

*L. G. Crowley file*



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

April 16, 1980

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Lawrence G. Crowley  
Acting Vice President for Medical Affairs  
and Dean of the School of Medicine  
Stanford University Medical Center  
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Larry:

We have some notes crossing but this is to respond to yours of April 7th and the Grant Chair. It is hard for me to get very excited about the issue raised there but I'm sure that, unfortunately, that nonchalance may not be widely shared.

However, I do have one perspective to offer to you that you will understand perhaps more readily than our colleagues. Putting an esteemed but already very visible candidate into this particular chair may not be as good an idea as seeking new endowment on the strength of his visibility and reputation. On the other hand, there is certain to be a cadre of people of comparable worth who can certainly sustain the credibility of the appointments, but who in a sense will be better known and regarded by insiders. A good example of such a person is Luca Cavalli-Sforza.

However, if this perspective is set aside, I have no way to make a choice among the four equally esteemed people that you mentioned in your letter; and if you are not going to intervene for *raisons d'état* you might best leave it to the committee and save your own store of influence for more important circumstances.

However, a small point of further reflection is that the Genetics Department generally, and Stan in particular, have felt somewhat under-recognized in a variety of ways; and it might be a small step to better harmony if you did keep at least one chair *de facto* within that department.

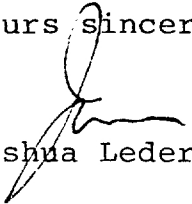
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About the Library we are undertaking a study here as well, although the metropolitan setting is a little different from the responsibility that Lane has for the region. I do hope you have an effective and working resource sharing system that obviates the need for a high degree of replication of archival materials. I recall that many of those are not stored on site anyhow; so the basic locus of the Lane problem may be a bit different. I just don't know what the formal arrangements are with, for example, Berkeley and UC San Francisco Medical Center. I also presume that there is no great problem getting funds from the National Library of Medicine for supporting regionally useful services; you probably also know that the Hewlett Foundation is quite interested in efficient library functions.

There is no doubt that new media are going to take hold during the next couple of decades but how to live through the transition is a problem that many research libraries have to face with some trepidation.

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg