

YALE UNIVERSITY  
OSBORN BOTANICAL LABORATORY  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

May 28, 1947.

Board of Managers,  
N.I.H. Research Fellowships,  
U.S. Public Health Service,  
Bethesda, Maryland.

Gentleman:

My application for a National Institute of Health Research fellowship is enclosed herewith. There are, however, certain considerations relevant to this application which are not conveniently explained in the form, and to which I beg leave to refer here.

In March 1946, following the completion of two years' work at the Columbia Medical School, I obtained leave of absence to pursue researches in the genetics of bacteria in this laboratory, under the direction of Professor E.L. Tatum. This work has been sponsored by the Jane Coffin Childs Fund for Medical Research. Publications which have come out of this work are summarized on page 3 of the form, but are for the most part in press at the present time. While pursuing this work, I have registered as a candidate for the degree of Ph.D., and expect to have completed all residence requirements, and the preparation of the dissertation by September 1947, although the degree cannot then be awarded until the following June. The dissertation consists, for the most part of the material presented in a paper now in press, due to appear in the June issue of the Journal of Bacteriology; a draft manuscript is enclosed, which is the only form of copy available.

The program for which I am requesting financial aid is as follows: to return to the Columbia Medical School to resume and complete studies leading to the degree of M.D. This will require two years. Following this I hope to continue to devote my attentions to medical research, possibly directly along the lines already developed, namely the genetics of microorganisms in relation to a) problems of abnormal growth and b) the basis of pathogenicity in bacteria. While attending medical school I hope to continue, on a part-time basis, similar studies in the laboratory of Dr. F.J. Ryan of the Dept. of Zoology, Columbia University. It might be noted that the work leading to the publication entitled 'Reverse-Mutation and Adaptation in Leucineless Neurospora' was done under just such circumstances.

Under the circumstances, it is not clear whether I should be eligible to apply for a Senior or a Junior fellowship a question which I should like to leave to the discretion of the Board. I have asked Professor Tatum to explain my academic status; a transcript from Yale University is not yet available, as my work here has consisted almost entirely of the researches already mentioned.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg.

*incl. manuscripts of  
J. Bart }  
auth. Bio } papers  
CSH }*