Dear Nicola,

I have digitized almost all my slides and have begun fumbling forward on putting together a PowerPoint presentation to go with my talk on the 29th. It is nice to be learning something new. Fortunately a number of my friends are old hands at PowerPoint and I can get the best tutorials over a coffee and my laptop. I am sure I will have something I am happy with in time for London.

Let me know when the travel arrangements are worked out. With the global financial collapse emanate the future seems uncertain. Not that I haven't wished for the end of capitalism most of my adult life. We sure live in interesting times.

October has been lovely so far in Seattle with little rain and crisp, sunny days. All the leaves are turning colors and it reminds me how much I love autumn and Halloween. The coming elections here in the States look promising.

See you in a month.

Jim