

*J. Felleus*

July 16, 1979

Dr. Candace B. Pert  
Clinical Center, NIMH  
Bethesda, MD 20205

Dear Dr. Pert,

I am embarrassed that other commitments kept me from your lecture, but my associates were kind enough to keep notes and shared these with me. I have sent your expenses vouchers to the administrative assistant, Mr. Vaccin, and you will be reimbursed in due course.

Our studies of des-Tyr-~~m~~-endorphin are on 'Hold', pending re-assessment of the pharmacologic data. The material prepared by the chemists in Holland meets all the chemical standards for purity, but has not shown the pharmacologic activity claimed in the initial samples. Our studies will wait on the re-assessment and possibly another batch production. Perhaps these experiences are a caution to the workers in this field, that chemical purity may not be a guarantee of pharmacologic equivalence.

Have you thought of writing to Dr. David de Wied and asking him for samples of his original material to test in your test systems ?

I trust we will meet on another occasion, and have the opportunity to discuss this exciting work.

My regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.

P.S..I don't know if my associate showed you the book on ECT that I published earlier this year. I took a flyer in that work to suggest that the mode of action of convulsive therapy was bound up in its liberation and stimulation of brain peptides with behavioral effects. I emphasized the experiences with TRH and ACTH more than with the endorphins, however.

*F. L. Lerner  
Peter*

May 4, 1979

Candice Pert, Ph.D.  
NIH  
Bethesda, Maryland

Dear Dr. Pert,

It was kind of you to accept our invitation, and I look forward to your visit on June 25. Separately, you will receive a formal invitation and details regarding the arrangements for your lecture. I am writing to give you some background to our present needs and our wishes for your contribution to our program.

The Long Island Research Institute is the youngest and smallest of the three research institutes in mental health in New York, having been established three years ago. Many members of the staff are involved in research efforts which had their origins in the enthusiasms of the past two decades. The Division Directors have recognized the nature of these efforts, and seek to broaden the experience of the staff. One of the issues which has been prominent this year, is that of the developments in psychoneuroendocrinology. In this regard, we have invited Peter Stokes, Arthur Prange, Bernard Carroll to lecture to our staff.

Both Dr. Harvey Karten and I have been interested in studies of the effects of peptides on behavior and we are interested in your experiences and the development of the concepts underlying the activity of endorphins & opiate receptors with their possible effects on behavior. No work of this kind is in progress at this time. The closest is our EEG studies of ACTH fragments and the studies of des-Tyr- $\beta$ -endorphin which will begin in the next few weeks.

We would be delighted to have you describe your present work and theories. It would be particularly helpful if you could help us see this work in the context of the developing science.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry