

15 Walton St.
Oxford OX1 2HG,
England.

Mr Manfred L. Karnovsky,
American Academy of Arts and Sciences,
136 Irving St.,
Cambridge,
Mass. 02138

Dear Mr Karnovsky,

I was, of course, very pleased to hear that I had been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. But I was a little disconcerted to be addressed as 'Sir' in the invitation. It is not a matter of great importance, but I should not like to be involved in what I should see as a discourtesy to future women Fellows. Perhaps it was simply a mistake; but if it is the Academy's normal practice I should like to enquire, before I become a member, whether there is any plan afoot for recognising in an official way that you do now have members who are inappropriately thus addressed. I am not one of those who would wish all members of the Academy to be addressed as 'Madam', and I am happy to be (from time to time) the Chairman of this or that committee. But you would I think be surprised if I addressed you as 'Madam' and it is precisely the same for me to be addressed as 'Sir'.

Yours sincerely,