

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

GRAHAM ALLISON
Douglas Dillon Professor of Government

DIRECTOR
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Strengthening Democratic Institutions Project

September 11, 1996

Dr. Matthew Meselson
Harvard University
Fairchild 363
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Matt:

As you know, CSIA is being "reinvented" as we look forward to its re-endowment—about which I will say more later. As part of our commitment to reinvention, we have agreed to establish an internal Board of Directors which will consist of the principal "directors" of Center activities. Together the members of this Board will constitute the principal identity of the Center and take responsibility for our collective activity.

Given your critical role in the reinvention of CSIA, I would like to invite you to become a member of the new Board of Directors. Board membership entails significant privileges as well as serious responsibilities. The two most important requirements of CSIA Board membership are:

- attendance at a monthly dinner on the third Tuesday of each month, to be held at a pleasant Cambridge restaurant and to which we will periodically invite distinguished guests; and
- attendance at a weekly lunch to be held during the academic year on Tuesdays from 12:15 until 1:45 in the CSIA library (except on days when there is a dinner).

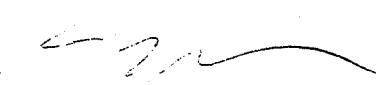
Please block these dates on your calendar now, and arrange your schedule as required.

The purpose of these regular meetings will be twofold: first, to allow the key members of the CSIA community to take collective responsibility for the reinvention of CSIA; and second, to discuss our—and our invited guests'—substantive work in an private, intimate setting.

The first meeting of the CSIA Board will be for dinner on Tuesday, September 17, at Rialto's—Cocktails from 6:30; dinner from 7:00. Over dinner I will outline the first phase in CSIA's reinvention and identify what in my view are the critical issues going forward. Tuesday lunches will begin on September 24 (September 17 being CSIA's orientation session to which you have already been invited). On the 24th, Bob Blackwill will provide an overview of the current U.S.-Russian control agenda, based on a soon-to-be-published report he has written for CFR that we will circulate in advance.

I look forward to your acceptance of this invitation and your active participation.

Yours sincerely,


Graham T. Allison, Jr.

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