

March 31, 1955

Dr. Ingrith Deyrup
Department of Zoology
Columbia University
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Ingrith:

Miss Cynthia Jackson asked me to write to Zoology in support of her application for an assistantship at Barnard, and I am happy to seize the occasion to send my own greetings. I looked for you at the Physiology meetings here last fall and was disappointed to find no trace of you.

As to Cynthia, I really do not know her so well that I feel quite comfortable as a referee. She seems a very pleasant girl, more than usually conscientious and hard-working. She took my course last semester on genetics of microorganisms, one which is quite a hurdle for undergraduates and took a good deal of courage for her to tackle. I can't say that she did brilliantly, but she did hold her own, and in an area which is not her special interest. I have not seen her teach in action, but her general demeanor suggests she should do very well indeed.

We have been established here in the midwest over seven years now, and the metropolis and New York City seem very far away. I would never have thought this possible then, but now I could hardly imagine living in a large city again. The University here is, of course, a first rate institution, and I have had a very fortunate position, with very limited distractions aside from research (which is, of course, what seduced me from going on with medical school). We bought a house last fall, but Esther and I unfortunately do not see enough of it what with our lab. work.

If you should come out this way, don't fail to look us up.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

[My physiology instructor
at P+S. later Deyrup-Olsen
at U-Wash, Seattle]