

ATTALLAH KAPPAS, M.D.

June 17, 1986

Dear Josh,

↓
I write to urge that this unfortunate medical episode of mine not result in any delay in contacting Dr. Crytal and determining, in your own interview, his suitability for appointment to the Rockefeller Hospital job - your last meeting with him was brief because of the prolonged Council session which overlapped the time scheduled for Crytal.

Dr. Crytal is the product of an intense, broad & well-thought out search, extending over 3 years. This 3 year period reflects

2.
no doubt about his qualifications
and only the time it took to
work certainly stand the field we
felt would be the best new
scientific addition in response to
the University.

The Council vote in his favor
was 7:1. The 1 dissenter has his
own serious conflict of interest. How-
ever even he admits that Crystal is
pre-eminent in his field - he simply
thinks that we ought to have a
"different kind of science" represented
at the Hospital. That is an
extraordinarily presumptuous statement
for someone to make who has not
made any significant contributions
to generate the financial support

into the maintaining the Hospital & who does not participate in its activities whatsoever - save for using periodically the facilities, (60 bed day in 5 years!) provided thru the efforts and leadership of his colleagues.

Cryptal will be rationally acknowledged as a major contributor to Rockefeller & the Community, will be seen to have perceived the impending opportunities in research & in demand applications of the new work in pulmonary bio-chemistry to be initiated.

The comments of an anonymous nature about "interference", merely

4.

if differentiation is going along with him
etc - all conveyed by people lacking
courage to put their views in writing,
must be discounted in the face of
the reports letters we have received about
him + his work from leading figures
in the field + the unanimous recommen-
dation of a Hospital Search Committee
in which both clinical + basic views
was well represented.

Speech in commercial is
urgency - Candidates are sensitive
to the moves surrounding their
consideration. Of Dr. Brook had not
decided on the spot to appoint me to
a laboratory head position at Rockefeller
I would have certainly returned to Chicago.
Of Howard had not taken a year to
make up their mind about the
Fildes Chair in Physiology I
would not have turned down

5"

So it will be with Captal if
you do not communicate with him
quickly and at least have a long
& internal conversation with him &
let him at least know you intend.

Today while rumors are
searched out & spread down will
be fatal - this would be an affront
to the candidate & lose him, & would
insert a committee which has
worked extraordinarily hard to
bring before you a major
figure in domestic investigation.
Once the interview is held - &
it should be long enough &
be of such a breadth that to
knows we are internal in time -

Then one may pause & think about
the commitments needed & about
the war - qua - man.

At present he is an international
figure and on early eye in a
field essentially pointed to Parkfield
& remarkably versatile to do
extreme. He is in the preliminary
phase what Jan Breidow is in
his field - and we must know the
Hospital is the director of the Medical
Foundation if it is to stay a leading
institution in the future.

How many people are there
with Crystal's scientific strength
and the ability to relate these
strengths so directly to medicine?

Our 3 year search gives you
the answer to how few such people
there are - 1/3p