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Iannone, Carol: Letters Opposing Nomination of (1991): Correspondence 15

Phillip Stewart

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25 June 1991

Senator Edward Kennedy Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

The Evans & Novak article on Carol Ionnone nomination to the NEH Advisory Council prompts me to add my voice to those urging you to prevent her nomination.

As you are doubtless aware, this opposition has nothing to do with so-called "p.c." I have read none of Ionnone's work and do not even know whether I like it, but I have seen her resumé and I know that for an academic it is ridiculously anemic. For Lynne Cheney or anyone else to pretend that Ionnone is a distinguished representative of academia is nonsense and they either know it or they know nothing about universities (highly probable in the case of Cheney).

Simply put, the Ionnone appointment stinks. It is part and parcel of an already largely successful strategy to pack the NEH Advisory Council with doctrinaire, reactionary voices whose real aim, under the cover of a clever and shrill "anti-p.c." campaign, is—make no mistake—to secure for all the humanities the reign of their own version of political correctness.

Sincerely yours,

Philip Stewart

Past president, American Association of Teachers of French