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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014

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October 17, 1969

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Professor and Executive Head
Stanford University
School of Medicine
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

As you are well aware, the problems which exist in attempting to do good research in the biology of aging are considerable. Not the least of them is the fact that it's difficult to entice young, energetic and excellent researchers into the field. In an attempt to surmount this shortcoming, last year we sponsored the first Annual Summer Course in the Biology of Aging which was held in conjunction with the Department of Biology, University of California, San Diego. We had twenty students gathered for three weeks, and brought in many outstanding lecturers from a diversity of fields to stimulate their interest in the biology of aging. The students themselves were at the level of early post-doc and late pre-doc, so it was more a matter of stimulating enthusiasm than of teaching facts.

Some of the participants in last year's Course included Dr. Christian De Duve, Dr. Leonard Hayflick, Dr. Alex Comfort, Dr. Baird Hastings, and many other outstanding people. The Course turned out to be a great success, so much so that I have received additional funds from our Institute to hold a 2nd Summer Course in the Biology of Aging.

This Course is planned for July 6 through 17, 1970, and will be held in conjunction with the Department of Microbiology at Stanford University. I would like very much for you to participate in this venture recognizing your prominence in the field of genetics. I'm not so much interested in lecturers who are deeply involved in the field of aging as much as I'm interested in scientists who can think about the problems of aging from their own particular discipline and convey a spirit of enthusiasm to the students.

The Course is set up similar to the Gordon Conferences with morning lectures, free afternoons for informal discussion, and occasional evening lectures. The students and faculty live together to take full advantage of the entire two-week period. Travel, per diem, and a consultant's fee are all handled through our Institute.

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I would appreciate very much receiving your comments concerning the Course, and I sincerely hope you will be able to participate with us hopefully for the entire two-week period.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabe J. Maletta", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Gabe J. Maletta, Ph.D.
Physiologist
Adult Development and Aging Branch
National Institute of Child Health
and Human Development

Enclosure

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

- I. The Aging Process
 - A. Distribution of Aging Among Different Life Forms
 - B. Loss of Function and Increase in Mortality with Age
- II. Mammalian Aging
 - A. Physiological Systems
- III. Cellular Aging
 - A. Invertebrates
 - B. Animal Cells
 - C. Somatic Mutations
 - D. In Vitro Aging
 - E. Embryology and Aging
- IV. Subcellular and Molecular Aging
 - A. Genetics and Aging
 - B. Immunological Aspects
 - C. Changes in Protein Synthesis
 - D. Nucleic Acids
 - E. Viruses and Aging
 - F. Lysosomes
 - G. Membranes