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Farr, Shirley

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July 17, 1934

My dear Miss Farr:

Permit me to express very heartily and cordially my appreciation of your generous consent to give $1000 a year to the University for a period of five years for the purchase of manuscripts. The gradual enrichment of the University Libraries in this important field is a matter of sincere congratulation, and for it we are largely indebted to you and a few others of our graduates.

I am sorry to hear that you have been ill, but gratified to know that you are now recovering.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Shirley Farr
5758 Blackstone Avenue
Chicago, Illinois
July 19, 1924

My dear Miss Waller,

permit me to express with peculiar
and heartfelt my appreciation of your kindness in
sent to the 4,000 a year to the University for a
period of five years for the purpose of maintaining
the educational establishment of the University.

It is not the least of your important duties in a matter of science to
express to me the entire and
you and a few others of our scientists.

I am sorry to hear that you have
been ill, and greatly to know that you are now
recovered.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Miss Ethel Waller
4455 Hacienda Avenue
Chicago, Illinois
Dr. E.D. Burton,

The University of Chicago.

My dear Dr. Burton:

I regret that a sharp attack of neuritis in my hand, combined with the consciousness that I could not write briefly, has delayed my reply to your letter. I already knew something about the Boccaccio studies, and if the rest of my mental content were what it was a year ago I should say simply: "Certainly I will finance the printing - preferably without publicity". During the past year however I not only gave to, but also worked upon, the manuscripts committee; this was often a trying, and aways a thought-provoking experience. Among other things I have learned recently that giving without blowing a trumpet was an injustice to the other alumnas of the University since one of the men tried to push women off an important committee "because they haven't given much money anyway". My own idea of value in personnel being the ability and willingness to render service this was quite a shock.

Please do not misunderstand me, I am far from pessimistic about the potential possibilities of our alumni. I believe that a good majority of the women and a considerable number of the men (I am not competent to hazard the exact fraction) do know what a university is for, and with proper encouragement and leadership could be of real service to the University. Unfortunately it seemed to me that most of the men who attended the meetings of the Endowment Fund Committee of the Alum
Dear [Name],

I am writing to make a request on behalf of the [Organization]. I have been [position] at the organization and I believe it would be beneficial for our team to [specific request].

The reason behind this request is [reason]. I believe this would not only [benefit 1] but also [benefit 2].

I would be happy to discuss this further and provide any additional information you may need. Please let me know if there is anything else I can help with.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
Alumni Council (always excepting Mr. Swift and Mr. Gale) had very little idea of the purpose of any educational institution, or of the particular qualities of our own University.

You may think I have wandered far from Boccaccio, but in my mind there is a close connection. If I gave the money it would be merely a pleasure to me and a very small thing done for the University, a sort of blind alley affair. I keep wondering whether somehow this pleasure cannot be shared with other alumni who have not the advantage of your knowing of their interest in such things. Some of these I already know, many others would have to be found, but I believe that they are there, and that their interest can be gained and held for a succession of the purely scholastic needs of the University - things not so big but that a ten dollar gift would seem worth while. And if I am right at all in my belief in the interest of these other graduates of the University, then the largest return would be in good-will aroused by the opportunity to have some share in its real work.

Now that I have admitted my wildest theories I can say that I should be very glad indeed to talk the matter over with you according to your suggestion.

Yours most sincerely,

[Signature]

[Signature]
December tenth
1923

My dear Miss Farr:

I greatly appreciate your thoughtful letter of November twenty-ninth. I hoped, before this, to ask for an opportunity of further conversation with you about the whole situation. Pressure of business, especially preparation for the December Board Meeting and the December Convocation, have prevented this so far and will apparently now make it impossible until after the eighteenth of December. Let me, then, say now only that I sincerely appreciate your attitude and have some sense of the difficulties of the situation and shall want, as soon as possible, to talk the matter over with you.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Shirley Farr
2739 Blackstone Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

EDR:8
In reply to Miss Farr's letter, I would suggest the following approach:

"Among the considerations that make me wish that you might provide for the publication of Dean Wilkins' book on the Boccaccio, are these:

- It would be a contribution to Italian studies.

- It would show our Chicago friends what University scholars can do with manuscript materials when these are put at their disposal.

- It would constitute a unique piece of University publicity, since it is proposed to send it to a select group of present and prospective friends and donors, all of whom would welcome it for its intrinsic beauty and interest.

- It would show these people what the University is doing not only in science but in research in the humanities.

- and cheer the heart

- It would greatly strengthen the hands of Dean Wilkins, who Mr Mitze says is the foremost Italian scholar in this country, and who is now doing so notable a piece of constructive work as dean of the Colleges.

To have this publication provided by a Chicago woman, and one who is well known as an alumnus of the University would encourage other gifts from the city and the alumni. I should much prefer that it should not be anonymously done.
It would be an ideal thing to have this recognition of the research work of the dean of the colleges come from a graduate of the colleges.

The book would sum up and embody the broad results of Mr Wilkins' work on the various phases of the manuscript, upon which he has already published five special monographs, copies of which I enclose.
It would be my honest wish to praise this recognition of the research work of the year of the college, come from a graduate of the college.

The book waiting upon any sympathy the poor remains of Mr. Wilkins, work on the various pieces of the manuscript, now abroad;

the series multiplied the special monographs, classes of which I may...
July 17, 1924

My dear Edgar:

You will be gratified to know that at the request of Mr. Manly, Shirley Farr has agreed to give to the University $1000 a year for a period of five years, for the purchase of manuscripts. I suppose in view of this we should sidetrack our suggestion to her that she should give $2000 for the publication of Wilkins' Italian Studies.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Edgar J. Goodspeed
Sayner, Vilas County
Wisconsin

EDB: HP
Mr. Governor,

You will be gratified to know that as the result of my efforts at the recent meeting of the Council, a sum of $8,000 has been agreed to give to the University of Michigan for a year for a period of five years, for the purpose of research in manufacturing. I suppose you will agree with me that this is a most opportune and generous action on the part of the State. I am convinced that this gift will bring the University of Michigan to the forefront of all other institutions of its kind.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Date]