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HISPANIC DIVISION

February 18, 1982

Dr. José Ferrater Mora
Fairbank Professor in the Humanities
Department of Philosophy
Bryn Mawr College
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010

Dear Dr. Ferrater Mora:

It was a pleasure to speak with you by phone the other day, in the company of Dr. Jaime Benitez, former rector of the University of Puerto Rico, and to learn of your continued interest in the contributions of the Spanish philosopher, José Ortega y Gasset.

Dr. Benitez and I were pleased to learn that you have already been contacted by Soledad Ortega with regard to participating in the symposium on Ortega y Gasset that is to be held at the Library of Congress on September 30 and October 1, 1982. As you know, the symposium will be in anticipation of the one hundredth anniversary of Ortega's birth, and will coincide with a formal announcement that the Library of Congress, the Centro Nacional de Microfilmación, and the Ortega Foundation have just collaborated in the microfilming of Ortega's personal archive of letters, notes, and manuscripts.

The symposium is being developed in close cooperation with the Ortega Foundation, and both Soledad Ortega and José Varela have indicated that they plan to take an active part in the event. Funds to support it are being provided by the Comité Conjunto Hispano-Norteamericano para Asuntos Educativos y Culturales.

Present plans call for eight major papers, each of which will be followed by comments from formal discussants and then by open discussion. Two papers will be given each morning and two each afternoon of the two day symposium. The time allotted for each formal paper will be 45 minutes, with between 30 and 45 minutes set aside following each presentation for critiques by the discussants and for an open exchange of ideas. As Dr. Benitez and I explained on the phone, we

would be delighted if you could prepare a paper on Ortega as a thinker of the future. We would hope that, in the paper, you would focus on the implications of his thinking for the countries of the Western Hemisphere. This would be in keeping with the major thrust of the symposium, viz. the influence of Ortega outside Spain. If possible, the paper should be presented in English.

The Fundación Ortega is handling all financial arrangements for the activity. If you accept our invitation, they will be in touch with you with regard to honorarium and reimbursement for travel. Actual organization of the event, however, will be handled through my own office here at the Library of Congress.

I am sincerely pleased that you are willing to prepare one of the major papers. Your long acquaintance with Ortega and his work will make your contribution invaluable.

Sincerely,



William E. Carter
Chief

WEC:jp

cc. Daniel Boorstin
Jaime Benitez
Soledad Ortega