

PSAC  
Brief

August 28, 1961

Dr. James B. Hartgering  
President's Scientific Advisory Council *Committee*  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Hartgering:

You will recall our conversation concerning the PSAC panel on bioastronautics that you had asked me to join. I indicated that I would be hopeful of being able to be of some limited service to the panel when its deliberations particularly concerned exobiology. I would like to recommend for your consideration the appointment of one of my very close colleagues as an alternate to myself, Dr. Elliott C. Levinthal. Dr. Levinthal is now in charge of the exobiology laboratory program here and we have had many detailed conversations on research in space biology which have been most fruitful to me, and which will also have given him the opportunity of a detailed impression of my own views. In addition to his special experience at the present time, I would also say that his previous background and general common sense would recommend him very highly for membership on a committee of this kind. With particular reference to the part of exobiological work in the national space program, while Dr. Levinthal would certainly deserve membership in his own right, you might also wish to consider the possibility of his acting as an alternate for those meetings which I would be unable to attend myself.

I enclose a brief curriculum vitae .

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics