Mr. Alex Forger

SEP -6 1985

In re: "Josh Lederberg's goals."

Dear Alex -

A couple of times you have probed me in a very friendly way; but I have not really found the opportunity to share confidences with you in the heart-to-heart fashion I would welcome.

I am outlining an autobiography (yet to be written; perhaps never to be published); and while thinking about that, have (enclosed) a somewhat more revealing c.v. than you may have seen. It does show something of the very strong part that extramural and diversified activities have played in sustaining my creative juices for many, many years.

This precis says very little about the R.U. That is, without ambiguity the superordinate commitment; I cannot improve on what I wrote in my first annual reports (and numerous communications to the Board.

By its nature and tradition, the R.U. is an extraordinarily introverted faculty. I believe it is important that I have been able to bring to its oversight the diversity of outer-world perspectives that I have summarized; as well as the credentials of a bench scientist who can empathize with the full measure of exaltation and frustration that my colleagues experience.

If this is not already more than you have patience for, I hope we will have some time to learn more about one another.

I know little more of your professional diversity than what I can see here at R.U., and that you are involved with the Urban League — but these are strong indicators of other than a conventional world of legal practitioners. Will you tell me of your goals too?

Yours,
John