CARNEGIE INSTITUTION
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Extending the Frontiers of Science

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 23, 1992

Dr. Bernard D. Davis
23 Clairemont Road
Belmont, Massachusetts 02178

Dear Bernie:

Thanks for the fan letter. I have learned that a surprising number of people actually read the Carnegie Year Book and I've heard from several people who found the essay interesting, as you did.

I do know a great deal about the forthcoming NAS report on issues of scientific integrity. I served on the COSEPUP that commissioned that report, in spite of the fact that I was quite negative about the entire idea. Some of my worst expectations have indeed come true, as you summarized in your letter to me. I also was a reader of the report and also could not endorse it. I will be very curious to see what actually gets published, and when.

I had heard that you were not well and I will take this opportunity to tell you how pleased I was with the good news that you reported. I hope that progress continues in such a good way and in the meantime I will look forward to your writings, several of which you were kind enough to include and which I enjoyed reading a great deal. In particular, your perspective on the situation with David Baltimore was sensitive. It has been difficult to understand why so many people have taken such a thoughtless approach to these very difficult issues. By virtually destroying two major scientific and university careers, David Baltimore's and Don Kennedy's, Mr. Dingell has succeeded beyond our worst fears. One can only hope that the worst is over and we can begin to reconstruct the independence of the scientific community.

With very best regards,

Sincerely,

Maxine F. Singer

MFS/sb

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