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Nomination Hearing (1993)

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## Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1993): News Article 05

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## TRANSITION WATCH

*Groups Ponder Who Should Replace Cheney at Humanities Endowment*

Transition fever has reached the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Since **LYNNE V. CHENEY** announced that she would step down as chairman of the endowment, scholars have been tossing around names of people who might take over the agency.

And President-elect Bill Clinton seems to be all ears when it comes to talk about reforming the endowment.

He has appointed a panel to audit the NEH and provide him with a briefing book on the agency. His transition team also requested names of potential replacements from the National Humanities Alliance, an umbrella group of scholarly organizations that was often critical of Mrs. Cheney's leadership.

The transition panel included **ALEXANDER D. CRARY**, a staff member of the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts and the Humanities; **ALBERTA ARTHURS**, director of arts and humanities at the Rockefeller Foundation; **LEONARD FLEISCHER**, executive vice-president of the non-profit group Meet the Composers; **MARCY OPPENHEIMER**, a lawyer; and **GENO RODRIGUEZ**, executive director of the Alternative Museum, a non-profit, artist-administered institution that serves as a forum for artists dedicated to challenging traditions.

Ms. Arthurs said the panel had not been asked to recommend a

person to be considered for the NEH chairmanship. But sources say that the panel did provide in its report a profile highlighting the qualities that a new chairman should possess.

After some debate, the National Humanities Alliance has decided that, for now, it will not recommend people to head the endowment. But the organization did encourage its member groups to do so.

According to **JOHN HAMMER**, director of the alliance, several scholarly groups have already put forth names.

Some that have come up repeatedly are **RODERICK S. FRENCH**, vice-president for academic affairs at George Washington University; **WILLIAM H. CHAFE**, chairman of the history department at Duke University; **MARY FRANCES BERRY**, a professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania; and **DARRYL GLESS**, an associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Another name that has come up, and prompted controversy, is that of **STANLEY KATZ**, president of the American Council of Learned Societies. Sources say that scholars in the groups that make up the National Humanities Alliance were deeply divided on recommending Mr. Katz because he has been such

a public critic of Mrs. Cheney. While many applaud his courage, they fear that he would be an easy target of conservative lawmakers and scholars eager for blood-letting.

Mr. Katz's opposition to Mrs. Cheney's leadership of the endowment became especially clear in 1991, when he helped lead the fight against the nomination of **CAROL IANNONE**, a teacher and administrator in the Gallatin Division of New York University, to the NEH advisory council. Ms. Iannone's nomination was blocked in the Senate.

## WASHINGTON ALMANAC

## In Federal Agencies

**Audits.** The Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration have issued final rules that establish a policy for auditing awards made to postsecondary institutions and other non-profit organizations (*Federal Register*, December 21, Pages 60,578-79).

**Federal property.** The Department of Education has issued final rules that amend the regulations governing the disposal of surplus federal property for educational purposes (*Federal Register*, December 18, Pages 60,394-400).

**Health research.** The Department of Health and Human Services has issued final rules on procedures for grants to certain health-research centers (*Federal Register*, December 23, Pages 61,005-08).

**Migrant programs.** The Department of Education has issued final rules that amend regulations governing the College

Many scholars doubt that Mr. Katz will be chosen, citing Mr. Clinton's eagerness to avoid "long and bloody battles" over his nominations.

Mr. Clinton's transition team continues to tap educators to advise incoming Administration officials on school and college issues. **MARSHALL S. SMITH**, dean of the Stanford University School of Education, is heading a group providing recommendations to the President-elect on elementary and secondary education.

One of those assisting Mr. Smith will be **RICHARD RUIZ**, an associate professor of language, reading, and culture at the University of Arizona.

**ALFREDO G. DE LOS SANTOS, JR.**, vice-chancellor of the Maricopa Community College District, will be helping on community-college issues.

Another Clinton team is examining an important institution to scholars: the National Archives and Records Administration. Team members include **BRENDA BANKS**, assistant director of the Georgia Department of Archives and History, and **ANNE R. KENNEY**, associate director of preservation at the Cornell University Library and president of the Society of American Archivists. —STEPHEN BURD

AND SCOTT JASCHIK

Assistance Migrant Program (*Federal Register*, December 18, Pages 60,406-7).

**National service.** The Commission on National and Community Service has proposed rules that would amend certain regulations under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to make it easier to apply for and receive grants. Comments must be received by January 5 (*Federal Register*, December 22, Pages 60,779-81).

**Student aid.** The Department of Education has issued final rules that amend the Student Assistance General Provisions regulations (*Federal Register*, December 17, Pages 60,032-5).

**Student aid.** The Department of Education has issued final rules that amend regulations for campus-based aid programs, as required by the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 (*Federal Register*, December 21, Pages 60,578-9).

**Student loans.** The Department of Education has issued final rules that amend regulations for the Federal Family Education Loan programs to prevent loan

defaults (*Federal Register*, December 18, Pages 60,280-386).

**Training.** The Department of Education has issued final rules that amend the regulations for the Training Personnel for the Education of Individuals With Disabilities Program. These changes will enable postsecondary institutions that meet certain standards to receive grants (*Federal Register*, December 29, Pages 62,094-110).

**Veterans' benefits.** The Department of Veterans Affairs has issued final rules that would amend the Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve to carry out regulations in the Veterans' Benefits and Programs Improvement Act of 1988 (*Federal Register*, December 3, Pages 57,105-7).

**Veterans' benefits.** The Department of Veterans Affairs has proposed rules to provide a 6-per-cent increase in grants to veterans under the Educational Assistance Test Program. Comments must be received by January 11 (*Federal Register*, December 10, Pages 58,435-6).