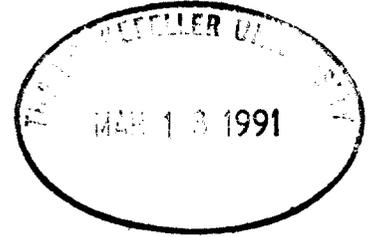




Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 14, 1991



Dr. Joshua Lederberg
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, New York 10021-6399

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am writing to request your assistance in developing plans and priorities for national structural biology user facilities.

Current and projected intense sources of photons and neutrons operated as national user facilities by the Department of Energy provide opportunities in many areas of science, including structural biology. In support of an interagency effort to strengthen structural biology and biotechnology in the United States, this Office is striving to increase support over the next several years for developing and upgrading national structural biology user facilities located at Departmental laboratories. In this period of severe budget constraints, it is imperative that we develop a well formulated plan for the development of these facilities and that we obtain excellent advice regarding relative priorities, appropriate schedules, etc.

In this regard, scientists associated with the operation and planning of these facilities will present their current status and plans for the future on April 22 at a meeting at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel (formerly the Compri) in Gaithersburg, Maryland. I hope that it will be possible for you to attend this meeting and subsequently provide me with your advice and guidance regarding the development of a plan for the development and use of these facilities. This meeting will provide an overview of the status of the various facilities and plans for their further development. It will provide a broad picture and national context in which to evaluate more detailed plans of individual laboratories which will be presented later at individual site reviews. There are several issues which need to be addressed in order to ensure that available funds are most effectively utilized for the development of these national structural biology user facilities.

I would like the opportunity to discuss this matter more fully with you at greater length and will call your office for this purpose in a few days.

Sincerely,

David J. Galas
Associate Director for Health
and Environmental Research
Office of Energy Research

* Regret not able 4/22
but please stay in touch.