



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
School of Public Health
Stadium Gate 27
611 Beacon Street S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

File
COPPES - STAUFFER

November 9, 1982

Lee Stauffer, Dean
School of Public Health
1360 Mayo Memorial Building

Dear Dean Stauffer:

This letter is a recommendation by the Recognition, Awards and Honors Committee of the School of Public Health that the School grant an award for outstanding service in public health to Mr. Tony Potami of the Vice President's office and the Office of Research Administration. He has over many years been a firm and effective administrator giving support to the research functions of this School. He has understood the needs, the productivity and contributions of the School to the University and scientific community, as well as any administrator within or without the School in his role as Director of Research Administration for the entire University.

His services to the School have had such a remarkable and consistent quality, contributing so strongly to the excellent reputation of the School for research administration, that the Recognition, Awards and Honors Committee recommends Tony Potami as recipient of this newly established award for outstanding service to the Public Health.

His research administration has achieved the confidence not only of the investigators and administration in the School of Public Health, but of the administrative project directors at the National Institutes of Health and other granting organizations. Those in this "business" know how important that is to the way research and researchers are viewed from those "sources of all good things."

In dealing with difficult problems such as long-term acquisition of equipment and buildings, his attitude is "we'll find a way and get it done" rather than, "that's impossible." He proceeds with calmness, maturity and effectiveness in solving complicated or sticky issues.

His service is characterized by a real intellectual curiosity about the research administrative process and an apparent enjoyment in approaching and solving tough administrative problems. He is impatient with the usual ponderousness in administration and speaks for action, but he does so in such an effective and statesman-like way.

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The sincerity of Tony Potami's interest in developing research in this institution is also shown in very practical ways such as contributing actual funds, supplies and furnishings from his section when it is appropriate and possible to do so. Tony Potami is "Mr. University of Minnesota Research," and has gathered an effective staff which carries on his functions.

It is the intent of this award to recognize his remarkable contributions and unique service to the research purpose of this institution. This service surely represents a sacrifice of more economically rewarding careers in the private sector, and demonstrates his great commitment to the University.

Forwarded with pleasure after committee approval in meeting of November 3, 1982.

Sincerely,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director
Chairman, SPH-RAH Committee

/jml

pc: D. Preston
F. Bohlen