

March 14, 1961

Professor David Hogness
Department of Biochemistry
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Hogness:

Do I remember it correctly that you told us in New York the following fact:

When a bacterium which is inducible for the Gal enzymes and carries lambda, is infected with lambda defective which carries the Gal region, there is no multiplication of the DNA of the lambda defective. After a while the amount of Gal enzymes present increases linearly with time and the straight line extrapolates back to ten minutes after infection.

I have the following question:

Who did this experiment? Do you have strains available which are inducible for the Gal enzymes but are "Gal enzymes minus"?

If you have such strains available, it would be interesting to see if the ten minute delay, referred to above, can be eliminated by having an inducer (galactose) present. This would be quite similar to the experiment which Maas proposed, but easier and, in a sense, more interesting.

You can reach me during the next few weeks at the Hotel Dupont Plaza in Washington, D. C.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

February 22, 1962

Professor David Hogness
Department of Biochemistry
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Hogness:

I shall write you in a few days about the progress that is being made. In the meantime, I am sending you enclosed a set of press clippings and a sample of my mail. Please show them around to those who might be interested, including Kornberg and Lederberg.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

Enclosures

Washington, D. C.
March 3, 1962

Professor David S. Hogness
Department of Biochemistry
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Hogness:

The attached letter is meant for you and those others whose names are listed in the memo "The Next Step". I should be very grateful to you for reading the attached letter and the enclosures, and for advising me as soon as possible whether you are willing to serve as an Associate.

I very much hope that you are willing to serve as a Fellow and that you are not going to disqualify yourself from serving on the Board of Directors of the Council.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.
Telephone: HUDson 3-6000

Enclosures

P.S. I am enclosing the revised and final version of my speech, which will be printed in the April issue of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

LS

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

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DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY
School of Medicine

April 18, 1962

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Dupont Circle
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Szilard:

Thanks for your letter. I was very glad to see that you have put your name on the list of Fellows and I concur with the temporary use of the Fellows in the Boston-Washington area as an Executive Committee with you and Meselson functioning as secretaries.

The only item that disturbs me in all of this is your suggestion of financial support for a joint Russian-American staff study on disarmament. I brought out this objection with Meselson and others at the phage meeting here and I suppose he has told you of it. I think most of us there (Meselson, Novick, Stahl, Streisinger) agreed that such a suggestion at this time is not useful for our purposes. I think that for the present the contributions suggestions should be limited to campaign contributions and operating expenses. In the future we can consider supporting other "Committees" with parallel aims, but to do so now invites unnecessary adverse speculation by the members that we shall be giving appreciable financial support to such "Committees" as a general policy. There are obviously many pitfalls in such a procedure if acquired as a general policy and, consequently, I consider it too important a matter to be introduced, or even hinted at, in the opening letter.

Best regards,



David S. Hogness

DSH:va