



Whitehead Associates Inc.

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April 14, 1982

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
President
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Josh:

Your letter of April 9th caused me considerable personal anguish.

As you know, I feel (and have felt) a considerable debt to you for all the help you have been in establishing the Whitehead Institute. At the same time, I am sure you appreciate the fact that I have committed myself very, very heavily to establish the Institute. These commitments are such that I am really approaching over extension. The truth of the matter is that I just do not have any money left for philanthropic causes. If I did, I am sure you appreciate that The Rockefeller University would be high on my priority list. Perhaps in five years or so, when I come out from under all my present commitments, we could reconsider this; however, Josh, I am afraid I have to tell you that at present I really cannot help out.

As far as The Rockefeller University Council is concerned, I would be pleased to continue my membership if you think it is of value to you.

I also suggested some time ago that Henry Simon, who is currently the president of Technicon, is vitally interested in joining the Council. As I mentioned, I suggested this some time ago, but we did not hear back.

By way of background, Henry is a Ph.D. physicist who started his career as a researcher at Bell Labs. He ran the ITT telephone business in Europe for a number of years, and he has just moved into the presidency of Technicon (almost two years ago). He is a very personable fellow, extremely able, and very interested in problems of biology. I think he would be a superb addition to the Council.

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I am sure you appreciate the embarrassment I feel
in responding to your letter, which probably matches your
embarrassment in writing.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,



Edwin C. Whitehead

ECW:mah