July 3, 1962

Dr. Katherine S. Wilson, Executive Secretary
Genetics Study Section
Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda 14, Maryland

cont. of (c 4496)

Reference: AI 05160-06

Dear Dr. Wilson:

In response to your letter of June 20, I am happy to indicate the following projections of equipment needs to justify our budget for future years of requested support on the referenced grant.

We anticipate a long range program of study of bacterial nucleic acids and proteins. As far as possible, we hope to economize on major equipment costs by sharing the use of such equipment with other related projects in this department, and in the departments of Biochemistry and Pediatrics. However, the increasing level of research activity makes it obligatory to purchase additional items when existing ones are overloaded, and to take advantage of technological innovations.

The general area of required equipment is the fractionation and analysis of proteins and nucleic acids. Thus we have in mind such items as fraction collectors, chromatographic equipment (including photometric and radiometric scanners), high speed centrifuges, radio isotope analyzers, automatic analyzers, high voltage electrophoresis, spectrophotometers and fluorometers and equipment for the cultivation and extraction of bacteria. We also hope to exploit the output of the NASA instrumentation program by contributing to the cost of fabricating adapting units to take advantage of facilities for electron microscopy, mass spectrometry, gas chromatography and microfluorometry.

We prefer to stretch out the purchase of major equipment because of the rapid pace of technological advance in instrumentation, both in industry and in our own laboratories. Meanwhile, we can economize by taking advantage of shared time in existing facilities, and by sharpening the needs of our own program in the light of the discoveries we can only hope to make and have not the prescience to describe.

Very truly yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

JL:edf