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# George Mason University

March 13, 1986

Dr. Marshall Nierenberg  
Building 36, Room 1C6  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Dr. Nierenberg:

Thank you for agreeing to speak at George Mason University on October 21 at 7:30 pm on "Frontiers of Genetic Engineering". This talk will be one of six in our Fall Lecture Series: "Six Nobel Laureates Look At The Next Fifty Years".

As I mentioned on the phone, the series is being supported by ten area companies, and it will be attended by engineers, scientists and business people, most of whom know little about genetic engineering. A large number of students and faculty should also be present. At this moment, the other five topics and speakers have not yet been finalized, however, I am thinking of the topics listed on the enclosed outline.

In the past the format of these lectures has allowed for an extensive question and answer session, so that with a coffee break in the middle and Q&A the session has typically gone until 9:30. I hope, incidentally, it would be possible for you to join a group of us before your talk for dinner at 6:00 pm. As I mentioned on the phone the stipend for this lecture would be \$1,000.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Ehrlich  
Chairman  
Physics Department

RE:ds

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## Six Nobel Laureates Look at the Next 50 Years

Possible lecture topics include:

- The Shape of Tomorrow's Technology
  - . extrapolations from today's discoveries in pure science
  - . communications, transportation, new materials
- The Future in Health and Medicine
  - . life prolongation
  - . extended mental and physical capabilities
  - . transplants - "bionic" humans?
- The Future of Space Exploration and Utilization
  - . commercial utilization
  - . space habitation and colonization
  - . scientific exploration
- The Future of Artificial Intelligence Computers, and Neuroscience
  - . understanding the brain
  - . brain - computer interfaces
  - . tomorrow's computers
- Frontiers of Physical Science (alternative: *Frontiers of Genetic Engineering*)
  - . subatomic particle physics
  - . cosmology
  - . grand unification
- Beyond Physical Science
  - . holistic views of the universe
  - . nature and origin of life
  - . science, philosophy, and religion