

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
LAWRENCE

October 19, 1960

Professor José Ferrater Mora  
Department of Philosophy  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Dear Professor Ferrater Mora:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 3. Please excuse my very long delay in answering it, which has been due to the necessity of enquiring among various departments and offices about their schedules for next spring, so as to avoid any conflict between the Lindley lecture and other important events. We are all delighted that you will be able to come, and, if it is agreeable to you, suggest that the date of the lecture should be either Thursday, February 9, or Tuesday, February (28). The exact times of your journeys can, of course, be arranged at your convenience, subject to the general plan outlined in my earlier letter. We look forward very much to your visit.

In the meantime I hope you will not mind my bringing up another matter. This University has recently, through private gifts, been put in a position to add one or two distinguished professors to its permanent staff, with the possibility that one appointment might be made in Philosophy. The official title of these positions is that of Roy Roberts Distinguished Service Professorships. While we are at the moment not able to make a commitment of any kind, I have been asked to enquire of you whether you would have any objection to our submitting your name to the Administration with a view to its possible action in this connection. An unfavorable reply would, of course, put an end to the matter; a favorable one, while not committing you to anything, would at least leave the door open for further enquiry, which would have to come from a higher level. All of us in the Department would be very pleased if you would allow us to take this step. Please excuse this very tentative broaching of the subject; as yet we cannot, I am afraid, put it more definitely.

One final point, of a quite different kind. There is a reference in your Diccionario de Filosofía to a definition by Unamuno of a paradox as "una proposición tan evidente cuando menos como el silogismo, pero menos aburrida." I have used this idea in a paper which is to be published in Costa Rica, but have been unable to locate the source of the quotation. If you can do so without too much trouble, could you tell me from which of Unamuno's works it comes? It is not of great importance, and I know that you are very busy, but I would be most grateful if you could let me know.

Once again apologies for my delay in replying to your letter.

Very sincerely yours,

Peter Cant

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