



THE LOIS ROTH ENDOWMENT

December 2014

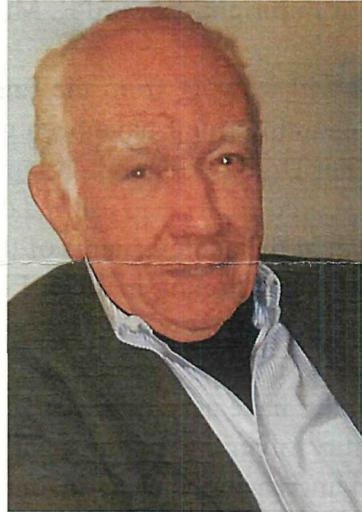
Dear Friend,

Rarely can I write to 1300 friends, knowing that every one of you shares my concern for cultural dialog, long-term educational relations, and deeper research through exchanges. In these tempestuous times, all are more critical than ever.

Some of you already know that the Endowment Board has turned over its Chair to a new generation, moving me as I wished from an active to an advisory role.

After leading the Endowment for 27 years with your help, I hope you share my pride in what we have done. Our beginnings were uncertain: a devoted Board of wise friends assembled with no purpose beyond honoring the spirit of Lois. Assessing our scant assets, we had no idea how to mold the emotions of losing Lois into durable form. Her private and public-sector career as a cultural diplomat was the anchor; we soon found partners in countries she knew and loved. Husbanding our holdings, we resolved to leave principal in place and spend earnings only; partners would multiply our mini-grants. We searched for human and individual excellence capable of growth through deeper academic research and teaching, limiting fields to the social sciences, humanities and arts, including the fine art of literary translation.

Three decades later, we count close to 300 alumni/ae who are grateful for our help. Our partners include seven Fulbright Commissions and a dozen or more private organizations. We were a catalyst in establishing the Fulbright Legacy Lectures in three UK universities, the first major step towards a Fulbright Professorship at the Senator's second alma mater, Pembroke College Oxford. Four partners award prizes for literary translations, including the US Modern Language Association. And we partner with the Sozopol Writers Seminar in Bulgaria and the National Gallery's Center for Advanced Study.



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