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Comms-Luepker

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TO: H. Blackburn
FROM: R. Luepker *RL*
RE: Meeting with Pierre L'enfant

Notes on meeting with Dr. Pierre L'enfant, Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, noon, November 15, 1982. Present were: Steve Fortmann, Jack Farquhar, Bill Friedewald, Barbara Packard, Steve Weiss, Dick Carleton, Henry Blackburn, Russell Luepker, and Dr. L'enfant.

The purpose of this meeting was to give Dr. L'enfant some idea regarding community activities. Dr. Farquhar presented some of the basic concepts and philosophy of community programs. I will not repeat these.

Dr. L'enfant described several elements of the problem. First, he felt that we had not been effective enough in communicating with the "Scientific Community." By this I assume he meant the medical scientific community. Secondly, he was concerned about the "basic science" people. He echoed some of the points of Don Harrison at the opening session such as the concerns over clinical trial. We responded with the fact that our efforts are not clinical trials, but in fact part of the complete research spectrum. One of the issues appears to be that the research of the nature that we do is new and not clearly understood by many council members. He offered us some hope of an opportunity to deal with those perceptions by educating the Heart Council.

It is my feeling that in these last comments we have an outstanding opportunity. I do not feel that we should select another advisory board. In fact, I think if we are asked directly to provide information to the council, we should do this. I see not conflict of interest. I think that is a red herring. I think we should volunteer this rather than propose other experts. If we choose experts (a less ideal approach), we need to select carefully those people who are also well-respected but likely to carry a similar message. Unfortunately, the latter cannot be guaranteed.

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There is also the issue of a greater mix among council members.
This might also give an opportunity to broaden the understanding of
this important body.

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