24 February 1994

Dear Walter,

Last year, when we were all talking about better ways to make use of Lab Stores, the SITs, and the student aides, an old bugaboo surfaced again: letting faculty members have keys to Stores. Things have worked out pretty well even without that innovation, but I don't want to let the idea die. People like Fred Tabbutt and I keep saying, about once a year, that it is silly for us to excluded, that people in our positions in all other just naturally have access to their science stores, and so on. When we raised the idea last year, no one raised any kind of objection in principle, and there was a general feeling that this would help in several ways. Furthermore, this has always been a sore point with some of us because of the subtle insult to faculty members, giving us a second-rate status that we don't deserve.

Why don't we Just Do It? I'm not suggesting that everyone ought to have a key--only the science faculty members who routinely have needs in Lab Stores. I would also suggest that we have an agreement among us that we guard these keys and don't allow students to use them. However, I really can't count the number of times I have needed--or someone in our lab has needed--something from Stores when it was closed, and I think it's time to end a 20-year battle.

Best wishes,

Burt Guttman

cc: Fred Tabbutt, for the Chemistry Dept.