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#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
MADISON 6, WISCONSIN, U. S. A.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY  
BIRGE HALL

December 28, 1962

Professor W. W. Ray, Chairman  
Department of Botany  
The University of Nebraska  
Lincoln 8, Nebraska

Dear Professor Ray:

In reply to your letter of December 18th, regarding a position for an experienced plant physiologist and eventual chairman of the Botany Department, I am pleased to recommend Professor Curtis M. Wilson of the University of Illinois.

Professor Wilson obtained his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biochemistry at the University of Minnesota. He then came here for a Ph.D. degree in Botany (plant physiology) and a minor in Biochemistry. Upon graduation in 1954 he was appointed to an Assistant Professorship at Rutgers University where he was shortly promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Wilson made excellent progress and was much appreciated by his colleagues at Rutgers. However, both he and his wife have their roots and hearts in the Midwest. Hence, two or three years ago, he accepted a position (with the USDA?) in the Agronomy Department at the University of Illinois.

Dr. Wilson is well satisfied with his position and I know from his publications that he is making good progress in his research on nucleic acid metabolism, etc. in relation to growth of plants.

I understand, however, that he would consider seriously an offer of the type of position you have indicated in your letter, because he likes teaching and association with a teaching department.

Dr. Wilson is remarkably well-informed both in plant physiology and biochemistry. He is a careful, well-organized and efficient investigator. He also writes and speaks clearly and effectively.

I believe that from personal as well as professional standpoints you would find him exceptionally qualified.

I do not know what terms of appointment Dr. Wilson would accept, but I expect he might not wish to move for less than a full professorship.

Other available plant physiologists I could recommend would be less experienced, recent Ph.D. graduates.

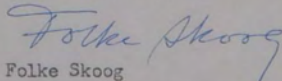
Dr. W. W. Ray

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December 28, 1962

I shall be very much interested in your reaction to Dr. Wilson's candidacy. If you have any further questions, I shall be glad to try to oblige.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Folke Skoog". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends downwards and to the right.

Folke Skoog

FS/tae