

TO: Dr. A. M. Freedman
FROM: Dr. Max Fink
SUBJECT: Dr. Frederick Baekeland

DATE: April 23, 1969

My associates and I have had an opportunity to meet Dr. Baekeland and to discuss his proposed program.

I found him knowledgeable, experienced but tense and anxious. His principal interests are in sleep research with emphasis on the manipulations of deprivation of various stages of sleep and their effect on mood and affect. He expressed no interest outside of sleep research except a passing acquaintance with alcoholism.

His principal activities at Downstate Medical Center is in teaching medical students.

Impression: Considering the large number of sleep researchers I am not impressed that he has sufficient novelty in his approach or enthusiasm to warrant appointment in this area of research. I found him to be restricted in his interests and I would wish to inquire of his superiors at Downstate whether this restriction does not carry over into his teaching.

MF:kp