Dear Phoebe:

My thanks to you for your note of May 29. I am very sorry not to have gotten back to you before now but my time has been thoroughly preempted by the preparations for the annual convocation and the meetings of the University Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, and Council that occurred during this time.

We are just delighted to have been able to converge on the University Colloquium as the most appropriate vehicle to honor Bill's name. We will certainly endeavor to use the income from the Stein Memorial Fund in the manner indicated by your letter; but we deeply appreciate the legal flexibility that you accord to the University in the administration of a fund that is intended to be effective in perpetuity.

I believe that Stan Moore is or will be in touch with you about the specific wording of a draft resolution that, if it then has your approval, will be presented to the Board for its conclusive action at its next meeting.

Meanwhile I will, without delay, ask the senior faculty lectures committee to begin its consideration of the most appropriate candidate for the first William H. Stein Memorial Lectureship. I am thinking that this might well be held at approximately the first anniversary of Bill's death: but in future rather than adhere to that as a rigid formula, we should keep it in mind as a consideration but stress as still more important finding those lecturers who can come at a time most convenient for them and whose designation, subject, and presence on the campus would be the most appropriate memorial.
The Friday afternoon colloquium is indeed one of the most important of the functions that we have at The Rockefeller University that does a great deal to knit it together as an intellectual community of the first rank. The added flexibility of recruitment and luster of the Lecture-ship that will be gained both by the income from the fund and by the attachment of Bill's name will add still further to these objectives to which, as we both know, Bill would have subscribed the most heartily.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg