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5hr 1103

Dr. Paul Leaverton
Professor and Chair
College of Public Health
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33612-3899

Dear Paul:

I was pleased to receive my reappointment as Distinguished Visiting Professor in the College of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, in my favorite Florida institution.

Due to a comedy of errors I got pushed out of the rotation for my Anna Maria house for this April. So Stacy and I are making tentative plans to replace Florida with the month of May in France where I need to go for a 30-year reunion of the Seven Countries Investigators the first of May and then give a talk in Paris the end of May.

I am, therefore, not a constant friend but do remain a faithful one and hope you will keep me "on the list". We have an iron-clad agreement for April 1991 in Anna Maria. I may have a brief drop-in visit during the late winter or spring and will certainly let you know and hope to visit then with you.

You may have heard that I am stepping down here, pretty much on the schedule I had planned. I will be happy to be replaced and return to, it is hoped, more creative and less administrative folderol. Otherwise, things move forward well. We are holding our breath on funding for our Cancer Prevention Research Unit which will put us on solid ground for the lean period we all expect ahead. Greg Burke's departure is creating a lot of headaches and extra activity for a lot of us but it was clearly inevitable. We wish him well in his new undertakings in North Carolina.

I am being particularly unmusical these days and that hurts. Stacy is beginning to phase out, along with our MHHP media section, and we both look forward to new vistas before the year is out. I will stay on in the Mayo Chair but remain open to new ideas.

Thanks again for the reappointment. You have done a marvelous job of building a solid institution.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, MD Professor and Director