Project Proposal

Title: The Complete Works of J. Krishnamurti 1910-1933.

Proposed Project Coordinator and Editor:

S. Lloyd Williams, Ph.D., working under the authority of the Board of Trustees of the Krishnamurti Foundation of America.

Scope of project and specific aims:

1. Gather and electronically record the texts of all published and unpublished works authored by J. Krishnamurti prior to the cessation of the Star Bulletin in 1933, in the original language of authorship.

2. Systematically organize these texts chronologically within categories.

3. Present the texts in a catalog with annotations specifying their sources, the dates and circumstances of their authorship, their authenticity, and other relevant data, as well as an introductory chapter detailing the aims and methods of the project.

4. Make the final catalog available in both an electronic form and a printed form. The catalog would not be published but would be available in Krishnamurti archives.

Rationale:

Mr. Krishnamurti instructed that his early works be regarded as previous to, and not included among, the later works that comprise the body of his teachings. Nevertheless, the early works are important in providing insight into the evolution of his teachings. The proposed catalog would be an important resource for scholars and a valuable historical document. The Krishnamurti Foundation of America is uniquely positioned to carry out this project, as it possesses probably the largest body of unpublished early material, as well as being near to the Huntington Library which houses the extensive Rajagopal Collection of Krishnamurti-related material.

Tasks and Methods:

Specific aim 1: Gathering the texts.

In gathering the texts of the early works, many potential sources will have to be consulted. For example, there were 12 different Star journals throughout the world, and Weeraperuma lists more than 25 journals from the early period in which articles relating to Krishnamurti frequently appeared; many of

these contain works authored by Krishnamurti. Unfortunately, some of these journals, such as The Adyar Theosophist, Advance! Australia, and The Halcyon: Official Organ of the Order of the Star in New Zealand, are quite rare in the United States. Even Star journals that were circulated in the United States are now quite rare. For example, the Foundation has a complete set of only one of the U.S.-circulated Star journals (the Star Bulletin), lacking complete sets of The Star, The Star Review, The Herald of the Star, and The Server, and lacking any issues whatsoever of foreign Star publications. Locating, examining, and extracting Krishnamurti-authored material from these rare sources will require at a minimum considerable overseas communication with libraries, archives, and individuals.

Moreover, there are a number of libraries and archives in the world that should be searched as they might well have obscure published or unpublished early Krishnamurti works. These include Theosophical Society libraries in Illinois, New York, London, and Adyar, India, and Krishnamurti archives in Holland, India, England, and the United States. The Rajagopal Collection in the Huntington Library appears likely to have significant amounts of otherwise unavailable early works by Krishnamurti.

Various means can be used to locate rare material, such as announcements of the project requesting readers' help placed in Krishnamurti Foundation Bulletins internationally, as well as in national and international Theosophical Society journals. We are fortunate to have in the Ojai Valley a Theosophical Society librarian, now at the Krotona Library, who has worked both at the Adyar and Wheaton, Illinois TS libraries, who can potentially help with this project.

As Project Coordinator, I will make every effort to use the least expensive means possible to gather relevant material from distant archives. Moreover, when possible I will travel to archives at my own expense when I am traveling in the vicinity anyway. For example, I will be traveling to Holland in Dec-Jan 1993-1994, and I will arrange to visit the Deventer Krishnamurti Archive there at my own expense. In addition, I anticipate being able to visit the T.S. Library in Wheaton, Illinois in August, 1994, on a cross-country driving trip, and I will be able to visit the T.S. library in New York City at my own expense, as it is near to my permanent home in Pennsylvania. Therefore, I anticipate no expenses for distant travel during the coming year.

On the other hand, although one can do a great deal by correspondence, and can simply ask librarians what their holdings are or request that they photocopy and send along specific material, it is far from ideal to rely on possibly little-interested parties to do the kind of careful searching needed to locate and copy the works. Ultimately, thorough and

conscientious scholarship requires firsthand perusal of materials; there is no adequate substitute for a knowledgable and interested expert directly searching journals and archives. I would therefore anticipate some amount of traveling to archives will be necessary to bring this project to a proper conclusion.

In addition to locating possibly relevant materials, a considerable amount of detective work will be required to verify the authenticity of putative Krishnamurti material. Evidently Dr. Parchure in India has already done some work in that direction, which will have to be continued, including defining and refining selection rules. I will be corresponding with Dr. Parchure in the near future. In addition to work he as already completed that is relevant to this project, it is possible that he would be able to do the necessary archival searches in India, thus sparing the expense of a special intercontinental trip.

Once the material is located it must be scanned or keyed into the computer. Much published material in the Foundation's possession will be sent to India for computer entry. The accuracy of this work will have to be verified.

Assembling the material also requires checking for duplication in the writings, in which the same material might appear under two different titles or in two different formats. This should be aided by computerized string searches.

Finally, a certain amount of copy editing will be required of the scanned material. However, I would suggest that it would not be appropriate or necessary to rework the material so as to conform to Chicago Manual of Style conventions. Rather, I would suggest that except for correcting typographical errors and misspellings, the material should be presented as it was originally published. Not only would the more extensive copy editing be vastly expensive in human resources, but given the relative rarity of much of the original material, scholars might well appreciate "seeing it as it was", without extensive copy editing and reworking.

Specific aim 2: Organizing the texts.

The material will be organized using a computer data-base management system. Categorizing the work by type is by no means a straightforward proposition. For example, the distinctions made by Weeraperuma in his marvelous bibliographies of Krishnamurti's works do not seem in every instance to be entirely appropriate or useful in the present context. Although the poem/non-poem distinction seems sensible enough, the distinction between "prose works" and "talks/discussions" is fuzzy at best, since the former are often based upon the latter in Krishnamurti's work. Moreover, Weeraperuma's category of "education" seems somewhat

arbitrary. One idea perhaps worth considering is to separate the works into "oral" and "written", the former being transcribed from talks and discussions with audiences, regardless of the format of original publication or presentation, and the latter being handwritten or dictated directly by Krishnamurti.

For historical purposes it might be well to include a chronological listing of all early talks/discussions with audiences, whether recorded or not, indicating which ones were recorded/published in part or whole, and where they were published.

Specific aim 3: Presenting the texts.

A great deal of scholarly work will need to be done to prepare accompanying notes giving relevant details about each text. In addition, it would seem advisable to include a detailed introductory description of the methods used to assemble the texts, to verify their authenticity, etc. It should even be possible to print/publish the organizational scheme and accompanying notes as a separate catalog/bibliography of the early works without the accompanying text.

Specific aim 4: Making the final catalog available.

The specifics of the actual printing of the work remain as the last task. The final printed work will probably consist of a series of spiral-bound books, with clear caveats in each about Mr. Krishnamurti's wish that the works not be considered "official" teachings.

Authority for the proposed project:

It is my clear understanding that this project is being carried out under the authority of the Trustees of the Krishnamurti Foundation of America. Therefore, I will ensure that Mark Lee, as Executive Director of the Foundation, and the Trustees as appropriate, remain informed of significant decisions regarding the project as it unfolds. I further understand that any materials for the project that are in my possession, including documents and electronic data, belong to the Krishnamurti Foundation of America. If I do in fact continue to work on the project as planned during the remainder of the present academic year 1993-1994, I would request that my contribution as Project Coordinator and Editor during this period be explicitly acknowledged in the final version of the work. I would also request that the Foundation give me both an electronic and a "hard" copy of the final work to use for my own scholarship and research.

Proposed Budget

Personnel.

As Project Coordinator and Editor I am able to devote approximately 50% time and effort as a volunteer on the project during my current sabbatical leave during the academic year 1993-1994 (until June 1, 1993), since half of my salary is paid by Lehigh University. It is my expectation that although the project will be significantly advanced by the end of this period, it clearly will not be completed. I am willing to devote additional time to the project over the Summer of 1994, when it might be appropriate for me to receive some personal financial support. In addition, I am considering asking Lehigh University for a year's leave of absence without pay to continue on the project at 50-100% time and effort during academic year 1994-1995. Should they grant this request, which is by no means certain, I would require personal financial support, as I would have no other source of income.

Considerable personnel time and effort from other individuals will have to be devoted to this project at a later time, for example, to scan the text material into the computer. To some extent this can possibly be done by current Foundation staff members, although they have other pressing duties.

Because I recognize that Foundation resources are limited and divided among many other pressing needs, I intend to seek outside funding for my own support requirements as well as for travel and other expenses. I will collaborate with Foundation staff member Chari Petrowski in seeking outside support for this project.

Immediate expenses include routine costs such as photocopying, faxing, telephone calls, postage, and ordinary supplies such as computer diskettes, printer paper, and possibly software and manuals. I own a suitable computer and printer already. Mark Lee has indicated that his office can make available $500 immediately for such incidental expenses. Transportation and lodging expenses for travel to the Huntington Library will probably be needed in Spring 1994. I am aware that any such travel on behalf of the Foundation, and any other significant expenses, must be pre-authorized for reimbursement.

An additional possible major expense at the Huntington Library is for obtaining photocopies of any original unique material authored by Krishnamurti in their possession. It is impossible to estimate the amount of such material, which could range from only a few pages to many hundreds of pages [see attached letter to the Huntington from Mark Lee, which

indicates the extent of the library's material that we have asked to examine]. Given that the Huntington Library routinely charges about five dollars per page, this could be quite expensive. I would of course initially avoid copying anything that I thought might be available from less expensive sources (for example, published material that might be in other archives). Should there prove to be a large amount of clearly unique material, I would look into the possibility of applying to the Huntington for a reduction in the per-page fee.