

C-KANE



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**CONFIDENTIAL**

January 15, 1987

TO: Dean Kane  
FROM: Henry Blackburn  
RE: Graduate summer session

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One issue I didn't get to bring you up to date on was that Phil Brachman will be here in the first week of March and will give a seminar at noon on Thursday, March 5. He is here mainly for discussions with us, you included, about the future of the graduate summer session (G.S.S.) and to meet Epidemiology faculty so he'll know our interests and skills for the future support of the G.S.S.

You will be interested to know that Len Schuman has today appointed Mike Sprafka as his "associate." Whether and when he will call on Mike's help remains to be seen.

The next issue that will come up will be continued secretarial support for Len Schuman and the graduate summer school. We have now given Len three years' notice and three years' support for his personal secretary who works jointly on G.S.S. He contributes zero to this division other than G.S.S., which basically he operates as a separate Division of Epidemiology. I think it's inexcusable that, with his talents and contacts and continued investigative interests, he has not put in for small grants to cover his secretarial needs. I think pressure from you would be helpful. He keeps getting what he wants from me for continued sponsorship of his secretary by the devices he uses to "put us down" and create a "crisis" for the G.S.S. We've made real progress now by getting his personal secretary out of this division (thanks), but the issue will come up very soon again unless he becomes self-sufficient in support of his own secretarial needs.

The alternative, which I'm quite sure could work, is that next year we assign one of our division secretaries to him to do the G.S.S. work. Arlene Hall, who runs our divisional training activities, I'm sure could do this activity "like a breeze." You will want to make your own evaluation of this need. I'm willing to go either way: 1) to continue to support Shirley, though she is no longer in the division (this is the least desirable alternative in my view); 2) to more effectively motivate Len Schuman to cover his own 25 to 50 percent secretarial needs for the rest of time (preferred); and 3) for you to

eliminate Shirley's position next fall and for us to take over this responsibility with existing personnel in the division. This would bring the focus of the G.S.S., and Len Schuman's effort in it, back to the division where it belongs for long-term viability of the G.S.S. at Minnesota.

I hope you can put some time on your calendar for March 4-5 to visit with Phil. Incidentally, I've suggested that we pay expenses or part of his expenses to make this trip about the G.S.S. Is your office able to contribute to that? I could promise a \$200 honorarium for giving a seminar. If you could match that, that should make it possible. You have more direct knowledge of the G.S.S. bank account than I do and maybe that could also contribute. Thanks.

/mas

bpc: Dr. Philip Brachman