

November 1, 1967

Mr. David Rockefeller
Room 5600
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10020

Dear David:

This is in response to your earlier invitation to communicate to you and the Trustees any additional thoughts on the future of the University, particularly in regard to the selection of the new President.

Foremost among my thoughts on this most important matter, may I reaffirm my opinion, widely shared by the senior faculty, that the future of the University lies in maintaining its primary emphasis on, and assuring its preeminence in, experimental bio-medical science. This will require strengthening certain areas, such as biochemistry, organic chemistry and physical chemistry, and can best be assured through the leadership of a President who is himself an outstanding biomedical scientist.

In line with this thinking, I want to endorse consideration of two possibilities which have been brought to my attention recently. I believe both have been submitted to you by others. These are Joshua Lederberg of Stanford University, and Eugene P. Kennedy, of Harvard University.

Without at this time going into any detail, I wanted to confirm my personal and professional enthusiasm for these two men, and my feeling that both deserve consideration. I would, of course, be happy to enlarge on their qualifications if this would be helpful.

Finally, I also wanted to reaffirm the interest and concern all members of the faculty have in this important appointment and to reaffirm the desire of the faculty, as individuals, or through the new Faculty Council, or both, to be helpful to the Trustees in every way possible.

Sincerely yours,

E.L. Tatum

ELT:mlb