

November 28, 1951.

Miss Helen L. Byers  
Univ. Apts. E304  
1603 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Miss Byers:

Your letter of November 24 raised some questions about research assistantships here. Firstly, the question of your major does not have to be settled until after you have been here some time, and are ready to be "certified" in your candidacy for the Ph.D. You should apply for an assistantship in the department or departments in which you might best do your research. Your application for admittance to the Graduate School should be deferred until you have been notified about the assistantship awards.

The current stipend for 1/2-time research assistantships is \$110 per month, on a 10- or a 12-month basis. Work done under these appointments is not barred in any way from application to theses, nor is there any limitation on academic residence. The nature of the work varies greatly, especially with the experience and qualifications of the appointee, but also with the needs of the research program from which the funds are administered. A mature student generally spends all of his time on his own research.

In addition to research assistantships, teaching appointments, of various types are available in Zoology and in Genetics. If you would be interested in these, I suggest you write Professor James F. Crow.

I should emphasize that there are no procedural difficulties attached to a formal major in one department, and research in another. These arrangements all have to be worked out individually.

An interview would not be obligatory, at least on our part. However, a visit would enable you to gain a clearer picture of the opportunities here, and the kind of work going on in various departments. For my part, the intersemester period the last week in January and the first in February would be the least committed, but you are welcome to call at any time.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Associate Professor of Genetics