

June 14, 1985

Dr. Robert D. King, Dean
College of Liberal Arts
The University of Texas
Austin, Texas 78712

Dear Bob,

Early this week I called Vice-President Fonken's office to ask if he could talk with me about the Ford Foundation's proposal to put money into college writing programs and give me what he saw as the University of Texas' "institutional perspective," one of the topics that we will be discussing in New York on June 21. He agreed to see me and I spent 45 minutes with him on Wednesday, June 12. He expressed to me forcefully his own belief that writing is at the center of a university education and said that he is interested in the Ford Foundation project. He asked me to talk with him again when I return from New York.

During our conversation we talked generally about some of the current problems in the English department, and I told him that at your request, the composition and rhetoric interest group has drawn up a plan for a writing program in the department. He was interested in the plan, and I left a copy with him.

We have also given copies of the plan, along with a letter explaining its origin, to Bill Sutherland and to Joe Kruppa's committee to review 346.

To bring you up to date on the meeting at the Ford Foundation I am enclosing a copy of their confirming letter to me along with the agenda for the meeting and a list of participants. I will return from New York on Saturday, June 23, and will be here until July 2, when my daughter and I leave for England and France. I would be pleased to come in and talk with during the week I am here if you think that would be useful. I will return from Europe on August 1.

Thank you.

Cordially,

Maxine Hairston