



TUFTS UNIVERSITY

School of Medicine  
School of Dental Medicine  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences

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Professor of Medicine

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Joshua Lederberg, PhD  
Rockefeller University  
York Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Josh,

I'd appreciate your advice regarding the following.

In 1986, I began a program at Tufts to bridge the increasing gap between advances in biology and their application to disease. The program demystifies medicine for PhD graduate students, fellows and faculty, and has been very successful.

Without adding time to basic science training, we have succeeded in training a large number of students and faculty...and can substantiate the success of our efforts.

The program meets a national goal, does not substitute for training MD/PhD scientists and is highly attractive to graduate students and fellows.

A New England Journal of Medicine article on the program in 1990 resulted in over 1000 reprint requests. The program has been presented and, in many cases, implemented in the attached list of institutions here and abroad.

We have followed all students and have convincing data suggesting that our goals are being accomplished (enclosed survey summary).

Initial support (2yrs) was from the Josiah Macy, Jr Foundation, and later support was from the Markey Foundation. Support terminates at the end of the next academic year. Pew, Howard Hughes and Welcome Trust expressed considerable interest.....but have not (yet) seen our efforts as within their current activities.

Josh, we have created a novel program which is accomplishing an important goal.....at amazingly little cost. Inquiry by numerous students and institutions reflects broad interest in bridging science with medicine. Furthermore, the decline in physician-scientists creates excellent career opportunities for PhD scientists who have a basic understanding of human disease.

Please advise me regarding possible avenues of continued support. It would be a pleasure to meet and discuss the exciting details of the program.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,



Irwin M. Arias, M.D.

PS You were kind enough to participate in the first American Liver Foundation Symposium on "Bridging Basic Science and Liver Disease" (with Barry blumberg, Bob Schimke, Henry Platt, etc) in 1990. The event has become an annual one. I enclose the program for 1994.....along with an invitation to join us if you can.

enclosures: NEJM article  
institutions  
brief progress report  
report on student's/fellow's status