

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**  
DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY



**Matthew Meselson**  
*Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor  
of the Natural Sciences*

7 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
Tel: (617) 495-2264  
Fax: (617) 496-2444  
[msm@wjh.harvard.edu](mailto:msm@wjh.harvard.edu)  
18 January 2000

**Dr. Steven E. Miller**  
Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs  
Kennedy School of Government  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA02138

Dear Steve,

This is in regard to the fellowship application of Rocco Casagrande, currently an advanced MIT graduate student expecting to receive the PhD in biology in March. He is senior author of two solid research papers in fundamental molecular biology and now wishes to enter the interface between biotechnology and public policy analysis.

I am acquainted with Casagrande because of his regular and active participation last year and the year before in our BCSIA/HSP Colloquia and as a result of several extended conversations. He is articulate in speaking, writes easily and well, and is highly motivated. He is also a friendly and good-hearted person.

A somewhat similar case was that of Bob Newman. Bob's expertise in the physical sciences and Falkenrath's public policy skills interacted synergistically, advancing the education of both and making a substantial scholarly contribution at the Center. As you probably know, Newman is now very usefully engaged in problems of nuclear non-proliferation at the Department of State.

If possible, I suggest that you interview Casagrande to see if his research interests would significantly overlap with those of a member of the Center's staff or one of next year's fellows. The resulting nearly day-to-day interaction between Casagrande and a more policy-oriented person would be a major benefit to both and would also provide a way for BCSIA to redress its relative weakness in the increasingly important policy aspects of biotechnology.

Sincerely,

*Matt*