



Southern Missionary College

Collegedale, Tennessee 37315

February 13, 1977

C. Mark Hynum
280 Talge Hall, SMC
Collegedale, TN 37315

Dr. Eva B. Dykes
Oakwood College
Huntsville, Alabama 35806

Dear Dr. Dykes:

I am the student at SMC who talked to you on the phone over a week ago. I apologize for taking so long to write. It has taken some time to organize details and plans.

I hope that you are still willing to come and speak to us. I have set as tentative dates, February 27 and 28 and hope very much that you can be our guest then. Mrs. Rita Jones, Dean of Peterson Hall at Oakwood College will be driving to SMC from Oakwood in her car on February 27. Her daughter here at SMC, Cheryl Jones, has spoken with her, and it seems as if that would be a good way of getting you up here. Of course, we would pay Mrs. Jones mileage for you.

You would of course also be our guest for accommodations and meals during that time. I'm not sure that there will be a car ride going back down for you right at the time you would need to go back; however, if not, we are prepared to fly you back down to Huntsville following your visit here.

I mentioned over the phone that we were interested in having you speak both on your specialties in English literature, and in your career as a black woman educator. I believe also I mentioned to you that currently there is a class being taught on campus on Minorities of America. We would especially be interested in your experience and career in light of such a perspective. If I understand correctly, you were among the first three black women to receive a doctorate in America. We would be interested in hearing how that came about and what has been your personal experience as a minority member in America.

If all plans culminate as tentatively outlined here, you would arrive here on Sunday, spend the night here and the following Monday guest lecture both in several classes and in a joint History and English Club meeting that night from 5:00 to 6:30 P.M. This latter occasion would be a very informal meeting--we generally take our trays in from the cafeteria room and meet in a small conference room.

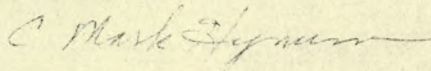
I have spoken with Dr. McClarty, the English Dept. chairman, and she is looking forward very much to having you here. She will let me know in a day or two in which classes she would like to have you speak as a guest and will pass this on to you. Dr. Clark of the History Dept. and sponsor of the History Club is also looking forward very much to having you here.

As far as the specific topic for the Monday evening joint club meeting, I will also have to let you know about this in another day or two. We would want it to attract both the history and English majors primarily, and then also perhaps others generally interested. I have given you, though, the specific general areas in which we are especially interested in.

I certainly have enjoyed communicating with you thus far and I hope that all these plans will materialize. Please feel free either to write or call me for any questions. (My phone is 615-396-4793). If all this is agreeable to you, please do let us know as soon as possible so that we can make final preparations.

May God bless you in all that you do in His service.

Sincerely yours,



C. Mark Hynum
(for the History and English Club officers)

Clark--History
Southern Missionary College
Collegedale, Tennessee 37315

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