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Professor T. van Es
Department of Biochemistry
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Dear Professor van Es,

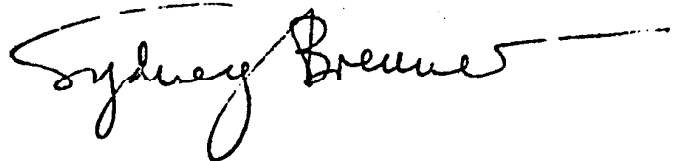
I am pleased to write again about Dr George Pieczenik and I hope that you will not mind if I repeat many of the things I said about him last year.

He is a very clever man and has many ideas, some of which are so outstanding that they should be called brilliant. It is with some pleasure that I now see that many of these ideas are appearing in print, for instance the paper published in PNAS in June 1980 in which he sets out ideas that he put forward more than five years ago. What he has called genotypic selection appears in a slightly different form in the recent papers on "selfish DNA" written by Crick & Orgel and by Doolittle and Sapinza. As I mentioned last year, the paper on the origins of protein synthesis without ribosomes was based on the central idea provided by George Pieczenik.

He is a very good experimentalist and his work on DNA sequencing has been very good. He is also very knowledgeable about computation and has developed valuable algorithms for sequence matching and analysis.

As a teacher, I understand he is much admired by undergraduates and I hope that the University can see its way clear to promoting him.

Yours sincerely,



Sydney Brenner