

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



January 13, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

Thank you for your letter and the completed application form for a position with our Mathematics Department. I have written to the Educational Placement Office for a copy of your credentials.

A copy of our latest Catalog is being sent under separate cover. Several other items of information about the College and community are also included.

Perhaps you would like to know a little more about the Department. The staff now numbers seven of which three have a Ph.D. and a fourth hopes to complete the requirements soon. Most of our energies are expended on teaching. We aim to give our students a very good program and a great deal of attention. At present no one is doing research. However, Dr. Tanis is trying to complete the script for a textbook in mathematical statistics and Mr. Van Iwaarden is waiting for the go ahead on his Ph.D. thesis.

Recently the College received a grant from the Research Corporation. This will make it possible for several of our Mathematics Staff to receive salary for summer research.

Teaching loads this year average 11 to 12 semester hours. We anticipate that this may be a little lower next year due to the increase in staff. However, it will probably be 10 to 12 hours for several years to come.

The Department offers a good undergraduate program. It offers courses for non-science majors, introductory courses for science and mathematics majors, and upper level undergraduate courses. In general, a staff member teaches at all levels with proper attention given to individual preferences and aptitudes.

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January 13, 1969

The department is located in Physics-Mathematics Hall, a building less than five years old. Office and classroom facilities are very nice. Van Zoeren Library, a fine, modern College library is adjacent to our building. Many campus improvements have been made in recent years and others are anticipated.

Each year about twenty seniors graduate with majors in mathematics. During the last five years more than 35% of them have gone on to graduate school. In recent years a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, a National Science Foundation Fellowship, a Michigan Scholars in Teaching Fellowship, and a NDEA Fellowship have been included in the awards received by our majors.

Holland, Michigan, was settled by immigrants from the Netherlands and a large part of its present population is still of Dutch extraction. These settlers were ardent Christians. In keeping with its heritage, Holland is a city of many well-attended churches. It may be of special interest to you that there are two Lutheran Churches with nice facilities in the Community.

After your credentials have been evaluated, you may be invited to visit campus. Meanwhile, if there are further questions, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,


Jay E. Folkert,
Chairman

JEF/gn

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



January 24, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

We are looking forward to your visit to campus on Thursday and Friday, January 30, 31.

As I indicated in our telephone conversation, I have made reservations for you and Mrs. Dershem at the Alumni House on campus. Since the office on the first floor of the House closes at 5 p.m., I will get a key for your use. I think that the best arrangements would be for you to stop at our house when you arrive in Holland. This should be quite easy since we live only about a block off Business U.S. 31.

As you approach Holland via Interstate 196 from St. Joseph, you should exit on the Holland exit labeled Washington Avenue, North. This exit is at approximately 48th Street. Traveling into Holland, you will note a red-green light at 32nd Street and Washington Avenue. At the light you will need to turn about 45° to the right onto Michigan Avenue. You can travel down Michigan about 8 blocks to Pine Avenue. Turn left on Pine for a block and then left on 22nd Street for about 3/4 of a block to our house at 148 West 22nd Street. It is located directly across the street from a number of tennis courts. The enclosed map should help clarify the above directions. If you happen to miss Pine Avenue, you can also turn left (sharply) from Michigan onto 22nd Street.

We will arrange to have you meet Dean Morquette Rider as well as our Mathematics Staff. If President Calvin Vander Werf is in town, we will plan a brief interview with him. Very likely, we will arrange a "coffee hour" during the forenoon when you can meet some of our mathematics majors.

We hope that you will have a good trip to Holland.

Sincerely yours,

Jay E. Folkert
Jay E. Folkert,
Chairman

JEF/gn
enclosure

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



February 5, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

This is to extend to you an official, but nonetheless warm and hearty, personal invitation to join our Department of Mathematics as Assistant Professor at a salary of \$10,500 for the academic year 1969-1970 if you have received the Ph.D. degree by September 1, 1969; if your doctorate has not been completed by September 1, 1969, your salary for the year will be \$10,000.

Let me tell you how enthusiastic Dean Rider, Dr. Folkert, and I are over the prospect of having you as a member of our faculty. We feel that we have an unusually stirring and exciting challenge in teaching. Your life here would be one of telling significance in the lives of hundreds of fine and dedicated students, while at the same time we are all determined to encourage your creative contribution in the field of Mathematics. We sincerely hope that you will decide to join us.

You will, of course, be eligible to participate in the college medical program and in TIAA-CREF. Descriptions of both of these programs are outlined in materials which we will send you under separate cover.

All of us here feel that you and Mrs. Dershem will find a truly rich, rewarding, and stimulating life as members of the Hope family. With the addition of our many new young faculty members there is a fresh spirit--a new sense of vitality and vibrancy--on Hope's campus. We are confident that you and Mrs. Dershem would contribute to it and would relish being a part of it.

If you agree with the terms of this letter, will you please sign the enclosed carbon and return it to my office by February 25?

Our very warmest wishes to you. We look forward to receiving your welcome acceptance of our offer.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. VanderWerf, President

CAVW:s

(Signed) _____

(Dated) _____

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



February 21, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

At the close of our telephone conversation last Tuesday, I indicated that we would attempt to fill our vacancy with someone else but that I might be contacting you at a later date to see how things were proceeding with you. I thought that you might be interested in knowing how things have developed here.

Shortly after your call, I contacted the person who was our second choice. He had received an offer from another school which interested him so much that he felt it unwise to postpone his decision in order to consider our offer. We are proceeding to make other contacts but it seems unlikely that we will fill the position within the next several weeks.

As you consider the offers which you have from other schools, I hope that you will examine them in the light of the above information. I believe that you would find our staff to be a congenial one with which to work. If you should like to spend the summer of 1970 doing research in numerical analysis and/or computer science, I see no reason why we would not be able to give you 2/9 of your annual salary for this from a grant which has been received from the Research Corporation. If you would be able to involve a junior or senior major in such a project, we would be very pleased.

On the telephone, I did not elaborate about the teaching load for you. During your first semester on campus, the maximum load would be ten semester hours. I would be glad to discuss plans for your assignment with you before they became final. Needless to say, you would be given a good deal of latitude in the development of the numerical analysis and computer science courses.

All in all, if you still have an interest in teaching at Hope College, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Jay E. Folkert, Chairman

JEF/gn

P.S. The possibility of joining us Sept. 1 or late Jan., 1970 remains understood in the above.

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



March 4, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

I was pleased to receive your letter and to learn that you are still informally considering our opening. Since April is approaching and we have not filled our position, I would like to encourage you to make Hope College a "live option" in your decision.

Perhaps it would be well for us to indicate that the circumstances under which you might join us here are subject to arrangement. The initial offer from Dean Rider was (from our standpoint) the ideal situation. The subsequent telephone call which suggested that you might accept an appointment with the option of joining us either in September or at the end of the first semester was one attempt at making the offer more flexible. Another possibility may be worthy of consideration. If there are requirements for the Ph.D. which are left unfinished in September, you might wish to join us at that time but carry a reduced load involving only one preparation. For example, two sections of Introduction to Digital Computers, involving four hours of teaching per week and about fifty students, could be scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday. This would give you several days each week which you could devote to your degree program. Since Purdue is within driving distance, you could consult with your adviser in person if this were necessary. Hopefully, you would complete the requirements by February and be able to assume the responsibilities of the numerical analysis course during the second semester so that your load then would be three hours of numerical analysis and four or six hours of computer programming, depending on student demand.

Your reaction to the above possibility would interest me. On the basis of some preliminary talking about this with Dean Rider and members of the Department, I think we could make a firm offer along these lines with the same salary as that offered earlier. I am sure that the Dean could endorse it only on the assumption that you would stay more than one year and assume average work loads which are about eleven hours per semester.

Obviously, we are still very interested in having you and Kay join us.

Sincerely yours,

Jay E. Folkert, Chairman

JEF/gn

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



March 11, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

In view of recent conversations between you and Dr. Folkert, Chairman of our Mathematics Department, I am sending you this contract to replace the original one dated February 5, 1969. We are prepared to offer you a salary in the amount of \$10,500 with the rank of Assistant Professor in Mathematics for the college year 1969-1970. We sincerely hope that you will have finished your doctorate by September, I know that you have the same desires, however, if you are unable to complete your work by September we are prepared to offer you the same salary as above, asking you to teach a total of four semester hours of credit during the first semester with the remainder of your time free to continue your work towards the degree and then to assume a normal load during the second semester of that year. If you have the degree finished by September, then we would expect you to assume a normal load to be worked out between you and Dr. Folkert throughout the year.

Let me tell you how enthusiastic Dean Rider, Dr. Folkert, and I are over the prospect of having you as a member of our faculty. We feel that we have an unusually stirring and exciting challenge in teaching. Your life here would be one of telling significance in the lives of hundreds of fine and dedicated students, while at the same time we are all determined to encourage your creative contribution in the field of Mathematics. We sincerely hope that you will decide to join us.

You will, of course, be eligible to participate in the college medical program and in TIAA-CREF.

All of us here feel that you and Mrs. Dershem will find a truly rich, rewarding, and stimulating life as members of the Hope family. With the addition of our many new young faculty members there is a fresh spirit--a new sense of vitality and vibrancy--on Hope's campus. We are confident that you and Mrs. Dershem would contribute to it and would relish being a part of it.

If you agree with the terms of this letter, will you please sign the enclosed carbon and return it to my office by March 24?

Our very warmest wishes to you. We look forward to receiving your welcome acceptance of our offer.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. VanderWerf
C. A. VanderWerf, President

CAVW:m

(Signed) _____

(Dated) _____

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



March 12, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dershem:

Since I received your letter of March 5, I have had a conference with Dean Rider. In order to answer any questions, we thought it best to replace the previous offer with a new one which includes details along the lines of my previous letters.

I was pleased to learn that your research is progressing well. It would certainly be desirable for you to start teaching in the fall with the requirements for your degree finished. In that case, you would not be given more than two preparations during the fall semester. One would be computer programming and the other would be arranged in accordance with your interests and desires.

You might be interested in knowing that we have just offered an appointment to another person who would help us with our departmental program outside of computer programming and numerical analysis. Mr. August Waltemann is nearly finished with his degree at Oklahoma State University. I think you and Kay would enjoy this young couple who are also Lutherans. They have a daughter who is about a month old. We do not know if the offer will be accepted but we were encouraged during his visit to campus.

May I say again that I hope you will join us in September. I believe that you would contribute a great deal to our program. I also believe that you and Kay would enjoy Hope College.

Sincerely yours,

Jay E. Folkert
Jay E. Folkert,
Chairman

JEF/gn

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



March 22, 1969

Mr. Herbert L. Dershem
126-5 Marshall Drive
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mr. Dersham:

In view of recent conversations between you and Dr. Folkert, Chairman of our Mathematics Department, I am sending you this contract to replace the earlier ones. We are prepared to offer you a salary in the amount of \$10,500 with the rank of Assistant Professor in Mathematics for the college year 1969-1970. We sincerely hope that you will have finished your doctorate by September. I know that you have the same desires; however, if you are unable to complete your work by September, the terms of your contract will begin February 1, 1970, for a full-time teaching assignment during the second semester. If you have the degree finished by September, then we would expect you to assume a normal load to be worked out between you and Dr. Folkert throughout the year, with the contract beginning September 1, 1969.

Let me tell you how enthusiastic Dean Rider, Dr. Folkert, and I are over the prospect of having you as a member of our faculty. We feel that we have an unusually stirring and exciting challenge in teaching. Your life here would be one of telling significance in the lives of hundreds of fine and dedicated students, while at the same time we are all determined to encourage your creative contribution in the field of Mathematics. We sincerely hope that you will decide to join us.

You will, of course, be eligible to participate in the college medical program and in TIAA-CREF.

All of us here feel that you and Mrs. Dershem will find a truly rich, rewarding, and stimulating life as members of the Hope family. With the addition of our many new young faculty members there is a fresh spirit--a new sense of vitality and vibrancy--on Hope's campus. We are confident that you and Mrs. Dershem would contribute to it and would relish being a part of it.

If you agree with the terms of this letter, will you please sign the enclosed carbon and return it to my office at your earliest convenience?

Our very warmest wishes to you. We look forward to receiving your welcome acceptance of our offer.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. VanderWerf
C. A. VanderWerf, President

CAVW:s

(Signed) *Herbert L. Dershem*

(Date) 3/25/69