

1155 East 57 Street
Chicago, Illinois
January 24, 1947

Mr. Raymond E. Zirkle
Institute of Radiobiology
6200 Drexel Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Zirkle:

I tried to call you on Wednesday to find out whether you had occasion to speak with the Dean on account of Novick, but your secretary told me about lunch time that you had already left.

It seems to me that if you cannot offer to Novick more than his salary for 1946, you may win him over with other inducements. I intend to spend some time myself at Tatum's place in New Haven in order to learn the latest about *b. coli*; in St. Louis in order to learn something about yeast; in Nashville with Delbruck; and at Pasadena to get the latest dope on neurospora. I have a travel expense account with the University on which I can draw for this purpose. I would propose that Novick visit with me some or all of these places, and an assurance on your part that there will be no difficulty in meeting his traveling expenses, would, I believe go a long way to induce him to accept the job you are offering him, if you cannot go beyond his 1946 salary.

I wonder whether you could let me know by telegram of the success you have had with Novick. You can reach me until

Wednesday night (January 29) c/o Physics Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; from Thursday until Sunday noon (February 2) at the Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton, New Jersey; and from then until February 6 at the King's Crown Hotel, 420 West 116th Street, New York City. I shall be back in Chicago on the morning of February 7.

With kind regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

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August 16, 1947

Dr. Raymond E. Zirkle
Institute of Radiobiology and Biophysics
University of Chicago
Faculty Exchange

Dear Dr. Zirkle:

I got hold of Novick this morning and we discussed the offer which you made him (\$4500 for one year).

Novick realizes that I am quite anxious to get this work started and I believe I could have persuaded him to accept your offer at once, but I had the impression that he would accept the offer primarily now as a personal favor to me. Since I do not believe that this is a sound basis for cooperation, I told him that if he accepted your offer now it would be my intention to give him a bonus of \$300 every year to bring up his salary to \$4800, the amount which he apparently feels he needs to have. Since I am quite prepared to do this, and since this seems satisfactory to Novick, there is no obstacle now for you to go ahead on this basis and, as you proposed yesterday, arrange with the Argonne Laboratory to take over Novick on our payroll as of August 15th at \$4500 for one year as Research Associate with rank of Assistant Professor. Novick has still two weeks of vacation coming to him from the Argonne Laboratory and I do not know just how that can be handled. It is my understanding that you would arrange with the Argonne Laboratory to let them have Novick's services after he goes on our payroll, so as to permit an orderly liquidation of his work at the Argonne Laboratory.

In order to avoid any possible misunderstanding I shall let Novick have a copy of this letter and ask him to advise you directly of his acceptance of this arrangement. He is leaving this afternoon for Cold Spring Harbor but I

Dr. Zirkle: -2-

hope to catch him before he leaves.

As soon as you have Novick's acceptance it will be possible for you to settle this matter in the manner in which you seem to think we would encounter least difficulties and I would appreciate your putting through this appointment. As I indicated before, both Novick and I would prefer that the University of Chicago pay him for his collaboration, covering a four weeks period, in the experiments which we will be doing at Cold Spring Harbor 1/12th of \$4500 "for services rendered". He could then return on the first of October at the Argonne Laboratory, finish up his work and terminate in an orderly fashion and then go on our payroll as a Research Associate. However, if I understood you correctly, you thought that this arrangement would not be easy to put through and if it is impossible of achievement, we will just have to let it drop.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:ecm

cc: Aaron Novick

C O P Y

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Chicago 37 - Illinois

Institute of Radiobiology and Biophysics

25 February 1954

Dr. Aaron Novick
c/o Dr. Robert Weill
92, rue Jouffroy
Paris, France.

Dear Aaron:

You undoubtedly have heard of some changes in administration of the members of the Institute. With the knowledge and permission of Dean Coggeshall, I am writing to apprise you of what I know of these changes and finally to ask you a question.

The Institute has been discontinued by the Board of Trustees, but the former members are still using Institute stationery, the name is still over the door, and administration is being handled by the Dean's Office, as it has been for the last year or so.

The Committee on Instruction in Biophysics is to be continued, but with important changes in activities and personnel. The name is to be shortened to Committee on Biophysics. The members will have formal Board appointments, as do members of a department or institute. Both the research and the teaching activities of the members will be administered by the chairman of the Committee, who will report directly to the Dean.

The teaching objective remains the same, that is, to train Ph.D.s in biophysics. However, effort is to be expended toward the end that each of our products shall know more biophysics than simply the research field of his thesis sponsor. As a first step in this direction we are planning a survey course (probably 3 C's) which is to consist of much reading, frequent discussions and student reports, occasional staff lectures and as much laboratory demonstration and practice as the staff can reasonably supervise. Naturally, such a course cannot spring into being overnight. It will undoubtedly undergo a period of rather hectic evolution, but we expect to start the first version in Autumn 1954.

Along with the plans for teaching we are taking active steps to get more students. Certain changes in the curriculum of the Department of Physics appear to give us a good chance to get more good men from that source with ⁱⁿa couple of years. We are also encouraging students to come from outside, now that a stable organization with a clearcut teaching "charter" has been established.

The ultimate makeup of the Committee is uncertain. The persons definitely committed at the moment are Bloom, Uretz (as Instructor in Biophysics) and myself (Chairman). The rest of the former Institute members in residence have expressed preference for remaining on full-time research (it is my impression that Szilard also feels this way). Accordingly, no effort is being made to recruit them for the Committee against their preferences. We hope gradually to obtain more breadth of interest and more total manpower for the Committee by building with young men.

Specifically, I want to ask if you would be interested in joining the Committee. The members and the Dean all feel that you could make great contributions toward its success both with your research and by collaboration in development of the teaching program. What the Committee can offer you depends largely on your own inclinations and tastes. If its program appeals to you, it can furnish a stable and sympathetic environment for your work.

Both the Dean and the Committee wish to emphasize that this invitation has no pressure behind it. Whether or not you join the Committee, we all want to see you back on the campus.

With best regards to you and your family,

Sincerely

Raymond E. Zirkle

1947



LITTLE GIRL WITH DOLL

JAMES CHAPIN

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR



The girls

