

**PRIVATE**

ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.

10 COLUMBUS CIRCLE  
NEW YORK 19, NEW YORK  
COLUMBUS 5-2090

31 October 1961  
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr J. L. Pawsey  
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial  
Research Organization  
Division of Radiophysics  
University Grounds  
Sydney, N.S.W., Australia

Dear Dr Pawsey:

This is the first opportunity I have had of writing you since the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Associated Universities, Inc., which took place in Green Bank on Thursday and Friday, October 26 and 27. Before I go on, I want to thank you for the thoroughly splendid afternoon and evening which I had with you and Mrs Pawsey and your brother and sister-in-law.

I submitted the nomination for you to be the Director of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory to the Board of AUI at this last meeting. I am happy to say that the Board unanimously empowered me to offer you this post. You will also be pleased to hear that I had a meeting with the Director and the principal scientific staff of the Observatory in which I very frankly discussed the whole matter of the directorship of the Observatory and told them of our discussions in London. I questioned each man in turn, and I am very pleased to be able to tell you that the enthusiasm was unanimous. They join with me in urging you most strongly to come to Green Bank.

I can now come to specifics. I am empowered to offer you a salary of \$25,000 per annum which is the salary of the present Director. There is a retirement provision in which 15% of this salary is contributed to retirement, half of which comes directly from the Observatory and is in addition to the above salary, and half of which is deducted from your pay. Should you leave the NRAO the accumulation both from your own contribution and the contribution of the NRAO reverts to you. I am enclosing material which explains this program to which many if not most of the more important educational institutions adhere.

As you know, there is a Director's house on the premises which is rented to the Director at a rental of \$225 per month, furnished.

**PRIVATE**

31 October 1961

Excellent provision is made for travel expenses of the Director during his period of service. Your expenses in moving from Australia to Green Bank would, of course, be covered.

The Board was informed of your desire to take the post for a term of years, 3-5 years I believe is the number we discussed (subject, of course, to renewal under conditions mutually acceptable to both sides). The Board agreed to these provisions. I am, therefore, empowered to offer you this post for a period of three years, or four, or five, subject to your desires at present.

I told the Board that it would be difficult for you to move until some time in the early fall of 1962. This circumstance was acceptable but somewhat regreted. I was asked to urge you, that should you accept, to try to come as early as possible. Although Dr Struve has asked for retirement as of October 1, 1962, I am quite sure that if you could arrange to come earlier either his retirement would be hastened, which would be his wish I believe, or you will come as a member of the staff, deputy director, or some form where you could help the Observatory to accelerate its development. I would like to add, quite unofficially, that in my view that I would hope to be able to increase your salary at short intervals particularly on the basis of merit.

My own personal hope is that you will accept this offer. I look forward greatly to collaborating with you in making the Observatory an important factor in the development of radio astronomy. You can be assured of excellent support in any reasonable program. I am quite sure that you will find an enthusiastic reception from the radio astronomers in the United States as well as from the Board and officers of AUI and the NSF. As you know, there is a difficult situation in AUI at the present time with an outgoing Director in a "lame-duck" position. I, therefore, hope that you will find it possible to give us your acceptance at an early date. We hope that you can arrange for your arrival in the United States some time in the spring. However, this offer is in no way conditional.

We are still in negotiation with the National Science Foundation about the 140-foot telescope. I can give you no new information except that the Board is in favor of completion.

One last point before I close. There may very well be certain individuals whom you may wish to bring with you. These people would be most welcome, if appropriate budgetary arrangements can be made.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs Pawsey and in high hopes of an early and favorable reply, I am

Sincerely yours,

I. I. Rabi  
President

Dr J. L. Pawsey

-3-

31 October 1961

P.S. I have, of course, discussed this offer to you with Dr Waterman of the National Science Foundation, who was enthusiastic at the prospect of your coming. One small formal step has yet to be taken which has no relation to any legal problem, since you are not a citizen of the United States. This move is now underway.

bc: Dr Ralph S. Halford  
Dr Alan T. Waterman  
Dr Paul A. Scherrer  
Mr Edward Reynolds  
Mr Dunbar  
Mr Burchill ✓