



BRYN MAWR COLLEGE  
BRYN MAWR, PENNSYLVANIA 19010

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
(215) 645-5064

January 23, 1980

Professor Emmett L. Bennett, Jr.  
Institute for Research in the Humanities  
Old Observatory  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin, 53706

Dear Professor Bennett:

It is with great regret that I confirm the substance of my telephone conversation with you this morning.

I wish to express to you, personally, to the Institute, the Dean of the College of Letters and Science, and the Department of Spanish, my apologies for all the inconveniences which I may have caused by the reversal of my original, and no doubt, sincere decision. The reason for this change of mind is, as I told you, strictly medical. I have been under frequent, and effective, treatment of a tumor for a period of more than two years. Happily, this has not prevented me from being active in my field --as a matter of fact, I have published in 1979 more than at any other time in my career--. Yet, I have to submit myself to frequent medical inspection, and periodic resection. Since the possibility of being nominated, and subsequently appointed, Herbert F. Johnson Research Visiting Professor at the Institute was so enticing, I gladly accepted your original offer before proper consultation with my doctor. When I saw him, by the end of last week, he advised me strongly against being away for any relatively extended period of time --a great disappointment to me, as you may realize. I consulted another doctor, who confirmed the opinion of my own. It may well happen that these doctors are too conservative, but conservatism in these matters is probably a most reasonable attitude. I have no doubts that in Madison I would find treatment as good as, if not better than, the one I am receiving in this area, but I must confess that I find it difficult to change medical care which up to the present has been most satisfactory.

Your letter of January 21, with an official offer, and further details concerning the Herbert F. Johnson Research Visiting Professorship, makes me feel that I am losing a great opportunity to be in close contact with a very alive intellectual community. I certainly thank you and the Institute for your kind and generous offer. I feel regretful for not being able to take advantage of it, and foolish for having made a first original decision before proper medical consultation. I have talked to Professor Birutė Cipiliuskaitė, and have expressed to her both my