Jan. 14, 1954

My dear Professor,

I am addressing you in your capacity of chairman of the Biometry section of the I.U.B.S. to ask for your support for an initiative, which you may remember we shortly discussed together during the journey from Bellagio to Milan.

We think it would be highly desirable to have a summer course of statistical methods applied to agriculture, biology and medicine. The course should be a condensed one, to last about three weeks, with a total of about 90 hours including lectures and practicals. Subjects covered should be: analysis of variance, design of experiments, discriminant analysis, estimation, elements of mathematical statistics (most important distributions and sampling distributions). The course is intended for biologists who have some knowledge of applied statistics, and are interested in learning how to use more advanced methods, and the foundations of these methods.

The main expenses to be met for organizing such a course would be those for paying invited lecturers, who would be mostly foreigners. The total expenditure anticipated is about $2,000. We plan to ask half of this sum to F.A.O. and half to I.U.B.S. Montalenti, who is at present Secretary of the I.U.B.S. suggested that I ask you to write to him a letter, supporting this initiative. The course could take place in summer 1955, and might be repeated in later years.

Besides your support, I should, of course, like very much your advice on technical matters.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Luca