Rio de Janeiro ,February 8th ,1982

Dear Sabin:

To make it faster, I sent a note in Portuguese to Heloísa about the invitation you received. The information I have about the "Fundação Mauá" is, I suppose, a correct one. It was given by one of my friends, Antonio Paes de Carvalho, who has been many times in Ribeirão Preto, and then I phoned Dr. Eduardo Krieger, who is the head Cardiologist in the Faculty.

The Faculty of Ribeirão Preto belongs to the University of São Paulo. It is its advanced Campus and probably, even if it is very traditional, it is one of the best, if not the best medical school in Brazil.

The city is an interesting one, because at a certain time, all the population was interested in Chagas' disease and the school of medicine developed a good group of specialists and has done a wonderful contribution to the social aspects of Chagas' disease, and also to the pathology of Chagas'.

Now, those people at the interior of São Paulo have an spirit of progress so that a group of farmers and industrialists established this foundation apart from the School of Medicine. This Foundation maintains a course on Bio-Medicine, which had been established mostly to prepare people for biomedical research laboratories. Many of these courses have been established in Brazil, but probably, Ribeirão Preto is one of the best.
However, the teaching there cannot be compared with the other schools or with the Faculty of Medicine because they are beginning and they have still to bring more teachers and enroll better ones. I think that they are sincere people trying to do what is an important drop. I believe that your presence would be of great interest for all the students, both of "Fundação Barão de Mauá" and of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of São Paulo. Naturally, for them it's a promotion, but I think that taking the right man for the right job shows they are honestly trying to achieve a goal.

The only thing I was afraid was that there could be some rivalry between this Faculty of Medicine and this Mauá's group. But Krieger assured me that during your visit to Ribeirão Preto, you will visit also the Medical School and see the students without any hostility of any part.

With my best regards to Heloísa, I am

Yours as always,