Curran, Edward: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1985): Memorandum 02

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MEMORANDUM

September 25, 1985

TO: Senator
FROM: ADC
RE: Bob Lumiansky for Curran Hearing

I had a long talk this morning with Bob Lumiansky and asked if he would be willing to testify against Curran. He is appreciative of your invitation but declined, saying that he cannot jeopardize NEH grants to the American Council of Learned Societies totaling at least $3 million a year.

He has not been inactive, however. He claims to have organized an anti-Curran offensive by sending key people from states represented on the Committee in to see the Senators. He senses a great deal more anti-Curran leanings on the Committee than I do.

The question now is ..... shall we invite another witness? Phyllis Franklin (MLA) is reasonably sure that two of her members would be willing to testify. At this point it seems that the MLA is the only group willing to appear. But as she said yesterday: "We can kiss our grants good-bye."

The two potential witnesses are: Ted Zilkowski, Dean of the Graduate School at Princeton and Jay Miller, English Professor at Yale. The MLA is also not as dependent on NEH grants as the ACLS is.

I would recommend pursuing these witnesses.