

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

P. O. BOX 33932 - SHREVEPORT - LOUISIANA - 71130

School of Medicine in Shreveport

Surgery

May 29, 1978

Mr. L. M. Frazier, Jr.
Hospital Director
VA Hospital
510 E. Stoner Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71130

Dear Mr. Frazier:

This statement comes as a brief prospectus of what we hope to accomplish in the Department of Surgery at the VA Hospital in the next one to two years.

Section I

House Staff: The number of surgical house staff located at the VA Hospital should be increased from 5 to 7. We expect to have 6 house officers in the VA Hospital in the 1978-79 Academic Year, and do not feel that recruitment for these positions is likely to be a problem in the future.

Staff: We are actively searching and have a potential candidate for a fulltime neurosurgeon in the University. It would seem appropriate for this person to be 3/8 time at the VA Hospital as a part of his total commitment. It would be helpful for me to know approximately what type stipend this position would carry. If our recruitment is successful this individual might be on the grounds sometime in the late fall or winter of 1978.

The part-time employment (minimum 3/8) of Dr. Michael Wolcott as a Clinical Immunologist to work with Dr. Goldman, I presume, is still being processed. I hope this can be brought to conclusion soon.

Section II

During the coming year I hope to recruit one other young surgeon to be 7/8 time at the University and 1/8 time at the VA who would be an oncologist located principally at the University.

In July of '79 the two young surgeons who had originally been interested in coming to Shreveport with me will be free of their commitments; one of them you will recall is a vascular surgeon and one is a specialist in gastrointestinal diseases. I would like to continue to recruit those people if they are available in July of '79. They might have some affiliation with the VA Hospital and the vascular surgeon had wished to have a 5/8 appointment at that institution as a minimum if that is feasible at that time.

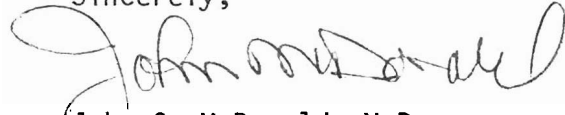
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Section III

Programs: Dr. Goldman is actively pursuing the possibility of having our VA Hospital established as a melanoma center. I think he should be given all possible assistance in this matter. The possibility of establishing a hospice for terminal cancer care at the VA Hospital I hope can be pursued vigorously. Once the oncology program is established at the VA Hospital, I hope that we can arrange a sharing agreement whereby the patients at the LSU Hospital who have oncology problems that would fit into the ongoing studies at the VA could be transferred into that center for their care. I would suggest considering the possibility of transferring any cardiac or cardiothoracic surgery from the VA Hospital to the LSU Hospital as an arrangement of sharing. This would help me in my recruitment for a cardiothoracic surgeon to provide him with the additional material.

I hope these general plans meet with your approval and we can work to bring them about.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John C. McDonald".

John C. McDonald, M.D.
Professor and Chairman

JCMcD/cn