

Lima, October 11, 1961.

Dr. Robert B. Watson,  
The Rockefeller Foundation,  
Caixa Postal 49,  
Rio de Janeiro, Brasil.

Dear Dr. Watson:

Drs. Allen and Cummings, from the NIH, have just visited Lima. They decided to come here before going to Rio, where they are planning to meet you and Dr. Braga.

Fortunately, it seems that it will be possible to maintain our research grant so the work in Lima and at high altitudes will not be interrupted. We were waiting with great anxiety for this decision. You know how deeply we are attached to this research which has taken a life effort to develop, and how important is to assist the group of young men well trained and so much devoted to their work. We are confident of the future, and the present difficulties are a stimulus for an even greater effort.

We have been able to retain laboratory space in the Hospital and we will utilize the facilities kindly extended to us by the mining companies at high altitudes.

The situation in regards to available equipment is not so satisfactory. They are taking away from us what we had accumulated in so many years. However, we are able to replace some, enough for immediate work, with the funds of the research grant, and we will apply for some additional funds in the future. But this additional application will take few months before a final decision is made by the NIH. Under these circumstances, I am thinking whether some immediate assistance may be obtained from the Rockefeller Foundation to purchase equipment in the value of about \$ 30,000. As I said before, we feel that we must make every possible effort to make a good job in the grant so generously extended by the NIH, so it is important to have all the needed equipment in order to accomplish, in all aspects, the plan outlined and accepted (which refers to the process of aging at sea level and at high altitudes). I think also that this will have a most favourable influence in the development of our new University, now officially authorized by the Governement.

I am going to Rome this month ( to be incorporated in the (Academia Pontificia de Ciencias) and will be in New York in the early part of the week of October 22. It is my plan to visit Dr. Weir

and I will deeply appreciate if you kindly inform him of your opinion concerning this request.

We are working very actively in the planning of the new School. A Committee has been appointed for this purpose, headed by Dr. Honorio Delgado and myself. The chances of obtaining some local support are very favourable. We realize that the difficulties are great, but we will make every possible human effort to go ahead.

With best personal regards to you and Dr. Braga.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Alberto Hurtado.

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