

April 20th, 1951

Mr. Carter  
UNESCO  
Office: EXP  
19, Avenue Kléber, Paris, 16

Dear Mr. Carter,

In reply to the UNESCO Circular concerning "Bourse UNESCO 1951" the professors of the Vienna University, following the initiative of the professors of physics and mathematics have proposed that the bourse UNESCO for Austria should be awarded for the field of theoretical physics. May I inform you about the reasons for this decision:

It has frequently happened that in sending Austrian students, scholars or scientists abroad, persons of mediocre gift have been selected who cannot be regarded as true representatives of the scientific top level of the Austrian post war generation. Believing that the best way of using UNESCO funds would be the fostering of the intellectual elite among the young men of a country, we proposed a bourse for modern theoretical physics because it is just in this field that a young Austrian scientist of quite exceptional qualities, Dr. phil. Walter Thirring has graduated two years ago and needs some help for the final touch of his postgraduate studies.

I am intending to appoint Dr. Thirring assistant and lecturer at my Physics Institute in Vienna, but I consider it useful for his further development that he shall be given the opportunity to do some researchwork under the guidance of Professor Wolfgang Pauli, Nobel-Prize winner, at Zürich. Professor Pauli himself said that he would appreciate the collaboration of Dr. Thirring at his institute.

Hence I may draw your attention to the case asking you to give priority to the primo loco proposal of the Austrian UNESCO Commission which has been forwarded to your office through the official channels some time ago.

Yours faithfully

F. Ehrenhaft