

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



March 4, 1957

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
 % Dr. F. Jacob  
 Institut Pasteur  
 28, Rue du Dr. Roux XV<sup>e</sup>  
 Paris, France

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

The members of the committee appointed to find a distinguished research geneticist for the Department of Biology are all delighted to learn from your letter of February 28 to Dr. Thimann that you have some interest in our plans for genetics at Harvard. The appointment of Paul Levine is, we think, a splendid solution to the problem of our undergraduate course in genetics, which is one of the most popular in the Department, and we are now free to put real emphasis on research and graduate instruction at the highest possible level. I should like to see our genetics program built around a team of three young men, Lederberg, Levine and Watson, with Paul Doty contributing to certain chemical aspects and Ernst Mayr, Reed Rollins and I helping out in the field of evolutionary genetics.

We hope that you will visit us as soon as possible after your return from Europe, perhaps during the stay in New York which you have scheduled for the first three days in April. In the meantime, the committee, which is unanimous in making you our first choice, will make its recommendation to the Department, and we hope that by the time that you return from Europe there will be a firm offer for you to consider.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul C. Mangelsdorf*  
 Paul C. Mangelsdorf

PCM:t

*P.S. I have just seen a copy of Paul Doty's letter to you and should like to add to one of his remarks. We are painfully aware that Harvard can't always get any man it wants but I for one, am glad that the state institutions are able to hold on over -*

to some of these most distinguished scientists,  
I think this is good for Science in the  
U.S. Nevertheless we do always try to  
find and to attract the best.  
R.M.