

corres - Ferris



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

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

September 14, 1981

Thomas Ferris, M.D.
Professor and Chairman
Department of Medicine
University of Minnesota
Mayo C305

RE: Promotion to Associate Professor of Medicine for Dr. Russell Luepker

Dear Tom:

The enclosed materials are in documentation and recommendation for a secondary appointment as Associate Professor in Medicine for Dr. Russell Luepker, who is an Associate Professor in the School of Public Health.

Dr. Luepker's researches are in the area of cardiovascular epidemiology, prevention and health behavior. His principal scholarly work since coming here six years ago has been the planning, design and implementation of a major research and demonstration project on health education and chronic disease. The uniqueness of this project is its design, its evaluation methods and its use of multiple educational strategies which are outlined in the enclosed extract from a voluminous proposal. This research is not in any usual line of clinical investigations but Dr. Luepker has national standing and recognition and has received the highest level of NIH peer review on this and related successful proposals. The development of these and other prevention projects, including an extremely effective smoking prevention research program in Twin Cities junior high schools, have been a major contribution.

Dr. Luepker has also been active in more conventional cardiovascular epidemiological researches as illustrated in his collaborative studies with the Lipid Research Center in the Department of Medicine and in the enclosed publications. Dr. Luepker has established a clear theme in his researches in cardiovascular disease prevention, and he has national identity as a leader in this important area of transposing research knowledge to community level experiments, under rigorous design and evaluation.

Dr. Luepker's current research activity is documented in a very solid study submitted for publication on quantitative methods for cigarette smoking detection, using plasma and saliva thiocyanates. His thoroughgoing data collection from well-designed population researches is just arriving at the stage of analysis and publication. He is entering a particularly productive part of his research career which is already documented to have a substantial theme and to have reached national recognition for its uniqueness.

Ferris letter
September 14, 1981
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We have also attempted here to document his comparatively heavy teaching responsibilities in the School of Public Health, first as the director of PH-5385, our laboratory's main course for undergraduates in the School of Public Health, and his heaviest responsibilities as Director of the NIH Cardiovascular Behavioral Training Project which involves predominantly post-doctorate fellows. He is principal investigator and principal advisor to that sizable coterie of younger M.D.'s and Ph.D.'s.

Dr. Luepker demonstrates qualities of scholarly activity in independent research, leadership and productivity which have been recognized by the School of Public Health for advancement to the position of Associate Professor. It is our hope and recommendation that the Medicine Committee come to a similar conclusion.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Henry Blackburn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Cordially,".

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director
Professor of Medicine

HB/ljb
Enclosures

Cares - Ferris



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

Department of Medicine
Mayo Memorial Building
420 Delaware Street S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

November 3, 1981

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
School of Public Health
Box 197

Correct.

Dear Henry:

Thank you for your manuscript on "Diet and Hypertension". It was interesting and provocative. I do not quarrel with the fact that salt is one of the many variables in a very intricate control mechanism governing blood pressure control. With my best regards.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

Thomas F. Ferris, M.D.
Nesbitt Professor and Chairman

TFF/lb



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Conus. - Ferris

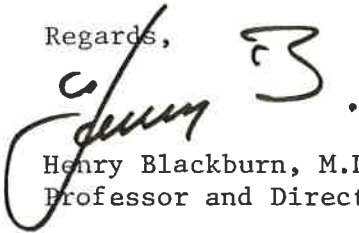
October 13, 1981

Thomas Ferris, M.D.
Professor and Chairman
Department of Medicine
University of Minnesota
Mayo C305

Dear Tom:

The enclosed on Diet and Hypertension lacks the most essential ingredient: plausible mechanisms. I recognize the danger of error and superficiality in synthesis, but it's fun to try. The anthropology and sociology may amuse you. The epidemiology is familiar. This is a response to third hand reports of your commentary on hearing about our recent research proposal on the primary prevention of hypertension to involve education on change in eating, exercise and salting habit. We think it needs testing.

Regards,


Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director

HB:lr

enc.

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