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WILL NEH DISOWN SCHOLARLY EDITIONS?

Scholarly editions have been in trouble since 1996, when Congress slashed funding for the national endowments. Although small annual budget increases have restored some of that cut, NEH continues to be severely underfunded, and Chairman William Ferris is feeling the pinch.

Ferris, a folklorist from Mississippi, would like to leave his mark on the humanities programs his agency funds and wants to support more short-term, popular-culture projects. Without additional support from Congress, Ferris knows he will have to fund these projects with dollars taken from other NEH programs. The scholarly editions stand out as easy targets because they take time, and a commitment to a new edition is likely to be long-lasting. Although the scholarly editions program has been a major part of the NEH profile since the endowment was first established in 1965, Ferris believes it is time to cut the editions loose—or at least to begin doing so.

After considering this matter over a period of several months, the President's Council reached a tentative conclusion that long-term projects (principally the scholarly editions) should have outright funding limited to six years. After the first

six years, there might be another six years of dollar-for-dollar matching awards and a final six years of two-for-one matching awards (if two are raised, NEH gives one). But there would be no outright funding after six years.

For those who understand how much time and funding are required to complete scholarly editions, it is evident that this new policy would force many editions to shut down. Major editions of fifteen or more volumes would no longer be viable. Even minor editions cannot be completed in six years—and how NEH supposes an edition could continue to operate after six years on matching awards alone is hard to understand, because without some outright funding, staff cannot be kept in place while matching funds are raised.

As word of this proposed policy spread, opposition began to grow. On 6 October 2000 an article titled "Scholars Fear Humanities Endowment Is Being Dumbed Down" appeared in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. That article, by Ron Southwick, although not entirely critical of Ferris's leadership, reported that "to many scholars, the idea that the endowment supports barn photography with enthusiasm while it considers cutting

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CHARLES HARTSHORNE

In Memoriam

Charles Hartshorne died on 9 October 2000 at 103 years of age. He

was a monument to philosophy, always bringing to mind the rare qualities of wonder and insight one attributes to the philosophers of ancient Greece. Hartshorne's achievements and honors are many and well-known, and volume 21 in the Library of Living Philosophers series is devoted to him. In addition to being a great philosopher in his own right, he was perhaps the greatest interpreter of the thought of Alfred North Whitehead, whose process philosophy he developed and applied so astutely to theological questions. Hartshorne was also a great Peirce scholar and, with Paul Weiss, edited the first six volumes of the classic Harvard edition of Peirce's writings. Were it not for that work, Peirce's thought might have been all but lost to present thought. Hartshorne served as a member of the Peirce Edition Project's advisory board until after his 100th birthday.

CAROLYN EISELE

In Memoriam

Carolyn Eisele, member of the Board of Advisors and friend of the Peirce Edition Project, died on 15 January 2000. Born in New York in 1902, Eisele was educated at Hunter College and did graduate work in mathematics at Columbia University and the University of Chicago. She taught mathematics at Hunter College for nearly fifty years and retired as professor in 1972. In 1980, she was awarded a Doctor of Humanities degree by Texas Tech University and two years later received an honorary Doctorate of Science from Lehigh University. In 1985, the New York Academy of Sciences recognized Eisele for her seminal contributions to the history and philosophy of science through her publication

of Peirce's mathematical and philosophical works.

Professor Eisele was known worldwide as a mathematician, a historian of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century mathematics and science, and as a leading expert on the thought of Charles Peirce. She served as president of the Charles S. Peirce Society. Her editions of Peirce's mathematical writings, *The New Elements of Mathematics*, and his writings on the history of science, *Historical Perspectives on Peirce's Logic of Science*, are monumental achievements. She almost single-handedly brought Peirce's mathematical ideas to the serious attention of historians of mathematics and science. Eisele's principal studies of Peirce's thought are collected in her *Studies in the Scientific and Mathematical Philosophy*

of Charles S. Peirce (edited by Richard Martin). Eisele's unwavering recognition of Peirce's importance and her unstinting devotion to the advancement of Peirce scholarship were little short of prophetic. Eisele's papers and library have been deposited at IUPUI in the care of the Peirce Edition Project.

