

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman
Nomination Hearing (1993)

Education: National Endowment for the Arts
and Humanities, Subject Files I (1973-1996)

6-16-1993

Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1993): Correspondence 05

Brie Johnson

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_I_29

Recommended Citation

Johnson, Brie, "Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1993): Correspondence 05" (1993). *Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1993)*. Paper 22.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_I_29/22

This Correspondence is brought to you by the University of Rhode Island. It has been accepted for inclusion in Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1993) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons-group@uri.edu. For permission to reuse copyrighted content, contact the author directly.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 16, 1993

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Today, I am officially nominating a native of Alabama, Dr. Sheldon Hackney, to be the next Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. Hackney is among the most respected leaders in American higher education. He has served for the past twelve and a half years as the President of the University of Pennsylvania, after serving for five years as the President of Tulane University and three years as Provost of Princeton University. Dr. Hackney has a distinguished record both as a first-rate scholar, author, and educator and as an astute and temperate administrator.

Dr. Hackney is uniquely suited for the challenge of heading the agency and carrying out its mission to support the humanities public programs, education and research. He was, for example, a founding member of the Collaborative for Philadelphia Schools and the Committee to Support the Public Schools, projects which profoundly changed the way the humanities are taught in the Philadelphia public schools.

Dr. Hackney is one of the leading Southern historians of his generation. He has continued to teach courses in American history while serving as President of the University of Pennsylvania, an uncommon practice for executive officers of universities and a measure of the importance he places on teaching. His support for undergraduate education led him to seek a reorientation of the curriculum at Penn to ensure that the teaching mission of the university was granted the same priority as the research mission.

"In a democratic society," a recent NEH Report to the President stated, "the humanities -- those areas of study that bring us the deeds and thoughts of other times -- should be part of every life." Throughout his twenty-five year career as a historian and teacher, Dr. Hackney has worked tirelessly to meet that goal, and, when confirmed by the Senate, will build upon his record of achievement in advancing the humanities and making them more accessible to all Americans.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill".

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman
Committee on Labor and Human Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510