HARKNESS HOUSE ONE EAST SEVENTY-FIFTH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021-2692 (212) 535-0400

December 3, 1986

#10010

Joshua Lederberg, Ph.D. President The Rockefeller University 1230 York Avenue New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Lederberg:

I'm writing on behalf of Margaret Mahoney to ask for your opinion of the attached proposal recently submitted to The Commonwealth Fund. The proposal, from Dr. Morton Bogdonoff at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, requests support for a special conference on recent advances in biomedical science and their impact on the future. Panelists and participants would discuss such questions ranging from identifying the next most important problems to producing the scientists to address these problems. The conference moderator would be Dr. Daniel Koshland.

- o Most importantly, we are interested in whether such a conference would be a genuine contribution to the state-of-the-art thinking about where we are and where we are going in the biomedical sciences. Will this conference be of substantive, rather than simply ceremonial, value?
- o Will the proposed panelists contribute the range of opinions and discussion envisioned?
- o Is the conference addressing the correct questions?

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We would welcome your written comments by December 22 and would be happy to reimburse you with a \$200 honorarium.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kate Wheeler

Program Assistant

enc. KW:s

cc: Cynthia Woodcock