

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

February 14, 1979

Dr. Kenneth F. Tefertiller  
Vice President for Agricultural  
Affairs  
1008 McCarty Hall

Dear Ken:

After consultation with you, Dr. Deal, and others concerning the report of the Herbarium Committee, I have concluded that: 1) the location of the Herbarium should be moved to the Museum, although not in the near future; 2) the activities of the Herbarium must demonstrate a greater balance than is now apparent among the functions of teaching, research, and service; 3) Dr. Ward should be relieved of his responsibility as Curator of the Herbarium.

The findings of the Committee make it quite clear that the physical relocation of the Herbarium to the Florida State Museum will benefit the Herbarium, the Museum, and the University at large. I agree completely with the Committee's belief that the Herbarium "will be perpetuated best by placement in an institutional unit that is devoted to the preservation and exhibition of biological resources, namely, the Florida State Museum. The University and indeed the State University System has the responsibility to safeguard and perpetuate this institutional resource where its present missions can be continued on a long-term basis."

Unfortunately, I do not have the resources to provide a new line item for a full-time senior Curator in the Florida State Museum nor can I provide a new line item for a Biologist II career service person. These considerations, combined with the floor space and office space requirements needed to effect the relocation of the Herbarium to the Museum, dictate that the relocation be delayed until such time as human and physical resources are available to the Museum.

The Committee, after hours of analysis and hearing testimony, has concluded that there is an imbalance in the teaching, research, and service functions of the Herbarium. I concur totally with those conclusions; they confirm what a great number of us had heard and observed over the past decade; that, specifically, the Herbarium's main function is the identification of plants, mainly, although not exclusively, for people in the State of Florida. The Herbarium should be considered a resource of university-wide importance to the teaching and research functions of many departments in the Health Center, IFAS, and the Education and General budgets.

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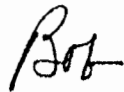
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Although the Committee did not suggest it, I suggest that you establish a policy council or a policy board to administer the Herbarium, to establish policies for it, and to be its advocate at annual budget hearings internal to either IFAS or the University. The establishment of such a council or board will immediately open up the Herbarium and bring to it a new life and broader function. In connection with this new way of doing things, I strongly recommend to you that Dr. David W. Hall, Associate Research Scientist, be given full authority as director of the Plant Identification Service Office. This recommendation is, of course, in full consonance with the findings and recommendations of the Herbarium Committee.

Finally, I am in full accord with the Committee's recommendations that Dr. Ward be relieved of the responsibility of Curator of the Herbarium. He has made valuable contributions to the Herbarium in the past, but his energies and knowledge should be more fully utilized in a structured program of teaching and research. Only in this way will he be able to continue to perform in the future as well as he has in the past.

Both the Herbarium Committee and I await your response to my and their recommendations. We all stand ready to confer with you at your convenience.

Best regards,



Robert A. Bryan  
Vice President

RAB/asb

cc: Vice President Deal  
Dean F. A. Wood  
Dean C. F. Sidman  
Dean H. H. Sisler  
✓ Dr. J. C. Dickinson  
Dr. J. L. App  
Dr. T. C. Emmel  
Dr. V. G. Perry  
Dr. Anthony Randazzo  
Dr. Indra Vasil (w/attachment)