY 1994, the Endowment will strive to support humanities projects of such substance and significance as these exemplary FY 1992 awards.

The budget justification we submitted to Congress last month describes in detail our proposed plans for fiscal 1994. I would like to mention just a few of the general features of the budget submission. In consideration of the budget constraints imposed by the federal deficit, we are recommending that total program funds for the next fiscal year be held constant at the amount appropriated for the current fiscal year (FY 1993). We are also proposing that FY 1994 allocations for our program divisions, the Challenge Grants program, and our Treasury matching funds account be identical to the amounts appropriated for these activities for FY 1993. At the FY 1994 request level, we believe that maintaining the FY 1993 distribution is the best way to meet the various needs and capabilities of the humanities. With this funding, the Endowment would continue to be a strong national voice on behalf of the humanities.

A key element of our FY 1994 budget will be our efforts to continue to support serious, high quality programs in the humanities for general audiences. It is through the Division of Public Programs and the Division of State Programs that the Endowment encourages citizens to make learning in the humanities a lifetime endeavor. With funding of more than \$53.6 million in this programming area, we will be able to support a wide array of media productions, museum exhibitions, reading groups, and other projects of broad national scope as well as projects that reach into every corner and region of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Northern Marianas, and Guam.

The FY 1994 appropriation request also provides substantial funding for the Endowment to continue to support the advancement of research and scholarship in the humanities. NEH provides major funding for American scholars through the Division of Research Programs and the Division of Fellowships and Seminars. Our collective knowledge of history and culture is enriched by the monographs, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other works produced by humanities scholars who receive grant support through these divisions. This scholarship not only increases our base of knowledge, it also complements other humanities activities by providing materials for general audience and education projects in the humanities.

The FY 1994 NEH budget request will also make possible the continuation of the agency's national leadership in preserving and making more accessible the significant portion of our intellectual and cultural legacy that is now disintegrating in libraries, archives, museums, and other repositories across the country. The heart of our preservation effort will remain the vital support we provide for major projects at research libraries and archives to microfilm books, journals, and documents that are crumbling into fragments because of the acidic content of their paper. Another high priority for the Endowment's Preservation and Access division will be continued support for the National Heritage Preservation program, which is helping institutions maintain and stabilize their fragile material culture collections. Many of these objects of material culture are now inadequately housed and frequently inaccessible to scholars, curators, and the general public.

Another prominent feature of the Endowment's FY 1994 budget is the commitment of a significant portion of our resources once again to helping the nation's teachers and educational institutions improve the quality of instruction in the humanities that they offer to America's students. By supporting outstanding educational projects, our Division of Education Programs not only recognizes efforts that are worthy in themselves, but also provides examples of excellence that can be emulated elsewhere in the country. The major focus of the division's work will continue to be on opportunities for classroom teachers at all levels to enhance or refresh their knowledge of the humanities through summer institutes, masterwork study grants, and Teacher-Scholar awards to elementary and secondary school teachers to spend a year of independent research and study in the humanities. The Endowment will also be devoting a significant amount of FY 1994 funding, through our Fellowships and Seminars division, to the support of summer seminars in the humanities for college and school teachers.

We also plan in FY 1994 to maintain our support for projects that respond to the agency-wide Emergence of Democracy initiative. The purpose of this special programming emphasis is to acknowledge the spread of democracy in our time and to commemorate the birth of this form of government twenty-five centuries ago in ancient Greece. The collapse of communism and the break up of the Soviet Union have helped spark a renewed interest in--and greater opportunities for--the study of cultures and states that are now embracing democratic institutions. The trend toward democracy in Latin America, as well as democratic movements in Asia and Africa, also make this a timely topic for research, education, and public audience projects in the humanities. As part of this initiative, in FY 1993 the Research division is sponsoring a special grant competition that is helping to expedite the access of American scholars to historical materials held in recently opened archives of the democratizing countries of eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and elsewhere in the world.

Another high priority for the upcoming fiscal year will be the continuation of our agency-wide commitment to making our work and our grant programs more widely known nationally among rural, inner-city, tribal, and minority communities. In addition to our ongoing special emphasis on historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), the Endowment has expanded its outreach focus to include Hispanic colleges and universities. An informational film we produced recently, "Lives in Teaching Renewed," is being used by NEH staff at technical assistance workshops and presentations to introduce teachers, particularly those in our outreach target groups, to the agency's grant opportunities. During FY 1994, we will seek to involve people of all backgrounds and from all regions of the country in Endowment activities as a fundamental means of enriching research in the humanities and enhancing intellectual discourse with the general public. The cultural pluralism of America invites us to become fellow students and to enter into a common intellectual quest, striving to understand who we are. In this shared pursuit, we may find unity, not separatism, as we work toward common goals and values in a democratic society.

As in past years, a significant portion of the FY 1994 NEH budget will be devoted to efforts to stimulate nonfederal contributions to projects and institutions in the humanities. Through our Challenge Grants program and Treasury funds matching mechanism, we are able to leverage the impact of federal dollars committed to promoting the humanities. With Challenge funds, for example, NEH grantees undertake renovations, construction, and other capital improvements; acquire materials, collections, and equipment; maintain, preserve, and catalog collections; and provide for personnel development--all activities that ultimately lead to substantive humanities programming.



6/1/93

REMARKS  
NEH SUMMER FELLOWS

DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU TO THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT.

ENORMOUSLY IMPRESSIVE APPLICANTS. YOU WERE COMPETING AGAINST SOME  
VERY ACCOMPLISHED PEOPLE. AS SOME WOULD SAY, AWESOME!

WE HOPE TO OFFER YOU A PRODUCTIVE LEARNING AND WORKING EXPERIENCE.  
YOU WILL HAVE TO WORK, BUT THAT'S OKAY WE THINK. BUT, WE ALSO HOPE  
WILL LEARN A LOT ABOUT THIS AGENCY, THIS CITY, THIS GOVERNMENT.

I FIRST VISITED WASHINGTON IN 1959, AS A COLLEGE STUDENT FROM IOWA.  
IT WAS AN ENORMOUSLY IMPORTANT EXPERIENCE FOR ME. I LEARNED A LOT  
ABOUT GOVERNMENT. BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY THAT EXPERIENCE CONVINCED  
ME THAT I WANTED TO DEDICATE MY LIFE TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

YOU ARE HERE AT AN EXTREMELY INTERESTING TIME. TRANSITION. THAT  
IS ALWAYS EXCITING. BUT THIS SUMMER WE, THE ENDOWMENT THAT IS, ~~ARE~~  
FACING BOTH REAUTHORIZATION HEARINGS IN THE CONGRESS AND  
CONFIRMATION HEARINGS FOR SHELDON HACKNEY. DR. HACKNEY, A  
DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA, HAS BEEN SELECTED BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AS THE NEXT  
CHAIRMAN OF NEH. YOU SHOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET HIM.

I HOPE TO GET TO KNOW ALL OF YOU INDIVIDUALLY. BUT, LET'S SCHEDULE  
A MEETING IN MY OFFICE FOR AN HOUR OR SO TO TALK ABOUT THE HISTORY  
OF NEH AND TRANSITION.

AGAIN, WELCOME. I HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT TIME.

LUNCHEON REMARKS  
BOARD OF THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES ALLIANCE  
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1993

THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME. I WOULD FIRST LIKE TO NOTE THAT I APPLAUD YOUR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE HUMANITIES AND OF THE ENDOWMENT. I CONSIDER THIS WORK ENORMOUSLY IMPORTANT AND WE NEED YOUR ADVOCACY, YOUR ADVICE, YOUR LEADERSHIP. WE ALL BENEFIT; THE NATION BENEFITS.

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT IN RECENT YEARS HAS BEEN TOO NARROW, TOO INSULAR AND TOO ISOLATED FROM THE HUMANITIES COMMUNITY -- FROM UNIVERSITIES, SCHOLARS, RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, MUSEUMS, STATE COUNCILS AND OTHER PUBLIC HUMANITIES ORGANIZATIONS.

THIS WILL CHANGE.

IT IS IMPORTANT NOW, I BELIEVE, TO BE POSITIVE, TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. WE WANT TO RE-EXAMINE THE ENDOWMENT, AND TO RE-EXAMINE PRIORITIES, NEEDS OF THE FIELD, NEEDS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN THE ARENA OF THE HUMANITIES. TO RE-EXAMINE WITH CONSULTATION AND ASSESSMENT AND INFORMATION GATHERING. TO WORK, IN OTHER WORDS, WITH YOU.

LUNCHEON REMARKS

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IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, OUR BIGGEST CHALLENGES ARE REAUTHORIZATION AND THE CONFIRMATION OF A NEW CHAIRMAN.

THE THREE AGENCIES HAVE REQUESTED -- AND I AM WORKING TO ACCOMPLISH -- A SIMPLE, NO CHANGE, TWO-YEAR EXTENSION. WE NEED SOME TIME TO RE-ASSESS AND RE-DIRECT. A NEW CHAIRMAN NEEDS SOME TIME TO LEARN ABOUT THE AGENCY AND TO DETERMINE WHAT HIS PRIORITIES ARE. HEARINGS ARE SET FOR JUNE 17 IN THE HOUSE. I HOPE THEY ARE QUIET AND QUICK.

SHELDON HACKNEY IS PRESIDENT CLINTON'S CHOICE FOR CHAIRMAN. HE IS A DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AND AN ACCOMPLISHED ADMINISTRATOR. I HAVE MET WITH HIM SEVERAL TIMES AND AM IMPRESSED. HE WILL SERVE AND LEAD THE HUMANITIES WELL.

REMARKS  
THE JEWISH MUSEUM  
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1993

IT IS A DEEP HONOR FOR ME, ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES, TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THIS GREAT MUSEUM AND TO DISCUSS THE ROLE OF THE MUSEUM IN AMERICAN LIFE.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM HAS CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY AND IS NOW POISED TO MAKE EVEN MORE PROFOUND CONTRIBUTIONS. WE ALL SHOULD BE GRATEFUL AND VERY HOPEFUL.

THE GREAT CHALLENGE TO THIS NATION HAS ALWAYS REVOLVED AROUND DIVERSITY AND UNITY. THE SEARCH FOR VARYING TRUTHS AND FOR THE COMMON GOOD. THIS HISTORY, OUR HISTORY, HAS BEEN MARRED FREQUENTLY, WE KNOW, BY IGNORANCE, DISRESPECT, HATRED, RACISM, AND ANTI-INTELLECTUALISM.

TODAY, THE CLASH OF CULTURES, RACES, BELIEF SYSTEMS AND CLASSES IS AS THREATENING AND AS PROMISING AS EVER, IF NOT MORE SO. COMMUNITY, INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, OUR CIVIC LIFE, RESPECT FOR VARYING CULTURES, AND DEMOCRACY ARE ALL AT STAKE HERE. I NEED NOT DESCRIBE HERE THE INTENSITY OF THOSE FEELINGS AND THOSE BATTLES.

BUT I AM HERE TO STATE THAT THE MUSEUM IN AMERICA IS -- AND MUST BE -- A VITALLY IMPORTANT INSTITUTION IN THE DEMOCRATIC

REMARKS  
THE JEWISH MUSEUM  
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PROCESS. ONCE THOUGHT OF AS QUAIN PALACES OF CURIOSITIES OR THE INSTITUTIONAL PRESERVES OF THE ELITE AND THE WEALTHY, MUSEUMS STAND NOW AT THE CENTER OF OUR COMMUNITIES. AND THEY HAVE A PROFOUND RESPONSIBILITY AND OPPORTUNITY.

WE HAVE SEEN A REVOLUTION OF SORTS IN THE LAST FIFTEEN TO TWENTY YEARS. MUSEUMS ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. THEY MOUNT INTERPRETIVE EXHIBITIONS ON SIGNIFICANT AND CHALLENGING THEMES. THEY INVITE THE PUBLIC TO WRESTLE WITH IDEAS, TO STUDY HISTORY, TO ENGAGE IN INTELLECTUAL DEBATES. MUSEUMS ARE UNIQUELY POSITIONED TO LEAD AND TO EDUCATE AS WE ATTEMPT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, TO COME TO TERMS WITH THIS MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY, AND TO COME TO TERMS WITH OUR AT ONCE MAGNIFICENT AND TROUBLED HISTORY.

MUSEUMS ARE ONE MEANS FOR SOCIETY TO MAINTAIN A SENSE OF MEMORY, A SENSE OF SELF. IT IS THROUGH THE INTERPRETATION, THE HONEST AND RIGOROUS INTERPRETATION, OF THE OBJECTS WE COLLECT THAT WE AS A PEOPLE CAN FIGHT FORGETFULNESS. IT IS NOT THE ONLY MEANS, BUT IT IS VITAL.

A SOCIETY SAYS MUCH ABOUT ITSELF BY HOW IT VALUES MEMORY AND REMEMBRANCE. BY HOW HONESTLY IT DEALS WITH HISTORY. BY WHETHER IT HAS THE COURAGE NOT TO TRIVIALIZE.

REMARKS

THE JEWISH MUSEUM

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THIS MUSEUM, THE JEWISH MUSEUM, DOES RECOGNIZE ITS PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY AND I APPLAUD YOU. TO CITE ONLY ONE EXAMPLE, THE EXHIBITION, BRIDGES AND BOUNDARIES, CONFRONTED WITH BOLDNESS AND INTEGRITY THE HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN JEWISH-AMERICANS AND AFRICAN-AMERICANS. WE NEED MORE OF THAT. I'M CONFIDENT THIS MUSEUM WILL PROVIDE IT -- PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP, INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP.

THANK YOU.

Remarks of Donald Gibson  
Opening of "Birth of Democracy" Exhibition  
U.S. National Archives  
June 15, 1993

It is a distinct honor for me, on behalf of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to witness the opening of this magnificent exhibition and to applaud the inspired efforts of the researchers, scholars, exhibition designers, and educators who made this exhibition possible. In many ways, this event exemplifies the twin goals of the Endowment, that is, research and education. We are committed to and support serious scholarly research in the disciplines of the humanities and the engagement of citizens in an understanding and appreciation of that scholarship. We think of education both in its formal sense--instruction in schools--and informal education, that is, the engagement of the adult, out-of-school public.

The Division of Public Programs at NEH recently adopted a mission statement which expresses our goals and interests as reflected in this exhibition.

The mission of the Division of Public Programs of the National Endowment for the Humanities is to engage all Americans in the study and analysis of human culture and history. We seek to enrich individual lives and to enhance the common good through the humanities.

This exhibition advances that cause.

This exhibition also exemplifies our special Endowment initiative to support projects on the emergence of democracy--both to acknowledge the spread of democracy in our time and to understand better the birth of this form of government twenty-five centuries ago in ancient Greece. We are gratified that this exhibition will reach thousands of Americans who travel to Washington and come to see the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution. This exhibition fulfills the Endowment's vision of engaging the American public in the examination and analysis of our history and cultures. We are pleased to have played a small part.



OPENING STATEMENT: REAUTHORIZATION

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1993

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

I AM HONORED TO SPEAK TODAY IN SUPPORT OF A SIMPLE EXTENSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES, TWO YEARS WITH NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES.

THIS TWO-YEAR EXTENSION WOULD PROVIDE TIME FOR THE ENDOWMENT AND FOR THE CONGRESS TO CONSULT BROADLY WITH THE HUMANITIES COMMUNITIES IN THIS NATION AND WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE NEEDS, INTERESTS, AND PRIORITIES THE ENDOWMENT SHOULD ADDRESS.

TWO YEARS WOULD ALLOW THE NEW CHAIRMAN TIME TO ASSESS THOUGHTFULLY AND CAREFULLY THE GOALS, PROCEDURES, AND POLICIES OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT AND TO SEEK THE ADVICE AND COUNSEL OF THE HUMANITIES COMMUNITY AND OF THE CONGRESS. SHELDON HACKNEY HAS BEEN NOMINATED BY PRESIDENT CLINTON TO BE THE NEXT CHAIRMAN. HE IS A DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AND AN ACCOMPLISHED UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HIS ARRIVAL AND BELIEVE THAT HE WILL BRING GREAT STRENGTH AND VISION TO OUR OPERATIONS.

I WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT NEH IS FUNCTIONING WELL. WE HAVE A STRONG PROFESSIONAL STAFF, SOUND REVIEW PROCEDURES, AND WELL-ORGANIZED PROGRAMS.

I HAVE BEEN ACTING CHAIRMAN OF NEH FOR SLIGHTLY OVER TWO MONTHS. I HAVE HAD A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND TO ASSESS ALL ASPECTS OF OUR WORK, ALL PROGRAMS AND DIVISIONS. IT HAS BEEN A FASCINATING AND ENLIGHTENING EXPERIENCE. FOR SIXTEEN YEARS I HAVE WORKED AT THE ENDOWMENT, AS A PROGRAM OFFICER, A DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AND DIRECTOR OF TWO DIVISIONS. BUT BEFORE THAT, I WAS A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER IN IOWA. I GREW UP ON A FARM, FAR FROM LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS, BUT MY PARENTS TAUGHT ME TO LOVE READING. SUBSEQUENTLY, I PURSUED GRADUATE STUDIES IN EUROPEAN HISTORY AND TAUGHT AT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN EUROPE. I CONDUCTED RESEARCH ON EDUCATIONAL REFORMS IN WEIMAR, GERMANY, AND ON THE 1932 ELECTIONS IN GERMANY. I HAVE TRAVELED THROUGHOUT THIS NATION, AS WELL AS IN EUROPE AND ASIA, OBSERVING AND PARTICIPATING IN HUMANITIES PROJECTS.

FROM THESE EXPERIENCES, I HAVE COME TO APPRECIATE DEEPLY THE IMMENSE IMPORTANCE OF AN UNDERSTANDING OF HISTORY, LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, AND LANGUAGES TO INDIVIDUALS, TO THE COMMUNITY, AND TO THE NATION.

WE HAVE IMMENSE DIVERSITY IN THIS COUNTRY; IT IS VITAL THAT WE COMPREHEND AND APPRECIATE THAT DIVERSITY AND THE VARYING TRUTHS THAT ARE REPRESENTED, BUT WE NEED ALSO TO SEEK THE COMMON GOOD. THROUGH THE DISCIPLINES OF THE HUMANITIES WE CAN COME TO TERMS WITH OUR COMMON HERITAGE AND OUR DIVERSITY. FOR THE HUMANITIES ARE MORE THAN A BODY OF KNOWLEDGE. THEY ENTAIL CRITICAL THINKING, INTELLECTUAL DISCIPLINE, REFLECTION, AND VIGOROUS DEBATES ABOUT ETHICAL CHOICES AND VALUE JUDGMENTS. THIS IS FUNDAMENTAL FOR A DEMOCRACY.

THE HUMANITIES ARE AGAINST THIRTY-SECOND SOLUTIONS TO THREE-HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD PROBLEMS. THEY ARE FOR THOUGHTFUL STUDY AND REASONED DISCOURSE.

THIS NATION, THIS DEMOCRACY, NEEDS THAT STUDY AND THAT DISCOURSE. THE THOUSANDS OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY NEH IN COMMUNITIES IN EVERY STATE AND TERRITORY OF THIS NATION CONTRIBUTE TO THAT END. WE OPERATE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT SCHOLARSHIP AND TEACHING ARE MUTUALLY REINFORCING; THAT EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMING IN THE HUMANITIES MUST BE GROUNDED IN ACCURATE AND IMAGINATIVE SCHOLARSHIP.

I THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE HUMANITIES.

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506



**STATEMENT**  
**OF**  
**DONALD GIBSON**  
**ACTING CHAIRPERSON, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES**  
**before the**  
**SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS**  
**of the**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

June 17, 1993

## National Endowment for the Humanities

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am honored to appear here today to speak on behalf of the reauthorization of the legislative authority for the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Clinton Administration has submitted proposed legislation to Congress that provides for a simple extension of two years in the current language of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act (NFAH Act), and I urge the Committee to endorse this proposed continuation. Before turning to a discussion of our reauthorization proposal, I would like to explain briefly why federal support for the humanities is important for the country and why NEH should be reauthorized.

I know that I do not need to convince this Committee, which has been a steadfast supporter of the Endowment over the years, of our extraordinary record of accomplishment and service to the nation. As you know, the Humanities Endowment created by the 89th Congress and the Johnson Administration in 1965--and that every Congress and every Administration since have endorsed--has served for almost thirty years as the federal government's primary vehicle for promoting the study and understanding of history, literature, philosophy, and other disciplines of the humanities throughout the nation. The American people too have supported the work of this small but significant agency because they recognize that knowledge of the humanities--the ideas, works, and events that make up the record of human thought and experience--is both personally rewarding to them as individuals and critical to our common civic life as a nation. The vital importance of the Endowment's mission is spelled out in the NFAH Act, which declares, among other things, that "democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens" and that "the study of the humanities require(s) constant dedication and devotion." The Act also encourages NEH to support "national progress and scholarship in the humanities," to promote understanding of "the nation's rich cultural heritage," and to foster "mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups."

NEH has strived to fulfill the objectives set forth in our enabling legislation by helping to enrich the educational and cultural life of the nation through the thousands of grants we have made to institutions, organizations, and individual scholars and teachers for humanities projects and programs in every state and region of the nation. Noteworthy projects the Endowment has supported or is currently funding include films such as The Life and Times of LBJ, Columbus and the Age of Discovery, and the widely acclaimed documentary television program, The Civil War--a series that captivated the nation and rekindled our memory of that tragic and transcendent event in our country's history; major museum exhibitions such as "The Treasures of Tutankhamen," "Yoruba: Nine Centuries of African Art and Thought," "The Great Bronze Age of

China," and "Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries"; collected editions of the writings and papers of such historical and literary figures as George Washington, Samuel Gompers, Marcel Proust, Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Jane Adams, and Martin Luther King, Jr.; annual summer institutes and seminars in the humanities that provide opportunities for teachers in schools, colleges, and universities to enrich their teaching; efforts to stimulate the improvement of the humanities curriculum in our schools such as the history standards project directed by the National Center for History in the Schools at UCLA; in-depth reading and discussion programs on significant books in the humanities at public libraries; the preservation on microfilm of important embrittled books, documents, and other materials held in the nation's libraries and archives that are deteriorating because of the high acidic content of their paper; and the extensive public education projects and programs sponsored by the state humanities councils in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Northern Marianas, and Guam. In the coming years, we will continue to add to our exemplary record by encouraging and supporting humanities projects of the richness and diversity represented by these grants and programs.

As you can see, the current legislative language has served NEH and the country well, and thus there is no urgent need at this time to make substantive revisions in our enabling legislation. We will be able to continue to support fresh, challenging, innovative work in the humanities with the NFAH Act as it now stands. The reauthorization bill that we have presented to Congress in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum Services proposes that the current legislative language simply be extended for another two years--through fiscal year 1995. The last full Congressional review of the NFAH Act in 1990 only provided for a three-year reauthorization instead of the more typical five-year extensions of previous reauthorizations. The two-year continuance we are now requesting would, in effect, put us back on the more efficient five-year reauthorization cycle.

Mr. Chairman, the Endowment and the Administration also think that now is not the most propitious moment to engage in the kind of full-scale review of our legislative authority that has been the standard practice of past reauthorization processes. A simple two-year extension of the Act would provide enough time for all of us who are concerned about and interested in the humanities to approach the whole reauthorization process properly. Most important, as you know, we are now awaiting the confirmation of Sheldon Hackney as the next NEH Chairperson. Once confirmed, we think that Dr. Hackney should have an opportunity to lead the agency for a period of time to develop his ideas on the future mission and priorities of the Endowment before a comprehensive reauthorization takes place. (The Arts Endowment and IMS at this time also lack Presidentially appointed leadership.) Adequate time also is needed for both the agency and the Congress to conduct hearings to take testimony from

organizations and individuals in the humanities about the current programming and future priorities of the Endowment and to hear their thoughts about any possible changes in the enabling legislation.

We welcome this opportunity to talk about the important work of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and we look forward to working with this Committee in the future to help the agency continue to serve the American people.

REMARKS TO TEACHER-SCHOLARS, JUNE 24, 1993

I AM VERY PLEASED TO WELCOME YOU TO THE ENDOWMENT. WE ARE HONORED TO JOIN THE DEWITT WALLACE READER'S DIGEST FUND IN RECOGNIZING THE HIGH SCHOLARLY GOALS OF SOME OF OUR NATION'S OUTSTANDING ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATORS. I BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT ONE OF NEH'S MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE IN STRENGTHENING AND ENRICHING THE TEACHING OF THE HUMANITIES IN OUR SCHOOLS. I BELIEVE FURTHER THAT A TEACHER, EXPERT IN AND ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HIS OR HER SUBJECT, IS THE KEY TO FINE TEACHING AND LEARNING. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE GRANTS WILL FURTHER THESE ENDS. FOR THIS IS MORE THAN AN HONOR--WELL-DESERVED AND PRESTIGIOUS THOUGH IT IS. IT IS MORE THAN A PERSONALLY ENRICHING EXPERIENCE--ALTHOUGH I ANTICIPATE THAT IT WILL BE SUCH. THESE GRANTS ARE A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE CLASSROOM--WHERE OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE IS DECIDED.

I MAY SOUND VEHEMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CLASSROOM TEACHING IN THE HUMANITIES. THAT IS PROBABLY BECAUSE I WAS A TEACHER MYSELF. IN IOWA, THE STATE WHERE I GREW UP, I TAUGHT HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES IN GERMAN LANGUAGE AND WORLD HISTORY.



(MOST MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE...GOOD FORTUNE...GRANT)

IN HEARING ABOUT THE INNOVATIVE AND EXCITING RESEARCH PROJECTS YOU HAVE PROPOSED, I AM STRUCK BY THE WIDE-RANGING TOPICS, AND BY YOUR COMMITMENT TO HUMANITIES SCHOLARSHIP. I WANT ALSO TO ACKNOWLEDGE HERE THE SUPERB WORK OF THE ENDOWMENT STAFF OF THE DIVISION OF EDUCATION, WHO HAVE NURTURED THIS PROGRAM AND MADE IT POSSIBLE.

IN WISHING YOU A WONDERFUL AND PRODUCTIVE YEAR AHEAD, AS WELL AS A LONG AND FULFILLING CAREER IN THIS MOST IMPORTANT OF PROFESSIONS, I WILL CLOSE WITH A QUOTATION FROM JOHN COTTON DATA:

WHO DARES TO TEACH, MUST NEVER CEASE TO LEARN.

YOU OBVIOUSLY EMBODY THAT IDEAL.