

1 EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE  
2 NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES  
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5  
6 Friday, May 9, 1986  
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10 8:30 A. M.  
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14 Old Post Office Building  
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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. KINGSTON: Ladies and gentlemen may we begin please? I will call to order the 80th meeting of the National Council for the Humanities. Let me note at the Beginning here that we have-- This may be an exercise in futility today but we have segregated the smokers from the nonsmokers. And if this seating arrangement is still unsatisfactory to Council members, do let me know, we will see what else we can do later.

Council members have received a copy of the draft minutes from the last meeting in the folders that were at the committee meetings yesterday. Are there any additions or corrections to those minutes?

(No response)

MR. KINGSTON: There being none they will be entered as published. John do you have any introductory remarks?

Introductory Remarks

MR. AGRESTO: Thank you Tom. I just have a few things I would like to mention at this meeting today. First, I think all of you know and most of you have, in fact, even met Lynn Chaney. But most of you know that she has been nominated for the Chairmanship of NEH. Her hearings are, in fact, a few days from now; this coming Monday. And I could say with almost absolute certainty that she will be the Chairman of NEH starting at the next meeting of this Council.

1 That is number one.

2 Number two, some of you wanted to know about  
3 Council committee members; where that stands for new Council  
4 members? The last word I received from the White House was  
5 that they have started the process of nomination; that they  
6 have a few names who-- that they have not allowed to be  
7 public yet; who have-- are starting on FBI checks. That at  
8 least some, I can't say that all but some, may well be at the  
9 Senate by the time of the next Council meeting. Whether they  
10 will be confirmed or not I don't know and on that I can give  
11 no assurances. That is number two.

12 MS. KERR: Excuse me John?

13 MR. AGRESTO: Yes.

14 MS. KERR: If they are not confirmed (Inaudible).

15 MR. AGRESTO: Until your successors are confirmed  
16 you remain on the Council.

17 The third thing. Every now and then we start a  
18 program-- Yes, we start something and things always go wrong  
19 unanticipatedly and unexpectedly. Every now and then we start  
20 a program when things go right unanticipatedly.

21 We talked a few Council meetings ago of a small  
22 program that we had started here at the Endowment whereupon--  
23 whereby Professors of Law and Judges could come to Summer  
24 Seminars on the Constitution. A small program, just three  
25 seminars in the summer, run by a law professor and a historian

1 or a law professor and a political scientist.

2 And moving along apace, it was going fairly well  
3 until the USIA called us and said that could some Filipino  
4 lawmakers and judges attend some of these seminars because  
5 they were about to write a new constitution for the  
6 Philippines and these were people who had, in fact, written a  
7 previous constitution and they would like to come and sit in  
8 our seminars on the Founding of the American Constitution.  
9 Totally unanticipated but I just want to let you know that  
10 every now and then that things go just swimmingly correct.  
11 This is, I think, you know, a great occasion for us.

12 So we will have, for example, in Chicago we will  
13 have three Filipino lawmakers and law professors there who  
14 will be taking part in the writing of new Philippine  
15 constitution, studying under Ralph Lerner and Phil Kurland,  
16 the origins and foundations of American constitutionalism.

17 My last point, and for this I would like actually  
18 to read something. When I appeared at the last Appropriations  
19 Hearings, before Sid Yates, he asked what was new. And I  
20 talked about some things that were old and on-going but I did  
21 talk about a new direction I thought the Agency should at  
22 least be partly involved in. Probably easiest for me to read  
23 from my testimony.

24 "What I would like to make public today is not a new  
25 initiative or a new program or a new division but I would like

1 to talk about a general direction I think the Agency should  
2 take. I want to look at the seeds of a program, if I could  
3 today, and I mean to be general and not specific.

4 There really was a time in American education when  
5 the best things in this culture were taught but they were  
6 available only to the few and to those few who could go to  
7 Harvard or Yale or Chicago. And those few would get exposure  
8 to the best that have been thought and learned.

9 There was, again, a time after that in American  
10 history when the educational community and others questioned  
11 whether there was such a thing as the best or that anyone  
12 should study it. There was a time of reductions in standards;  
13 a reductions even in the acceptability of the idea that there  
14 was a culture to be learned.

15 I think we are going to start a third phase now.  
16 And I think it will go like this and I think NEH should be a  
17 part of it. We should start talking about the best for all.  
18 And I would like to talk about it not only a restoration of  
19 the Humanities but a restoration and an expansion of it. I  
20 would like to leave to my successor some kind of program;  
21 some kind of direction for the Agency that will talk about  
22 access to excellence.

23 The Access to Excellence Program, if I could call it  
24 that, should be concentrated in the Education Division  
25 primarily. And it could include such things as Teacher

1 Institutes aimed at inner city schools; starting gifted and  
2 talented programs in places far away from rich communities;  
3 in rural areas and in tribal communities.

4 I think we should have, in the future, a full time  
5 staff person coordinating all these efforts and sharing what  
6 we have discovered with the 50 states and with the state  
7 committees. I think we should start working more with local  
8 libraries; to start reading programs in rural areas or in the  
9 inner cities for recent immigrants. I think we should start  
10 funding model institutions."

11 If I could skip over some things. "So again, this  
12 is not yet a program. It is just a few ideas in a basic  
13 direction. I wanted to talk about it here. I guess the  
14 words that would underline this program would be the best for  
15 all. I think that is a healthy kind of a elitism and a  
16 healthy kind of Americanism.

17 If I had more time I think what I would like to do;  
18 what would I take to be my very last meeting as Chairman, is  
19 to look at the direction we have taken and look at this as the  
20 Capstone of it. We have the right to restore the Humanities.  
21 We have the right to restore seriousness to the Humanities.  
22 We have the right to restore some understanding of the  
23 importance of culture and this culture to the Humanities. And  
24 now I think the last thing we need to do is to say, this  
25 legacy is available to all. And so I leave this as, in a

1 sense, my last directive act." Thank you Tom.

2 (Applause)

3 MR. KINGSTON: Yes, Phil, please.

4 MR. SHAEFER: I don't know if anyone has taken  
5 the opportunity not only, John, to thank you for your  
6 wonderful service on this Council but also to congratulate  
7 you on your new nomination which is almost or absolutely  
8 certain to be confirmed at the National Archives.

9 MR. AGRESTO: Thank you Phil.

10 (Applause)

11 MR. KINGSTON: You received, in your folders, the  
12 brief biographies of two new members of Staff. And I would  
13 simply like to have them stand and be recognized at this time.

14 Mary Chunko is the new Managing Editor of Humanities  
15 Magazine. Mary is back over here. And Ed Miller has just  
16 joined the Division of Education Programs. Ed is back over  
17 here. Thank you.

18 In your folder, under Tab A, is a list of the  
19 contracts awarded for the second quarter and it is an absent  
20 list because there were no contracts in the second quarter.

21 In May, we always determine the dates for future  
22 Council meetings and so I refer you to Tab B of the agenda  
23 folder. And what we have proposed is a sequence of dates for  
24 the 1987 meetings of the National Council.

25 Are there any questions, concerns, other issues to

1 raise with those dates? What we would like to do if these  
2 dates are acceptable is to entertain a motion for accepting  
3 them for next year.

4 MR. KASS: So moved.

5 MR. KINGSTON: Is there a second?

6 MR. : Second.

7 MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor signify by saying  
8 Aye.

9 (A show of hands was seen)

10 MR. KINGSTON: Any opposed?

11 (No response)

12 MR. KINGSTON: All right, the dates as they have  
13 been published will be the meeting dates for the next calendar  
14 year.

15 The next item on the Agenda is the Application  
16 Action Report and Matching Funds Report. Mr. Cherrington.

17 Application Report and Matching Report

18 MR. CHERRINGTON: Thank you Tom. The Application  
19 Report is in your brown folder and it is labeled Tab C. The  
20 one you have before you compares the first two Councils in  
21 fiscal '85 and the first two in '86.

22 And as I mentioned in the memo, the total numbers of  
23 applications and awards are up nine percent from the  
24 equivalent time last year. Again, the main reason is younger  
25 scholars. As I have said several times, there were deadline

1 problems with this in '85; '86, these have been straightened  
2 out. And we also have an amazing response to John's  
3 initiative for the Bicentennial and Younger Scholars Program.

4 You may notice some big shifts in Division totals  
5 but these are actually the results of the transfer in younger  
6 scholarships-- younger scholars from general to fellowships  
7 and transferring Travel to Collections from research to  
8 fellowships.

9 You may also notice that Applications to the  
10 Elementary and Secondary Program in Education are down  
11 significantly in '86. I talked to Pam Menke about this and  
12 she explained that in 1984, fiscal '84, there was a big surge  
13 in Applications to E and S because there had been about a year  
14 and a half lag time after the introduction of new guidelines  
15 in education. After this year and a half there was a big  
16 surge in applications.

17 To recapture this momentum the Division has  
18 scheduled a series of workshops and regional meetings. This  
19 November and January there were two held with HBCU workshops.  
20 Three more of these are planned for the fall. And they will  
21 also be having some regional meetings on the west coast and  
22 the midwest.

23 MR. KINGSTON: Are there any questions about the  
24 Application Report?

25 (No response)

1 MR. CHERRINGTON: Next up is the Matching Report  
2 and that is also in the brown folder. As I mentioned,  
3 Matching is running behind last year about 19 percent. Even  
4 if that trend continued, which we don't think it will, that  
5 would mean that fiscal 1986 would be the second highest  
6 Matching year we have ever had; 285.

7 What we report and really think is going on, the  
8 pace of Matching in the beginning of fiscal '85 was very, very  
9 strong. Congress had reduced our Treasury appropriation and  
10 we think many grantees were concerned we had run out of  
11 Treasury funds and were trying to certify things much earlier.  
12 We do think National Retainer to be strong in '86.

13 The use of definite funds to match gifts is up  
14 around six percent. That is also something we would like to  
15 see. It is good to match wherever we can. But we would  
16 really prefer more Treasury funds. If our request in 1987 is  
17 approved we will have the highest appropriation of Treasury  
18 funds we have ever had here.

19 We prefer Treasury funds because their use is  
20 flexible. We can put Treasury funds where they are needed;  
21 where the gifts are coming in without going back to Congress  
22 for reprogramming.

23 MR. KINGSTON: Any questions about status of  
24 Treasury funds?

25 (No response)

1 MR. KINGSTON: Fiscal '86 Status Report.

2 Status of Fiscal Year 1986 Funds

3 MR. CHERRINGTON: There is no memo on this in the  
4 brown folder. '86 funds are being spent as we planned. By  
5 the end of the year some allocations will be up, some will be  
6 down but we don't see any need for reprogramming. Through  
7 the end of April, about half of Program funds have been spent  
8 and a little more than half a year is over.

9 As John mentioned at the breakfast meeting  
10 yesterday, National Capital Parks and Cultural Affairs Program  
11 will be with us in fiscal '86. Yesterday was the applications  
12 deadline for this Program. We have received 15 applications;  
13 the nine mentioned in the legislation plus six others. I  
14 can't tell you what those six are because we are in open  
15 session. I will tell you in August.

16 Gramm-Rudman, in 1986, an update. The Supreme  
17 Court is right now looking at the constitutionality of  
18 this act. If it is declared unconstitutional Congress would  
19 have to pass a joint resolution to continue the sequestration  
20 in 1986 and the President would have to sign that. It would  
21 just be like a rescission act. We think they would probably  
22 do this-- do that because we do think the-- all agree that the  
23 sequestration in '86 should be continued.

24 MR. KINGSTON: Any questions about the status of  
25 present year's funds?

(No response)

MR. KINGSTON: All right, the submission of the '87 Appropriations Request.

Fiscal Year 1987 Appropriation Request

MR. CHERRINGTON: Okay. There is another memo in the brown folder on this. We have the Senate Appropriations Hearing on March 13th and the House Hearing on April 16th. Both went very well. As I mention in the memo the Senate items, the main items of discussion, involve the student loan defaulters; issues involving reauthorization and the everpresent National Capital Parks Program.

We were also given some questions for the record which we answered. There are some questions on Emergency Grants. Senator Bumpers had some questions on Summer Seminars and the understanding-- American understanding of the nation's initiatives.

In the House Hearing there was a discussion of the state of knowledge by our students in this country. More discussion of our initiatives; the Matching Program and an extended discussion of the Agency's review system.

We also received questions for the record; 12 pages of them. Some concerned the pace of the preservation initiative we have here; Conservation Program; Gramm-Rudman, things like that.

Also, on March 19th there was a hearing for outside

1 witnesses on our '87 budget. There was general praise for  
2 NEH. Most urged continued support for programs. They had a  
3 lot of current and past grantees there who testified to the  
4 excess of their NEH grants.

5 As far as the '87 budget, all the budgets that are  
6 being discussed right now, OMB, budget in the Senate, are all  
7 coming in anticipating a deficit of \$144 billion. If one of  
8 these budgets are compromised, among these budgets, is,  
9 approved, there will not be a need for a Gramm-Rudman  
10 reduction in '87.

11 In fact, yesterday the House Budget Committee  
12 passed a budget that even goes underneath this \$144 billion  
13 level.

14 MR. KINGSTON: Any questions about our  
15 Appropriations Request?

16 (No response)

17 MR. KINGSTON: One of the wonders of working for  
18 this company is you get to balance three fiscal years at once.  
19 We will talk about the 1988 Appropriations Planning.

20 Fiscal Year 1988 Budget Planning

21 MR. CHERRINGTON: We are all having trouble  
22 believing that we actually have to deal with the '88 budget  
23 but it is time. In fact, we are going to send out a memo  
24 next week to the Division Directors to get this rolling.

25 As Tom says, it is a really strange time of year

1 because we are trying to spend '86; we are up with Congress  
2 talking about '87; we are actually planning for the third  
3 year. It is very confusing.

4 As I said in my memo that is in the agenda book, as  
5 John mentioned yesterday, will not be a budget meeting in '86  
6 because of Gramm-Rudman.

7 In late July we will send the Council members a  
8 budget paper outlining the Agency's plan for '88. And as we  
9 keep stressing, anytime anyone has any comments about the  
10 budget, please write or call it in.

11 MR. KINGSTON: Then we should add that the  
12 discussion of the budget will be an item on the agenda for  
13 August; the August Council meeting.

14 Are there any questions about Fiscal '88 planning?

15 (No response)

16 MR. KINGSTON: Very good. We will move into the  
17 General Reports from each of the Divisional Committees.  
18 Mr. Allen is reporting on Education Programs. Bill.

19 Education Programs

20 MR. ALLEN: In our Public portion of the meeting we  
21 focus on two programs with proposals that are being considered  
22 at this Council. Pamela Menke introduced the session with  
23 brief comments about recent staff changes. She welcomed the  
24 Division's newest Program Officer, Edward Miller, whom you  
25 met earlier. And she pointed out that the Division is now

1 benefiting from the services of two IPA's, Paul Peterson, for  
2 the Exemplary Projects and Tracy Reed, in Central  
3 Disciplines.

4 She noted with a sense of regret and the Committee  
5 shared her regret that Martha Crumpleton would soon be leaving  
6 the Central Disciplines Program to accept a new position as  
7 Director of Special Studies at Holy Cross in Worcester.

8 Finally, she announced that Lynn Maxwell-White and  
9 long-term Program Officer with experience in several Divisions  
10 of the Endowment, had recently been selected as the new  
11 Assistant Director of the Central Disciplines Program.

12 At this point the Committee turned to reports on two  
13 of the Division's programs. Carolyn Reed-Wallace told us that  
14 over the last four years Elementary and Secondary Schools  
15 Programs has awarded approximately \$30 million in grant funds.  
16 These funds have directly benefited more than 10,000 of the  
17 nation's teachers and administrators in the Humanities.

18 We then heard reports about three of the Elementary  
19 and Secondary Programs most successful Summer Institutes.

20 Jamie Sarkolov (?) spoke of last summer's five week  
21 Harvard Institute on the History and Culture of the Soviet  
22 Union. He noted that the Institute had been featured in the  
23 Boston Globe which quoted enthusiastic comments from many  
24 New England secondary school teachers.

25 Tom Ward and Stephanie Katz told us about two

1 Institutes that took place here in Washington last summer.  
2 One at the Folger on teaching Shakespeare, the other at  
3 Georgetown on teaching the Odyssey.

4 In response to questions from the Committee,  
5 Ms. Katz mentioned that the Georgetown Institute had been the  
6 focus of a great deal of press coverage both locally and  
7 nationally. And that the Folger Program, now in its third  
8 year, had not only reached more than 100 teachers around the  
9 country but had spawned Shakespeare Festivals in at least two  
10 western states.

11 Staff emphasized that most of the Division's  
12 Elementary and Secondary School Projects involved with wide  
13 range of dissemination activities and they pointed out that  
14 they are always on the lookout for new ways of helping  
15 teachers from a broad cross section of institutions and  
16 geographical regions.

17 The Committee then turned to Sarah Chapman for a  
18 report of the Division's Exemplary Projects Program.  
19 Ms. Chapman observed that the aim of the Program is to support  
20 projects that benefit multiple institutions. She outlined  
21 that some of the specific goals of such grant categories as  
22 Institutes for college and university faculty; consortial  
23 projects and other initiatives.

24 Jack Myers pointed out that Summer Institutes differ  
25 from Summer Seminars in their focus on ways of improving the

1 teaching of major text and topics in the Humanities. He  
2 illustrated the Institute Program with a description of last  
3 summer's highly successful Notre Dame Institute on the Moral  
4 Thought of Thomas Aquinas.

5 Christine Calkie talked to us about two Division  
6 supported conference projects. One sponsored by the  
7 Newberry Library Center for the History of the American  
8 Indian, the other sponsored by Michigan State University.

9 She exhibited a handsome volume from the University  
10 of Chicago's Massive Readings in Western Civilization  
11 Series. And I bring my habits with me from the General  
12 Division.

13 (Laughter)

14 MR. ALLEN: A project that has made important text  
15 available for both Introductory History courses and more  
16 advanced courses in the History of Western Thought and  
17 Culture.

18 John Andrews showed the Committee an advertisement  
19 that Chris came across recently in an airlines magazine which  
20 I will share with you too since we are spreading western  
21 civilization. We appreciated it in Committee. You may not  
22 be able to read it. We surmise it is Augustine. The caption  
23 reads, "Discover Western Civilization at O'Hare."

24 (Laughter)

25 MR. ALLEN: Thank you.

1 MR. KINGSTON: Any questions or comments about the  
2 Report from the Education Division? Please, ~~join us.~~ *George.*

3 MR. KENNEDY: (Inaudible) please report a statue of  
4 Augustus.

5 (Laughter)

6 MR. KINGSTON: Report from the Division of  
7 Fellowship Programs, Professor Himmelfarb.

8 Fellowship Programs

9 MS. HIMMELFARB: During the Open Session the  
10 Committee conducted its traditional annual survey of the  
11 Division of Fellowships and Seminars, reviewing the "H" ?  
12 Division Programs individually.

13 The Committee discussed policy changes introduced in  
14 the past year and suggested modifications for further study  
15 by the Staff.

16 In the Fellowships Program the Committee noted the  
17 new fellowships in the Foundations of American Society. Part  
18 of the Endowments Understanding America Initiative.

19 In the Graduate Study Fellowships of the faculty at  
20 historically Black colleges and universities, the Committee  
21 was pleased to be told that three of the fellows from the  
22 first year of the Program, that is 18-- 1984 to 5-- I keep  
23 saying 1884, that cannot be right.

24 (Laughter)

25 MS. HIMMELFARB: --have received a doctorate. Three

1 more expect to receive degrees by the end of the year.

2 In the Seminars Program the Committee noted that in  
3 1987 the College Teacher's Seminars will conduct a few  
4 experimental six-week seminars and normal length of study for  
5 these Programs is eight weeks.

6 The Committee also discussed the optimum numbers of  
7 seminars in distribution fields and selection for records.  
8 We also noted that through cooperation of USIA, 17 foreign  
9 secondary school teachers will attend 16 of our seminars for  
10 secondary school teachers in some phase of American studies  
11 this year.

12 The Younger Scholars Program focused upon the  
13 difficulties of students transferring from two-year colleges  
14 into four-year universities at the junior level. The Staff  
15 was asked to consider ways of addressing this problem and to  
16 report to us at the next Committee meeting.

17 In general, it was agreed that the Programs were  
18 functioning well and that these annual surveys were very  
19 instructive and helpful. And we shall, of course, continue to  
20 make these re-evaluations and entertain proposals for changes  
21 that seem appropriate.

22 MR. KINGSTON: Any comments or questions about  
23 Fellowship Programs?

24 (No Response)

25 MR. KINGSTON: The report from the Office of

1 Preservation, Father Schall.

2 Preservation Grants

3 FR. SCHALL: Our group met on the eighth floor in  
4 the Computer Room in order to have a demonstration of the use  
5 of data bases in the work of library preservation. Robert  
6 Harriman and Todd Butler of the Library of Congress, who work  
7 closely with the NEH Staff on the U.S. Newspaper Programs,  
8 were there. And they demonstrated the detail with which these  
9 bibliographical records are being established and answered  
10 questions about their use.

11 The Committee members were able to see an example of  
12 the National Register of Microfilm Masters records, which  
13 brought life as it were into the proposal relating to that  
14 data base which is before the Council at this meeting.

15 I might say that they have given an example of how to  
16 find out what kind of documents are existing so they have two  
17 choices between the operomnia of one gentlemen by the name of  
18 Shaw or one gentlemen by the name of Burns and so they chose  
19 Shaw. And they went through the total holdings of the Library  
20 of Congress; total holdings of the private school libraries in  
21 the United States and the total holdings of the college libraries  
22 in the United States and they discovered this Shaw didn't exist.

23 (Laughter)

24 FR. SCHALL: There was a complete demonstration of how  
25 thorough and how vast the potential resources are here and the

1 question of what to do with them had to do with the  
2 availability at least, therefore, and the preservation of  
3 these documents and some effort is being made to, in fact,  
4 identifying the actual status of the particular records on  
5 this data base.

6 MR. KINGSTON: Any questions about the report from  
7 Preservation Office?

8 (No response)

9 MR. KINGSTON: Division of Research Programs,  
10 Mr. Kass.

11 Research Programs

12 MR. KASS: The Research Committee, breaking with  
13 tradition, actually had a public session but regrettably no  
14 members of the public were present.

15 We discussed the paper that had been prepared by the  
16 Staff concerning the access category. This paper grew out of  
17 a discussion the Committee had in February about the  
18 appropriate role for the Endowment and supporting efforts to  
19 organize archival collections of materials.

20 Recognizing that there is probably an infinite  
21 number of specialized collections, all of which could claim  
22 to be of importance to research scholars, we talked about the  
23 ways in which the Endowment ought to go about distinguishing  
24 the significant collections from others.

25 The Committee also took note of a list of

1 publications that appeared in the last year that were the  
2 results of grants made by the Division in previous years. It  
3 is an impressive list of 230 items, mostly books, including a  
4 great many prize winners of a number of highly publicized  
5 reference works.

6 Members of the Council who are interested in having  
7 a copy of this list ought to ask Rich <sup>Elmer</sup> Heckman to send them  
8 one. And there are a few extra copies here if anyone would  
9 like to have them. That concludes my report.

10 MR. KINGSTON: Any comments or questions about the  
11 report from Research Programs?

12 (No response)

13 MR. KINGSTON: Division of General Programs,  
14 Mr. Ritcheson.

15 General Programs

16 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, during the open  
17 session, we received a brief report from the Director of the  
18 Division on recent Staff travel that included both  
19 representation of the Division at a number of professional  
20 meetings and site visits for the purpose of project evaluation.

21 The Committee was pleased to hear of these efforts,  
22 particularly, the efforts to evaluate the projects, and calls  
23 to the attention of the Council, several noteworthy projects.

24 We received a copy of ARS Medica. I am extremely  
25 sorry to note, in passing, the absence of Walter Berns because

1 this is my Berns part of the presentation which I exhibit  
2 with great pleasure to my colleagues on the Council, a  
3 catalogue accompanying an exhibition, mounted by the  
4 Philadelphia Museum of Art. The project explored the  
5 relationship between the medical sciences and the visual arts  
6 and is exemplary from the numerous related exhibitions of  
7 public programs, symposia, lectures and performances conducted  
8 in the Philadelphia area during the exhibition's venue.

9 Another project was Meeting the Brownings. And here  
10 too, is a handsome catalogue produced in conjunction with a  
11 project supported by the library's program which took place  
12 in Windfield, Kansas. The project involved a range of  
13 educational programs interpreting the lives and art of  
14 Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning in the Victorian Age.

15 We also heard a report on a project currently being  
16 conducted in Arkansas with the Public Humanities Projects, a  
17 support called, The Systems of the Spirit, an exploration of  
18 300 years of Black history in Arkansas.

19 We were delighted too, to learn that Roanoke, a  
20 three part television drama about the first encounters  
21 between English and Indians on American soil, will air on  
22 public television stations beginning on Monday, May the 26th  
23 and each subsequent-- not each subsequent Monday-- two  
24 subsequent Mondays.

25 Finally, in the open session report, we noted with

1 sadness the departure of Sally Yergavitch, Assistant to the  
2 Director, but congratulate her on going to the South Street  
3 Seaport Museum, where she will be Director of Programs.

4 Following a brief closed session we had the  
5 distinct pleasure of viewing The Life and Times of Huey Long,  
6 an historical documentary recently completed under the  
7 auspices of a grant from the Media Program. The film is both  
8 insightful and engaging. A product which clearly fulfills  
9 the goals of the Agency.

10 Mr. Chairman, that completes my report.

11 MR. KINGSTON: Are there any comments or questions  
12 about the report from General Programs?

13 (No response)

14 MR. KINGSTON: Report from the Division of State  
15 Programs, Ms. Cresimore.

16 State Programs

17 MS. CRESIMORE: The State Programs Committee met as  
18 scheduled on Thursday, May 8th. Guests during the Public  
19 Session included Sondra Myers, President of the Federation of  
20 State Humanities Councils and Margaret Kingsland, Acting  
21 Director of the Federation.

22 Marjorie Berlincourt reported on meetings held in  
23 March and April with the Chairs and the Executive Directors of  
24 the State Humanities Councils. She stated that budgetary,  
25 programmatic and technical matters were discussed in the

1 meetings.

2 Jane Schall reported on one of the four orientation  
3 conferences held in April for new state Council members. Two  
4 conferences, including workshops on duties and responsibilities  
5 responsibilities of state Council members, were held in  
6 Florida and California.

7 Carol Watson provided a progress report on the  
8 colloquium, Humanities and the American People, directed by  
9 Professor Merrill Peterson of the University of Virginia.

10 No policy matters were raised during the Committee  
11 meeting.

12 MR. KINGSTON: Are there any comments or questions  
13 about the report from State Programs?

14 (No response)

15 MR. KINGSTON: We will move next on the agenda then  
16 to discussion of any of the Emergency Grants which were  
17 approved. These are only the approved grants during the past  
18 quarter. There are four Emergency Grants and they are to be  
19 found in Tab G. Are there any questions about those four  
20 which have been approved?

21 (No response)

22 MR. KINGSTON: There were no grants approved which  
23 departed from Council recommendation last quarter. There  
24 being no comment, we will adjourn-- I am sorry Charles.

25 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, before we adjourn, I

1 have a statement to make and it addresses itself to impending  
2 change at the Endowment.

3 I would say, first, after the Council had recovered  
4 its-- from its shock and consternation at the rumor that the  
5 Acting Chairman was actually being posted to Jakarta--

6 (Laughter)

7 MR. RITCHESON: --we began to think about some way  
8 of marking the change that is about to occur. So it is my  
9 very happy duty, Mr. Chairman, to introduce the resolution on  
10 behalf of the National Council on the Humanities. And it  
11 reads as follows:

12 [ "Resolved that the National Council on the  
13 Humanities records its deep sense of admiration and gratitude  
14 to Dr. John Agresto for his dedicated, strong and effective  
15 leadership of the Endowment in its drive to encourage,  
16 support and improve the quality of Humanities in the United  
17 States. And that it takes this opportunity to extend its  
18 cordial best wishes on his future career."

19 MR. KINGSTON: That is proposed as a resolution.  
20 Is there a motion from the Council to adopt that resolution?

21 MR. SANDOZ: I so move.

22 MR. KINGSTON: Is there a second?

23 MR. : Second.

24 MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor.

25 (A show of hands was seen).

1 MR. KINGSTON: Any opposed.

2 (No response)

3 MR. KINGSTON: The resolution passes unanimously.

4 (Applause)

5 MR. AGRESTO: Why are you all even applauding that  
6 I might be leaving?

7 (Laughter)

8 MR. AGRESTO: I really have nothing to say except  
9 thank you very much. It has been a pleasure to work with you.  
10 This has been an absolutely-- I think the happiest four years  
11 and the most rewarding four years I have ever spent in any  
12 intellectual academic pursuit in my life. And you have been  
13 part of that and I thank you all very much. Thank you.

14 MR. KINGSTON: We will adjourn for ten minutes and  
15 resume at 11:05 a.m.

16 (Brief recess)

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C L O S E D   S E S S I O N

MR. KINGSTON: I would ask everyone to return to the table please. At this time we will reopen the meeting in Closed Session. In Tab I, is it, we have the Emergency Grants that were rejected. Are there any questions about the nine Emergency Grant requests that were rejected? I am sorry, it is not Tab I it is Tab G.

(No response)

MR. KINGSTON: No questions. In that same Tab there are four Grant Applications that came to the Chairman as positive recommendations from the Council but they were rejected. Are there any questions about those four Applications?

(No response)

MR. KINGSTON: If not, we will continue with the reports from the Divisional Committees starting with the Division of Education Programs. Mr. Allen.

Education Programs

MR. ALLEN: I neglected to mention one thing that I intended to mention in the report at the public session, namely that the Education Committee has placed on its August agenda a review of guidelines. And I invite other Council members who have any questions or ideas about those things to communicate them to us on the Staff between now and that time.

The Committee had left the discussions of several

1 proposals and in one instance voted to reverse Staff  
2 recommendation. Owing largely to panelists questions about the  
3 budget and about the amount of reading required for relatively  
4 brief Summer Institute, the Staff had recommended a Gates  
5 Funding for Proposal ES-21362, A Humanities in the Schools  
6 Project, to be sponsored by the Council of Chief State School  
7 Officers.

8           Members of the Committee were unanimous in their  
9 belief that the panel had misjudged this project which would  
10 provide a substantive experience in the Humanities for an  
11 audience crucial to the Educational Reform Movement. And we  
12 therefore, voted to place this proposal in the category of  
13 projects recommended for support.

14           We concur with the Staff's view that the budget  
15 should be reduced from the \$237,674 requested to \$200,000.  
16 And it is also our understanding that the Staff will review  
17 with the Project Director the panelists' concerns about the  
18 amount of reading to be included in the program.

19           The Committee notes, however, that those concerns  
20 seemed excessive in light of the clientele served and the  
21 experience of the proposers.

22           On one other Proposal ES-21314, The Yale New Haven  
23 Teachers Institute, the Committee concurred with the Staff's  
24 recommendation for funding but urged a reduction in the budget.  
25 The Staff agreed and we therefore, forward this recommendation

1 of the budget of \$245,000 rather than \$300,025 requested in  
2 outright funds.

3 The Committee raised budgetary questions about a  
4 number of other proposals as well. But we eventually agreed  
5 in each case to support the Staff's recommendations. We feel  
6 that it would be wise to review the Division's policy on  
7 Project Director's salaries for some programs. And we plan to  
8 make this a matter for discussion at a future meeting of the  
9 Committee.

10 Notwithstanding a few questions individual Committee  
11 members raised about particular proposals we felt very pleased  
12 with the projects and activities reflected in this round of  
13 proposals. And we commended the Division's Staff for its  
14 continued good work.

15 I now move adoption of the final motion you have  
16 before you.

17 MR. : So moved.

18 MR. : Second.

19 MR. KINGSTON: The motion is the green motion. Are  
20 there any comments or questions? Louise.

21 MS. KERR: On pages 2, ES-20348, did I miss you  
22 here that you raised the budget on this one?

23 MR. ALLEN: We certainly didn't raise any budgets.  
24 Let me see which you looked-- 20348?

25 MS. KERR: Yes.

1 MR. ALLEN: Columbia University?

2 MS. KERR: Right.

3 MR. ALLEN: What happened here? You will have to  
4 allow us to recover that.

5 MS. KERR: Okay.

6 MR. KINGSTON: George.

7 MR. KENNEDY: I wanted to ask about under-- on  
8 page 11, the rejection of the Application of the Modern  
9 Language Association. I am not a member of the MLA but the  
10 subject seems a crucial one. Just a comment or two about  
11 these weaknesses and why it wasn't recommended seems to be  
12 appropriate.

13 MR. KINGSTON: Yes, the Staff wanted comment on the  
14 reasons for rejection of the Modern Language Association to  
15 EH-20606.

16 MR. ALLEN: Well, we did consider that at the  
17 Committee. We weren't satisfied and I will ask Pamela Menke  
18 to address that question.

19 MS. MENKE: The panelists, having reviewed the  
20 proposal, felt there were substantive reasons for turning it  
21 down. Everyone felt that the support of the Modern Language  
22 Association was proper but that the proposal itself was not  
23 sufficiently compelling to merit the support. Would you like  
24 specific--? The panelists-- In other words the Panel itself  
25 is--

1 MR. KENNEDY: (Inaudible) I just want to make sure  
2 that the Committee had thought about it.

3 MR. ALLEN: Well let me just say George, that the  
4 prevailing rationale was that when you are faced with a  
5 proposal which on the face of it you would expect to be  
6 predisposed to and the proposal itself seems deficient it is  
7 very difficult, indeed, to recommend approval.

8 MR. KENNEDY: I understand.

9 MR. KINGSTON: Pamela did you wish to comment on the  
10 Columbia University budget?

11 MS. MENKE: The budget requested ~~is~~ very similar to  
12 the budget endorsed. I--

13 MR. : There is a difference here of some  
14 \$15,000.

15 MS. : It looks like an increase.

16 MR. : Was it increased?

17 MS. MENKE: It was increased. Is that the-- All  
18 right.

19 MS. : We just want to know why?

20 MS. MENKE: The Project Director had not put in  
21 sufficient money for board for the participants. So the  
22 small amount of increase is for the increased amount of board.

23 MS. KERR: How many participants?

24 MS. : There are 26 participants.

25 (Laughter)

1 MR. KINGSTON: Phil, would you like to--

2 MR. SHAEFER: Also in our discussion yesterday, we  
3 turned down two proposals which I questioned, two proposals  
4 presented by the California Department of Education. And as  
5 many of you may know, and certainly Dr. Bennett knows, one of  
6 the most innovative educators in the country today is the  
7 California Superintendent of Public Instruction, Bill Honeig.  
8 Truly, you talked about getting back to basics, I mean, he  
9 almost makes Bennett look like a left-winger.

10 And the point is that these were two worthy efforts.  
11 One dealt with poetry in the public schools and one dealt with  
12 foreign language in the public schools. And the proposals  
13 were basically turned down and rightfully so because they were  
14 poorly put together, inadequate, put together without care  
15 and also really not worthy. And there is a difference between  
16 a proposal that is inadequate because of other failings and  
17 one that is inadequate because of complacency and laxity.  
18 And Bill Allen and I thought that this was so important that  
19 we wanted to call this to the attention of the Superintendent  
20 of Public Instruction, Bill Honeig.

21 I make this point because I don't know if this kind  
22 of thing takes place in other Committees but it would be a  
23 shame if good projects-- if important worthwhile projects  
24 were not funded because of this kind of laxity. And I wonder  
25 if there is anything we can do, Anita, to call this to the

1 attention, on a personal or any other way, call this to  
2 attention of-- Anita, you want to comment?

3 MS. SILVERS: I wanted to comment. I have not read  
4 either of those proposals; I know the projects. One of them  
5 has already been through in a somewhat different form. The  
6 literature one has been through in last year's form last year.  
7 They, in fact, went ahead and did a project finding other  
8 funding.

9 I don't know how successful you are going to be in  
10 communicating to the California State Department of Education  
11 the inadequacies of those projects. Because you are going to,  
12 to some extent, be dealing with somewhat entrenched views  
13 about how to teach literature that may not be the kinds of  
14 views that most of us would find missing.

15 Nevertheless, I think it is a useful enterprise to  
16 enter into that discussion. I believe, though, you will find  
17 that the Staff tried once before to have that discussion.

18 MR. KINGSTON: I should say that it is a  
19 conventional practice in all Divisions with this kind of  
20 situation to encourage resubmission. But generally that  
21 encouragement is directed to the project applicant and not to  
22 any superior officer of the applicant. Bill, please.

23 MR. ALLEN: I wanted to say about that question that  
24 one of the things we determined in our Committee meeting, and  
25 to which Phil referred, was that once all the official matters

1 are cleared in this, I intend to make it a point to speak  
2 with Bill Honeig about how these things are being done.

3 It came out in our deliberations that one of the  
4 reasons we thought the proposal from the Council of Chief  
5 State School Officers was so important is because these  
6 proposals demonstrate a very unclear understanding of the  
7 Humanities and the work of this Endowment. It is not so much  
8 the projects in themselves that are unworthy, I think, as  
9 Phil suggested, they are quite worthy in themselves but the  
10 approach to writing proposals for us and organizing them is  
11 wholly inadequate. And we believe that there is room for  
12 fairly direct and intensive discussions as a consequence.

13 MS. SILVERS: Bill, I plan to do that because I  
14 would--

15 MR. ALLEN: Bill and I were contemplating that you  
16 would.

17 (Laughter)

18 MR. ALLEN: And we are very pleased.

19 (Laughter)

20 MS. SILVERS: (Inaudible) San Francisco and have a  
21 nice dinner too.

22 (Laughter)

23 MR. KINGSTON: Any other comments or questions  
24 about the motion from the Education Division?

25 (No response)

1 MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor of the motion.

2 (A chorus of Ayes was heard)

3 MR. KINGSTON: Opposed.

4 (No response)

5 MR. KINGSTON: Then the motion passes.

6 We turn now to the report from the Division of  
7 Fellowships and Seminars.

8 Fellowship Programs

9 MS. HIMMELFARB: Yes, we considered only one program  
10 written and that was the Travel to Collections. We had  
11 received 592 applications. We are recommending 278 awards for  
12 a total of \$139,000. We are not recommending 314 applications.

13 I move passage of the motion-- the yellow folders  
14 here.

15 MR. KINGSTON: The yellow motion is a Fellowships  
16 motion. Are there any questions or comments about any of the  
17 applications therein?

18 (No response)

19 MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor of the motion.

20 (A chorus of Ayes was heard)

21 MR. KINGSTON: Opposed.

22 (No response)

23 MR. KINGSTON: That motion carries.

24 We will turn next to the report from the Committee  
25 for Preservation. Father Schall.

Preservation Grants

FR. SCHALL: Mr. Chairman, you have before you the final motion from the Department of Preservation.

There was considerable discussion on the Program of the ES-20047 on the American Film Institute's request on an uninvolved mingling of technical difficulties and problems connected with the preservation of films which is very often quite fragile on the video materials. And also the relationship of the preservation process to the National Endowment for the Humanities and the relationship to the National Endowment for the Arts which--

I would like to move we (Inaudible)

MR. KINGSTON: Is there a second to the motion?

MR. : Second

MR. KINGSTON: All those-- Any discussion of the motion?

(No response)

MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor please signify by saying Aye.

(A chorus of Ayes was heard)

MR. KINGSTON: Opposed.

(No response)

MR. KINGSTON: The motion passes.

Report from the Division of Research Programs.

Mr. Kass.

Research Programs

MR. KASS: The Committee in Research Programs considered applications primarily in additions, tools and in Centers for Advanced Study for Blocks of Research Fellowships and a small number of grants and publications events and access in interpretive research.

I would like to call your attention to three applications in which the Committee departed from the recommendation of Staff.

First, there are two applications on page four of the goldenrod colored motion, RE-20571, on The Complete Correspondence Between Thomas Jefferson and James Madison and RE-20577, A Definitive Edition of John Locke's Writings on Religious Toleration. These two had not been recommended for support by Panel and Staff but the Committee felt that the work was of sufficient importance and that whatever defects existed could be remedied in the context of the current application and therefore, are recommending approval.

I would also like to call your attention to page 14, RE-20608, proposal from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati for a Complete Edition of the Yiddish Works of Sholom Aleichem. The Panel had noted-- The Panel had originally recommended this application for deferral. It received a low priority and came in with the recommendation for "Not Recommended." But because the Panel had noted that the people qualified to carry

1 out this project are extremely elderly, we felt that if  
2 possible the defects of the proposal ought to be discussed  
3 with the applicant quickly and if they were addressed  
4 satisfactorily that the Grant be awarded soon rather than  
5 after another annual application cycle.

6 In all other respects the Committee endorsed the  
7 recommendations of Staff. I move, Mr. Chairman, the  
8 acceptance of our report.

9 MR. KINGSTON: Is there a second to the motion?

10 MR. SANDOZ: Second.

11 MR. KINGSTON: Any discussion of the motion from  
12 Research? Louise.

13 MS. KERR: Do I need to report officially that I  
14 abstained, not for reasons of conflict of interest on RE-20571?

15 MR. KINGSTON: RE-20570?

16 MS. KERR: Seven one.

17 MR. KINGSTON: Seven one.

18 MS. KERR: Page four. That is the--

19 MR. KINGSTON: Yes, we will record that for the  
20 purpose of the minutes; 20571.

21 Any other comments or questions?

22 (No response)

23 MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor of the motion  
24 please signify by saying Aye.

25 (A chorus of Ayes was heard)

1 MR. KINGSTON: Opposed.

2 (No response)

3 MR. KINGSTON: Then the motion passes.

4 The next report from the Division of General  
5 Programs. Mr. Ritcheson.

6 General Programs

7 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, the Committee  
8 reviewed a total of 154 applications from the Museums and  
9 Historical Organizations Program. They requested  
10 approximately \$15 million.

11 We concurred with the Staff on all recommendations  
12 finding material exceptionally clear and well-presented. We  
13 recommend support for 37 applications representing a wide  
14 variety of topics and approaches including Pre-Columbian Art,  
15 Early American Dutch Culture, Domestic Art of the Early  
16 Christians, the Gilio(?) Feast in Brooklyn, Iranian Textile,  
17 Chicago Architecture, the History of the Macaque(?) Indians  
18 in Washington State and the Statue of Liberty.

19 I call your attention to several applications of  
20 special interest. GM-23052, on page one, is entitled Great  
21 Excavations: A Century of American Archeology in the Near East,  
22 1889-1989. This should offer the public a unique opportunity  
23 to learn about the methodology of archeology and the  
24 development of the disciplined while exploring excavations  
25 that have contributed to the understanding of our cultural

1 and religious heritage.

2 GM-23097, on page three, is an example of a self-  
3 study project that allows an institution to evaluate its  
4 resources in Humanities; to assess the effectiveness of its  
5 current programming and to develop long-range plans for  
6 educational programs. We believe that this project from the  
7 Hawaii Maritime Center will be exemplary, leading to improved  
8 interpretive programs for the general public.

9 The American Wing Study Center of the Metropolitan  
10 Museum of Art; that is GM-23144, on page five, will, we  
11 believe, be a model interpretive installation for a museum  
12 study collection. It will make available to the public and  
13 to scholars alike more than 8,000 artifacts from the  
14 Metropolitan's American Collection which are currently  
15 inaccessible.

16 Three media program applications were reviewed by  
17 the Committee and we concurred with the Staff recommendation  
18 to award \$50,000 for advertising and promotion of the nine-  
19 part series The Africans, GN-22943, on page 27. This  
20 ambitious series examines Africa through its triple heritage;  
21 what is indigenous; what is contributed by Islam; and what is  
22 acquired from the West. The series is scheduled for  
23 broadcast on PBS in the fall of 1986 and has been supported  
24 by the Annenberg Foundation, the BBC and a previous grant of  
25 \$600,000 from the Endowment.

1           The Committee also agreed with the Staff  
2 recommendation not to offer support for another season of the  
3 Shakespeare Hour, GN-22720, page 28. The series, as you may  
4 recall, reformed the three-hour BBC Shakespeare plays into  
5 one-hour segments and is hosted by Walter Mattheau. The  
6 series is organized around the themes of love, power and  
7 revenge. In the first season five plays were presented on  
8 the theme of love.

9           The Committee and the Staff concluded that despite  
10 a highly professional and intensive effort on the part of the  
11 applicant to attract new and larger audiences to these  
12 Shakespeare plays, the response from the PBS stations and the  
13 public was too limited to warrant the substantial expenditures  
14 required to produce another season.

15           With respect to the Application GN-22705, page 28,  
16 The Philippines and the United States: A History, which  
17 proposes to examine Philippine history from the late 19th  
18 century to the present, the Committee did not sustain the  
19 Staff's recommendation of \$50,000 to support the scripting of  
20 the first two parts. The Committee based its decision on  
21 several points but primarily on the belief that the project is  
22 more journalistic than scholarly in both content and  
23 methodology.

24           Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report and I  
25 recommend the adoption of a motion.

1 MR. KINGSTON: Second the motion?

2 MR. : I second it.

3 MR. KINGSTON: Discussion of this motion. Louise,  
4 please.

5 MS. KERR: Is the GN-22705 that same proposal that  
6 we heard last time?

7 MR. RITCHESON: That is right.

8 MS. KERR: As I recall last time it was endorsed by  
9 the Committee and had been endorsed all the way up as a very  
10 fine proposal. But that I thought that the reason we were  
11 given was the time.

12 MR. RITCHESON: It was not, in fact, endorsed by  
13 the Committee. The Committee decided to defer it.

14 MS. KERR: I remember that it was deferred but not  
15 for reasons of quality as I recall.

16 MR. RITCHESON: Well, I think that is not in my  
17 recollection. But the motion speaks for itself.

18 MS. KERR: Well, it doesn't speak for itself if,  
19 in fact, the same proposal is not now even as high-- thought  
20 to be of as high quality as it was in May. I mean I just  
21 want to clarify it, what the reasons for the deferral were.

22 MR. COHN: Well, the reason for the deferral at  
23 that time was-- I think I made the motion for a deferral was  
24 because we were in the middle of a tremendous series of  
25 social and political events going on in the Philippines. And

1 I thought it would be highly inappropriate for us to go  
2 ahead and make a grant without knowing what the possible  
3 outcome could be. Now we know what the outcome has been but  
4 Charles' description of why we turned it down is quite  
5 accurate. It is not an emphasis on Humanities of scholarship  
6 but rather journalism. And I don't think it falls in the  
7 purview of NEH.

8 MR. KINGSTON: Leon.

9 MR. KASS: Charles, did I hear you to say that the  
10 grant of \$50,000 on the program The Africans was for  
11 advertising?

12 MR. RITCHESON: Yes, that is correct Leon. Let me  
13 see. Where is it? We had previously funded a considerable  
14 sum Leon.

15 MR. GIBSON: We previously supported over \$600,000  
16 Matching Grant which have they have fully matched and now we  
17 are recommending a small amount of money for promotion and  
18 advertising. Principally that means press kits and, in some  
19 cases, taking out advertising in local newspapers.

20 MR. KASS: Well, I am not sure \$50,000 is a small  
21 or large amount of money but I wonder about the principle.  
22 And is there some policy on the question of whether Endowment  
23 funds are used for promotion in this class. I am simply  
24 ignorant.

25 MR. RITCHESON: It certainly has a long line of

1 precedents Leon. This is not breaking any new ground. We  
2 have done this sort of thing in the past.

3 MR. KASS: Have we done this only in the area of  
4 General Programs?

5 MR. GIBSON: I do not know. It would be my  
6 assumption that that would be the case.

7 MR. KINGSTON: I don't recall any other cases where  
8 we have engaged in promotion. It is in General Programs  
9 because we have to get packets to the various schools,  
10 institutions and so forth, that might be using the materials.  
11 The PBS stations also have to run announcements about the  
12 programming that occurs and so on.

13 MS. KERR: Isn't it ordinarily though given it is in  
14 the larger proposal? I mean, this sticks out because it is a  
15 separate proposal.

16 MR. GIBSON: That is true. On an occasion one  
17 would have to return requesting-- in a special promotion  
18 advertising money and we would review that as with the others  
19 or bring it to the attention of the Council, we do allow  
20 applicants, as part of the original proposal, to include up  
21 to \$25,000 in a request for promotion and advertising. That  
22 has been our reluctance to fund at a high level promotion  
23 funds and so we have limited them through the regular  
24 application but they may come back for something more larger.

25 We have been reluctant to, you know, provide the

1 amount of funds that really is probably required to a major  
2 promotional activity. We have covered-- Most of our funds  
3 will go into production not that. This is, however, a most  
4 modest request to promote a program of this magnitude.

5 MR. KINGSTON: Other questions or comments on this?

6 MS. RHOME: Mr. Chairman. Thank you. I wonder if  
7 we could have a little more description about what happened  
8 to the Shakespeare Hour. This deeply grieves me. I do  
9 realize that perhaps it does not draw the same numbers or  
10 attract the same numbers as a program on M.A.S.H. might do  
11 but, by the same token, is it being-- are you saying that the  
12 numbers are so sparse?

13 MR. KINGSTON: We will have to investigate--

14 MR. RITCHESON: I think we will have-- May I have--  
15 Sorry.

16 MR. KINGSTON: Go ahead Charles.

17 MR. RITCHESON: I think we will have to have a  
18 Staff person give us the details to substantiate the general  
19 statement in my report that the program did not attract  
20 sufficiently large audiences to warrant our reforming the  
21 next series of plays.

22 MS. RHOME: Well, we have been assigning them for  
23 school children and students and people all over our particular  
24 particular state and I know this is true in other states.  
25 And we have also just discussed it both at the American

1 Shakespeare Association Meeting and the International  
2 Shakespeare Association Meeting as one of the media by which  
3 we can honestly get Shakespeare into homes where we-- and to  
4 persons hands and with an understanding that they could never  
5 get before.

6 MR. RITCHESON: You understand Frances, that this  
7 is a reformatting of the BBC productions.

8 MS. RHOME: I understand that.

9 MR. RITCHESON: So that I-- As a matter of fact, I  
10 raised the very question you have raised in our discussion  
11 yesterday, wondering about the accessibility to school  
12 audiences and so on. And we discussed this at least briefly  
13 and the conclusion was that the plays in their original form  
14 would serve the purpose equally well.

15 MR. COHN: Each station has made its own decision  
16 as to when it is going to broadcast the programs. There were  
17 a number of stations that didn't broadcast any of them;  
18 public broadcasting. And sometimes when they did-- not  
19 sometimes, frequently when they did broadcast them there were  
20 hours that were completely awful in terms of trying to attract  
21 an audience.

22 You have to bear in mind that each station makes its  
23 own decision and how that decision is based, depends upon each  
24 one of the idiosyncrasies, each one is a public broadcasting  
25 station. I regret that the showing was as awful as it was.

1 That was a fact, period.

2 MS. RHOME: Well, I can understand those things.  
3 I just didn't know why we would withdraw our support of the  
4 program, per se?

5 MR. GIBSON: If I can make a brief comment.  
6 Following the Council's decision to defer this application  
7 some time ago, the Staff conducted an extensive, exhaustive  
8 evaluation of both the quality of the programs and of the  
9 viewership for the first season. We contacted reviewers  
10 throughout the country of whom we asked to review the entire  
11 series and to review the educational materials which  
12 accompanied the series.

13 Moreover, we did a study of the actual audience or  
14 viewership for the series. The review of the quality of the  
15 educational materials was quite high. The review of the  
16 propriety or advisability of reformatting into one hour was  
17 quite mixed. Some felt that it was-- increased the  
18 accessibility, if you will, of Shakespeare's plays. Others  
19 preferred to see the entire Shakespeare's play or see the play  
20 in its entirety.

21 One of the key elements, however, upon which we made  
22 our ultimate and final recommendation was the actual audience  
23 size. When BBC plays were originally aired on public  
24 television they attracted an average of 1.2 to 1.3 million  
25 viewers per episode. The episodes which we checked for the

1 Shakespeare Hour, as reformatored, attracted audiences  
2 respectively, of 1.2 million and 90,000.

3 We had, therefore, with great reluctance, to  
4 conclude that it simply was not attracting a larger audience  
5 to this. And, indeed, as Marcus has indicated, part of that  
6 is the result of the decisions by individual television  
7 stations which scheduled them in hours that are not convenient  
8 for many of the viewers. We have no control over that nor does  
9 PBS. And from all of our conversations we have received no  
10 indication that PBS stations willfully would alter that decision.  
11 And therefore, we reluctantly arrived at the recommendation.

12 MS. RHOME: Thank you for your explanation.

13 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, I might just say that  
14 with tongue in cheek a bit, I think they made a fundamental  
15 error in promoting the first series around the theme of love.  
16 They would have had much more action, I suspect, if they had  
17 adopted power or revenge.

18 MS. RHOME: One of the elements in the Shakespeare's  
19 plays that has to do with love is the fact that if we do love  
20 our fellow man we would have a much more peaceful world. And  
21 it comes across very clearly in the plays. It is not  
22 eroticism per se, and for that reason I think that it would be  
23 a very fine theme.

24 MR. KINGSTON: Leon.

25 MR. RITCHESON: I will keep my tongue to the outside

1 my cheek.

2 (Laughter)

3 MR. KINGSTON: Leon.

4 MR. KASS: I would like to just return to this  
5 question of advertising for a moment. I understand why if  
6 one is investing a large amount of funds in public programs--  
7 in General Programs, that it would be a shame not to pay some  
8 attention to seeing to it that these programs actually get  
9 aired and so on.

10 On the other hand, I think a case could be made that  
11 there are lots of other things that we do that would benefit  
12 from comparable kinds of promotion. Comparing the value, for  
13 example, of promoting the sale of The Mark Twain Series as  
14 opposed to promoting the airing of-- compared to the airing  
15 of Huck Finn. I wonder if one might ask Staff to just take  
16 up the question of the policy of precedents in policy on use  
17 of our funds for advertising in the Endowment for some  
18 subsequent Council meeting?

19 MS. RHOME: I second that recommendation.

20 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to-- I  
21 am sorry Father Schall.

22 FR. SCHALL: I was going to say I would like to  
23 associate myself with that position but I do think there is a  
24 question of principle that needs to be thought about. I think  
25 we have thought about it in some previous Council group but it

1 does seem to be that there are implications to either you  
2 should include this as a standard practice in-- up front in  
3 what you agree with the first time or the whole thing itself  
4 should be rejected.

5 MR. KINGSTON: What we can do is, at least, start  
6 by describing the use that we have made of funds for promotion  
7 here at the Endowment and use that as a beginning point for  
8 discussion at the August Council, if you like.

9 MR. KASS: I don't have a position on this.

10 MR. KINGSTON: Certainly.

11 MR. KASS: I would like to be informed along with  
12 (Inaudible).

13 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to be  
14 very clear on something. That when we talk about advertising  
15 we are not talking about spot promotions or anything of that  
16 sort, we are talking about very useful, in my experience, in  
17 any event, very useful booklets, course materials, written  
18 commentaries, that sort of thing, which are designed to  
19 enhance the use of our, let me say, sir, our product to schools,  
20 to museums and to a wider audience. It is not a frivolous  
21 kind of PR.

22 MR. KASS: I don't think my remarks should have  
23 suggested otherwise but it seems to me one could, in principle,  
24 do the same sorts of things for others of our products, texts  
25 and things of that sort. And I think it would be useful for

1 us, at least, to spend some time thinking about it collectively.

2 MR. : I agree.

3 MR. KINGSTON: As a beginning of that exploration  
4 let's describe what we do do and then take the discussion  
5 from there reporting back to the August Council. Louise.

6 MS. KERR: But just for clarification or point of  
7 information. Is it not true that perhaps it is the labeling  
8 that is wrong? Because it is my impression that much of this  
9 money goes, in fact, to the scholars. Does it not?

10 MR. GIBSON: For the promotion?

11 MS. KERR: Yes, in the promotional materials. Is  
12 this not sort of-- the commentaries, don't we spend a lot of  
13 that money on-- Is it on the slip material and on the paper,  
14 the printing, is that what we are spending money on?

15 MR. GIBSON: Certainly part of it would be going for  
16 the materials and for some ads in local papers or ads in TV  
17 Guide on some of the amounts that go for scholars. There  
18 shall be some of it that will go for scholars if there is  
19 written text involved with that.

20 MR. KINGSTON: John.

21 MR. AGRESTO: I would just like a little further  
22 clarification on the-- if we can go back for a second, on the  
23 Philippines project. Yes, we are to fund scholarly works and  
24 not journalism. I was just wondering the ground of the  
25 journalistic nature of this as it was presented to you and

1 Committee yesterday.

2 When it first came up I thought it was the sense of  
3 Council that the real danger of journalism was the later  
4 episodes; the more contemporary episodes. Therefore, we  
5 concentrated our attention on the earlier, the more  
6 historical episodes. And I was just wondering why you  
7 thought or the Committee thought that the earlier episodes  
8 were journalistic and not historical or scholarly?

9 MR. RITCHESON: You understand that we can have  
10 three months or so to think about this project. My original  
11 reaction to the project was dubious. And speaking now  
12 personally, not for my Committee, though I note that the  
13 Committee was unanimous in its rejection of this project.  
14 During these intervening months I hadn't read and thought  
15 about this matter very carefully. I concluded that the  
16 project, as such, was journalism and not history. That is to  
17 say it was not an objective pursuit of the truth about the  
18 past. But it was, in fact, a case of-- in search of evidence  
19 to support a predetermined conclusion. This is not history.

20 Furthermore, I concluded that the proposal, as it  
21 stands, could not be funded because the end which it gave us  
22 in the proposal simply no longer applies or at least it is not  
23 the state of affairs at the moment.

24 This leads to the, I think, untenable position of  
25 asking if we should have thought about doing so; asking the

1 writers to rewrite their proposal; to take into account the  
2 Aquino accession. Perhaps, who knows, even involving a more  
3 charitable view of the American legacy in the Philippines.  
4 And by the time we got that back, perhaps, something else would  
5 have required a treatment of more current current events. In  
6 short, what we have here is a problem of journalism and not  
7 history. And as I understand it the NEH is not in the  
8 journalism business.

9 MR. AGRESTO: But the proposal before you was, in  
10 fact, to see scripts throughout and to the early period,  
11 correct? To fund \$50,000 scripts?

12 MR. RITCHESON: My case rests on this. That though  
13 the scripts applied to the earlier period they were directed  
14 toward a conclusion already established. And, hence, do not  
15 fall within my view of what history is.

16 MR. KINGSTON: Phil.

17 MR. SHAEFER: In summary, what Charles is saying,  
18 to paraphrase Imelda Marcos, if the shoes fit, wear them.

19 (Laughter)

20 MR. RITCHESON: I thank my distinguished colleague  
21 for the gloss.

22 (Laughter)

23 MR. KINGSTON: Any other comments or questions?

24 (No response)

25 MR. KINGSTON: All those in favor of the motion

1 please signify by saying Aye.

2 (A chorus of Ayes was heard)

3 MR. KINGSTON: Opposed.

4 (No response)

5 MR. KINGSTON: Report from the State Programs,  
6 Ms. Cresimore.

7 State Programs

8 MS. CRESIMORE: Please refer to the final motion  
9 on the white pages. The Committee recommends approval of the  
10 Applications for State and Regional Awards for exemplary  
11 projects that appear on pages one and two of the final motion  
12 beginning with SO-20690 through SO-20709.

13 Out of a total of 22 applications involving 26 states,  
14 nine are recommended for funding. The Committee was pleased  
15 with the range of topics and the quality of the proposals.

16 The Committee also recommends, for Council's  
17 approval, Application SO-20710, from the National Federation  
18 of State Humanities Councils for National Services to the  
19 State Councils. The recommendation provides funding for one  
20 year up to \$190,000 pending further Staff work.

21 The applications on the third and fourth page of  
22 the final motion, SO-20688 through SO-20708, are not  
23 recommended by the Committee for funding.

24 The Committee paid particular attention to SO-20699,  
25 New Jersey, and SO-20708, Vermont, and concurred with Staff

1 recommendations not to fund the proposals. I move that these  
2 recommendations be adopted.

3 MR. KINGSTON: Is there a second to the motion?

4 Mr. : Second

5 MR. KINGSTON: Comments. Anita.

6 MS. SILVERS: This is not a comment on your  
7 decisions but a request that, perhaps, State Committee people  
8 look at this entire program because it seems to me when this  
9 was initiated there was a suggestion that it would improve  
10 the quality of State Programs because we expected the majority  
11 of State Programs to be participating.

12 My sense is that the applications-- a number of  
13 applications are somewhat disappointing, at least, as I  
14 recall, the original discussion which supposed that all of the  
15 states-- almost all of the states would apply and-- May I just  
16 finish ~~Audrey?~~ *my point?*

17 And, in addition, I have-- I am trying to remember  
18 which states have won before. But I believe I have seen some  
19 recidivists here and I am a little bit curious about the  
20 number of times particular states have won the award; has any  
21 state won it three times, for instance; how many states have  
22 won it twice?

23 MS. BERLINCOURT: We have considered to study the  
24 program, Anita. I think the numbers are a little misleading  
25 because nine states that won awards last year are still working

1 on their exemplary projects. So, in effect, there are 36  
2 states-- 35 states currently involved.

3 MS. SILVERS: There is still a ratio of about  
4 nearly-- just about one in two, isn't it, which is for NEH  
5 programs a pretty high funding ratio.

6 MS. CRESIMORE: Well, we will ask Staff to prepare  
7 some information; do some research on that then.

8 MR. KINGSTON: Other comments or questions?

9 MR. COHN: I have a question I would like to ask.

10 MR. KINGSTON: Yes.

11 MR. COHN: There are 10 applications for approval.  
12 I notice in five of them the amount approved is somewhat less  
13 than the amount requested. Is there anything in common among  
14 the five that there has been a reduction in the amount  
15 requested? Is there a common denominator in terms of reducing  
16 the amount?

17 MS. BERLINCOURT: No, not really. We took a close  
18 look at each of the budgets. There were certain things that  
19 we felt could very easily be reduced.

20 MS. SILVERS: What was cutting out of the  
21 Federations?

22 MS. BERLINCOURT: The absentee support and there is  
23 no support being provided for Federation review.

24 MR. KINGSTON: Yes, Charles.

25 MR. RITCHESON: Have we voted on this yet?

1 MR. KINGSTON: No, we haven't. Other comment or  
2 question?

3 Those in favor of the motion signify by saying Aye.

4 (A chorus of Ayes was heard)

5 MR. KINGSTON: Opposed.

6 (No response)

7 MR. KINGSTON: Let me do note for the record Council  
8 met in Executive Session from 9:00 o'clock until 10:00 o'clock  
9 this morning for discussion of the 1987 Jefferson Lectureship.  
10 That is simply an official notification for the minutes.

11 Is there any other comment to make before the--

12 MR. RITCHESON: Mr. Chairman, something very briefly  
13 because I don't want to hold us further. Some of us have  
14 been discussing the possibility of Council members  
15 representing the National Endowment for the Humanities at  
16 exhibitions, at openings, in their native states or  
17 territories. This is not in otherwise a suggestion that we  
18 are looking for travel expenses or anything of that sort.  
19 But it does strike some of us that our presence in the absence  
20 of the Chairman or more senior representative of the  
21 Endowment might well bring some publicity favorable, I trust,  
22 to the Endowment and I would like to reserve this for  
23 discussion at the next Council.

24 MR. KINGSTON: Discussion of representation, fine.  
25 We will put that on the agenda. Any other comment or

1 question? Phil.

2 MR. SHAEFER: The only comment involves speaking  
3 probably to Charles. Thoughts that have occurred on this  
4 needing a member of the Council, if anyone has an idea how we  
5 might officially or unofficially represent the National  
6 Endowment at the Centennial of the Statue of Liberty, that is  
7 a hot ticket.

8 (Laughter)

9 MR. KINGSTON: We are sending up one of our best  
10 program people to guide the ships past the Statue.

11 (Laughter)

12 MR. KINGSTON: I declare the meeting closed at this  
13 time-- adjourned at this time.

14 (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.,  
15 on May 9, 1986.)

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