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Approval Terminates: 11/1/2013  
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## LETTER OF INFORMATION: Collecting Memories: Oral Histories of American Folklorists

**Purpose:** Thank you for your willingness to participate in Collecting Memories: Oral Histories of American Folklorists. The project is an effort to preserve and disseminate the voices and images of folklorists and the field of folklore studies. The project will help document the development and change of the field since the mid-twentieth century to more fully tell the story of folklore scholarship and to make accessible the institutional memory of the American Folklore Society, the premier folklore society in the United States.

**Partners:** Utah State University Special Collections & Archives (USUSCA) and the American Folklore Society (AFS).

**Adviser:** American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress

**Procedures:** At your convenience, our trained interviewers will arrange to conduct a recorded interview that may last from one to two hours. During the interview, you will be asked questions regarding your early life, family and career as a folklorist, including your fieldwork activity, service in the American Folklore Society or regional folklore societies. You may decline to answer any question(s) during the interview. Before the interview begins, you will be asked to review the USUSCA release form and to sign it at the end of your interview if you agree to participate. (On request, the form will be made available to you in the language you are most comfortable.) Releasing your interview will permit us to add your interview to USUSCA holdings as part of the American Folklore Society Records Collection and make it available for scholarly use. Please note that you will still retain the intellectual property rights to your interview. Each interview will be transcribed or logged, and you will be asked to review the transcript or log for accuracy. The digitally recorded oral histories and images will be archived in a permanent collection at USUSCA and hosted in a web collection with an inventory of oral histories held at other institutions. Each participant will be given a CD and transcript or log of the interview.

If you are interested in donating associated materials from your private collection, such as diaries, photographs, letters and professional papers, a trained USU curator will work with you on your donation.

**Risks/Benefits:** There is minimal risk in participating in this study. However, there is a possibility that as you recall past experiences that are distressing, negative emotions may arise. You may refuse to answer any questions. By collecting and making available the oral histories, this project provides a rich resource for future research of folklore studies. This project will add detailed information and a variety of perspectives to the history of the American Folklore Society and the field of folklore as a whole, both now and in the future.

**Voluntary nature of participation and right to withdraw without consequences:** Participation in this project is entirely voluntary. You may refuse to participate, withdraw or refuse to answer interview questions at any time without consequence. You may add restrictions to the product of your participation.

**IRB Approval Statement :** The Institutional Review Board for the protection of human participants at Utah State University has approved this research study. If you have any questions or concerns about your rights or a research-related injury and would like to contact someone other than the research team, you may contact the IRB Administrator at (435) 797-0567 or email [irb@usu.edu](mailto:irb@usu.edu) to obtain information or to offer input.

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