

Contents

Acknowledgments vii

Introduction: The Public, the Press, and the Professors 1

Humanities for the Future: Reflections on the Western Culture
Debate at Stanford 13

MARY LOUISE PRATT

The Extraordinary Convergence: Democracy, Technology, Theory,
and the University Curriculum 33

RICHARD A. LANHAM

Teach the Conflicts 57

GERALD GRAFF

Cult-Lit: Hirsch, Literacy, and the “National Culture” 75

BARBARA HERRNSTEIN SMITH

The Master’s Pieces: On Canon Formation and the
African-American Tradition 95

HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

Liberal Arts Education and the Struggle for Public Life: Dreaming
about Democracy 119

HENRY A. GIROUX

Pedagogy in the Context of an Antihomophobic Project 145

EVE KOSOFSKY SEDGWICK

Serious Watching 163

ALEXANDER NEHAMAS

From Ivory Tower to Tower of Babel? 187

ELIZABETH KAMARCK MINNICH

The Emergence of the Humanities 201

BRUCE KUKLICK

The Academy and the Public 213

PHYLLIS FRANKLIN

Classics and Canons 223

GEORGE A. KENNEDY

Two Cheers for the Cultural Left 233

RICHARD RORTY

The Common Touch, or, One Size Fits All 241

STANLEY FISH

Against Nostalgia: Reflections on Our Present Discontents in
American Higher Education 267

FRANCIS OAKLEY

Notes on Contributors 291

Index 295