

# RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

*The State University of New Jersey*

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

November 4, 1953

NICHOL AVENUE  
NEW BRUNSWICK NEW JERSEY

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am in receipt of your letter of November 1. I am indeed glad to hear your ideas concerning the study of the life cycles of actinomycetes from the genetics point of view. This is actually one of the problems that I had in mind to discuss with you in extending the invitation to come to visit our laboratories. We do not have any one at present who would be qualified for the type of study you have in mind. Personally, I would prefer that this work be done here at the Institute of Microbiology that we are now in the process of organizing.

The official date of the opening of the Institute is set for May 18, 1954. The ceremonies will be followed by a two day symposium dealing with several subjects which would be entitled: "Frontiers in Microbiology". I wonder whether you would be willing to come on May 19 or 20 to present an address dealing with this work. Perhaps you might be interested in joining our staff in order to initiate the whole development of microbial genetics. Our Institute will offer excellent opportunities for research in this and allied fields of microbiology.

I am glad that you are not in sympathy with Klienberger-Nobel's ideas. I was under a similar impression.

With best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

*Selman A. Waksman*

SAW:VAC

Chairman, Microbiology Dept.

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