

May 8, 1972

Dear Mr. Ferrater:

You must have said the right things to the ACLS--as you can tell from the enclosed. I had quite given upon it. The National Foundation for the Humanities sent their regrets in March. I had thought that the ACLS was so persuaded of the unworthiness of my project that they had decided not even to answer--seeing as per se nota propositions ought to be evident to all. But then the mailman came on Friday and there it was.

I will now of course take the Summer off and devote myself entirely to Heidegger and Eckhart, and the Habilitationschrift. I have also been invited to contribute an article to a collection of studies (being published by Villanova faculty in conjunction with our Theology Institute) on Heidegger and Eckhart. I plan to make these two studies two chapters in a full length book--as my letter to the ACLS stated. I hope to have a manuscript (typescript, that is) in about two years. Heidegger's Schelling lectures have just appeared (Niemeyer, 1972) and with luck I'll get up a short account of that this Summer.

You have probably heard by now of the subject matter of the other enclosure--the Chairmanship. This will keep me stepping. We have a department of 23 full time people. But I will teach only half time and should be able to have the Summers with no teaching and just checking in for a few hours a couple of times a week to see that things are running along. I'm also being compensated sufficiently to be able to give up any overtime teaching.

We're working hard on getting Esen Traub into the Department. My appointment is effective September 1, so if we don't get her this year I'm going to stand on my head to get her in next year.

Congratulations to you too on your appointment. Romano I understand is being considered for the Chairmanship at St. Joseph's College. The three of us seem well on our way towards combining philosophical wisdom with political power.

Thanks so much for everything, and I do hope you have an enjoyable Summer.

Cordially,

*John Caputo*