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THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
Department of Biological Sciences

April 11, 1961

Dr. Viktor Hamburger, Chairman
Department of Zoology
Washington University
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Viktor:

Some time ago you were asked by Dr. James Kitzmiller, Chairman, Department of Zoology, University of Illinois at Urbana, to send him a letter of recommendation in my behalf. I have decided to accept an appointment there as Professor of Zoology effective September 1, 1961. Please accept my sincere appreciation for the strong support you must have given me. My only formal teaching responsibilities will be a graduate seminar in experimental embryology one semester and a small laboratory course in the same field the other. The rest of the time I will have to work on my own research and with my graduate students, completely free from the heavy undergraduate teaching loads and the administrative responsibilities I have carried to date. By the fall of 1962 we hope to add a very able chemical embryologist to work with me in developing a strong training program in experimental embryology. This is an unusually fine opportunity for me and I only hope I can justify the confidence shown in me by you and the University of Illinois. My decision to leave Northwestern creates certain staffing problems here and I earnestly solicit your help in trying to solve them.

We have three vacancies to fill for 1961-62 if possible, one created by my resignation, another which is the result of our decision to place one of our present faculty members (Ronald R. Novales) in charge of the new pre-medical course in biology to be developed as part of our accelerated medical education program, and a third which is a one-year appointment only to replace Albert Wolfson while he is on leave of absence in Japan next year as a NSF Senior Postdoctoral Fellow.

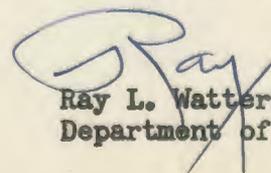
Our most urgent need is for an embryologist. His primary teaching responsibility would be to give our premedical embryology course in the winter quarter. His teaching responsibilities the other two quarters would depend upon his rank. If appointed at the assistant professor level, he would be asked to participate in instruction in the general biology course fall and spring quarters, or to participate in instruction in the general biology course one quarter and in the new premedical course the other. If appointed

at the associate or full professor level, he would be asked to give an experimental embryology course either fall or spring quarter and his teaching responsibility the third quarter would have to be worked out with him. We are interested in appointing the most capable embryologist we can find regardless of rank and will welcome any recommendations you can give us at your earliest convenience. We will give serious consideration to any of the following possibilities: 1) a graduating Ph.D.; 2) a postdoctoral fellow who now wishes a university appointment; 3) a capable embryologist who may be holding a position at some college or university where research opportunities are limited; 4) a well-established embryologist whom we may have some hope of interesting in an appointment at Northwestern; 5) a foreign-trained embryologist who may be seeking a position in this country.

We must also seek a new departmental chairman. Northwestern has decided to strengthen its Biology Department in every way possible during the next 5 years. The Department has been asked to draw up detailed plans for a five- to eight-million dollar building and for expansion of the faculty to the extent necessary to accommodate 100 graduate students in addition to its undergraduate students. Thus the new chairman will have a splendid opportunity to develop a strong department and we will be interested in a man as chairman only if he is so inclined. His research field will probably not be the deciding factor as long as he occupies a strong position in his field. The man appointed as embryologist could also be appointed as chairman, but in this case his teaching load would have to be modified appreciably over that outlined above. Or the man appointed to replace Novales could be the one appointed as chairman. We want the best man we can attract to Northwestern for this position, regardless of his research field. Again, any suggestions you can give us will be greatly appreciated. Dr. Orlando Park has agreed to serve as acting chairman during 1961-62 if necessary to give us more time to seek the kind of chairman we need.

As a temporary replacement for Wolfson for one year we need primarily a man who can help us with instruction in our general biology course. Ample time and facilities would be available to enable the appointee to carry on an active research program in addition to his teaching. Rank and salary would be determined by the qualifications of the applicant. We can consider for this appointment any of the following possibilities: 1) a graduating Ph.D.; 2) a postdoctoral fellow wishing a university appointment; 3) a man on leave of absence from a small college or university to enable him to get teaching experience in a larger university and to have some opportunities for research. If we could find the right person for this appointment, there is some possibility a permanent position might develop for him. Again, any suggestions at this late date will be very much appreciated.

Best regards,



Ray L. Watterson, Chairman
Department of Biological Sciences