

4th, November 1947

Dear Wishart,

Thanks for your letter. I had not even been informed that I was a member of the Faculty of Mathematics, and I only received your letter this-morning. I will try to put in an appearance, especially if I get a reminder next Monday, but I have not been inclined to meddle in the Faculty of Mathematics, who for aught I know do not want my advice.

I think the diploma is an excellent idea, essentially as a post-graduate certificate, showing that opportunities have been taken for advanced study in mathematical statistics, with a view to at least one field of application. In the time available, however, I doubt if it is possible for a student much to advance his mathematical qualifications and at the same time to study the field of application as thoroughly as he needs to do, and I fear that the faculty may slip into a process in which people with a decent mathematical training, but only a superficial smattering of the subject of application, will be given the ^{diploma} ~~degree~~. I imagine I am particularly fortunate this year in Bailey, who probably has gone far enough into the mathematics to afford to give adequate time to genetics.

Yours sincerely,