Curran, Edward: Confirmation Hearing (1985): Correspondence 09

Robert Scholes

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Dear Senator Pell:

My colleagues and I are very concerned about the proposed appointment of Edward Curran to the chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities. In particular, we feel that a minimal requirement for this position should be experience in humanistic education at the college and university level or serious research in a humanistic discipline—or both.

As far as I have been able to determine, Mr. Curran has neither experience in teaching at the college level nor achievement in humanistic research to his credit. If this is indeed the case, then he is simply not qualified for the position he seeks.

I hasten to add that we do not see this as a party issue. There are many qualified Republicans from whose ranks an appropriate candidate might be drawn.

Sincerely,

Robert Scholes
Chairman
English Department