

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 4

The College

BOTANICAL LABORATORY
38th and Woodland Ave.

November 1, 1956

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Joshua:

Vice-President Topping early informed me of the Wistar Institute's interest in having you come to the University of Pennsylvania. Though I do not know the details concerning the Wistar position, I believe that the University will be able to make some attractive positions at the Wistar Institute. It is my understanding that there is adequate endowment to cover salaries and that adequate research space will be available. I am sure that Dr. Topping is anxious to have men of outstanding ability who will also hold academic appointments in appropriate departments of the University.

It is my intention to ask the faculty of this department to elect Dr. Joshua Lederberg to a professorship of genetics, or of microbiology, in the Department of Botany. From my discussions with members of the staff, I have every reason to believe that this election would be made unanimously. If you should come to the Wistar Institute with a professorship in this department, we would expect that you would participate in the formulation of the policies of the department and in its intellectual life. An opportunity would be made available to you to do some teaching, but this would not be required. You would, of course, have the opportunity to have graduate students.

Though I do not know exactly what is being planned for the Wistar Institute, I think that a position there is of sufficient interest that you should investigate it thoroughly and assure yourself that it would give you the opportunity for the development of your own research program and for the kind of intellectual life which you want in the University. From what I do know, I think the position is likely to be a very attractive one.

Dr. Lederberg

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I think I can assure you that many of the biologists in the Medical School and the College would be delighted if we succeed in having Joshua Lederberg as a colleague at the University of Pennsylvania.

If there is any specific information which I can furnish to you, I hope that you will not hesitate to write to me again or to call me on the phone.

With my best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. Goddard", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David R. Goddard

DRG/rw