M. L. Morse

5/16/86

Dear Larry

History. (λ-gal transduction)

While the possibility remains, I am trying to collect an archive of the early history of E. coli K-12.

1) Could I ask you for a few-page narrative of just how Gal$^+$ λ × Gal$^-$ was initially discovered?

I vaguely recall that + papillae were noticed in Gal$^-$ Lac$^+$ λ^s cross-streaks with λ. Can you corroborate/amplify that? Just who made the first observation? How did that relate to your own role in the lab?

2) Have you saved your lab notebooks? Could I have (a copy of) them for permanent preservation? Especially the early months

3) Could you narrate how the idea of λdg grew up? I recall you attended a phage meeting at Death Valley. When?

All the best

John.

encl. 5282

N.B.

I can dig some of this out, perhaps easier for you:

1) Just when did you come to UW? How did you hear of our lab? Why did you elect that?

2) How did you start your lab work? What projects?

I don't think it would be fruitful for me to approach Esther on these matters