

June 9, 1970

Dr. Michael A. Taylor
9309 Murillo Ave.
Oakland, California 94605

Dear Mickey,

It was a pleasure to meet you in California and to find your psyche in such good shape.

Al and I have had an opportunity to discuss the possibilities of your returning to New York next July and there are two opportunities which present themselves immediately. As you know, the Department is expanding not only into the new mental health center (hopefully by March) but we have established a formal relationship with Grasslands and the Montrose VA. In addition, we are still negotiating a relationship with Kirby Hospital (1/3 Manhattan State Hospital). This last relationship is still in the discussion stage although each month I hear optimistic noises from Al Freedman.

The relationship with the Montrose VA is established and Al Freedman is Chairman of the Dean's Committee. They have a few thousand patients, plenty of laboratory space and a clinical director who is anxious to accommodate research as well as the school. I have discussed with him the possibility of having two members of our staff appointed as clinical investigators. I believe that these positions can be funded by the VA, and bring with them supporting funds for research, as well as a research status which would be most productive for you and Bob to continue your studies except for the obvious handicap of having a small percentage of female patients. The VA population has much to commend it for your work.

I am enclosing copies of the application outline for the VA position as well as a blank 10-2850.

As one underpinning for your return to New York I think you should apply for this position by completing the form and sending me a one page statement of your future plans and ambitions and a proposed research plan (6.09-b-6,7).

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In the event that we are successful, your appointment to the Department of Psychiatry will be the principal appointment. This appointment will not preclude your participation in studies at other affiliated institutions.

I would like to recommend two of you for these positions and I have asked Dick and Bob to fill out similar applications if they wish.

I saw your letter in the British Journal of Psychiatry and see that you are still wide awake despite the sunshine of California. I still owe you a dinner and trust I can deliver the next time we meet. My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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