

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

TO : Marvin Kuschner, M.D.
Dean, School of Medicine
State Univ. of N.Y. at Stony Brook

DATE: Nov. 12, 1974

FROM : Clarence Dennis, M.D.

SUBJECT: Outside obligations

Although the outside obligations which I carry at the present time have been discussed on several occasions previously with Dr. Soroff, it seem appropriate to place them formally before you for your consideration as to whether any of them should be relinquished.

1. Member of Board of Directors of National Society for Medical Research. This takes approximately 4 days a year.
2. Member of the Classification Panel on Cardiovascular Devices of the Food and Drug Administration and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Implantable Cardiovascular Devices. This will presumably take about 8 days a year. I feel this is an important position for me to continue to carry, for there will certainly be a new law involving medical devices in the next session of Congress, and how the decisions are made as to standards and scientific review for such devices could well be critical to medicine as a whole.
3. President of the North American Chapter of the Societe Internationale de Chirurgie. Any time taken by this activity will be out of time I would be attending the Congress of the American College of Surgeons or the meeting of the American Surgical Association except that every two years the Societe has a one week meeting. The next is in Edinburg in Sept., 1975. I am obligated to be there since I am on the Central Program Committee as well. This may require a one-day trip to Brussels in March.
4. CO-Coordinator with Dr. Michael E. DeBakey on the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Collaborative Program in Technological Development in the Fields of the Artificial Heart and Devices to Render Circulatory Assistance.*
5. Member of the Ethics Committee of the American Heart Association. This meets twice a year for two-day meetings.
6. Member of the Technical Advisory Group to Technical Committee 150, Subcommittee 2 (cardiovascular devices) of the International Standards Organization. This plays a role in the problem of establishing uniform standards for medical devices so that, for instance, a recorder could be made in Europe and still pass the requirements of standards here, which in too many cases is not possible now. This activity will affect activity with the FDA as well.

* It is difficult to estimate the amount of time to be required by this Russian program. It could be none at all or it could involve either yet another trip to Moscow or further meetings and trips with my Russian counterparts in the U.S. It seems to the U.S. Government to be advantageous to keep the lines open.

