

October 3, 1969

Dr. Charles Weller  
17 North Chatsworth Avenue  
Larchmont, New York 10538

Dear Charles,

The need for a data base for a CDSS for psychiatric diagnosis is great, and our discussions have clarified my thinking to a degree that I believe we may be able to undertake this mission. My present programs already include the development of an interactive diagnostic system for psychopharmacology research using some of the established rating scales (Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale, Hamilton Depression Scale, Spitzer Diagno II).

To broaden this program toward the SDSS data base, we will require a competent programmer and a young psychiatrist. I believe it could be done in 12-18 months. For the latter position, I would like to recommend either of two young men who have worked with me and who now are in the military.

Drs. Robert Levine and Michael Taylor, as third year residents (1968-69) were most productive. Their independent investigation on sex ratios and schizophrenia was so striking, it was awarded the 1969 prize of the New York Neurological Society at the Academy of Medicine in March and the Clinical Science Research Award of the Society of Biological Psychiatry in May. They are outstanding young clinicians, and I would heartily recommend them for this mission.

Dr. Levine is stationed at 228 Texas Drive, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas 79607.

Dr. Taylor is stationed at Oakland Naval Hospital, 9309 Murillo Avenue, Oakland, California 94605.

Dr. Freedman, the Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry will endorse their reappointment to our Department, and I look forward to your recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

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