

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



American Language and Literature
Linguistics
World Shakespeare Bibliography

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843-4227
409/845/3452

Folklore
Rhetoric and Composition

English Language and Literature
SCMLA

February 2, 1987

Dear Zeljko,

Even though your letter of January 20 says you'll be here (tomorrow!) and I will talk about all of this with you, let me write down some of the details of the proposed exchange.

I mailed our proposal off to Washington last week, and Yolanda Robinson was sending material from your side by express mail direct to U.S.I.A. The grant stipulates the following: each Spring semester for 1988, 1989, and 1990, our two Departments will exchange Americanists (either American literature or American Studies). Faculty members will remain on their "home" payrolls, with salaries, fringe benefits, insurance, etc., remaining intact during their absence. The U.S.I.A. will provide funds for round-trip air travel for both participants each Spring and a living supplement of about \$1250 a month for five months for each faculty member.

If the two exchangeees work out details to trade housing (paying each other's utility bills, probably), the supplement ought to be more than adequate. Here in College Station, apartments with two bedrooms, furnished, rent in the \$300 to \$400 range, and most of them have swimming pools. My wife, 20-year-old son, and I spend probably \$75 a week for groceries.

I proposed that teaching should be kept to a minimum for both professors, so that conferences, workshops, lectures, and research time would be possible. I'd suggest that we expect the Zagreb faculty member to teach two courses, each of which meets for three hours weekly, for a total of six classroom hours a week. I don't know if you have one-hour, two-hour, or three-hour meetings; but you could accommodate the schedule of the American visitor so that it totaled six contact hours a week--not counting office hours.

If we get the grant, you could inaugurate the exchange in the Spring of 1988, Ivo could come in the Spring of 1989, and we have plenty of time to decide who would come in 1990. We have faculty who could teach in the Romantic period, the Realistic period, or modern, depending on what you would prefer. I'll ask when we talk on the phone which area would be best.

I'm enclosing some descriptive material about Texas A&M. It's vastly different from Albuquerque, but it's very much like Austin in 1967 (but Austin is not like Austin in 1967 any more). College Station is a small town (45,000 inhabitants) and the university has 35,000 students. We're 95 miles from Houston and about the same from Austin, and twice that distance from Dallas. It's almost pastoral and it's a bastion of American values that you don't often see in the twentieth century. It would, I think, be an educational experience for Yugoslav visitors--but it's probably very much like Bloomington, Indiana, now that I think of it.

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The enclosed brochures will give you and the others there something of a notion of the campus and the environment. The student body is a very spirited one, and I am enjoying myself (so far) very much.

I just had a call from the U.S.I.A., saying that the proposal looked very good except for one item. The letter from Professor Sehovic did not say specifically that we all understand that faculty will remain on their "home" university payrolls with salary and benefits. I've telephoned Yolanda Robinson and asked her to try to do something about getting a revised letter or a postscript or something that she can send directly to U.S.I.A. She says that, if all else fails, she will cable Washington that such is the understanding for all Zagreb linkages and exchanges.

I'll talk with you shortly, I hope, but this will put it all in writing for your arrival back home.

Now, let's all keep our fingers crossed.

Best regards,

Hamlin Hill, Head

Enc.