

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

SOUTHERN BRANCH POST OFFICE
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

November 25, 1964

Mr. Robert Penn Warren
2495 Redding Road
Fairfield, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Warren:

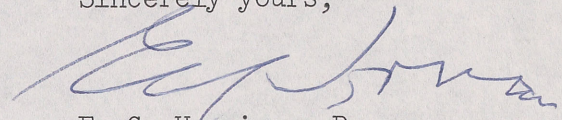
The Field Foundation has granted to Southern University the sum of \$2500 to be used to finance a lecture series for students.

As you probably know, Southern University is the Land-Grant College for Negroes in Louisiana. Presently, it has an enrollment of 6,000 students, approximately 95% of whom are residents of Louisiana. For the most part, these students are the products of lower socio-economic backgrounds as evidenced by the occupational classification of their parents. It is obvious, then, that these students entered college with attitudes, sentiments, expectations, motivations, and values regarding higher education which have been influenced by both their socio-economic origin and their status as first-generation collegians.

In view of the changing relationship of Negroes to the American economy and the need to raise the aspirational and motivational levels of our students, we feel that it is important for our students to be brought into contact with those minds and personalities who are influencing the course of human events in international relations, science, art, humanities, and economics. It is toward this end that our lecture series is being planned.

We would be most appreciative if you would be so kind as to participate in this lecture series. It would mean much to our students, a number of whom have already made your acquaintance through reading some of your work and virtually all of whom, it can be truthfully said, have heard of you and your achievements. We realize that you have a busy schedule. Yet we are hopeful that these Negro students in Louisiana will be able to see and hear you. Although it is our plan to begin the lecture series during the second semester, if you are available, and we certainly hope that you will be, we are prepared to schedule your appearance at any time that is convenient to you.

Sincerely yours,



E. C. Harrison, Dean

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