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✓ 4/11/95
April 10, 1995

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

Dear Paul:

Thanks for your note. I, too, am glad that you are stepping down and you will find life is lovely.

I am sorry if my attempted interventions as friend to both parties resulted somehow in things becoming worse. I felt that you had been stung by her accusations and felt that she should know that and make an effort, if she felt it within her, to indicate that that wasn't her intention, and to confirm as she maintains steadfastly that she didn't put anything in writing about this. I guess she thinks that your feelings are now entrenched and that there is nothing more to be done. I doubt that she would grieve or sue unless you block her from being on the examining committee for doctoral students that she advised. And that, of course, might give you a problem if both she and the students want to continue the relationship. At any rate, I find that it's important to resolve these professional conflicts because if they go on festering for years it's not healthy. I have, nevertheless, not been successful in resolving my rather profound conflicts with Stan Edlavitch, Carolyn Williams, and Jack Mandel, and for that matter Len Schuman, but one should at least make an effort, because it doesn't do anybody any good.

I am very pleased that you are celebrating Denis Burkitt's contributions and I will send this program to Olive. I enclose the comments I made at Burkitt's Bower Award and of my luncheon with Olive Burkitt. Stacy and I planned to visit her last May when we went to Scotland but it didn't work out.

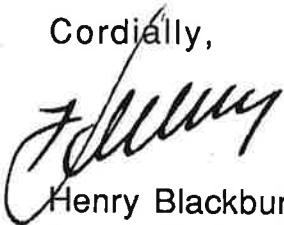
I am very sorry to have missed the AES and the meeting with the new Dean, for which I appreciated getting a notice. I had a gig in New Orleans the evening of the 22nd and another gig for Stacy's best friend's wedding on the 25th. It just seemed too hectic and too expensive to make the jump over to Tampa in the interim.

I don't know if we have kept you informed on our property acquisitions in Anna Maria. We bought a lot and then the last day we were on the island, our neighbor put his house up for sale across the street, a 70-year old cottage with a modern add-on. We went through it and fell in love with it and bought it. So, the last available water side (bayou not gulf-front) lot is available at the corner of Coconut and Los Cedras and I will sell it for pretty close to what I put into it if you know anyone interested. The property values in Anna Maria are doubling every five years.

While you are still in a position of substantial influence, I will let you know that I would be happy to keep my annual visiting professorship relationship at USF. I have not been enthusiastic the last couple of years, preoccupied as I have been with navel-gazing and getting my memoirs down. That time is reaching a close and I would be happy to have some ongoing relationship with the school. I would imagine you would need it for something much more substantial than my own contrived series of lectures. Depending on the timing, it might be possible for me to give your CVD Epi course, which would conceivably be useful to us both in the future. But it's no big deal if it doesn't work out.

Regards to Su.

Cordially,



Henry Blackburn, MD
Mayo Professor of Public Health