

*The Salk Institute  
for Biological Studies*

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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NEW YORK 20, N.Y.

MAR 26 1969

March 18, 1969

Dr. Mathew Meselson  
Department of Biology  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Meselson:

As you will see from the attached materials, the Salk Institute from its conception has been concerned with the broad human and social implications of advancements in biology. In order to be effective in this field, the Institute must add to the high quality of its scientific staff and its modern laboratory in La Jolla very special and innovative links with other institutions and individuals who share the objective of helping to lead and shape scientific events rather than passively watching them unfold. To this end, we wish to invite you to a preparatory meeting which we hope will lead to the eventual establishment on the East Coast of a group of experts and leaders which we are for the moment, designating as "Salk East". In time, we hope to establish other groups of a related character in other areas, including Europe and Asia.

Salk East will be a nucleus of ten or twelve biologists, social scientists, and community leaders who will meet regularly to advise the Salk Institute on its new programs, to participate in their execution, and to draw in the participation of other individuals on the East Coast and elsewhere as the occasion warrants. For your further information, I have enclosed materials which describe the present and projected activities of the Salk Institute, its programs relating biology and society, and its hopes for Salk East.

Your assistance in the further planning of this effort would be of great value to us, and we wish to invite you to an initial planning session in New York in early April. The intent of the session, which will be informal and unstructured, is to familiarize you with our new programs as well as our tentative operational plans for Salk East and to elicit your reactions and advice. This initial group will resemble the size and calibre of the intended nucleus group for Salk East.

Dr. Mathew Meselson

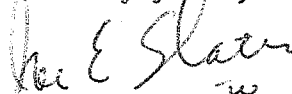
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We hope that the meeting can be held in early April; we will be in touch with you by phone to make the detailed arrangements. Of course, you will be reimbursed for any expenses you incur in attending the session.

We hope you can attend.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joe E. Slater". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Joseph E. Slater  
President

JES:ww  
Enclosures