

April 5, 1956

Dr. Samuel S. Goldich  
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Dear Sam:

It's been a long time since your letter came. However, I probably did well not writing you sooner because until recently I was stymied. But now the plans are moving ahead very fast again.

When your letter came I proposed you to the Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences and he passed the request on to the vice-president disrecommending it. So it was turned down very quickly, but not absolutely -- there was the idea we should wait with such a request until we are ready to offer a doctoral program. I let the request rest for awhile, but in the meantime I had meetings with the Advisory Committee on Geology. Finally we had a meeting at which the dean and one of the regents were present. The meeting turned out to be crucial. The board member asked me to list what it would take to make the Geology Department as good as any in this part of the country. Although I was not prepared for such a searching and very serious question and was really on the spot, I listed several needs right away. One of the needs listed was mature professors. This item had everybody's support including the dean's. The fact that we just had come through a distressing episode of immaturity among the young geology profs must have helped the dean in understanding my need. So I was asked next how much would it take to get a mature professor. My answer was I know a very good man whom I wanted and who would be willing to come at a salary of about \$8600.00 for nine months and I gave your name. Two of the Advisory Committee strongly supported the particular choice and said they knew you well and your reputation as a teacher. I was given to understand that the dean and I should present our request and it would be acted upon favorably. The dean later on said we should plan to offer you a position beginning with Fall 1957.

Dr. Goldich (continued)

April 5, 1956

These are the other things I have been able to push through in the one and one-half years I have been here.

Student discipline in the department has been cured, and they are as cooperative as need be. Scholastic attitude and desire to learn can still be improved upon; but they are no longer undisciplined and truculent.

The staff is gradually falling into more industrious attitudes. Dr. Somers is to be on half-time, teaching two more popular courses next fall. He is to be retired September 1, 1957. This is the first of the corrective measures that are being applied on the staff.

Two young assistant professors are being added next fall. They are: (1) Dr. Bob Perkins (PhD. Michigan) who used to teach at S. M. U. and knows the Cretaceous and Texas geology quite well. His research will probably be supported by the Shell; Frank Lazo is interested in him. The man makes a mature impression, seems to know what he is doing and where he is going. (2) Dr. Porter M. Kier, (M. S. Michigan, Ph. D. Cambridge, England) a young echinoid specialist, a Fulbright scholar, recommended by such people as Gus Cooper, Norman Newell, and Arkell. He has already several papers published. It is too early to say how he will develop; but he seems to have the right personality and energy.

We now have a complete Zeiss binocular petrographic research microscope with interior light and such accessories as Chayes point counter, electric counting device, refractometer, and so on. We have postponed buying a universal stage, but otherwise the equipment is complete and of the best class. There is a complete drafting table, drafting machine, etc. with all accessories. We have bought a Rotap machine and sieves. Jesse Jones gave the university some money which will be used for a classroom building, in which geology will have one floor. This will mean 12,666 square feet of floor space, nearly double of what we have. My next worry is designing our rooms. The Shell Research & Development may give us their X-ray machine since they are going to buy a new one. This proposition came from the Shell originally and will be up for decision in the next few days. The secretarial help has been organized so that all letters, quizzes, and manuscripts are being typed without any waiting. She is now typing two lengthy manuscripts,

Dr. Goldich (continued)

April 5, 1956

which are reworked doctoral dissertations, for Carman and for Sutherland.

The new building can be designed to provide a dark room, fully equipped chemical lab for mineralogy, an X-ray room, and sufficient small offices, I believe.

While we lack many things, we are apparently doing very well and are in a very good position.

So now I would like to ask you some searching questions:

- (1) Will a salary of \$8600.00 for nine months in Fall 1957 attract you? I would like very much to have a definite figure.
- (2) Do you want a petro-chem lab and, if so, what equipment and fixtures in it?
- (3) Will you be willing to concentrate on sedimentary petrography?
- (4) Will you be willing to concentrate on publishable research in the Gulf Coastal Plain? This research might be on weathering, soils, petro-chemistry, sedimentary petrography, iron ores, or similar things.

At my house we now have roses in full bloom; it is pleasant outside. I hope it snows in Minnesota when you read this letter.

Cordially,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:lcb