

McLaughlin
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Monday, March 15, 1993

Dr. Matthew S. Meselson
Department of Biochemistry
Harvard University
Cambridge Mass

Dear Matt,

Enclosed is a letter that I sent to Jeremy Stone about the drug project. In my mind the FAS is about as much associated with your name as his. I oppose the FAS foray in drug policy because I think it will dilute the arms control effort at a critical time. I think we can make progress in arms control in the next 10 to 20 years that will make what went before look like we were standing still. I note that the January letter cites one of the assets for the drug project as "effective activism on science and society issues". I just do not believe that anyone on the outside or on the hill believes that the FAS has covered the broad field. When I discussed it with my fellow faculty/FAS members they did not see FAS activities in that broad light. The statement on page one of that newsletter states that the drug project has the broad support of the Council and former Council Chairmen since 1970. I urge the council to poll the membership on this major departure from past policy after a through discussion of the implications of this new role for the FAS. At its best this new initiative will only dilute the arms control effort. At its worst it will reduce the credibility of the FAS

Best regards

Calvin S. McLaughlin, Ph.D.
Professor of Biochemistry