

May 12, 1957

Charles B. Fahs  
Director for Humanities  
Rockefeller Foundation  
49 West 49th Street  
New York City

Dear Mr. Fahs:

As Gabriela Mistral's Executrix and as heiress to her literary papers, I am enquiring into the possibility of obtaining funds for the ordering and editing of her literary remains with a view to publication.

At her death, Gabriela Mistral left a vast amount of unpublished material -- two books of prose works, a volume of poems, and a major work, a long philosophical poem of approximately five hundred pages, entitled "Recade de Chile." This material exists in many variant forms, and before publication much work would have to be done both in editing and selecting the versions to be published.

I myself do not have the qualifications necessary for such a job, but the person who is best qualified is Mr. Herman Diaz Arrieta, a Chilean critic and writer of the first order, a close friend of Miss Mistral. He is at present working on a definitive biography of Miss Mistral.

As editor he would have to work with some ten thousand pages of material, of which eight thousand are in manuscript form and two thousand are in typescript. Because of my close relationship with Miss Mistral for over a decade and my intimate knowledge of her papers, my assistance would be needed by Mr. Arrieta. For these reasons the job could best be done here in New York City where Mr. Arrieta would have access to the archives which are my property, and where he could avail himself of my assistance.

I think that this work would require approximately \$8,000. to \$10,000. to cover Mr. Arrieta's travelling expenses round trip from Chile, his living expenses here in the United States, secretarial help, microfilming, etc.

I would very much appreciate an interview to discuss the possibility of a grant for Mr. Arrieta, and will be glad to see you at your convenience. I expect to be in Chile during the month of June, but will be available until the middle of June, and upon my return to New York in July.

**[Carta] 1957 may. 12, New York [a] Charles B. Fahs,  
Rockefeller Foundation, New York [manuscrito] Doris Dana.**

Libros y documentos

**AUTORÍA**

Dana, Doris, 1920-2006

**FORMATO**

Manuscrito

**DATOS DE PUBLICACIÓN**

[Carta] 1957 may. 12, New York [a] Charles B. Fahs, Rockefeller Foundation, New York [manuscrito]  
Doris Dana. 1 h. ; 28 x 21,5 cm.

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