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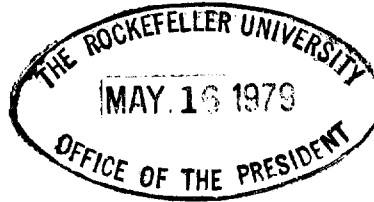
FLORHAM PARK, N.J. 07932

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EDWARD E. DAVID, JR.

PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE: 765-1257

(AREA CODE 201)



May 14, 1979

Dear Josh:

Ann and I much enjoyed being with you and your several distinguished guests. I particularly was stimulated by our discussions. We thank you for including us.

Your paper on "The New Literacy" is very interesting and important. The social implications seem to me to exceed the utility of the activity. Not only might it encourage a return to concise and precise written communication, but also it may well encourage a consensus or collegial style of management in institutions. Many are finding this mode essential as organizations become more complex requiring several subunits to be involved in working on problems or formulating policy.

You may be interested that several of us at Bell Labs had a vision of this sort of thing back in the 60's. We were working on Multics and Unix at the time. Our thoughts even included "computer-aided" conversations; for example, joint editing of manuscripts, policy statements, or EUGRAMS! Needless to say, I am enthusiastic about your concepts and your important role in implementing them at Stanford.

Again, thanks for the hospitality, and I look forward to further collaboration.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed".

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
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Rockefeller University
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