

Ford Foundation

refusal
1959

THE FORD FOUNDATION
477 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

February 13, 1959

Dr. Wilder Penfield, Director
Montreal Neurological Institute
5801 University Street
Montreal 2, Canada

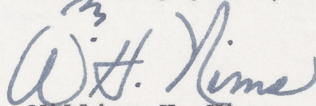
Dear Doctor Penfield:

I am writing to acknowledge and thank you for the letter you addressed to Mr. Gaither, in which you ask about applying for a grant for the Montreal Neurological Institute.

I do wish that I could encourage you and Dr. Rasmussen to submit an application to the Foundation, but I am sorry to say that our program activities on human behavior and research on mental health were discontinued in October, 1957, and we have no ongoing program at present in which we could consider a grant for the Institute.

We do appreciate your interest in making this inquiry, and I regret sincerely that under the circumstances I am unable to reply more favorably.

Sincerely yours,



William H. Nims
Assistant Secretary

February 5th, 1959

Mr. H. Rowan Gaither, Jr.,
President,
The Ford Foundation,
477 Madison Avenue,
New York 22, N.Y.,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Gaither:

Next October this research and clinical institute will complete its first quarter century of work. In that time it has come to world leadership, thanks to a growing teamwork never stronger than now. We hope now to establish brain research for the future by added endowment.

As you have doubtless guessed, I am asking permission to apply again to the Ford Foundation. Our application in 1955 was not approved. But our opportunities are very great and we are hard pressed to support the expanding work that someday may lead to an understanding of man's mind and its disorders.

I am sending you in the same mail an annual report which will show the approach to brain research through different departments.

There is urgent need to establish the exciting work in clinical psychology in a permanent department. It will be our approach to the field of psychiatry.

There is an urgent need, too, to introduce a greater degree of full-time organization for the clinical men and to raise the laboratory men to a reasonable level of income.

The Institute is owned by McGill University, and the academic and research budget is quite separate from the hospital budget. The endowment of research here was first established by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1931. It has been increased by generous Canadian gifts. But the need and opportunity now runs far ahead of our resources.

Mr. H. Rowan Gaither, Jr.

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February 5, 1959

Professor Rasmussen and I hope to present our case to you again. May we do so?

Yours sincerely,

WGP/AD