

From: Rupert Sheldrake <[REDACTED]>

To: jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Hi from London

Date: Mon, 20 Feb 2017 18:26:20 +0000

Attachments: JAMA2016.critique_of_genome_type_research.pdf

Dear Jeffrey,

I'm in London, just finishing my new book.

I don't know if you've seen this searing critique of conventional science funding priorities, with the heavy emphasis on genomic research in biomedicine, that was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association. It makes a strong call for more blue-sky research rather than the business as usual model that's so prevalent still. They clearly show that this is a broken model and conclude that

“Public funders such as NIH should expand the funding for basic, ‘blue sky’ science for which it is impossible to set, predict, and promise specific deliverables. In so doing, NIH should fund many more high-risk, unconventional ideas instead of supporting the same familiar highly funded research funds. However, novel funding mechanisms like NIH Pioneer Awards are currently only a tiny fraction of the total budget.” I attach the article.

Also, in the current Nature there is a piece about the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub giving away \$50 million. Although the subjects they've given them too sound pretty conventional to me, they claim that they are trying to fund the riskiest ideas. These pieces both suggest a welcome change of mood.

I attach the link below

Are you planning to come to London? If so do let me know because it would be great to meet up in person.

Best

Rupert

<http://www.nature.com/news/riskiest-ideas-win-50-million-from-chan-zuckerberg-biohub-1.21440>

On 18 Feb 2017, at 13:31, jeffrey E. wrote:

im in paris, you?

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