



HOTEL RITZ

Memorandum

MEXICO, D.F.

8.I.46

To Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas

From William Berrien

Re Summer Seminar for Hispanic Studies

The members from the USA of an advisory board for such a seminar, might well be selected from the following:

Dean Hayward Keniston - University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, Michigan

Professor M. A. Zeitlin, Chairman - Department of Spanish and Italian
University of California at Los Angeles
405 Hilgard Avenue,
Los Angeles, California.

Dean Henry Grattan Doyle - Columbian College
George Washington University
Washington, D. C.

Professor Otis H. Green - University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania

Professor Sturgis E. Leavitt - University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Professor Clarence E. Parmenter, Chairman - Department of Romance Languages
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois.

Professor Eduardo Neale Silva, Chairman - Department of Spanish & Portuguese
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

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Among the six courses offered, I believe there should always be one good course in advanced composition for graduate students: Curso de composición y estilo. I am informed that a young Mexican, Professor Alcalá - who has had experience at Vassar College - would be very good for this assignment, if available. If he is not, care should be taken to select someone who (a.) is familiar with problems of syntax and style in Spanish, and (b.) who has a knowledge of what American advanced students of Spanish need, i. e., who has the ability to regard Spanish as a foreign language and who knows the level of maturity at which to work.

It would likewise seem highly desirable to offer, as frequently as possible, one specialized course from the following fields: modern Spanish literature, modern Hispano-American literature, problems in literary history and its methodology, (or a course in the history of ideas), classical or medieval Spanish literature. Occasional courses in Spanish phonetics, seminars on a single Hispanic author, courses on colonial Hispano-American literature, courses on Hispanic civilizations, etc., might be given, as outstanding personnel becomes temporarily available. It should be remarked here that for courses in civilization, the American graduate students needs guidance in the Spain, Mexico, and/or Hispanic America of today. For this reason, courses on civilization should emphasize the modern period, which is the hardest for the American student to interpret or understand and for which reliable documentation is least available. This point cannot be stressed too much, from the point of view of the American student. (Students at the teachers' institute complain that it is almost impossible for them to gain any guidance about modern Mexico. This complaint is general for graduate students from the United States coming to Latin America for study or research. Too, this is one of the fields least available with regard to Latin American studies offered in the USA.)





Memo - page 2

HOTEL RITZ

MEXICO, D.F.

Perhaps the following sample program of courses for 1946 could form a basis for consideration of the problem.

- I. Metodología de la historia y la crítica literarias - Alfonso Reyes
- II. Curso avanzado de composición y estilo - Alcalá
- III. La literatura de ideas en la América hispana - Portuondo
- IV. Seminario: Teatro de Lope de Vega (o Poesía de Bécquer y sus contemporáneos)
- W. G. Fichter
- V. Introducción a la paleografía española: estudio y comentario de textos
medievales y clásicos † Millares Carlo
- VI. La novela contemporánea en Hispano-América - A. Yáñez
- VII. Civilización hispanoamericana, siglos XIX y XX - M. Picón Salas

I have listed seven courses instead of six, in case one might not be given. At some future date, perhaps J. L. Martínez might give a specialized course on some period of Mexican literature; or perhaps this might be given in the summer of 1946, substituting for one of the above. If you wish to include someone in the University, I suggest a seminar on Mexican Literature of the XIX Century, under Julio Jiménez Rueda.



ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA DE HOTELES

46 Widener Library
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts
19 January 1946

Dear don Alfonso:

The summer seminar on Hispanic studies of which we spoke for the Colegio de México is progressing as an idea. Everyone consulted seems to think that such an enterprise would be a distinct service to serious graduate students in the Hispanic field. I feel it desirable at this time for us to agree that this eight-week program will be held during July and August of the current year, with the idea that it will become an annual undertaking from 1946 on.

The general pattern remains the same that we discussed. Thirty highly selected graduate students of Spanish, maximum. In each case the student is to take no fewer than two and no more than three courses. Courses will meet four times a week during an eight-week period. Maximum enrolment in any one course will be ten students. Of the six professors offering the six courses in the program, one each year will be a Hispanist on the staff of some representative university in the United States offering graduate work in Spanish. Courses will be of an advanced and specialized nature; no survey courses in literature will be offered, it being understood that the student possesses an acquaintance with the general outline of the literature studied which will provide him with the ~~representant~~ requisite background for the study of specialized problems within the field. Discussion with Professor Whitmore of Smith College, earlier this month in Mexico, brought forth her opinion that a tuition of \$75 might be charged. I shall study this point, but it is understood that the tuition will not fall below sixty dollars. The program is conceived as a self-supporting but non-profit enterprise.

In discussing the possibility of a limited number of tuition fellowships and/or supplementary study-aids for outstanding students who could not cover the total cost of attending the Seminar, I found Dr. Stevens of The Rockefeller Foundation sympathetic to the idea. He felt that perhaps such assistance might be administered through some American agency familiar with such problems from experience here in the United States. Since the students of the Seminar are to be Americans, this seems a thoroughly logical idea. The institution indicated in this case is clearly the American Council of Learned Societies. The Council might request a certain sum to be available for three years, to make possible assistance to certain students. In this way, both admission to the Seminar and selection of students to receive aid might be administered by your American advisory committee in consultation with the Administrative Secretary of the American Council of Learned Societies. For the first year, at least, announcements and publicity concerning the enterprise might likewise be handled from this end. This would relieve you and Lic. Costo Villegas from these time-consuming details, at least for the time being, and provide administration of admission and selection of scholarship students by men of long experience in dealing with such matters for American students.

If you agree with the above, I can prepare announcements and application-forms to submit to you and Lic. Costo Villegas before having them printed here.

Dr. Alfonso Reyes - 2

19 January 1946

Regarding the membership on the Advisory Committee of American scholars, I should suggest that you invite such members to serve by sending them a letter at once. If you wish, I could serve as chairman of this Committee until the program was well established, since by doing so I could handle most of the consultative correspondence with members of the Committee and their advisory remarks and suggestions could then go to you through one person, the chairman. This would not, of course, imply that the various members would not feel entirely free to communicate with you direct, but rather that it might be most convenient in the majority of cases to have them send their opinions to me, so that I could send them on to you, together with the opinions of other members dealing with the same topic. To the names already given you I should like to add that of Dr. Lewis Hanke, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Latin American Studies (ACLS-SSRC-NRC), and Director of the Hispanic Foundation in the Library of Congress. Dr. Hanke's experience would be of great use to the Advisory Committee and to you in this program; his membership in the Advisory Committee would have the added advantage that he is in Washington. The subcommittee on selection and admission could then be Dean Doyle, Dr. Hanke, and myself; in that way I should be the only one outside Washington, which would facilitate working on problems of admission and scholarships with the Administrative Secretary of the ACLS, Mr. Mortimer Graves.

If you wish an Advisory Committee of five, I should suggest as the four members besides myself: Dean Henry Grattan Doyle, Dean Hayward Keniston, Professor M. A. Zeitlin, and Dr. Hanke. This would give us the desirable geographical coverage with reference to this country and at the same time the participation of men thoroughly conversant with the problems involved. In case you should wish a somewhat larger committee, I should suggest Professors Parmenter, Leavitt, and Green, in the order mentioned. I should like to repeat my suggestion that on inviting these men to serve on the Committee, you state that such service would make them honorary members of the Colegio de México. Each of the men mentioned is a person of sufficient distinction and has rendered services of high enough quality to the development ~~of~~ Hispanic studies to entitle them to such an honor.

Regarding the dates, I have this question. Would it be better to set the period July 8 - August 30 for the courses, including final examinations or the delivery of seminar papers on the last two days, with July 5 for registration day? It occurs to me that this year one might wish to start classes after election day in Mexico. However, if you feel that students will have excessive difficulty in securing adequate lodgings in Mexico by arriving slightly after July 1, we might consider the period July 1 - August 23, with registration on June 28-29.

With reference to the problem of lodgings, I believe it would be worth your while to set some one person at the Colegio to work on this problem, from May 1 on. This would have the advantage of having someone there responsible for securing a

Dr. Alfonso Reyes - 3

19 January 1946

list of facilities for lodgings for the Seminar students, someone with whom the students themselves could correspond regarding this matter from May 1 on. I believe that this would have any number of advantages over the suggested plan to rely on Dr. Villagrán's lists for these matters, especially for the first year. You could ask some young person at the Colegio to take this relatively simple matter over for a couple of months for about 300 pesos for the job, I should think. Perhaps some young man or woman could be found who would investigate facilities, draw up the lists, and orientate Seminar students in this matter: somebody like young Mr. Bosch Gimpera or even Mr. Portuondo. Some young person who would personally investigate facilities for a few hours; and be generally helpful. In this way, once a student is granted admission to the Seminar, I could refer him to Mr. X or Miss X at the Colegio concerning facilities for lodgings and/or board.

It would be very helpful to have at once some estimate (high, medium, low) of the cost of a student's living in Mexico for eight weeks during July and August, so that we could consider applications for assistance toward total expenses in the light of such estimates. Possibilities for residence relatively near the Colegio are, of course, desirable, though this need not be imperative in all cases. I should say in general, that places like the Colonias Cuauhtémoc, Roma, Hipódromo, etc. would be excellent; the "centro" would likewise be satisfactory; residence in San Angel, for example, would be definitely less so... In fine, these matters can be worked out at the opportune moment. For the estimates which I request (students in the Centros of the Colegio can help you estimate) I should say that we need to know approximately what would be the cost covering the three grades: high, medium, low. By "low" I do not, of course, mean "pensiones inmundas" where food and living quarters would be such as to ruin a student's summer. On the other hand, the "medium" and "low" brackets should be based on the fact that students will be graduate students from the USA and not visiting professors...

I shall write in more detail later about stipends for instructors, need for two hours a week available for consultations, etc. Basically these problems remain the same as when we discussed them. I am keeping in mind the necessity to maintain a self-supporting program which will not represent a loss for the Colegio.

A matter which I should, however, like to present for your consideration is the possibility of inviting Dr. Rafael Altamira to give a course on Spanish Civilization with emphasis on the XIX and XX centuries. It is true that he is advanced in years, but his distinction and his mental alertness and charming manner would mean much to Seminar students. Any American would consider it a rare privilege to have studied under Altamira and his name would add much to the program for the first year. You might get some capable young man like the young Bosch Gimpera to assist him at practically no cost to the program. We can come back to this later when I ask you for the program to submit to the Advisory

This course would be up to 0. of and not in addition to, a course on Hispano American Civilization, 1800-1945, by M. P. on Salas. This suggestion is made for consideration in case M. P. S. is not readily available.

Dr. Alfonso Reyes - 4

19 January 1946.

Committee for an opinion. If you approve the points brought up in this letter, I shall write you soon concerning program of courses, since we should make an effort to circulate announcements by February 20th if possible.

I spoke very informally with Professor William G. Fichter about the possibility of his going to Mexico to give a course on the theatre of Lope de Vega at the Seminar, and found him interested in the idea.

This letter is perforce long. What I need to know at once is here summarized. Do you and Lic. Cosío Villegas agree to have the Advisory Committee and the ACLS administer problems of admission and scholarship assistance? Would you want a subcommittee here (Doule, Hanke, Berrien) to take over matters of circulating announcements and receiving applications? (This would be for the first year at least). Will you kindly name and invite the members of the Advisory Committee and inform me at your earliest possible convenience whom you have invited? What dates do you prefer for the Seminar? If announcements and publicity for the first year are in English, do you agree to the title Summer Seminar on Hispanic Studies of the Colegio de México? Can you name a part-time assistant at the Colegio from May 10 to July 10 to take over the question of listing living facilities and orientating Seminar students concerning this and related problems? Some of these questions could be answered by telegram.

For purposes of the record, I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Waldo G. Leland, Director of the American Council of Learned Societies, and shall show a copy to Dr. Stevens when he comes to Cambridge on January 22.

Next Monday I see Dean Paul H. Buck, provost of Harvard University, for a long talk. I shall then begin formal discussion concerning the possibilities of a visiting professor from the Colegio de México during the fall or spring terms of the academic year 1946-47 (to give one seminar, Oct. 15-Dec. 15 or Jan. 20-March 20): I shall keep you informed of developments. Accumulated work on my return to Cambridge has prevented my writing the long memorandum on our discussions concerning the proposed Center of Literary and Philological Studies at the Colegio de México, but I hope to do this next week and shall send you a copy; in New York last week I discussed this matter informally at some length with Dr. Stevens. I hope you will keep me informed of progress of correspondence with P. Henriquez Ureña.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and send you and Lic. Cosío Villegas my warm regards.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Berrien

Dr. Alfonso Reyes, President,
El Colegio de México.

México, D. F.,
31 de enero
de 1946.

Sr. William Berrien.
46 Widener Library.
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.- U.S.A.

Mi querido doctor Berrien:

Recibí su carta de enero 19, y después de una lectura - atenta de ella, le mandé un telegrama expresándole nuestra conformidad con la mayor parte de las sugerencias que en ella nos hace - usted y muy particularmente respecto de aquellos puntos cuya resolución tan justamente le urgía a usted más conocer.

De todos modos quizás convenga revisar ahora el contenido de todo de su carta, porque hay puntos a los que no me refería en el telegrama.

Estamos enteramente de acuerdo en lo siguiente:

- 1) En principio todos los cursos serán avanzados y especializados.
- 2) El número total de cursos a ofrecer será el de seis.
- 3) En principio cada curso será de cuatro horas semana-
rias, durante ocho semanas.
- 4) En principio todos los estudiantes serán graduados.
- 5) La inscripción máxima total será de treinta.
- 6) La inscripción máxima a cada curso será de diez.
- 7) Cada alumno tomará no menos de dos cursos y no más de tres y el pago de la colegiatura será en ambos casos igual.
- 8) De acuerdo en que la colegiatura a cobrarse oscile entre 75 y 60 dólares.
- 9) De acuerdo en que la administración de las becas o de las ayudas parciales las haga el Consejo de Sociedades Doctas.
- 10) De acuerdo en que un Sub-Comité del Consejo Consultivo haga la selección y la admisión final de estudiantes.
- 11) De acuerdo en que la publicidad se maneje en Estados Unidos, si bien esperamos que nos mande usted los modelos para examinarlos.
- 12) El Consejo Consultivo estará compuesto, entonces, - por: William Berrien, como Presidente, y como miembros de él, los señores Doyle, Keniston, Zeitlin y Hanke, miembros norteamericanos.

31 de enero de 1945⁶.

Sr. Dr. William Berrien.

En nuestro telegrama le decimos a usted que creemos conveniente incluir a una mujer, tanto por dar su lugar al sexo fuerte, como porque nos imaginamos que, si no de un modo inmediato, sí por lo menos en el futuro parte de la clientela del Seminario pueden representar la muchachas de los Cinco Grandes colegios de mujeres. De acuerdo también en que escribiremos de un modo inmediato las cartas invitando a estas personas y pidiéndoles que acepten ser miembros honorarios de nuestro Colegio.

13) Por lo que toca a fechas de apertura y clausura de los cursos, nos parece que serían ideales las siguientes: julio 15 para principiar los cursos y septiembre 7 para clausurarlos, con dos días de anticipación para la inscripción y con otros dos días para presentación y calificación de trabajos. La razón es nuestro deseo de poner entre el primer domingo de julio, en que se celebran nuestras elecciones presidenciales, y la apertura de nuestros cursos, el máximo de tiempo posible. Sin embargo, si usted considera que es un inconveniente decidido tomarse la primera semana de septiembre, convendremos en las fechas que usted nos ha sugerido.

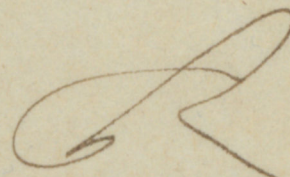
14) Nombraremos una persona auxiliar que se encargue de alojamientos y pequeños problemas materiales de los estudiantes.

15) Creemos que el costo de alojamiento y comida, exclusivamente, puede ser como sigue: bajo, \$250.00; medio, \$350.00; alto, \$500.00.

16) Parece que no sería imposible obtener de don Rafael Altamira que diera el curso que usted sugiere, pero casi es inevitable descartar la idea de que pueda encargarse de un curso de cuatro horas semanarias. Parece que la mejor solución posible sería que él diera dos horas semanarias y otro profesor, como don Domingo Barnés, las otras dos. Por supuesto que ambos se entenderían para hacer un trabajo armónico. Ningún inconveniente en que el señor Fichter se encargue del curso Teatro de Lope de Vega. Para el curso de español avanzado hemos hablado ya de don Manuel Alcalá. En unos días más podríamos enviarle sugerencias sobre otros cursos.

Espero que entre telegrama y carta se hayan tocado todos los puntos, lo bastante para que usted pueda proceder en lo que juzgue de más urgencia.

Su cordial amigo.



Alfonso Reyes.

México D.F., a 31 de enero de 1946

Mr. William Berry.
46 Widener Library. Cambridge 38, Mass. U.S.A.

Encantados Counsel y Committee administren becas y admisión estudiantes stop asimismo hágase publicidad -- allá stop Comité Consultivo Berry presidente Miembros Doyle, Keniston, Z eitlán, Hanks más una mujer profesora 5 grandes colegios mujeres stop Conformes nombre se minario stop Nombraremos ayudante encárguese problemas materiales estudiantes stop Escribo.



Alfonso Reyes.

México, D. F.
31 de enero
de 1946.

Sr. William Berrien,
46 Widener Library,
Cambridge 38, Mass.- U.S.A.

Querido Dr. Berrien:

De conformidad con lo que hablamos aquí en México, le envío adjunta una noticia universitaria sobre José Medina Echavarría.

Por correo separado le mando a usted un ejemplar de las dos obras que ha publicado.

Supongo que antes de hacer una solicitud formal, nos tendrá usted que ilustrar acerca del posible tema de la investigación de Medina, o al menos de cómo debía presentarse.

Con mis mejores deseos, suyo.

Daniel Cosío Villegas.

(COPIA DE LA ORIGINAL)

ANEXO
DCF/sa.

México, D.F.,
8 de febrero
de 1946.

Dr. Hayward Keniston.
c/o. Dr. William Berrien.
46 Widener Library.
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.- U.S.A.

Estimado profesor Keniston:

El Colegio de México ha resuelto organizar a partir de este año -y espera hacer de ello una parte permanente de su programa de trabajo- un Seminario de Estudios Hispánicos, que ocupará dos meses del verano.

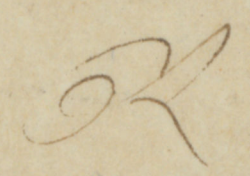
En general, se desea hacer del Seminario un esfuerzo de enseñanza excepcional, tanto porque participen en él los más distinguidos hispanistas del mundo, como porque los alumnos sean los mejores estudiantes graduados de las Universidades, tanto norteamericanas como de la América Latina.

El Colegio de México piensa que con una obra de esta naturaleza puede contribuir al mismo tiempo al progreso de los estudios hispánicos y al conocimiento y amistad entre profesores y estudiantes de nacionalidades distintas.

Por eso queremos invitarlo a usted a formar parte de una Junta Consultiva que tendrá el Seminario, y a incorporarse a nuestro Colegio como Miembro Honorario de él.

Los fines generales de esa Junta serían auxiliar a las autoridades de El Colegio para el mejor logro de los fines del Seminario.

Con la esperanza de que usted nos haga la honra - de aceptar, y manifestándole a la vez que la Junta Consultiva será presidida por el Dr. William Berrien, de la Universidad de Harvard, con quien convendría tome usted contacto al efecto, le envío mis mejores saludos y quedo atentamente suyo.



Alfonso Reyes.
Presidente

Harvard University

25 February 1946

Dear Dr. Reyes:

† Unfortunately I did not receive your communication of January 31 until February 12. The intervening days have been extremely heavy ones for me, since I was making up time lost during an illness of two weeks, which I had shortly after my return to Cambridge from Mexico. I hope this delay will not be alarming for you or Lic. Cosío Villegas, since I am quite certain that we can arrange matters for the Summer Seminar for Hispanic Studies of El Colegio de México, if we keep at it steadily from this point on.

It so happened that both Dean Keniston and Dean Doyle were in Cambridge the day your letter arrived, enclosing letters to them concerning membership on the Advisory Board, so that I was able to deliver these letters in person. We likewise had an opportunity for a helpful talk on a number of points. They were in general agreement with matters discussed with you and Lic. Cosío Villegas, in Mexico, and in accordance with your agreement expressed in your letter of January 31. I am sorry to say that I have not yet forwarded your letter to Professor Zeitlin, since I hoped to enclose it in a communication of mine, which is yet to be written. This will be taken care of immediately. I have no doubt that Professor Zeitlin will agree to serve. He will certainly be one of the most valuable members of the Committee at all times.

From informal conversations I have the idea that, once the requisite announcements are made, we should have no difficulty in attracting the quota of good students. There should be at least six from this immediate region alone.

The specific points on page 1 of your letter of January 31 are clear as to mutual agreement. Dr. Waldo Leland is informed concerning the enterprise, and is willing to request funds for scholarship aids through The American Council of Learned Societies for a limited number of special cases. He will make official request in the name of the ACLS for these funds immediately, and it is my belief that provision of such funds will be achieved by the time I receive your reply to the present letter.

I was interested to note your suggestion that a woman be added to the members from this country on the Advisory Board. I do not doubt that some very competent young women who are

graduate students will apply for admission among the thirty students to be selected. And certainly there would be no reason to exclude a young woman from admission if her competency and promise met the standards we hope to maintain. It seems highly likely that there may be some young women among the thirty students, from the first year on. It so happens, however, that of the five major women's colleges (I presume you refer to Bryn Mawr, Radcliffe, Smith, Wellesley, and Vassar -- though Mount Holyoke is in many ways equal to any of these), only Bryn Mawr and Radcliffe, insofar as my knowledge goes, train young women for the Ph.D. degree. The majority of young women who work for this degree, do the bulk of their graduate training in the major graduate schools of leading universities, a number of which are coeducational. Other universities, such as Yale, very often accept women at the advanced graduate level. Of the two women's colleges which give Ph.D.'s in Hispanic studies, one of them -- Radcliffe -- would be represented by my membership on the Committee, since the faculty of Radcliffe College is in fact the faculty of Harvard University.

There is certainly no reason, insofar as I can see, not to welcome a woman among the American members of the Advisory Board. But it so happens that, with the exception of Professor Ruth Kennedy of Smith College, I cannot think of a staff member in Spanish at one of these colleges who is primarily concerned with graduate students and their pre-doctoral problems.

Mrs. Kennedy is a warm and charming woman and a very sound scholar, but she does not interest herself particularly in the administration aspects of the problems which the Advisory Board must meet on the basis of their everyday experience.

Mrs. Whitmore of Smith is a remarkably resourceful and charming woman, but I believe her concern to be primarily with undergraduates. Spanish at Vassar is almost exclusively an undergraduate matter, though I understand that instruction there in this field has many points which might be imitated with profit elsewhere. Miss Margarita de Mayo is the leading force in the development of Spanish at Vassar, and is, I understand, a dynamic woman and a successful teacher of elementary and intermediate classes. It so happens, however, that the Advisory Board will have concerns which demand both interest and experience in handling the needs of more mature and more specialized students. There is, in addition, one factor concerning Miss de Mayo which would make it somewhat difficult for most of us to have her as a colleague in planning: her declared Franco sympathies. The most distinguished Hispanist on the staff of a woman's college in this country, and the person who would really understand what is implied in the program we are working on, is a man, Professor Joseph E. Gillet. Professor Gillet is of course one of the top Hispanists in this country, and a man of international reputation. If you wish a representative from the women's colleges on the Committee, I should suggest his name. If you and Lic. Cosío Villegas are anxious to have a woman member of the Committee, perhaps Mrs. Whitmore would be the most agreeable person to work with. Needless to say, this analysis of the situation is given for your information. It is perfectly apparent to all of us that the choice in these matters lies with the officers of El Colegio de México.

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Since it is unlikely that the great majority of students in the Seminar will not be persons teaching in high schools of this country, there seems to be no objection to setting the dates from July 15 to September 7, as suggested by you. I have checked this matter with Dean Keniston and Dean Doyle, and they agree. I can see only one possible disadvantage to opening as late at July 15; that is, that by that date available lodgings will be taken up by the students of the Summer Session of the Ribera de San Cosme. However, this may not be an insurmountable difficulty, considering the difference in location of the two schools and the relatively small number of students in the Seminar of the Colegio. If you have a competent young man or young woman in charge of problems of lodging and minor details, this difficulty will probably take care of itself.

You quote three figures in pesos for board and room, exclusive of other expenses: low, \$250.00 ; medium, \$350.00 ; high, \$500.00. It is not clear to me whether these figures cover the eight weeks of the Seminar or indicate a monthly rate. If they indicate a monthly rate for the board and room of an individual, exclusive of other expenses, then these figures indicate that such accommodations are more expensive than they would be in the most expensive American city at the present time. In other words, seventy U.S. dollars (350 pesos) as a medium estimate of the monthly cost of board and room for one person, would mean that the living costs in Mexico are almost prohibitive for our students. On the other hand, if the figures you give cover the eight week period, these estimates seem unusually low. Any information you or one of your associates might provide on this point will help me draw up the preliminary announcement of program, which I hope to do next week.

I shall, of course, send to you and to members of the Board copies of the tentative version of the pamphlets and posters announcing the Seminar. This will give you an opportunity to make such corrections or suggestions as you may see fit. Once I have approval of the prospectus, I can proceed to have it printed and distributed from here. I presume that printing and distributing costs may be chargeable to El Colegio de México, in the understanding that clerical and other expenses connected with correspondence concerning admission and scholarships may be chargeable to the project for this purpose to be administered by The American Council of Learned Societies. You will inform me if you are not in agreement with this plan.

I shall hope to receive at the earliest possible date a tentative program of courses for immediate distribution to other members of the Board, so that we may decide whether such a program meets the needs of American graduate students as we see them. I shall see Professor Fichte regarding more specific details on the possibility of his giving a course on Lope de Vega or a seminar on Bécquer. It seems likely that they may be need for two sections of the course on advanced composition and syntax, since this would be an especially welcome opportunity to advanced graduate students who have been away from their studies during the war. I am glad to know that you have discussed with Professor Manuel Alcalá the possibility of giving this work.

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Dr. Reyes

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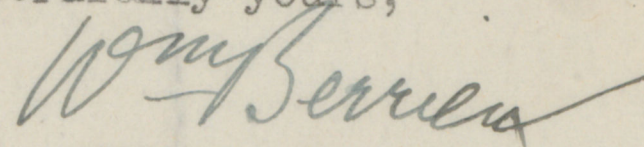
There is one item which has come up which may have definite implications for the program during the summer of 1946. I understand that Professor Navarro Tomás of Columbia University will spend the Spring and Summer in Mexico on his sabbatical. It occurred to me that he might be willing to give one course at the Seminar. The course which would have the greatest value would be some work in the field of Linguistic Geography related to his own researches in Mexico. Such a course would add tremendous prestige to the initial program of the Seminar, given Navarro Tomás' reputation and his skill in training graduate students. I should not be surprised if he would be willing to give the course at the fee paid members of the staff who are resident in Mexico. If such were the case, this would be an excellent investment. I do not know whether Professor Navarro Tomás is in Mexico or not at the present moment. If he is, and you can give me his address, I should be happy to write him in this regard.

I believe that if Professor Fichte goes to Mexico for a course this summer, it would be desirable to pay him as salary the same fee paid to resident staff members, plus \$300 for traveling expenses. When the program of courses is approved, and you take the matter of contract up with individual professors, I take the liberty of suggesting that you specify rate by the hour, as an insurance against absences.

These are the points that occur to me at present. I shall be very happy to receive the suggested program of courses at the earliest possible date. With reference to the hours and days when these might be scheduled, I should suggest that all courses meet Tuesday through Friday of each week, and that of the six courses, one meet at 9:00 o'clock, two at 10:00, two at 11:00, and one at 12:00.

With best regards, as always,

Cordially yours,

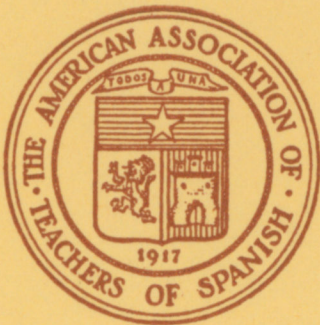


William Berrien

Dr. Alfonso Reyes
El Colegio de México
Sevilla, 30
Mexico, D.F.

WB:VF

*No guide:
view a det.
causer
of a le scrib'g of contacts.*



Al Sr. Corio Villegas
no me conocí antes,
y agradeceré

25 de febrero de 1946

Distinguido amigo y colega:

Huelga decir que acepto
con mucho gusto la invitación que usted
me ha mandado por manos de nuestro
amigo Bill Berrier para formar parte de
la Junta Consultativa del Seminario de Estudios
Hispanicos y de incorporarme al Colegio
de México como miembro Honorario. Hace ya
unos quince días que tengo que guardar cama
con un acceso de "la grippe", lo que explica
la dilación con que contesto a su grata carta
y la forma de la contestación (escrita
en cama). Le ruego que me perdone.

En espera de sus órdenes, y con un
cordial saludo quedo atentamente suyo

Henry Grattan Doyle

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR
COLLEGE OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS

February 27, 1946

HAYWARD KENISTON, DEAN

Dear Dr. Reyes:

Professor Berrien gave me your letter when I was in Cambridge recently.

I am greatly interested in the possibilities of a Seminario de Estudios Hispánicos, and I shall count it an honor to serve on the Advisory Board, as well as to become an Honorary Member of the Colegio de Mexico.

You can expect my active cooperation and that of the Hispanic group at the University of Michigan in the development of your plans.

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Hayward Keniston

HK:w

Dr. Alfonso Reyes
President
El Colegio de Mexico
Sevilla, 30
Mexico, D. F.

México, D. F.,
7 de marzo
de 1946.

Dr. William Berrien.
46 Widener Library.
Harvard University.
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.- U.S.A.

Querido doctor Berrien:

Autorizado por don Alfonso Reyes contesto su carta del 25 de febrero, principiando por decirle que lamentamos mucho que la nuestra de enero 31 le llegara a usted con tanto retardo.

Nos alegra saber que muchos de los preparativos para nuestro Seminario Hispánico encuentran una acogida favorable entre las personas de cuya amistad y ayuda necesitamos.

No queremos empeñarnos de un modo peculiar en hacer figurar a una mujer en el Comité Consultivo del Seminario; las razones que usted nos da son más que satisfactorias.

Si usted aprueba las fechas de apertura y clausura por otras razones, no tenga usted cuidado respecto a falta de alojamientos para nuestros estudiantes; pero ciertamente éste será un punto en el que la noticia precisa y anticipada es de una importancia decisiva, pues como usted lo sabe bien, existe en México, además del fenómeno de carestía de vida, una crisis de alojamientos.

Respecto de los costos de alojamiento y alimentos, le dimos a usted una información que registraba tipos muy varios, pensando que -- las personas que pueden venir no son exactamente del tipo del estudiante más joven y por consiguiente de menores recursos. Si fuera a establecerse una comparación con lo que gastan nuestros becarios en su --- alojamiento y comida, habría que calcular una cifra mínima de \$180.00 y una máxima de \$250.00, pero las cifras de \$200.00 y de \$225.00 serían las más generales y más representativas. Estas cifras todas se entienden por un mes de alojamiento y de alimentos.

Respecto de los pamfletos, si no está usted seguro de que contemos con el tiempo suficiente para distribuirlos oportunamente, no -- será necesario después de todo que nos mande usted para su aprobación el original.

Desde luego que estamos conformes en que se cargue a la cuenta de El Colegio la impresión y distribución de los folletos.

El punto de los cursos a ofrecer es sin duda el de más interés, de los que aún están pendientes, y por desgracia no puedo en este instante dar sugerencias precisas y por eso me limitaré a algunos posibles candidatos y a cursos que podrían desempeñar, para que usted los -- examinara y a su vez nos hiciera sugerencias.

Desde que recibimos su carta anterior, hablamos con don Rafael Altamira para ver si deseaba encargarse del curso La Civilización Espa

Marzo-7-1946.

Dr. William Berrien.

ñola en los Siglos XIX y XX. Nos dijo que lo haría con todo placer, - pero por desgracia la salud de don Rafael es ya bastante precaria: pa-
ra este semestre había ofrecido dar un curso en nuestro Seminario de -
Historia, que ha tenido que suspender por consejo médico.

Esto me lleva a sugerir que conservemos el nombre y el curso -
de don Rafael Altamira con la esperanza de que pueda darlo; pero que -
pensemos en otro curso de Historia de la Cultura, del que podría encar-
garse, sea Mariano Picón Salas, o José Antonio Portuondo.

Se nos ocurrió a don Alfonso Reyes y a mí, lo mismo que a us-
ted en cuanto a Navarro Tomás, de modo que con mucha anticipación don
Alfonso Reyes le escribió invitándole a considerar la idea de trabajar
en estos seminarios. Aun cuando no conozco los términos precisos de la
carta, don Alfonso me dijo que había rehusado la invitación; pero desde
luego estamos conformes en lo mucho que añadiría el nombre y el trabajo
de Navarro Tomás. En consecuencia, le rogamos a usted ponerse en segui-
da en contacto con él, pues aún está en Nueva York.

No hemos hablado aún con don Manuel Alcalá para los cursos de
español avanzado; pero creo que en principio contaremos con él y en to-
do caso le hablaremos desde luego.

Contamos con un profesor norteamericano, a quien le pagaríamos
de acuerdo con las sugerencias que hace usted en su carta.

Creo que podría pensarse en dos cursos a cargo de profesores -
mexicanos jóvenes. Se me ocurre que uno podría ser José Luis Martínez,
quien ha estado estudiando -por cierto para escribir un libro para el
Fondo de Cultura Económica- la literatura mexicana contemporánea. Ten-
go entendido que ha centrado mucho su esfuerzo en las tres figuras que
él considera más representativas: Alfonso Reyes, Enrique González Mar-
tínez y José Vasconcelos. Si así fuera, se podría dar un curso sobre
estas tres figuras, o sobre alguna de ellas y en ese caso, si se quie-
re la de un poeta, habrá que elegir desde luego a González Martínez, y
si se desea la de un ensayista, a don Alfonso.

Otra posibilidad es, como decía antes, la de Agustín Yáñez, --
quien podría dar un curso sobre un tema como este: La novela mexicana.

Quizás conviniera pensar en ofrecer un curso de literatura es-
pañola además del que dé el profesor norteamericano; pero, por lo pron-
to no se me ocurriría más sugestión que la de Julio Torry. En todo ca-
so, en unos días más le volveré a escribir a usted afinando las suges-
tiones que tengamos que hacer don Alfonso y yo.

Ahora quisiera decirle a usted lo siguiente: creo haberle anun-
ciado desde que estuvo usted en México, que me proponía hacer un viaje
a la América del Sur y que tocaría por fuerza Argentina. Quiero infor-
marle a usted que mis preparativos son para salir el 6 de abril. Esta-

Marzo-7-1946.

Dr. William Berrien.

ré en Chile (Hotel Carrera) del 20 al 30 de abril, y en Buenos Aires del 1º al 10 de mayo. Digo todo esto por si quiere usted darme algún encargo especial para el viaje.

Con la esperanza de que su salud esté ya en buen orden, siempre suyo amigo.

Daniel Cosío Villegas.

14 March 1946

Dear Lic. Cosío:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 7. The information it contained was very helpful in a number of details. When we make the descriptive pamphlet for the Seminar, we shall follow your latest advice concerning approximate costs of lodging and board. I believe that we might agree that estimate to cover food, lodging, and laundry might reasonably begin at sixty U.S. dollars (low) per month. There will doubtless be a certain number of students who will wish accommodations costing more than the low estimate; but in general, graduate students are more indigent than undergraduates, since they have been put to the expense of acquiring an education for a longer period of time. There will be no need to mention scales for incidental expenses, since these vary with each individual; but I believe we should set a minimum estimate for texts to be purchased at around \$20.00 U.S. money.

There is no question that students should make known their desires concerning accommodations well in advance. I believe that this can be handled satisfactorily, if we are able to issue and distribute the pamphlet concerning the Seminar within the next month. It would appear to me that the admission of students should be completed thirty days before the beginning of the Seminar. This would mean that correspondence concerning questions of accommodations would be directed to your representative for such matters considerably before June 15 in certain cases, and that your representative in these matters should reasonably expect to have all inquiries completed around June 15.

The question of program of courses is the most important one, at this moment. I am sure that you and Dr. Reyes would agree that it would be undesirable to issue a pamphlet on the Seminar, if the list of courses is not available. Predoctoral students and their graduate advisers in universities here will be specifically interested in knowing the concrete opportunities for study at the Seminar before a student makes application for admission. Mr. Keniston and I had an opportunity for a long talk on this matter when he was here one month ago. The desirability is that courses should be of graduate calibre, and that they should avoid the survey type of approach. The course suggested for Professor Alcalá is perhaps that which will be of most interest to a number of graduate veterans who are returning to Spanish after from two to five years in regions where possibilities for work on Spanish were few or non-existent. I should be glad to correspond with Professor Alcalá as soon as the program is set up, so that he may know in advance exactly the type of work which will be most functional to his group of students. From reports I have had, I believe he will be well suited to give this type of work.

In my memorandum of January 8 to you concerning a tentative program of courses, I listed as the most desirable course one on Methodology of Literary History and/or Literary Criticism, with special reference to Spanish literature, and given by Dr. Alfonso Reyes.

I very much hope that Don Alfonso's health will permit him to agree to offer such a course, since it would be of immense value to the eight or ten students admitted to the course.

You do not mention whether or not you have explored possibilities of having Professor Millares Carlo give a course entitled Introduction to Spanish Paleography: Study and Commentary of Medieval Texts. Such a course, if Millares is willing to give it, would be of definite value, since this particular type of work is available at only one or two universities in the United States, and, clearly, given with less authority than Millares can summon to the task. If Professor Millares would wish to have photostatic copies of a limited number of pages from manuscripts available here, so that each of his students might work on them as part of the training, I believe that they could be provided at a very low cost. The understanding would be that each student enrolled in such a course would pay the cost of pages of photostatic copy which the class used. Consultation with Mr. Jackson, Director of the Houghton Library here, leads me to believe that if students had experience in careful analysis and deciphering of from twelve to twenty pages of selected manuscript, this would constitute a summer's work for one course. It is understood that Professor Millares would want to lecture at times on general problems in the study of Medieval and Early Classical Spanish Literature. This would be very profitable. But the major part of the students' work would be in learning to read manuscript pages through actual practice. It is understood that such a course would lead to an ability to read carefully, and that it could not be expected to make of the students authorities for dating, in so short a time.

I still feel that J.A. Portuondo could give a good course on the Literature of Ideas in Spanish America, from the National Period to the present. I have the feeling that graduate students would enjoy working under him.

Perhaps you will wish to consider the possibility of having Professor Gaos give a course in Literary and Intellectual History of the Eighteenth Century in what is now Mexico and Central America. I am sure this would be valuable for our students.

no! I heartily agree that it would be unrealistic to expect Dr. Rafael Altamira to give a course in the Seminar, in view of his health. Perhaps it will be possible to invite him to come for an informal meeting or talk with all students of the Seminar, one afternoon during the summer. I myself feel that it is a great experience just to see the man and to hear him speak informally. If you are sure now that Mariano Picón Salas will be available for a course on Spanish American Civilization dealing for the most part with the period since Independence, this would be a good course to have. I understand that Richard Pattee is likewise in Mexico; he has given excellent courses on this field from time to time at Middlebury. It is not absolutely essential to have such a course in the first Seminar, and I believe it would be preferable to skip the matter for the time being, rather than offer a course which is not compact and well thought out in advance. This type of course could be offered at a later Seminar if you knew well in advance that the man would be available. If you are sure that Picón Salas will be with you, this would settle the matter,

22

for he is an excellent teacher.

A course on the Mexican novel, given by Yáñez, would be an interesting possibility, if he has the time to do it well, and is available for additional commitments, other than the duties he now has, including the fellowship from the Center of Philosophical Studies to write a book. This fellowship normally presupposes that the holder will not accumulate a number of additional duties.

The suggestion that J.L. Martínez give a course on Contemporary Literature, stressing the three figures named, seems to me a good one. I think it would be fortunate to have such a course which studies in detail three such figures, to counterbalance what is for me an excessive emphasis on the novel of the Mexican Revolution, as the central point in Mexican literature since 1900. Martínez would doubtless do a good job on this course; and I agree that you should want two young professors on your staff. Alcalá would be one of them, and Portuondo another. Martínez could be a third, and would doubtless add to the success of the Seminar. It is, however, true that his reputation is primarily local, and that he is known more as a creative artist than as a scholar. If these three men are used for the staff this summer, it will be highly desirable to see that the other three are recognized scholars of maturity, such as Alfonso Reyes, Navarro Tomás, Millares Carlo, Fichter, and Gaos.

In other words, if the Seminar is to establish itself as an enterprise of the caliber suggested by don Alfonso in his letter of invitation to members of the Advisory Board, the staff should include three names comparable to the five just mentioned. There is no question in my mind that men like Alcalá, Portuondo, and Martínez will give valuable courses. But their names do not yet "fill the bill" as to the prestige envisaged.

X I have written to Professor Navarro Tomás and should have his answer in a few days. Professor Fichter has likewise given me a promise to inform us of his decision within a week. You will doubtless have a line-up on men there in Mexico within a short time. I should suggest your settling the commitments for Alcalá, Portuondo, and Martínez (or Yáñez) at once. I shall inform you by wire as to Fichter and Navarro Tomás by March 21. If these two accept and three younger men do likewise, you will have only one more mature scholar resident in Mexico to secure, to complete the staff of six. If neither Fichter nor Navarro Tomás accepts, you will have one additional staff member of maturity and reputation to secure in Mexico, and I shall have immediately to secure another scholar from the USA.

In view of unavoidable delays in settling the matter of staff and course-offering by now, it seems necessary to issue a poster for department bulletin board in U. S. universities, announcing the Seminar and stating that pamphlets giving details as to courses and staff will be distributed at an early date. I shall check this matter with other members of the Advisory Committee at once. If I do not hear from you to the contrary, I shall go ahead with the

posters at once, in the understanding that detail of a concrete nature will be available to incorporate in the pamphlet by April 10, that is: staff, courses, and the requisite curriculum vitae concerning each staff member.

I believe it will be realistic to set the tuition at 75 U. S. dollars. This should mean an income of around 11,000 pesos from tuition. Perhaps you will find it reasonable to pay professors at the rate of 25 pesos per hour of class, plus 35 pesos per two-hour consultation period. At four classes and one two-hour consultation-period per week, this would mean 1080 pesos per professor for the eight-week Seminar. Perhaps it would be simpler to set the honorarium at 1100 pesos per professor for the eight-week seminar, which would mean 6600 pesos for the staff. All professors, including the visiting Hispanist from the USA, should receive the same stipend; but the visiting Hispanist should likewise receive an allowance of 1500 pesos for traveling expenses. (Navarro Tomás would, in this case, be considered on the same basis as a resident professor, since he will be in Mexico anyway.) This 8100-peso total for staff should leave approximately 3000 pesos for other expenses.

My feeling is that it of the utmost importance to be sure that professors resident in Mexico do not miss classes and that they do not miss the consultation period of two hours weekly. You and don Alfonso Reyes will know best how this can be achieved.

Thank you for informing me of your plans to go to South America. I shall be writing you in this regard in a few days. You do not mention whether or not you have heard from Pedro Henríquez-Ureña. I should welcome news of developments.

You do not mention who will take over correspondence concerning the Seminar when you go to South America. I trust that major details will all be taken care of before your departure, so that matters of consultation will be reduced practically to details of housing, to be taken care of with the person you put in charge of that matter. My hope is that the Seminar administration will not fall too heavily on don Alfonso Reyes, whose health and convenience we must consider at all costs.

I have not received to date a list of the members of El Colegio de México, so that this has made it impossible for me to discuss with the Provost of Harvard University the matter of a visiting lecturer here next fall, or in the winter of 1947. We should, of course, not let this matter go too long without official attention, since Harvard's programs for 1946-47 are practically settled already. Please let me hear from you on this.

With best wishes to you and Dr. Reyes, as always,

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Burien

Lic. Daniel Cosío Villegas
Pánuco 63
México, D. F.

COMPANIA TELEGRAFICA MEXICANA

WESTERN UNION

CLASE DE SERVICIO

Este es un mensaje de tarifa íntegra, si no tiene alguna de las indicaciones que se expresan en el cuadro de la derecha.

INDICACIONES

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MM	Mensaje Nocturno
NL	Carta Nocturna
LC	Diferido
NLT	Carta Cablegráfica
CBB	Código

21 MAR 1946

CD264 126 NL CA CAMBRIDGE MASS 20

DR DANIEL COSIO VILLEGAS FONDOS DE CULTURA ECONOMICA
PANUCO 63 MEX

BOTH FOTHER AND NAVARRO TOMAS REGRET INABILITY TO SERVE ON STAFF
FOR SUMMER SEMINAR THIS YEAR STOP THIS AND OTHER RECENT COMPLICATIONS
LEAD ME TO RECOMMEND STRONGLY THAT ANNUAL SUMMER SEMINARS BE INAUGURATED
IN 1947 INSTEAD OF 1946 STOP THIS IN NO WAY IMPLIES LACK OF APPRECIATION
OF VALUE OF IDEA OR LESSENING OF ENTHUSIASM BUT INDICATES RATHER THAT I
FEEL IT PREFERABLE TO HAVE TIME SO TO ORGANIZE THE FIRST SEMINAR AS TO SET
HIGH STANDARDS FROM THE FIRST FOR SUBSEQUENT SERIES STOP SHALL WRITE YOU
IN DETAIL CONCERNING THIS AND RELATED MATTERS BUT WOULD APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE
REPLY BY WIRE STATING WHETHER YOU AND DOCTOR REYES AGREE WITH PLAN TO START
YEARLY SEMINARS IN 1947 RATHER THAN THIS YEAR STOP CORDIAL REGARDS TO YOU BOTH

WILLIAM BERRIER

6 15AMMZ

W. Berrier

x

México, D.F., 21 de marzo de 1946.

Dr. W. Berrien,
46 Widener Library,
Cambridge 38, Mass,
U. S. A.

DE ACUERDO EN POSPONER INAUGURACION PROYECTO
SEMINARIO HASTA 1947 stop

CORDIALMENTE

ALFONSO REYES.

AR/mem.

México, D. F.,
26 de marzo
de 1946.

Estudios Hisp
Dr. William Berrien.
46 Widener Library.
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.- U.S.A.

Muy querido doctor Berrien:

Esperamos que nuestro cablegrama concurrendo en --
sus deseos de aplazar el Seminario de Estudios Hispánicos --
hasta el año de 1947 haya llegado a tiempo: poco esfuerzo --
nos costó apreciar todas las dificultades de que nos hablaba
usted en su telegrama. De todos modos esperamos su carta pa
ra darnos cuenta mejor de los proyectos que tenga usted para
el año próximo y principiar a trabajar en ellos con la máxi
ma oportunidad posible.

De los asuntos que tenemos pendientes de nuestras úl
timas conversaciones de enero de este año, quiero informarle
lo siguiente. Aun cuando he recibido en carta privada alguna
observación desfavorable al proyecto de traer a México a Pe--
dro Henríquez Ureña, El Colegio no ha recibido una respuesta
a aquella carta larga cuyo texto conoce usted. Por eso hoy -
pongo unas líneas pidiendo alguna respuesta.

De la solicitud de beca de José Medina Echavarría, -
le enviamos a usted el informe sobre su vida académica y un -
ejemplar de sus dos últimas obras. Esperamos que en su opor
tunidad nos diga usted algo de este asunto.

En cuanto a la lista de profesores de El Colegio, le
doy excusas por no habérsela enviado oportunamente, cosa que
procedo a hacer:

Don Alfonso Reyes, con los muchos campos de activi--
dad académica que usted conoce.

Don Daniel Cosío Villegas: Economía y Sociología de -
México.

Don Francisco Barnés: Historia de España.

Alfredo Barrera Vázquez, que trabaja en el estableci
miento definitivo de los textos de Chilam Balam.

Juan de la Encina: Historia y Crítica de Arte.

José Gaos: Filosofía y especialmente Pensamiento His
pano Americano.

José D. García Bacca: Filosofía y Ciencia.

26-Marzo-1946.

Dr. William Berrien.

José Medina Echavarría: Sociología.

Agustín Millares Carlo: Pa leografía y Literatura La-
tina.

José Miranda: Historia de las Instituciones Colonia--
les.

José Moreno Villa: Arte Mexicano.

Manuel Toussaint: Arte Colonial Mexicano.

Adolfo Salazar: Musicología.

Silvio Zavala: Instituciones Coloniales.

Creo que conviene agregar que aun cuando estos son -
los miembros de El Colegio que trabajan más normalmente en él,
tendríamos la posibilidad, y gustosos nos encargaríamos de las
gestiones necesarias, de asegurar los servicios de algún profe-
sor mexicano en que la Universidad de Harvard estuviera parti-
cularmente interesada.

Con mis mejores deseos, siempre suyo amigo.

Daniel Cosío Villegas.

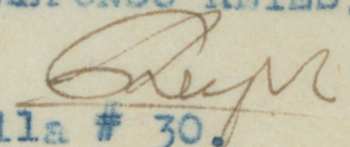
X

México, D.F., 13 mayo de 1946.

DR. WILLIAM BERRIEN
46 WIDENER LIBRARY
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

DIA ONCE FALLECIO BUENOS AIRES PEDRO HENRIQUEZ UREÑA STOP
SECRETARIA EDUCACION Y UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL MEXICO DIRIGIRANSE
INSTITUCIONES CULTURA ARGENTINA DONDE COOPERO PRESENTANDO ~~XXX~~
CONDOLENCIA STOP ACASO HARVARD MINNESOTA DESEARIAN INDEPENDIENTEMENT
TOMAR MEDIDA SEMEJANTE SALUDOS

ALFONSO REYES.


Sevilla # 30.

México, D. F. a 18 de mayo de 1946.

Dr. William Berrien.
Widener Library,
Study #46,
Harvard University,
Cambridge 38, Mass.- U.S.A.

Mi distinguido y fino amigo:

Por encargo de don Alfonso Reyes y de Daniel Cosío Villegas me tomo la libertad de molestarlo, aunque sé que ésta es una de las épocas más ocupadas del año para usted.

Deseamos que nos dé sus impresiones respecto al trabajo de los becarios Hugo Díaz Thome y Enriqueta Lópezlira. Estamos un poco preocupados porque el año académico terminará en breve, si no entiendo mal el 6 de junio, y es necesario decidir sus tareas para el verano.

Existen 2 posibilidades: continuar en Harvard durante el verano o visitar bibliotecas, archivos y centros de investigación.

La primera no presenta problemas económicos porque, de acuerdo con la distribución que se hizo de los fondos de la beca, tenemos en reserva el dinero necesario para las erogaciones que implica su estancia en Harvard o en cualquier otra universidad, no perdiendo de vista, sin embargo, que los fondos existentes no abarcan el gasto de sus colegiaturas.

Respecto a la segunda posibilidad, debo manifestarle que el Dr. don Silvio Zavala, con quien he discutido este asunto, recomienda que se les envíe a Washington y que se les asigne un trabajo concreto. Visita de estudio a la Biblioteca del Congreso y Archivo Nacional. Se podría recomendar al Dr. Hanke

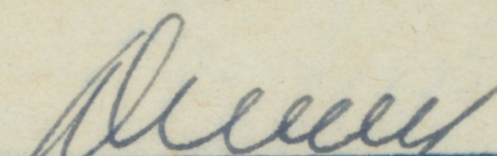
que los atendiera y vigilara un poco su trabajo. Además de tener la oportunidad de conocer estos centros tan importantes, y ponerse en contacto con investigadores, podrían dedicar la mayor parte de su tiempo a la investigación de materiales que les puedan ser de utilidad para una tesis doctoral o para investigaciones relacionadas con su trabajo de post-graduados, trabajo que deberán completar en México, bajo la vigilancia directa de don Silvio Zavala.

Si se estudia esta segunda posibilidad desde el punto de vista económico, nos encontramos con 2 serias dificultades. La cantidad individual que se les ha asignado para cubrir satisfactoriamente el término de 12 meses que exige la beca, no es suficiente para su permanencia en Washington durante 4 meses. Esto se podría resolver reduciendo el período de estancia, digamos a 2 meses solamente, lo que resultaría en la falta de cumplimiento a las condiciones expresas de la beca, es decir la de una permanencia de 12 meses.

Como Ud. verá, el problema podría resolverse con mayor facilidad si tuvieramos noticias suyas, respecto al trabajo de estos becarios.

Es probable que le sorprenda el hecho de que le escriba en nombre del Colegio de México. Se me ha invitado a co-laborar y aquí me tiene a sus órdenes, ayudando en la medida de mis posibilidades, sin abandonar las obligaciones que tengo contraídas con la Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia.

He tenido noticias de su próximo casamiento y aprovecho esta ocasión para ofrecerle mis felicitaciones y buenos deseos por su dicha personal. En espera de sus gratas noticias quedo como siempre su amigo que lo saluda afectuosamente.


Daniel F. Rubín de la Borbolla
Secretario.

DFRB/men.

Anexo copia de la carta del Sr. Díaz-Thomé.

U.S.A.

20 May 1946

Dear Dr. Cosío Villegas:

I am not going to attempt at this time to answer your long and interesting letter concerning publication plans of the Fondo. This is a matter which, as you supposed, will take time for proper consideration which I do not have at the present moment. You may be sure that I shall not disregard your inquiry concerning these problems, and that I shall prepare for you a memorandum on the points you bring up as soon as I am relatively free from the most heavy complex of activities I have had to date. If you would like to send me your itinerary during your South American journey, I could make some attempt to send you by airmail the memorandum, in case I should complete it before your return to Mexico.

Please thank Don Alfonso Reyes for his telegram advising me of the death of Pedro Henríquez Ureña. Word has already gone forth to one or two of the institutions in which he collaborated in Argentina. I cannot begin to tell you how deeply the loss of Don Pedro has affected me at this time. I can think of no other one person who could be spared less than he, in view of present necessities. Certainly the quality of his work and his exemplary selflessness must remain as a vital lesson to his contemporaries and successors. His death will doubtless alter the plans we discussed when I was in Mexico the first of the year. I am sure that you and Don Alfonso Reyes will keep me informed of developments.

Dr. Borbolla very kindly sent me a copy of his letter of May 8 to Mr. Díaz-Thomé. Dr. Borbolla sent a check providing coverage for Mr. Díaz-Thomé and Miss Lopezlira through the first week in June, on the basis of the allotments suggested in my letter of October 4, 1945, to you.

I have seen little of these two young scholars during the past months. They came to see me two weeks ago to inform me that they had decided to remain here in Cambridge through the Summer Term, in preference to going elsewhere for the completion of their twelve months' study. I judge that there remains within the funds made available to the Colegio de México by The Rockefeller Foundation approximately \$1,000 for the completion of twelve months' study in this country and their return home to Mexico City. Along with the modest balance they will have on hand by June 10, I judge that this sum will provide coverage for their tuition during the Summer Term, maintenance, and return to Mexico City, especially if they administer these funds wisely. You and Dr. Borbolla may wish to forward to them the balance remaining from the \$2,700 fund, so that they will receive it around June 10, and give them such instructions at that time as you deem advisable concerning the expenditure of these funds for coverage of summer study and the return trip to Mexico.

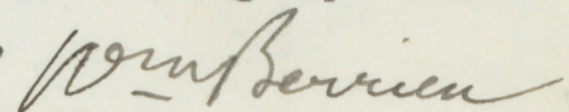
I shall make no attempt at this time to give you a detailed report concerning the work of these two fellows from the Colegio de México. In general terms, I regret to say that their performance has been disappointing. They have shown less self-reliance and maturity than one might have expected from students who have been given the educational advantages which were provided to them in Mexico and in this country. In terms of the assistance given these two young people for the year's work ending September next, I should say that this assistance has not been negligible; the equivalent of \$1,000 from Radcliffe for Miss Lopezlira plus \$1,200 from Harvard for Mr. Díaz-Thomé plus \$2,700 from The Rockefeller Foundation for both of them, adds up to a total of almost \$5,000 over a period of twelve months. I am sure that everyone concerned on this end has made a

20 May 1946

special effort to provide understanding and collaboration needed to make a success of their study in Cambridge. What are the causes which explain their relative lack of success, I am not qualified to say at this time. Difficulties of adaptation can at best offer only a partial explanation; these difficulties I am familiar with from an experience of five years' close association with young Latin Americans studying in this country and with North Americans who have gone abroad for specialized study or experience. Their being Latin Americans does not explain the fact that their total performance here has been unimpressive, measured in terms of graduate study and the sense of responsibility which this type of study is supposed to reveal. Latin Americans have in the past shown a sense of responsibility and an awareness of graduate standards, and continue to do so at present, in so far as their resident study in North American institutions is concerned. At Harvard, for instance, of the top four graduate students in economics, two are Argentines; in sociology, a young Brazilian woman has demonstrated standards of attainment which have made it possible for her to combine teaching duties in this field in Harvard College with advanced graduate studies in sociology. I do not have to tell you that it takes an unusual young woman to cause any department to relinquish even temporarily the precedent that teaching duties at Harvard are not assigned to women. The thing which puzzles me is that it is generally agreed that facilities for the study of such social science disciplines as sociology and economics are not of the best in South America. And here we have the case of three young South Americans excelling in competition with our best graduate students, in fields in which the basic training program of the South Americans is felt to have been deficient by general agreement and by their own statements. On the other hand, we have a disappointing performance by Mr. Díaz-Thomé and Miss Lopezlira after a period of subsidized training in a Mexican program especially set up to provide the best standards and under more favorable conditions than had prevailed before the establishment of the Center for Historical Studies in the Colegio de México. Given my own particular interest in the program of this Center, over a period of several years, and my conviction that facilities for the proper training were provided within the Center, I am sure that you can understand my perplexity with reference to the unimpressive performance by its first two graduates to be subsidized, fairly generously, for study abroad. It may be that some day in conversation we can get at the heart of this matter. For the present I have nothing further to contribute than a frank sense of perplexity.

I am sure that you and I and the two young Mexicans concerned had hopes that their performance would be such as to pave the way for further graduate training here for promising graduates of the Colegio de México. I believe this is not the time to consider other such possibilities. It seems equally undesirable that Mr. Díaz-Thomé or Miss Lopezlira should be disciplined in the sense that they should be discouraged from completing their twelve months' study here. They have doubtless gained considerable useful experience, and will probably be able to complete the M. A. degree by remaining on for study in the Summer Term. It is unlikely that either one of them would make an acceptable candidate for the Ph. D. degree on the basis of further study, after September. Possibilities for further scholarship assistance from Harvard or Radcliffe are evidently out of the question, and I should be disinclined to recommend further supplementary or total assistance from The Rockefeller Foundation. The practical solution is doubtless to make the best of the situation as it exists and to hope that eventual results of their experience will be generally useful to them, even if the present level of performance is less than we had hoped for originally. I am sure that no one feels that the assistance given these two young people has been a total loss, and that everyone concerned can only hope that the eventual outcome of their study will prove our present evaluation of results to have been over-pessimistic. For this reason, I suggest that you and Dr. Borbolla forward to them the remaining funds intended for their study in this country, with the instructions that this total coverage is to provide for their summer's study and return home.

I shall be writing you and Don Alfonso Reyes again on other matters in the near future. In case my letter arrives after your departure for South America, I want to take advantage of this opportunity to wish you a successful trip, and to express the hope that you will give us an opportunity to share some of your interesting experiences there from time to time.



México, D. F. a 30 de Mayo de 1946.

Dr. William Berrien,
Widener Library,
Study #46,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, 38 Mas.- W. S. A.

Muy distinguido y fino amigo:

Me he enterado del contenido de la carta que le dirigió usted a Daniel Cosío Villegas, y mi primera impresión ha sido de verdadero estupor, por lo que comparto con Ud. una perplejidad que, por el momento, no tiene explicación.

Con esta fecha se les ha enviado Dls. 1000.00. Dls. 400.00 a cada uno para gastos durante el verano y doscientos para su regreso a México.

A reserva de darles instrucciones específicas respecto al trabajo que deberán hacer durante el verano, tanto don Alfonso, como Daniel Cosío Villegas, Silvio Zavala y yo estamos de acuerdo en que aprovechen los cursos de verano en la Universidad.

Reconozco que nuestra Casa ha tenido ciertas deficiencias, entre ellas, un aislamiento en parte benéfico y justificable, por que ha permitido la asociación íntima intelectual entre maestro y alumno. Debo repetir sin embargo, que, revisando cuidadosamente el pasado de nuestra institución frente a éstos 2 estudiantes, no podríamos reprocharnos cosa alguna que hubiese contribuido a una formación defectuosa.

Por esta razón, y, compartiendo sin reservas su opinión y su estado de ánimo, considero conveniente y sugiero que se pida un informe a cada uno de los profesores de esa universidad, con quienes han trabajado. Esto nos facilitará poder estudiar más a fondo su caso.

La muerte de don Pedro Henriquez Ureña ha sido un golpe fatal, especialmente para México y para nuestra Casa de estudios. No puedo expresarle adecuadamente el vacío que sentimos

EL COLEGIO DE MEXICO

Sevilla, 30

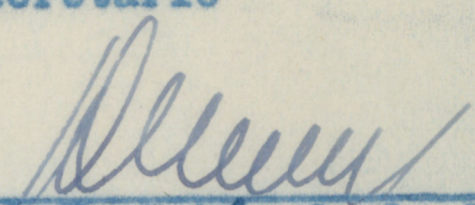
Eric. 28-68-61 Mex. L-47-61

al no tenerlo entre nosotros.

Espero que en alguna ocasión tengamos la oportunidad de charlar respecto a esos planes, que por ahora deberán guardarse, porque, sinceramente, no nos atrevemos a discutirlos, sabiendo que la fuerza dinámica de Pedro Henriquez Ureña falta en ellos.

Con mi estimación personal y mis mejores deseos por su buena salud quedo de Ud. afectuosamente.

El Secretario



Daniel F. Rubin de la Borbolla.

DFRB/men.

México, D. F. a 30 de Mayo de 1946.

Dr. William Berrien,
Widener Library,
Study #46,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, 38 Mas.- W. S. A.

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EL COLEGIO DE MEXICO

Sevilla, 30

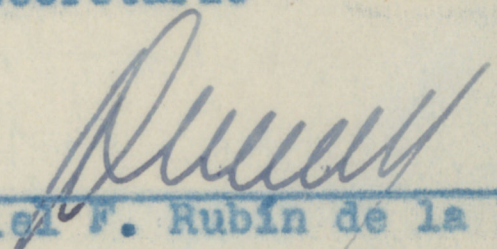
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El Secretario



Daniel F. Rubin de la Borbolla.

DFRB/men.



DEPARTMENT OF
ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Cambridge, Massachusetts

2.VII.46

Mi querido y recordado don Alfonso:

El portador de esta carta, Dr. Normand L. Cartier, va a México a pasar el verano y a mejorar su español. Le he rogado que en mi nombre pase a saludarle a usted, sabiendo que con ese corazón tan grande que usted tiene siempre encuentra usted tiempo para recibir a toda la gente bien. Cartier acaba de regresar de la guerra, después de cinco años fuera del ambiente académico. Es "instructor" en nuestro Departamento, del cual se doctoró hace unos seis años con una tesis muy interesante: "La préciosité dans la littérature française du moyen age." Ahora vuelve al mundo de libros, estudiantes, lenguas vivas, cuestiones literarias. El es de los especialistas en lengua y literatura francesas que conocen las cosas hispanicas y se interesan por ellas. Ha pasado hace ya mucho tiempo unos meses en Madrid y ahora quiere conocer México. Sé que Cartier le agradecería, como yo, cualquiera indicación que usted le quisiera hacer sobre lugares y conferencias que con fruto pudiera frecuentar, así como el permiso para asistir a alguna sesión de curso o de seminario en El Colegio de México.

A Cartier le he encargado que averigüe dónde y cómo en México los libreros de Cambridge podrán comprar de 30 a 40 ejemplares de ciertos libros que los alumnos de Alonso, Grases, Rivera y míos necesitarán para sus cursos de civilización y literatura hispanicas: ediciones españolas, mexicanas y argentinas. Asimismo le he pedido me haga mandar inmediatamente el catalogo que contenga las publicaciones más recientes del Fondo de Cultura Economica y del Colegio. Usted tal vez le pudiera hacer alguna indicación sobre esto.

El que se casa y va a México en luna de miel es Cartier; los planes míos personales no salieron tan bien. Mi proyectado matrimonio no se realiza, por ahora al menos. Cuestión de incompatibilidad que pudimos reconocer a tiempo. Mas vale antes que después... La idea en sí me ha parecido muy buena, así es que no renuncio a la posibilidad de casarme algún día. Mientras tanto estoy trabajando día y noche en la reorganización del Departamento, bastante complicado por cierto como programa de verano. Mucho preferiría estar en ese clima suave de la Capital, con la oportunidad de verle a usted de vez en cuando para así refrescarme el espíritu. Ya será otro día no lejano, espero. Por ahora me limito a mandarle un fuerte abrazo por Cartier y el saludo afectuoso de este amigo que tanto le quiere y tanto le admira.

Suyo devotamente,

William Berrien
Chairman

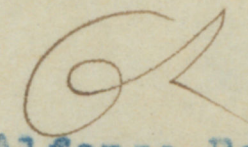
Dr. Alfonso Reyes, Presidente,
El Colegio de Mexico.

México, D. F., Julio 18 de 1946.

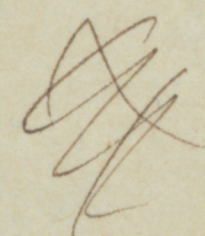
Dr. William Berrien,
46 Widener Library,
Cambridge, 38, Mass.
U. S. A.

Querido amigo:

Su silencio me tiene inquieto. ¿Quiere usted ponerme
unas letras simplemente para que yo sepa que no olvida Ud.
a su amigo?



Alfonso Reyes.
Sevilla 30.



AR/jat.

Arch

México, D. F., Agosto 7 de 1946.

Sr. Dr. William Berrien, Chairman
Department of Romance Languages and Literatures,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.
U. S. A.

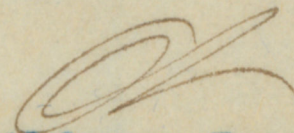
Mi muy querido amigo William:

El Dr. Normand L. Cartier ha estado enfermo y sólo hoy me trajo su gratísima carta del 2 de julio. Inútil decirle que ya lo atendemos debidamente y vamos a servirle con el mayor empeño. Inútil añadir también que la carta de usted me dió una verdadera alegría, pues ya estaba yo con "achares", como decimos los madrileños, por no recibir noticias suyas. Todo este tiempo lo he consagrado a improvisar, de mala manera y contra mis hábitos de trabajo, un resumen de la historia literaria de México para una obra que publicará la Secretaría de Educación, México y la cultura, fraguada en mes y medio por una veintena de especialistas. Se me cae la cara de vergüenza y no sé lo que va a salir, al menos en mi sección literaria. Pero nos pusieron la pistola al pecho y nos lo han exigido como deber público.

Más vale haber visto a tiempo las incompatibilidades, que no encadenarse a una situación incómoda. No dudo que la experiencia le sirva para resolver planes matrimoniales futuros. Cuénteme de todo y cuente conmigo para todo aquello en que crea usted que puedo servirle.

Daniel Rubín de la Borbolla anda de congreso en Centro América. Daniel Cosío Villegas aún no vuelve de Sudamérica. Como de costumbre, yo, el más inútil, tengo que seguir con la carreta.

Lo abraza con mucho afecto su firme y cordial amigo


Alfonso Reyes.

AR/jat.

México, D. F., a 16 de enero de 1947.

Dr. William Berrien,
46 Widener Library,
Cambridge, Mass.
U. S. A.

Mi querido amigo:

Confirmo nuestra última conversación telefónica. Por indicación apremiante del Dr. Stevens, le dejé allá un memorandum sobre el punto que consideramos como el paso inmediato, a saber: la solicitud para traer a México a Raimundo Lida. Se explica allí que, aparte de la contribución personal del interesado en docencia e investigación, era éste el primer paso para crear en México un cuadro de estudios filológicos y emprender la publicación de la nueva revista, según el espíritu de la antigua, aprovechando sus mismas fuerzas y uniendo las de Harvard, contando con la bibliografía de Onís y trasladando a México distribución y administración. Onís, de acuerdo, y se limitará a liquidar el último trámite administrativo en marcha de la revista anterior. Como ve usted, aceptamos del todo el proyecto de usted, que seguiremos estudiando de común acuerdo. Me limito a las cuestiones humanísticas, porque la Universidad de México ha establecido una especie de Escuela flotante de Graduados para las ciencias, aprovechando las instituciones científicas anexas a la Universidad. Esto aclara notablemente nuestras perspectivas y hace más posible aún el proyecto de usted, que lo es también nuestro. Para adelantar en este estudio, le ruego que no olvide el enviarme programas y sugerencias de las Escuelas de Graduados en aquel país, a fin de que aquí los adaptemos y le presentemos a usted a nuestro turno un programa posible. Podremos contar en este plan de organización con la cooperación intensa del Dr. Gaos y creo que nos servirá para atraer otra vez a México al Dr. Medina. Le digo lo primero que se me ocurre, pero quedo en espera de sus consejos y sus luces.

Tengo la impresión de que el mundo abusa de usted,

allá y acá. Le deseo fuerzas, salud y buen ánimo para responder a los crecientes compromisos de su noble destino.

Le deseo muy feliz año y, con los saludos de sus muchos amigos mexicanos, le envío un cordial abrazo.
Su amigo devoto

Alfonso Reyes.

AR/jat.

64

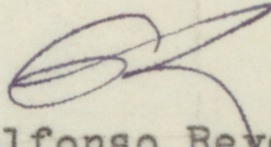
México, D. F., 8 de enero de 1951.

Prof. William Berrien,
11, Little Hall,
Harvard University,
Cambridge 38, Mass.
U. S. A.

Querido Bill:

Me llegan vagas noticias sobre sus achaques de salud. Por sí, como supongo, lo que usted necesita es descanso y clima más dulce, le recuerdo que México es su casa, que aquí estamos sus buenos y firmes amigos y que su presencia entre nosotros siempre sería provechosa para el Colegio de México, que tanto debe a su buena amistad y que no le daría más quehacer que el que usted mismo creyera compatible con su salud.

Con saludos de tantos amigos que sería largo enumerarlos, le hago presentes en nombre de mi casa y en el propio, nuestros mejores votos para el año que empieza y le mando un afectuoso abrazo.


Alfonso Reyes.

AR/jat.

ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS

TELEGRAFOS NACIONALES



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TELEGRAMA PARA TRANSMITIR CON ABSOLUTA SUJECION AL REGLAMENTO EN VIGOR.

NUM.	PALABRAS	VALORES	H.D.
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(ANOTE USTED AQUI CLASE DE SERVICIO QUE DESEE UTILIZAR)

PROCEDENCIA México, D. F. EL 2 DE agosto 1952SR. William BerrienDOMICILIO Apartment 406, 1737 Cambridge Street,DESTINO Cambridge 38, Mass.Nuestro Colegio México complácese manifestarleconsidérase su hogar académico condiciones ytiempo usted mismo establezca STOP Esperámosloescribóle abrázolo.Alfonso Reyes

DOMICILIO DEL SÍGNATARIO ÚNICAMENTE PARA CASOS DE ACLARACION.

Nápoles 5. 28-68-61

44

CONDICIONES:

- 1^a—MENSAJES ORDINARIOS. Los mensajes pagados con tarifa ordinaria se transmiten por el turno que les corresponda, según su hora de depósito y sin preferencia de ninguna clase.
- 2^a—MENSAJES URGENTES. Los mensajes urgentes causan doble precio de tarifa y se transmiten con preferencia a los ordinarios.
- 3^a—MENSAJES COLACIONADOS. Pagarán doble precio de tarifa y serán confrontados del modo siguiente: El telegrafista que reciba el mensaje lo repetirá al que lo haya transmitido, a fin de que ambos se cercioren de que todas las palabras del mensaje han sido transmitidas y recibidas con exactitud.
- 4^a—ENTREGA DE MENSAJES. Los mensajes serán llevados al domicilio que en ellos se indique, y toda aclaración a este respecto se hará a costa del interesado. No se contrae responsabilidad alguna por la no entrega de mensajes que carezcan de domicilio y, por lo tanto, los mismos se aceptan a riesgo exclusivo del expedidor.
- 5^a—REPETICION DE MENSAJES. Cuando alguna persona reciba un telegrama y dudando de la exactitud de su contenido, solicite se le repita por la oficina de origen, se pedirá inmediatamente dicha repetición; pero en la inteligencia de que el valor de los telegramas que se crucen con este motivo serán pagados por el interesado en caso de que no resulte ninguna falta en las líneas telegráficas.
- 6^a—No se contrae responsabilidad ni por las equivocaciones ocasionadas por escritura incorrecta, ni por las que ocurran en mensajes escritos en idiomas extranjeros o en clave.
- 7^a—No se responde por trastornos en el servicio causado por fuerza mayor.
- 8^a—No se contrae responsabilidad alguna respecto al servicio de líneas extrañas a la Red Nacional.
- 9^a—En caso de falta en las Líneas Telegráficas Nacionales, debidamente comprobada, por toda indemnización se reembolsará al interesado el importe satisfecho del mensaje.
- 10.—El importe de las contestaciones pagadas no es reembolsable aun cuando no se haya hecho uso de ellas por los interesados.
- 11.—En caso de que los empleados del Ramo alteren dolosamente el texto de algún mensaje o cometan cualquier otro delito en el servicio, quedarán sujetos a las penas correspondientes conforme a la Ley.
- 12.—Toda reclamación deberá hacerse dentro de los sesenta días siguientes a la fecha del mensaje que la motive.

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON 8. D. C.

22 October 1952

Dr. Alfonso Reyes, President,
El Colegio de México,
México, D. F.

My dear Don Alfonso:

A number of factors have contributed to the delay of my arrival in Mexico City, for consultations with you there. It was only at the beginning of the present month that I was able finally to leave Cambridge, and even then it was necessarily to leave pending a few details related to my effects and to the problem of moving. I had thought originally that I should return briefly to the Boston area from Mexico City, at year-end, to attend the annual meetings of the MLA and related groups to be held this year in Boston, and that at that time I could wind-up, as it were, final details related to moving, disposal by sale or gift of numerous library and disc-holdings and of a largish number of pictures, etc.; but intervening changes in plans make such a return to Boston at year-end an impractical anticipation, in terms of time and expense.

The increasing uncertainty with reference to a relatively permanent future in Mexico has likewise been detrimental to calm and well-considered planning, as have been a comparative state of fatigue during the complications of uprooting from Cambridge and the unusually abominable weather in that region during both August and September. This uncertainty with reference to what was to be expected or counted-upon has, in turn, delayed my advising you earlier concerning plans for arrival there. At times it has seemed almost a simpler solution to anticipate and plan for a brief rest and reorganization some place in this country and to abandon as impractical the more expensive and uncertain prospect of a period in Mexico. But it seems now fairly feasible to look forward to an arrival in Mexico City during the second half of November, to remain there for an indefinite period during which it can be seen what, if any, opportunities for usefulness present themselves.

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COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

I have not learned yet whether or not El Colegio de México intends to send a delegate to the large and important Medina Centennial Celebration to be held at the Library of Congress and the Pan American Union under their joint sponsorship and that of twenty-five American learned-societies, here in Washington, November 6-8. To date I have learned of only one Mexican scholar who is specifically expected: D. Francisco González de Cossío, of the General Archive of the Nation in Mexico City. Delegates are coming from Chile, Ecuador, Cuba, Spain, Honduras, and other Hispano-American countries, as well as from the leading universities and research-centers of the U. S. A. Some weeks ago I was invited personally to attend and at that time indicated the hope that I might be present, for a number of americanistas in varied fields and from numerous distant centers will participate in the program and discussions of this Symposium honoring the Centenary of "Don Toribio." He is a figure who has himself interested me from various angles over the years. In looking over the preliminary program of the Centennial and noting that El Colegio de México is not listed among the institutions sending delegates, it occurred to me that you might wish to name me to serve in that capacity. This would, clearly, be a matter for you and your associates on the different governing-boards of El Colegio to determine, in accordance with its interests. I merely mention this possibility as of conceivable interest to you gentlemen in relation to reduction of expenses, in the event El Colegio de México desires to be represented among the participating institutions listed for the Centennial. In the event that such a possibility proves of interest to you, the simplest means would doubtless be to write in this regard directly to

Dr. Maury A. Bromsen, Executive Secretary
Medina Centennial Celebration
Pan American Union
Washington 6, D. C.

In the event you do write to Dr. Bromsen, perhaps you could have a carbon copy of your letter

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COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

sent to me: c/o Dr. Henry Holland
15 Winter Street
Waterville, Maine. U. S. A.

I am leaving for a brief visit to Colby College there, within two or three days, and shall after that stop briefly in the Boston area and in the Smith-Amherst region, for visits and lectures on Medina.

Before I left Cambridge, and subsequently during a brief visit in New York City, I heard repeatedly rumors to the effect that D. Raimundo Lida would remain at Harvard permanently, following his visiting-lectureship there. His collaboration in long-range terms within the Harvard program for Hispanic studies would constitute a definite contribution toward future developments there. I had numerous conversations before I left with D. Rafael Lapesa, who is meeting a very difficult and demanding assignment during the Fall Term in Cambridge, and undoubtedly doing it with distinction. But Lapesa is, understandably, not interested in remaining permanently at Harvard.

Some weeks back I received a very nice letter from Carlos Blanco, who seems to have given a very good account of himself in Mexico City, as Amado and I always imagined he would. Both of us did our best repeatedly to gain for Blanco a chance to return to Harvard for advanced study on the basis of conditions which his earlier performance had patently justified. But in Blanco's case, as in a full dozen others of worth in the Hispanic field, Dean F. M. Rogers was the stumbling-block against which Amado's efforts and mine came to naught. I hope you will convey my warm regards to Blanco, and tell him I look forward to seeing him there in the not too distant future, if my plans to go to Mexico for a visit materialize.

In two or three days, perhaps I shall be able to write you regarding two or three other details for consultation. In the meantime, please believe me, as always

Very sincerely yours,

Bill
William Berrien.

México, D. F., 27 de octubre de 1952.

Dr. William Berrien,
Cosmos Club,
Washington 8, D. C.
U. S. A.

Muy estimado Dr. Berrien:

Don Alfonso está recluso en cama con una fiebre paratífica y no puede contestar su carta.

El Colegio de México no pudo enviar delegado especial a la celebración de Medina dadas nuestras actuales condiciones económicas, algo penosas. El ofrecimiento de usted es honrosísimo y nos llena de gratitud; pero no resulta airoso que el Colegio de México aproveche su benevolencia para echarse fuera de lo que hubiera sido su obligación esencial. Usted comprenderá que algunos paisanos nuestros que trabajan allí se sentirían postergados.

No tenemos la menor noticia de que el Sr. Lida desea permanecer definitivamente en Harvard.

El Sr. Carlos Blanco corresponde sus amables saludos y agradece su disposición amistosa.

Tuve que limitarme a dar cuenta de los puntos esenciales de su carta a don Alfonso Reyes y le contesto de acuerdo con él.

Aprovecho la ocasión para saludar a usted atenta y afectuosamente.

Lic. Manuel Calvillo
Secretario.

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12 de noviembre de 1952

Sr. Lic. Manuel Calvillo, Secretario,
El Colegio de México,
México, D. F.

Muy señor mío:

Por haberme sido enviada al Cosmos Club, en vez de las señas que indiqué en mi carta al Dr. Reyes, la carta de usted fechada el 27 de octubre ppdo. me fue entregada en ésta después de la Medina Centennial Celebration, a la que asistí como delegado de la Universidad de Chile, a petición de la misma.

Lamenté saber por la carta de usted que el Dr. Reyes estuviera "recluido en cama con una fiebre paratífica." Ruego tenga a bien saludar atentamente en mi nombre al Dr. Reyes, a quien deseo una rápida y permanente recuperación de su salud.

Mañana salgo para Nueva York para ver a D. Federico de Onís y a D. Américo Castro y para hacer unas investigaciones en la New York Public Library y la Biblioteca de la Hispanic Society of America, después de cuya visita me dirigiré a Boston, Detroit y otras ciudades norteamericanas antes de hacer el viaje a Monterrey, en donde pienso pasar algunos días antes de llegar a México. Supongo que mi llegada a ésta será a mediados de diciembre. Después de verme establecido en esa ciudad, informaré oportunamente al Dr. Reyes cuáles serán mis señas relativamente fijas en el D. F.

En el caso de llegar alguna correspondencia para mí a.c. El Colegio de México, he de merecer a los señores funcionarios del mismo se sirvan hacerme el señalado servicio de guardármela ahí hasta que yo informe en sentido contrario.

Salúdale atentamente

William Berrien

William Berrien

WB:gj.

Lerma 28 - 5
México 5, D. F.
10 de marzo de 1953

Excmo. Sr. D. Alfonso Reyes, Presidente,
El Colegio de México,
México 6, D. F.

De mi más distinguida consideración:

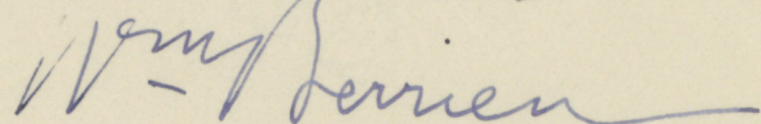
Como dentro de pocos días regreso a mi país, me permito
rogarle a usted se sirva hacerme remitir a

153 North Carson Road
Beverly Hills, California. U.S.A.

cualquiera carta o impreso que me llegue a cargo del Colegio
de México, a partir del día 15 del mes en curso. Asimismo,
quisiera agradecer nuevamente a la Administración del Colegio
el haberme permitido hacer enviar a su cargo una parte de la
correspondencia que me ha sido enviada durante los últimos meses.

Lamento que no se me haya facilitado el saludarle a usted
en persona durante los tres meses que llevo en México, por lo
cual les suplico a usted y a su señora quieran aceptar, por
medio de la presente carta, mis atentos saludos y mis reiterados
votos por su salud y felicidad.

De usted atentamente,



William Berrien.

México, D. F., 12 de marzo de 1953.

Dr. William Berrien,
Lerma 28 - 5,
México 5, D. F.

Mi querido amigo:

Conforme a su nota semi-oficial del 10 del actual, le enviaremos a la dirección que usted señala cualquier carta o impreso que le llegue al Colegio del 15 del mes en curso en adelante.

No me resigno a que haya usted pasado por México sin tener el gusto de saludarlo siquiera un instante. Le recuerdo que mi casa está siempre a sus órdenes y yo soy su cordial y afectuoso amigo.



Alfonso Reyes.

2734 Silver Street
El Paso, Texas
2.XII.54

Sr. D. Antonio Alatorre,
El Colegio de México,
México 6, D. F.

Distinguido colega:

Antes de abandonar México hace cosa de un mes, pasé una tarde por El Colegio de México para saludarle y avisarle sobre mi nueva dirección, pero no tuve el gusto de encontrarle en dicho plantel.

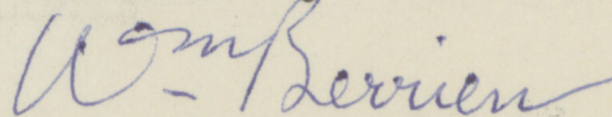
Ahora me tomo la libertad de rogarle encarecidamente se sirva hacerme remitir cualquiera correspondencia o impreso que me llegue a cargo del Colegio, a::

2734 Silver Street
El Paso, Texas
U.S.A..

Doy las señas de mi familia en ésta, pues en los meses que quedan del actual año académico nuestro, estaré frecuentemente de viaje de visitas a bibliotecas y centros universitarios de mi país y europeos, y por lo tanto, sin dirección fija: una de mis hermanas se encargará de hacerme llegar cualquiera carta o impreso que me llegue acá. En las sesiones anuales de la MLA y la AATSP (Chicago, fin de año), dejaré dicho que en lo porvenir me hagan el obsequio de enviar mis números de Hispania y PMLA, respectivamente, acá. Mientras tanto, he de merecerle se sirva hacerme remitir a las señas arriba indicadas los números de estas y otras publicaciones afines que me hayan llegado en meses recientes al Colegio, así como cualquiera carta que para mí tengan ustedes, actualmente o después.

Ruégole tenga a bien enviarle a Raimundo Lida mis afectuosos saludos cuando usted le escriba, y asimismo salude en mi nombre a D. Alfonso Reyes cuando usted le vea.

Salúdale muy atentamente



William Berrien.