10.00 World Wide Association of Cancer Institutes, 1968

Office of the President

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
World Wide Association of Cancer Institutes
TO: World Wide Association of Cancer Institutes Committee

FROM: Robert C. Hickey, M.D., Chairman

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM I. World Wide Association of Cancer Institutes

1. On Tuesday, November 26, 1968 at Linden Hill Motel, Bethesda, Maryland, it was proposed by Dr. R. Lee Clark that some coordination of cancer institutes, world wide, should be undertaken. Much discussion followed.

2. In due time, and unwaveringly, a committee was appointed by Dr. Timothy Talbot, President.

Robert C. Hickey, M.D., Chairman
David Wood, M.D.
Timothy Talbot, M.D
Frank Horsfall, M.D. - ex officio
R. Lee Clark, M.D. - ex officio

3. From this discussion and my brief subsequent investigation---------it appeared that it would be most appropriate to look into the activities in this sphere of the International Union Against Cancer. Dr. Michael Shiskin was knowledgeable in this area; was going to France shortly, and was to seek more information with respect to the International Union Against Cancer, and the International Agency for Research on Cancer in Lyons, France, headed by Dr. John Higginson.

Dr. Murray Copeland, Chairman for the United States International Union Against Cancer, Division of Medicine, National Academy of Science, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. is to be contacted prior to the next meeting of that group. It would be my opinion (and his) that a representative should be invited to the next meeting of the American Association for Cancer Institute Directors at Columbia, Missouri to focus on international relations.

Dr. W. Taylor, Secretary General of the International Union Against Cancer, National Cancer Institute, 2500 Adelaide Street, East, Toronto 1, Ontario, Canada should logically be invited to speak to the group.

4. Doctor Endicott explained that under (or in association with) the WHO there is another organization, funded in part by the United States (from my inquiries, the United States, $300,000 of a total budget of $1.3 million), and should be invited.
President de Gaulle, in May 1965, indicated the appropriateness of a common defense against cancer and helped establish the International Agency for Research on Cancer in Lyons, France under the directorship of Dr. John Higginson, formerly of the University of Kansas. Among those known by me to be participating are Germany; France; Italy; Israel; Australia; Russia; United States; Great Britain, and one other. Doctor Higginson is not intimately involved with the International Union Against Cancer.

The agency in Lyons, France is directing its attention particularly to the geographic study of cancer, and in semi-temporary quarters is getting underway. President de Gaulle had indicated a possibility of building a large facility to house the operation.

5. As a modus operandi, it would seem appropriate that the Secretary General of the International Union Against Cancer (Doctor Taylor) be invited to meet the group at Columbia, Missouri, May 18 and 19, 1969. Doctor Tessieres (?spelling), Geneva, Switzerland was suggested as a possible invitee also, or an alternate.

The request for a representative should be put to Doctor Copeland who, with his committee of Mr. Wilcox; Doctor Heidelberg; Doctor Bryant; Doctor Stock, and Doctor Frei would in turn delegate Doctor Taylor.

Dr. John Higginson could be invited, and (avertures) are to be made by Dr. Mike Shinkin. He does have a travel budget.

6. In considering organizational matters, the International Union Against Cancer has individual membership. The scope of membership is not clear to me. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has countries as its membership. The question is, how would the cancer institutes align themselves?

As one working hypothesis, it would appear that this could be an action group; a commission underneath the International Union Against Cancer, and relate by and with communication to Doctor Higginson's organization.

As a further thought, there should be geographical areas identified, and the responsibilities for the invitees to the ultimate organization should rest with the local group, i.e., suggest the North American (not the United States only); Russian; South American; Asian; Western European; Southeast Asian--Australia, New Zealand.

7. One should guard against the proposition that it be just another organization in need of funding and without a mission.
There are some things that should not be, i.e., another International College of Surgery, and International Society of Hematology, and International Congress on Corneal and Scleral Contact Lenses, and an international, etc., etc. It should not constitute itself as an international pressure group.

8. It could be an agency for international exchange on cancer, on an institutional, organizational basis, but not for the minute of technical and scientific detail. It could establish a clearinghouse for visiting professorships, visiting scholars. It should probably not meet more often than every four years, and the Tenth International Cancer Congress would be timely. It probably should have a not too frequent publication, but must have an avenue of expression.

ADDENDUM

Other Discussions:

1. Professor Georges Mathé, Institut de Cancerologie et d'Immunogenetique, Hopital Paul-Brousse, 14 Avenue Paul-Vaillant-Couturier, Villejuif, Paris, France.

His organization discussed. He is a hematologist; heads a unit with 50 beds; has great interest in transplantation. Well pleased by idea, wished to follow further.


Has had a year in Israel, Eleanor Roosevelt International Cancer Research Fellowship at the Weizmann Institute, Rehovoth, Israel, 1961-1963 in carcinogenesis. Believed a good idea.
R. LEE CLARK, M.D.

Original to Censal first sec...rume NY to see this week back plca
thoughts?

Yes it was. Santieli left 
office for lunch anything.

I'm off to see Mrs. Conner, 
June 6 looks over 2 as 
indicated above.
December 6, 1968

Harold P. Rusch, M.D.
Director, McArdle Laboratory
for Cancer Research
Medical Center
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Dear Harold:

Your suggestion is an excellent one and I will pass it on to Dr. R. C. Hickey who is the chairman of the committee appointed by Timothy Talbot to undertake the coordination of the world's cancer institutes. Since you are interested in this perhaps Bob would like to solicit your aid in some of the planning for the meeting and the possibility of organizing something in the way of printed material for the future.

I am personally convinced that this would be a far better opportunity than any other device employed today to bring the cancer institutes into focus with each other.

Sincerely yours,

R. Lee Clark, M.D.
Director and Surgeon-in-Chief

RLC:br

cc: Dr. R. C. Hickey
R. Lee Clark, M.D.

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haven't. I can be sure (as

mention above).
Dear Lee:

At the recent meeting of ACID you suggested a possible meeting of the Directors of cancer centers throughout the world. This suggestion has real merit since each of us would like to have more information about the various cancer centers.

As an introduction to such meeting, it would be helpful if each institute supplied a one or two page brief description of their place. For example, we could very easily describe our laboratory using both sides of one sheet of paper. Such information would describe the research interests and provide a list of the senior staff.

I have enclosed a copy of a bulletin that we send to prospective graduate and postdoctoral research fellows which could be readily modified for the purpose. Such description would not have anything about the details of fellowships but it could mention that fellowships were available.

Sincerely yours,

Harold P. Rusch, M.D.
Director

HPR: sam
Encl.
opportunities in

at the McARDLE LABORATORY
FOR CANCER RESEARCH

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
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The problems being pursued include the intermediary metabolism and the enzymology of normal and tumor tissues, with emphasis on the enzymatic control of metabolic processes; the metabolism and mechanism of action of carcinogens, mutagens, anti-tumor agents, and steroid hormones; the chemistry, physicochemistry, and biosynthesis of nucleic acids and proteins; the mechanisms of drug resistance; the biochemistry of growth and differentiation; the control of mutation, replication, and genetic expression of virus chromosomes, biological and biochemical aspects of viral carcinogenesis; and ultrastructure of membranes.

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A number of graduate and postdoctoral research fellowships are available each year. Applicants should have adequate training in chemistry; a background in the biological sciences is advantageous. The stipends for graduate research fellowships range from $2400 to $2800, plus $500 per year for each dependent, on a tax-free basis, in accordance with the stipends established by the National Institutes of Health for postdoctoral training throughout the country. In addition, all tuition for the entire year, which is $1620 at the present time for nonresidents, will be paid. Postdoctoral fellows receive $6,000 to $7,000 per year, plus $500 for each dependent. Applications for appointments starting between July 1 and September 1 should be made by March 15, if possible.

Application blanks and further information may be obtained from Dr. H. P. Rusch, Director, McArthur Laboratory. The University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 53706.
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