Yale University

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Héctor F. García, M.D. 1315 Bright Street Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Doctor Garcia:

On behalf of the Chicano students, faculty, and administrators at Yale University, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that we have established an Endowed Chair in Chicano Studies in your honor. The Hector P. García Endowed Chair honors your lifelong commitment and work in advocating for the cause of all Mexican Americans in the United States. Among your many accomplishments we especially honor your distinguished efforts in founding the American G.I. Forum, an organization nationally recognized for its work in providing and promoting equal educational opportunity for Mexican Americans.

The new Chicano Research Center of Yale University will invite annually a recognized Chicano scholar to hold the Endowed Chair named in your honor for a one-year term and he or she will have departmental affiliation with Yale, teach, and partake in the academic and cultural life of the Center. The first scholar to hold the Endowed Chair in Chicano Studies for the 1985-1986 academic year is Professor David Abalos of Seton Hall University, who has been a Visiting Lecturer in Sociology at Yale University for several years.

The newly established Hector F. Garcia Endowed Chair in Chicano Studies is one of several projects and programs the Yale Chicano Research Center has inaugurated to advance the scholarly investigation of the Chicano experience. Among these endeavors are an Affiliate Program comprised of academic and professional affiliates; monthly Research Dialogues which provide a forum for examination and discussion of Chicano and Latino-related topics; a Chicano-Puerto Rican Studies concentration within the American Studies Department; undergraduate prizes in research and writing named in honor of Drs. Ernesto Galarza and Tomas Rivera; a research journal, El Arco Iris, a literary journal, Cambios Phideos; and a one-year dissertation fellowship named in honor of an outstanding Yale Chicano alumni, Joaquin G. Avila, President and General Counsel for MALDEF. It will support a promising Chicano doctoral candidate, in any field, in the writing of the dissertation. There is also a Chicano Cultural Center, that includes a research library now being developed. And Yale

University's Western Americana Collection, which contains the valuable Coe and Streeter Collections on the American West and colonial and nineteenth century Texas history, is a rich source of archival information for Chicano scholars doing research at Yale.

The Yale Chicano Research Center would be extremely honored to serve as a repository for your personal papers and correspondence. We believe that this historically significant collection of one of America's important public figures would be of particular research interest to scholars on the East Coast; their increased accessibility at Yale would benefit legal scholars at Yale, Harvard, Columbia, and Georgetown University Law Schools and research scholars of the Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, D.C.

We were saddened to hear of your recent illness and we hope you have a speedy recovery. The establishment of the Héctor F. García Endowed Chair in Chicano Studies at Yale University is one way the Chicanos of Yale honor your lifetime contributions to the Mexican American community.

Respectfully,

Zaragosa/Vargas/

and Director

Yale Chicano Research Center

enclosures cc Martha Chavez-Brumell