STANFORD UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
Professor J. Lederberg, Executive

3-26-62

Dear Tracy —

I have circulated this as you requested. But Mel Cohn is in Paris for 1961-63 (and thereafter: ?), and Perkins is taking a sabbatical ~~in the~~ at Columbia.

Academic Biology has three choices in my view

(a) The aggressive adoption of chemical and physical biology, to the extent of some overlap of topics that might be thought to be physics or chemistry - (e.g. crystallography, polymer chemistry.*) - this is more than a casual appointment in "molecular biology".

(b) The passive acceptance of new departments of biochemistry and biophysics, with possible danger of sterilizing the relict.

(c) Hostile opposition or neutralism (which amounts to the same thing in academic politics) to either of these courses. Which is all too prevalent now.

I earnestly believe very few Biology Departments have really begun to make an adequate adjustment. "Balance" is not an answer.

With best regards, as ever,

Joshua.

* Otherwise, how will these fields so important to biology be properly nurtured?