

July 8, 1972

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

Dear Mr. Mills,

As you now know, Dr. Robert Hunt and I are planning to offer a short course (about 5 two-hour periods) during the upcoming fall quarter at California State College, Bakersfield and that the main objective of this course is to introduce the Urantia Book to full time students attending our college. Since Bob has already responded to certain specific questions which you raised in your June 5 letter to him, I shall attempt to add supplementary background information and elsewhere elaborate so that you shall be more adequately informed as to the nature of our interest and intentions concerning the Urantia Book.

Two years ago Bob Hunt happened to purchase a copy of the Urantia Book. Apart from his own interests this purchase was motivated by his knowledge of my general interests in the relationship between religion and science. Shortly thereafter this beautiful book came into my hands. I shall not otherwise attempt to suggest the excitement and exhilaration that it engendered in me except to say that my acceptance of it as a book of revelation was practically immediate. During these two years while I have assiduously studied the structure of the book's message, that conviction has never waived but rather has been ever supported. In short, the Urantia Book is more than I had ever hoped to find when first I decided to study the interface between those realities that we denote as physical and those that we denote as spiritual.

In addition and with particular respect to my qualifications to teach the projected course, I offer the following:

- 1) Nine years of teaching experience,
- 2) B.S., M.S., and Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics from Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago,
- 3) Minor in physics and a functional knowledge of science in general,
- 4) Twelve years of formal training in Roman Catholicism (primary and secondary school) including a thorough knowledge of traditional Roman Catholic and Christian theological, moral, and social doctrines,
- 5) An avid interest in philosophy,
- 6) Two visits to the Urantia Foundation in Chicago including attendance at the celebration of Jesus' birthday in August, 1971 together with visits to the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles. These experiences have given me the opportunity to observe the attitude and approach to the Urantia Papers of the Urantia Brotherhood.

As Bob Hunt has indicated, the specific topics which we hope to discuss next quarter are still to be determined. However, I would imagine that we would devote some time to the following realms:

- 1) The Cosmology of the Urantia Book,
- 2) Religion and science and their relation to one another,
- 3) The Bible, traditional Christianity, and the Urantia Papers,

- 4) The history of Urantia,
- 5) The story of Jesus.

In all of our efforts to transmit the teachings of the Urantia Book and in keeping with its ideals of cooperation and mutual respect, both Dr. Hunt and I would welcome any suggestions, aids and insights that have been gleaned over the years during which the Papers have existed on Urantia. We hope that the Urantia Foundation looks favorably upon our efforts and look forward to future communications.

In the mean time, I would like to take this opportunity to mention some of my reflections concerning the Urantia Book and I do hope you will not consider me too forward in this respect.

Considering that the Urantia Papers were published 17 years ago, it is evidently no accident that the Urantia Book is so little recognized by the churches, by the scientific community or by the general population of Urantia. That the world is not quite ready for this new revelation and that any attempt to force the process would be counter productive seems clear to me. And so it is no doubt wise that we all resist the temptation to splash the Urantia Book upon the headlines of the world's newspapers and upon the air waves of the world's radio and television newscasts.

From my experiences talking to friends about the scientific sections of the Urantia Book and because of the self-imposed limitations of the authors of the Papers, it seems clear that materialists and otherwise skeptical readers will not be particularly impressed with the book's discussion of matter, energy, light, space, force, mind, etc. For in their pre-disposed attempt to discredit the scientific value of the Urantia Book, they will narrowly interpret the text in such a way that they will reject as false or trivial that which need not have been the interpretation in the first place. And in many other ways (probably intended) such readers will "bounce off" the Urantia Book.

But for those who sincerely attempt to penetrate the book's scientific sections with an open mind, I believe that they will find the Urantia Book wholly illuminating of the scientific viewpoint even while it fosters greater spiritual insights. It does not do the scientist's job for him but it ever points and suggests the way.

Thus for a time, some scientists may find the Urantia Book quite helpful while others consider it totally "religious" in nature. But such a situation is not stable and therefore could not last long. Sooner or later those who carefully note the topics covered and subtle distinctions made in such papers as , for example, paper 42, will make important discoveries. Or mathematicians may be able to symbolize new concepts of infinity. When this happens, large numbers of individuals would naturally turn to these papers for further guidance.

Thus am I led to ask: Has the Urantia Foundation ever considered the idea of founding a "Urantia University" dedicated to the formal study and artful application of the religion, science and philosophy of the Urantia Book?

There are many, many reasons why I think such a university would be good not the least of which is that it would channel scientific, social, and religious efforts and exuberances into a more unified (though perhaps not uniform!) organization.

I should mention that I am even now conducting certain researches that could thrust the Urantia Book into the public eye - say, in the form of a reference in a mathematical paper. And with the type of excitement this book engenders, things might move very quickly from there.

Whatever the validity of these conjectures, I would of course deem it an honor to be of some service to the brotherhood in preparing for those coming days when the Urantia Papers will finally gain widespread recognition on Urantia.

Sincerely,

Philip Calabrese

Philip Calabrese
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Bakersfield, California 93304.

P.S. Our meeting with Julia Fenderson on July 2 was a joy for all concerned and she asked me to mention how much she approved of our efforts with regard to the projected course on the Urantia Book.

cc: Dr. Robert Hunt
Mrs. Julia Fenderson