

Mexico City, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2006  
Carraci 20-1, San Juan Mixcoac  
Mexico, D.F 03920

Dear Sir or Madam,

With profound pleasure I submit this letter for expressing my gratitude for the scholarship I kindly received for attending the Phoenix Summer Seminar this year 2006.

I received the gift of meeting the Phoenix Institute five years ago by attending the Summer course at Notre Dame University. The deep understanding of education, leadership and friendship that is provided through the Summer Seminars and the lively mission statement of the Phoenix Institute through its network of friends, has marked myself and has transformed my perceptions and vision of my current personal and professional life.

In particular, this Summer Seminar provided me with the environment and the content that my soul has been searching for a long time. I am an economist engaged in the business consultancy activity, a singer who dedicates spare time to sing a capella ancient music, and a passionate admirer of art, philosophy and theology. This time, the course on Natural Law provided me with deep knowledge of a field that apparently is very distant from my recurrent activities. Throughout a very friendly approach, our professors, Dr. J.H.A. Lokin, *and* Dr. Frans A.M. Alting von Geusau, helped us to link theory with hot discussions related on how natural law fits any human field and how it provides with the framework for ordering activities, law or public policies and humanize life filtering what is essential to the human dignity to any field. I found this course more than useful for applying it for teamwork and for setting priorities specially when dealing with business and ethics.

On the other hand, the course on Romano Guardini's Understanding of Christian Consciousness and Responsibility as Cornerstone of Western Culture and Civilization provided me with a deep, very deep, understanding and sensibility. Dr. Dolna, not only lectured in a thoughtful and passionate way Guardini's pieces of work, but also inspired us in the meaning of life, in the importance of sensitivity, in the hunger for searching for the meaning for uplifting our lives. Dr. Dolna taught with his own testimony, with his example. I am delighted with his way of lecturing by living. It is worth mentioning one of the most vibrant experiences the group had during the Summer Program was an spontaneous class of the history of the Kartuse and a sudden walk to a nearby field for looking at the stars and for learning how to read the sky. Dr. Dolna inspired us to fill our spirits with culture, art, and a deep relationship with God through praise and prayer. We discussed on Europe and its complex trends, on the necessity to return to the roots and look for truth and beauty. It was a complete gift to listen and share with Dr. Dolna our experiences, feelings and thoughts on how, as Christians, we can face the modern world and light it with the fire of God given by the decision of following Christ through friendship and personal example and behaviour.

Moreover, the Phoenix experience based on friendship and leadership was lively. The group this year, composed by people from Mexico, the Netherlands, Croatia, Palestine, United States and Italy built a good environment and provided with different sensibilities which helped us broadening our understanding. For instance, I was very touched by the experiences shared from our friends in Croatia and Palestine regarding the war and misery. From the Mexican standpoint, I think our European friends liked listening to our view of the problems our nation faces. The extra-academic activities such as the gatherings, the hiking and the short trips contributed to the community life. I enjoyed the discussions that arose from the movies we watched and from the books we read.

Thank you very much for this opportunity. I am confident the ideas and experiences will help me design a better life for me and for guiding my team, my family and my work. The Phoenix is a great idea. I come from Austria inspired for being a better human, for making a difference wherever I go or whatever I do or choose; for keep contributing for others to meet the Phoenix and to live such a good experience. May the Phoenix experience help for the transformation of human hearts with an extraordinary intensity for the sake of our human race.

Yours truly,  
Ana Lilia Moreno