HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

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March 18, 1980



OGLESBY PAUL, M.D. DIRECTOR OF ADMISSION

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Dr. Henry Blackburn Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene Stadium Gate 27 611 Beacon Street Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455

Dear Henry:

I have received with regret word that you will not be participating in the future as a member of the MRFIT Executive Committee. I am sorry that you will not continue as the work during the last two years may be even more difficult for us than the organizational and planning meetings in 1972 and 1973. The role of the Executive Committee should thus be important and I hope its decisions will be wise.

However, I am very grateful for all that you have done in the past, and although we shall miss your presence there, I am hopeful that you will continue to come to the Steering Committee as much as you can to help us.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Oglesby Paul, M.D. Professor of Medicine

OP/vmc

Countes-PALL

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JEREMIAH STAMLER, M.D.
PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN
DINGMAN PROFESSOR OF CARDIOLOGY

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May 1, 1980

Oglesby Paul, M.D. Harvard Medical School 25 Shattuck Street Building A Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Dear Oley:

This is a considered response to your letter of April 22, and all the urgent and difficult matters it addresses. I will not attempt to speak substantively here, beyond noting that—without doubt—we are at a critical turning point in MRFIT.

As to our response to the latest developments, there are several possibilities. First and foremost, there is the need for our Executive Committee and Steering Committee to review this new situation in depth, verify all the facts, study the PAB motions and the Institute's responses, arrive at an assessment of them, and make decisions (hopefully unanimous or near unanimous) on our next steps. Your letter of April 22 is valuable for its presentation of "...some suggestions..." from you. All six items should be viewed as suggestions, none as decisions or bases for actions pending meetings of the Executive Committee and Steering Committee.

Clearly the Executive Committee must meet before June, i.e., as soon as possible, perhaps also the Steering Committee given what has happened. Executive Committee deliberations in preparation for the scheduled Steering Committee in June cannot be left to a few hours on the day before the scheduled Steering Committee meeting. I urge immediate telephone canvassing of schedules of all Executive Committee members to find the optimal early day for a meeting. (It would seem appropriate also to explore possible dates for a Steering Committee meeting, sooner than June, dovetailing with the Executive Committee meeting.)

I look forward to hearing from you. Kindest regards.

Cordially,

Jeremiah Stamler, M.D.

JS/mt