

USIA
UNITED STATES
INFORMATION AGENCY
WASHINGTON 20547

October 29, 1975

Miss Laura Gilpin
409 Camino Del Monte Sol
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Miss Gilpin:

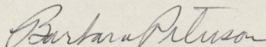
If you plan to travel abroad in connection with your Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, you may be interested in participating in the Overseas Speakers Program of the United States Information Agency. We have had an inquiry from the USIS office in Bonn asking whether you would be in Europe this year and would be interested in lecturing in Germany under USIS auspices.

Our overseas posts often invite American experts who are residing or traveling outside the United States to lecture or participate in discussion groups in USIS cultural centers or in local institutions. If a post invites a person to speak, it will pay for any diversionary travel involved and offer a modest honorarium and per diem allowance. I am enclosing an information sheet on the program, which explains how it works.

I would appreciate your letting me know if you will be abroad in connection with your fellowship or for any other purpose. We are interested in other parts of the world as well as Europe. The final program arrangements are made by our overseas posts. If you are interested in participating in the program, I will eventually need a current curriculum vitae and three or four lecture topics which would be of interest to overseas audiences.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



Barbara Peterson, Program Officer
Arts & Humanities
ICS Program Development Division

Enclosure:

Info Sheet

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OVERSEAS SPEAKERS PROGRAM

The United States Information Agency encourages leading American experts from the professional, business and artistic communities, while they are traveling abroad under their own or other private auspices, to take part in programs designed by our overseas posts for selected foreign audiences, and to meet formally and informally with fellow professionals and other interested persons.

Persons are needed who can communicate authoritatively and effectively on subjects of special relevance for a particular country and the United States. These points of interest will vary from country to country, but in the main they fall among five subject areas: Economics, U.S. Political and Social Processes, Foreign Policy, Arts and Humanities, and Science and Technology. Within these broad categories, our posts develop specific programs that may deal with such topics as the role of the multinational corporation; the global problems of food, population and energy; the question of detente; the role of the writer in society; the mechanisms of our federal system; American labor; and international monetary reform. These examples are illustrative and by no means comprehensive.

While a structured lecture format is not unusual, we have found increasingly that seminars and panel discussions are far better vehicles for the kinds of give-and-take that have proven so valuable to the American experts, their audiences, and our posts.

The roster of American specialists who have participated in USIA-sponsored overseas programs includes such distinguished authorities as Paul Samuelson, Charles Townes, Eugene Rostow, Robert Scalapino, Robert Novak, Herman Kahn, Paul McCracken, Doak Barnett, Edwin Reischauer, Edward Teller, Bonaro Overstreet, John Updike, Milton Friedman, Erskine Caldwell, John Hope Franklin, Lynton Caldwell, S.I. Hayakawa, Daniel Boorstin, Astronauts John Lovell and Wally Schirra and others.

Whenever feasible, USIA in Washington will arrange briefings to familiarize speakers with the kinds of audiences and special interests they may encounter. However, our posts abroad will be pleased to provide ample consultations for visiting American specialists before their meetings with foreign individuals or groups.

USIS posts abroad will provide the standard U.S. Government per diem applicable to the cities where programming occurs, as well as a modest honorarium of \$50 per program day. They are authorized to pay for travel within the country and, in some circumstances, for diversionary travel to other countries for similar programming. However, unlike other U.S. Government-sponsored programs, neither USIS posts nor the U.S. Information Agency in Washington can pay for travel between the United States and overseas locations under the Volunteer Speakers Program.

Completion of the data sheet (copy attached) will assist us in determining if there is a mutually useful match between a prospective speaker's expertise and the particular needs of our overseas posts. Any brief indication of the main points of his lecture(s) that a speaker can provide, in addition to his topics, helps our posts to identify and invite appropriate audiences. The final determination with regard to programming speakers rests with individual USIS posts.

Because post programs are normally scheduled well in advance and are built around the speaker as well as supporting media materials, the question of lead time becomes decisive in considering the availability of American experts for this program.