

HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423



April 17, 1978

Dr. Herb Dershem
20 Montclair
Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37830

Dear Herb:

Attached is a copy of the very brief evaluation statement which I submitted to the Status Committee on your behalf. Since the statement was rather non-committal, I felt there was no need to show it to you prior to submitting it to the Committee, and I just now realized that I still hadn't forwarded it to you. I hope it meets with your approval.

This year is rapidly coming to a close and I, for one, am looking forward to the end. The last several weeks have been very hectic. Hope all is well at Oak Ridge and with your work at the University.

With best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Sheldon Wettack
Dean for the Natural Sciences
and Professor of Chemistry

SW/kva

enclosure

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DATE: March 7, 1978
TO: The Status Committee
FROM: Sheldon Wettack *CW*
SUBJECT: Performance Evaluation of Herb Dershem

As Herb Dershem is absent from campus during the 1977-78 academic year, this evaluation will be particularly brief.

Herb served as GLCA faculty director of the Oak Ridge Science Semester during fall, 1977. From all reports he has done an extremely effective job in this capacity, typical of that we expect from Herb Dershem. The agent director of this program is reputed to have said that the program has never run more smoothly than it did this year. During the current semester Herb is on sabbatical and is spending his time jointly between the University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge Laboratory.

During the current year Herb has presented two talks at national computer science meetings on Hope's computer science program. In addition, it is my understanding that his work at Oak Ridge has been of high quality and will lead to publication. Prior to this academic year Herb was involved in the development of our proposed modularized introductory computer science course. This work was done last summer in conjunction with John Whittle and Harv Leland and is being class-tested during the current year with the goal of implementing the full course next fall. Herb has been a leader in developing this new approach to our introductory computing course, and I believe that the approach has implications on a much broader scale than Hope College. Herb was the prime-mover of a proposal to NSF for the development of this course (not funded) and actively participated (despite his location) in a revision which is now under consideration. He also contributed to the ISEP proposal for computer graphics equipment which was recently submitted by the mathematics department.