

FILE

December 30, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

We have been very fortunate during the past year to have with us an English colleague, Dr. Michael Crumpton, who has been collaborating with Dr. William Dreyer and myself on the problem of the genetic control of lysozyme structure in bacteriophages. He is returning to England in February and we will have at that time an opening in the laboratory for a visiting scientist who could plan on being here for at least a year or two. Since the laboratory has, in general, a reasonable amount of experience in protein chemistry, we are particularly interested in someone with a background in microbiology, biochemical genetics, etc. The work has progressed to a point where pure lysozyme can be isolated quite routinely from various strains of bacteriophage in quantities sufficient for work on structure-function relationships. We have also pretty well demonstrated that the synthesis of the enzyme is under the control of phage genetics and not associated with the hereditary material of the host cell. Our problem now is to isolate and map clear-cut mutants of one of the convenient T-even bacteriophages and to proceed with the business of genetic map-protein structure comparison. It is clear, therefore, that someone with a feeling for the techniques of genetics, particularly as related to bacteriophages, would be the sort of person we would like to find. It would be particularly good if this person had a strong urge to learn as much protein chemistry as he could during his visit here so that everyone concerned would be left with the feeling that there had been mutual exchange of skills.

This visiting scientist position would carry with it a salary commensurate with the experience of the individual concerned and, of course, (because of Civil Service regulations) with age and educational background. I am very anxious to decide this matter in the near future and I would appreciate very much any suggestions you might have.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,



C. B. Anfinsen, Jr.  
Chief, Laboratory of Cellular Physiology  
and Metabolism

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