

June 23, 1972
5901 Kleinpell Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Mr. J. C. Mills
Urantia Foundation
533 Diversey Parkway
Chicago, Illinois 60614

Dear Mr. Mills,

Thank you for your letter of June 5. Since Dr. Philip Calabrese and I are working on the Urantia Book course together, I have brought your letter to his attention in order that we may both reply to your queries.

In general, and by way of prefacing my specific responses, I wish to mention that I am a sincere and devoted student of the Urantia Book. My motives regarding the Urantia Book and all related activities are, insofar as I understand them, commensurate with those of the Urantia Foundation. I am struck by the remarkable, almost axiomatic, fact that careful and thoughtful study of the Urantia Book imbues the reader with very similar feelings and views in this regard. I am in agreement with Meredith J. Sprunger as he expresses his views in his paper, "An Evaluation of the Urantia Book".

Parallel with a current of interest in the Urantia Book that has been growing on our campus during the past two years, Dr. Calabrese and I have been urged to discuss various aspects of the Urantia Book on numerous occasions. The formalization of this process into a college course was a natural outgrowth of this process. The course is sponsored by California State College, Bakersfield, within the category of "general education" and thus, technically, under the aegis of the Education Division. Such one-unit credit courses cover a variety of topics that are not generally included in the regular curricula and are offered to regularly enrolled students each quarter. These courses may originate with a group of students or with one or more faculty members. The Urantia Book course attracted twenty-one registrants among continuing students during a preregistration period; Fall Quarter registration of new students may generate a dozen or more additional students. The student population of the College next Fall will be about twenty-five hundred and the faculty will number about one-hundred and forty. Dr. Calabrese (Ph.D., Illinois Institute of Technology, 1968) is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics; I am a Professor of Mathematics and Department Chairman (Ph.D., University of Utah, 1961).

I cannot at the present time provide a detailed description of the course plans for the simple reason that no outline or specific plans have been completed. We agreed to offer a course dealing with the Urantia Book with the understanding that the planning would occur during the summer months. Insofar as my own thoughts are concerned, I anticipate that Phil Calabrese and I will initially introduce the Urantia Book

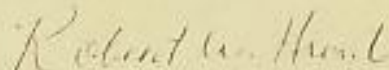
in a very general way from our individual view points and then select specific concepts or papers for presentation and informal class discussion during the several scheduled meetings of the course. The specifics of the latter will certainly partially depend on the interests of the class participants. I do not anticipate the necessity of any handouts containing quotations from the Urantia Book. Those students with sufficient interest will no doubt purchase the Urantia Book either during or at the conclusion of the course. It is clear, however, that it would be highly desirable to have one or more copies of the Urantia Book available in the library. In any case, I will certainly comply with the guidelines concerning the use of Urantia Book material.

I appreciate and fully support the care and concern of the Urantia Foundation in this and similar matters. If you feel that I have not adequately responded, either in detail or in spirit, to your questions, I will be happy to supplement this reply. As I have indicated, Philip Calabrese will also be responding to your letter. Dr. Calabrese has, by the way, what I judge to be a particularly excellent understanding of the cosmological and scientific aspects of the Urantia Book.

I was in touch with Mrs. Fenderson prior to the receipt of your letter, and Dr. Calabrese and I will be meeting with her next week in Los Angeles. We are most appreciative of her interest and offers of assistance as well as your own.

In closing, I assure you that I feel confident of conducting this course, and perhaps other in the future, with "the highest level of objectivity and pedagogical efficiency." As a mathematics professor, I have always been successful as a teacher and counselor. Teaching is a profession I respect and hold in the highest regard, feelings that are similarly invoked, as I have already indicated, by the Urantia Book.

Best wishes,



Dr. Robert W. Hunt

cc: Julia K. Fenderson
Philip Calabrese