

BUCHMANN, W.



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

August 15, 1979

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Mr. Walter Buchmann  
Bankers Life and Casualty Company  
Corporate Services  
4444 W. Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60630

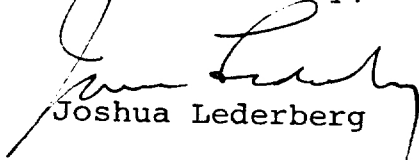
Dear Mr. Buchmann:

This is to respond to Mr. Ewing's letter of August 3, and its announcement of the Symposium on Cancer and Aging. This is indeed a subject of utmost gravity and challenge. In fact, I believe that the age-dependence of cancer may be one of the most provocative clues to the basic biology of the disease. During the forthcoming year, I will be undertaking advisory duties for the N.C.I. that will require my learning a great deal more about avenues of strategic planning. The symposium will be invaluable for my own education and communication of my colleagues' views.

Unfortunately, the dates of the symposium pose a difficult schedule conflict. As some mitigation, I will be elsewhere in Washington, and with luck I may be able to share at least part of my time with you. If that is not too unsatisfactory, please keep me on your list; and I will do the best I can.

My congratulations for your company's support of a good cause! An international congress will not do the actual hard work that is most needed; but we can hardly complain that we have too many incisive ideas. I trust more will be presented, and critically evaluated, during the discussions. I hope they will be provocative, and that sufficient funding can be elicited or redirected to bring them to fruition.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg