



University of Pittsburgh

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Office of the Dean

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June 1, 2007

Professor Daniel Balderston
University of Iowa
111 Phillips Hill
Iowa City, IA 52242

Dear Dan:

I am delighted to endorse the proposal from our Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures that the Department continue to house the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana (IILI) and support the publication of *Revista Iberoamericana* for the 2008-2014 term of the Director of Publications.

The University of Pittsburgh has been privileged to be the home of IILI and *Revista* for nearly half a century, and the proposal from the Department makes a strong case for continuing this partnership under the distinguished intellectual leadership of Professor Juan Duchesne-Winter as Director of Publications, Professor John Beverley as Associate Director, and Associate Professor Jerome Branche as Secretary of the Treasury. These three colleagues bring to the proposed positions a superb mixture of editorial experience, intellectual distinction, and administrative skill, together with true passion for the continued leadership (indeed, dominance) of *Revista* within its field. Their candidacies for these positions have my full support.

Continued success in the partnership between IILI and the University of Pittsburgh will require financial support from the University, and the language of the June 16, 2006 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Pittsburgh's School of Arts and Sciences and the IILI provides a sound starting point for such support. If the Instituto does decide that one of our faculty will be the new Publications Director I am, however, willing to increase substantially the School of Arts and Sciences support, and to modify the MOU to provide full salary support for the two staff members in the publications office at the level of their current full-time salaries from the University of Pittsburgh, together with future salary increments that recognize their professional performance as permitted under the compensation policies of the University. As full-time employees they will continue to enjoy full University of Pittsburgh fringe benefits and their employment will be subject to the policies and procedures of the University.

In addition, our Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures will commit two teaching assistantships in support of the publication of *Revista*, and I will provide additional summer support to make both of these full twelve month positions in support of the year round editorial and publication activities of the *Revista* publication team.

Professor Daniel Balderston

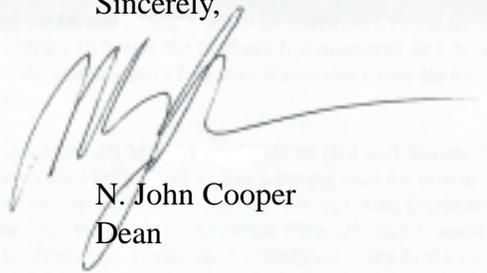
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Finally, I will provide a contribution of \$5,000 per annum towards the operating and publication expenses of *Revista*, and we will continue to meet the reasonable office space and storage needs of *Revista*, and to provide telecommunications and IT support through the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures.

I am confident that the combination of the excellent team assembled by the Department and the commitments that I am offering will position *Revista* and IILI for even greater success in the future. I hope that the Instituto decides to continue the exceptional partnership with the University of Pittsburgh that has been so successful, and so mutually beneficial, in large part because of the mutual respect and shared values of the two organizations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. John Cooper', is written over a light gray background. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

N. John Cooper
Dean

NJC:cop