



STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Genetics

January 6, 1969

Dr. Clark Kerr
Carnegie Foundation Corp.
~~589 Fifth Avenue~~ 437 Madison Ave.
New York City, New York 10022

Dear Dr. Kerr:

I wish to express my appreciation to you and to the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education for its recent report.

I have not yet made a sufficiently detailed study of it to find very much that I would substantially criticize. I believe however I might prefer to recommend that residents, interns and other advanced students in health areas be given at least equal weight with the M.D. candidates in calculating levels of support to medical schools. (Reference Page 32).

I am particularly pleased at the discrimination indicated in the figure on Page 11 for taking care to separate funds spent in universities from those in the large contract centers. One might make an even closer examination of these figures but this would not be the place for it.

I am enclosing a comment that I wrote over ten years ago that may have a familiar ring in it. I am puzzled by your emphasis on need in your proposal for educational opportunity grants and particularly your relating the cost of education supplements to that same body of students. There are very few families indeed who could afford higher education for their children if they were obliged to pay the actual cost of education at the same time that the tax system transfers the burden of funding education for the less privileged.

I realize that some parts of my old proposal, particularly those that stress the criterion of academic excellence may be regarded as obsolete today. Let me then suggest that a formula that has some probably beneficial by-products that may be interesting for you to explore. Instead of a national merit examination, provide scholarships for ~~the~~ upper percentile of academic performance in ~~any given~~ ^{all} high schools! a fixed

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

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KERR