THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON

MEDICAL SCHOOL

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January 17, 1979

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Dr. Eugene Garfield INSTITUTE FOR SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION 325 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Dr. Garfield:

It is a privilege to nominate Dr. G. Alan Robison for the National Academy of Sciences James Murray Luck Award in Scientific Writing. Dr. Robison is Professor and Chairman in the Department of Pharmacology at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston. His scientific informational exchange contributions in the field of cyclic nucleotide research are immense and unparalleled. I believe it is fair to say that more than any other he has been the principal person responsible for the dissemination of information in this area, and without his efforts the field probably would not have developed as rapidly. Some of these accomplishments include: (1) publication of the first inclusive review article on the role of cyclic AMP in cell function (Annual Reviews of Biochemistry, 1968); (2) principal author of the first treatise entitled, "Cyclic AMP," published by Academic Press in 1970; (3) organization of the first meeting devoted to the actions of cyclic AMP (New York Academy of Sciences, 1970); (4) organization of the first international meeting on cyclic nucleotide research (Milan, Italy, 1971); (5) development of the first continual monograph series in the field (Advances in Cyclic Nucleotide Research, Raven Press); and (6) the first journal devoted to the topic (Journal of Cyclic Nucleotide Research, Raven Press). He has authored 44 review articles (see enclosed list) summarizing mechanisms of cyclic nucleotide action in cellular functions. Not only is Professor Robison a gifted writer, but he possesses an outstanding ability to present scientific facts in broad perspective without losing sight of the pitfalls and limitations of available data. The articles are always excellent for their clarity and timeliness. Several scientists

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have told me that Professor Robison's review of a specific area not only shed light on important questions in the field, but helped them develop ideas for their own research.

On a personal note, Dr. Robison's writings have had an important influence on my own scientific career. Trained as a neuropharmacologist, I became interested in the regulation of postsynaptic events at the cellular and molecular level. His early reviews on the coupling of adrenergic receptors to the cyclic AMP system led me to conduct postdoctoral research in this area.

Over these past years, I am continually impressed by Dr. Robison's scientific writing ability and his fervent commitment to the field of scientific information exchange. At a time when so many review articles often represent little more than a compilation of pertinent reference or a means to gather colleagues at meetings, I feel the contributions made by Dr. Robison exemplary.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel J. Strada, Ph.D. Associate Professor

SJS/mrh

Encl.