



WRA

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September 21, 2016

Dear Denis,

As I polish details for speakers and visiting fellows this year, I want to thank you once more and formally for serving as our Knight Fellow in the 2015-16 school year.

You engaged our student body both intellectually and personally—opening them to the vibrant past and the exhilarating prospects of what horizons their futures might witness and seize. Your life and work speak to the power of informing and pursuing our dreams, finding ways to tell the human story so that we never forget what it indeed means to be human.

In an era rife with extremism, environmental degradation, governmental and corporate abuses of power, we cannot too often tell or overstress the essential story of humanity: wars and inequality need not define us; art, beauty, and concern for the outsider are the forces that define, humanize, and civilize us. Your professional and personal journeys exhibit as much.

I hope what new paths and projects you seek will afford you new stories to continue to tell this seminal one. On behalf of our students and community, thank you.

Sincerely,

Matt Peterson
Academic Dean