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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MADISON 6

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL GENETICS
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

December 24, 1957

Dr. Frederick L. Stone
Division of Research Grants
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda 14, Maryland

Dear Dr. Stone:

The Department of Medical Genetics has given careful thought to the possibility of applying for funds in aid of its program for training in this field.

Such a program would be, of course, one of the important *raison d'être* for the newly established department. We believe, in fact, that we have a unique opportunity to support special training in clinical genetics with a curriculum of teaching and research in fundamental aspects of genetics, and in its other specialties.

The acceleration of this program is, however, regulated by the time required for the construction of a new research wing, and for the completion of our staff complement. At the present time, the Medical Genetics Department comprises Dr. Morton and myself; we are looking forward to the appointment of a third member, at the level of Professor or Associate Professor, during the coming year. We are, of course, relying on the closest liaison with the Department of Genetics, in which in fact we share joint appointments.

Meanwhile, the Medical Genetics Department has its facilities in the two colleges, and there is no impediment to the execution of our immediate research and research-training activities.

Although we are making plans for the expansion of our program during 1958, we are not yet in a position to offer them in finished form, pending the staff and construction questions mentioned above. We believe we can accommodate the program as far as it is likely to develop in 1958 from other funds, especially research grants and fellowships, at least on an emergency basis. All of which means that we hope the Research Training Grants program will be able to entertain a comprehensive and studied application from us in a year's time. If so, I trust that it will be recognized that we may have to resort to some expedients this year without prejudice to the shifting of support to a Training Grant at the next round.

If I may anticipate the scope of our forthcoming program, it will include training in clinical genetics, biometrical and populational analysis, immunogenetics of mammals and microorganisms, and basic studies in the genetics of a wide variety of macro- and micro-organisms. We have still to discuss the extent to which the Genetics Department will share in the formal administration of the program; there is no question but that prospective students will share in its intellectual resources. Included in the application will probably be an item for completion or equipment of training laboratory facilities, the lack of which is one of the most serious impediments to the furtherance of the program at the present time.

I hope you will keep me informed as to the evolution of NIH policy on these grants, and especially if there will be any dates for the acceptance of proposals between now and January 1958. As I expect to be in Bethesda at least twice in 1958 for the Microbiology study section, we should have some good chance to talk this over.

With all best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Chairman
Department of Medical Genetics

CC: Dean Bowers
Prof. Morton