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To: The History Summit Participants

From: Nancy McTygue  
CHSSP Executive Director

Re: Summit Preparations and Logistical Information

Thank you again for agreeing to join this important initiative to increase and improve history instruction. We've had an overwhelmingly positive response to this initiative; as of today, more than seventy scholars, teachers, K12 and university administrators, and state and federal leaders have agreed to join us in this advocacy campaign. In addition to those of you who have committed to sharing your time with us, a number of individuals and organizations have agreed to share their treasure in support of this effort, including The History Channel, Division of Social Sciences in the College of Letters and Science at UC Davis, Dr. Karen Halttunen in honor of the late Dr. Roland Marchand, and the Cooperative Research and Extension Services for Schools (CRESS) Center, and the School of Education, UC Davis.

With this letter, I hope to confirm your participation, provide some logistical information, and give you a preview of what you can expect at each of the three summit sessions. If, after reading through everything, you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our offices by phone 530.752.0572 or via email at [chssp@ucdavis.edu](mailto:chssp@ucdavis.edu).

### **Registration Confirmation**

Please review the enclosed list of participants to confirm your registration for each of the summit sessions. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy, however, if there is an error, please contact our offices as soon as possible so we can make sure we have an accurate count for each session and you receive all the materials you'll need.

### **Agenda**

With this letter, I've enclosed a detailed agenda for our first session, scheduled for May 29 from 9:15 am to 3:00 pm at the Loker Student Union Ballroom at California State University, Dominguez Hills in Carson. Please note that we'll start with a breakfast reception and registration period at 8:30 am on the 29<sup>th</sup>, with our opening address starting promptly at 9:15 am. I'm honored to announce that Edward Berenson, the founding Executive Director of the California History-Social Science Project and currently Professor of History and French Studies at New York University, has agreed to open the Summit. Ed will be followed by Amanda Podany, Professor of History at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and also a former CHSSP Executive Director. Amanda will lead the day with two keynote presentations: *Beyond Multiple Choice: High Quality History Instruction* in the morning and *Why Study History? A View from the Past* just after lunch. In between and after these presentations, CHSSP leadership will facilitate table

and whole group discussions to begin our collective task of first articulating the benefits of high-quality history instruction and then organizing ourselves into work groups to begin to advocate for our discipline and our children. At the end of the day, Amanda and I will lead the discussion on next steps and preview Summit II, scheduled for November 12-13, 2008 at UC Davis.

### **Pre-Summit Reading**

In order to prepare for our first session, I've enclosed two articles for your consideration. The first, entitled "Why Study History?" by Peter N. Stearns, was originally published by the American Historical Association in 1998. The second article, entitled, "The Teaching of History-Social Science: Left Behind or Behind Closed Doors," by Lisa A. Hutton and Joyce Burstein, will be published this month in *Social Studies Research and Practice*.

### **Sponsors**

As I noted above, we've received a number of contributions for this effort. I hope you will join with me in thanking these contributors for their generosity. And, while these contributions have enabled this effort to get started, they will not be enough to support our larger work as we move forward. If any of you have thoughts or suggestions regarding other potential contributors, please contact me directly at [njmctygue@ucdavis.edu](mailto:njmctygue@ucdavis.edu) today.

### **Getting There**

Summit I will be held in the Loker Student Union Ballroom at CSU Dominguez Hills in Carson, California. Within this packet, we've enclosed two maps to help get you there: one to the CSU Dominguez Hills campus itself and one campus map to help you find the Loker Student Union (building #26 on the campus map). My office will pay for parking; simply give your name to the attendant, who will have a list of summit attendees.

### **Lodging**

As I mentioned in earlier correspondence, we don't have the ability to pay for your travel or lodging costs associated with the summit. That said, we have arranged a special rate for a local hotel for those of you who will need lodging for the first Summit session. The Carson Doubletree hotel has a group rate for the summit of \$118.00 per night, plus 9% tax. To reserve your room and get this rate, you'll need to contact the hotel directly either online ([www.carsondoubletree.com](http://www.carsondoubletree.com)) or by phone (800-222-TREE) and ask for the History Summit Group rate or use group code "HSG" by May 18, 2008. (Please look for similar information prior to our November 2008 session in Davis in later correspondence).

Thank you again for joining us in this important initiative. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the agenda or logistical concerns prior to our first meeting in May, please don't hesitate to contact our offices at [chssp@ucdavis.edu](mailto:chssp@ucdavis.edu) or 530.752.0572.