

MEETING OF THE NCAB SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
BOARD ACTIVITIES AND AGENDA

April 22, 1981

Present: Dr. Harold Amos, Chairman                      Staff: Dr. William Walter  
          Dr. Henry Pitot    Dr. Mary Fink  
          Dr. Maureen Henderson                                    Mr. Paul Van Nevel  
          Mrs. Rose Kushner    Dr. Jane Henney  
          Dr. William Powers  
          Mr. Sheldon Samuels

Guests: Mrs. Sheldon Samuels  
          Mr. Jerry Boyd  
          (dark-haired lady on the right?)

Dr. Amos opened the meeting at 7 p.m. The main order of business was to select items from a list of suggestions (copy attached) for topics to be presented at the May 1981 NCAB meeting.

- (1) Discussion of NCI's Ten-Year Report. During thorough discussion of this generally superb report, the possibility of oversell was noted. Mr. Van Nevel offered to rework the illustration to present a more representative picture of minorities involved and to edit for over-enthusiasm, e.g., to use reduce or control for eliminate. Following this, the report will be printed.
- (2) Members agreed that 30 minutes of the May meeting would be devoted to a discussion of foreign research support.
- (3) Mr. Van Nevel reported that the NOVA "Interferon" film had been ordered but members considered it too lengthy (50 minutes) to be included in the May NCAB agenda.
- (4) After much discussion, members agreed to postpone consideration of NCI's Minority Program. It was agreed that when this issue is addressed, the MARC and MBA Programs and the training of minority medical oncologists should be emphasized. No great desire was expressed to include NCI's EEO Program.
- (5) Members considered Dr. Amos's suggestion that the NCAB might, in the future, address itself to the publication of "State of the Art" documents with recommendations for important work areas as NIAID has recently done in its "New Initiatives in Immunology" volume. Staff and other Subcommittee members pointed out that NCI had done much of this in the past, e.g., the cancer "Report to Congress" in 1970, "Origin of Human Cancer," etc. More recently, the JNCI plans to issue a monograph on the BRMP Program. Mr. Van Nevel will gather together some representative examples for Subcommittee members. The point was also made that the advisory councils to the NCI Divisions often are engaged in compiling this type of document.

- (6) Members agreed to postpone consideration of a presentation on human hybridomas by Dr. Henry Kaplan until the October meeting. Discussion ensued on the entire subject of presentations to the NCAB, whether it is by invitation of the Board or from individuals desiring to present their work. The NCAB needs selection criteria, and there was agreement that this Subcommittee should consider these further. During the discussion, the point was made that it would be judicious to invite a speaker if this in any way assisted the NCI Director in the performance of his duties; for this reason, No. 8--a presentation by Norman Anderson, was approved for the May meeting.

During this discussion, plans were laid for a session at the November meeting--specifically December 1--on Centers, with Chairmen and selected representatives from the AACI and the ACCC presenting information about their organizations--what they do, who they are, etc. It was noted that the Chairmen of the divisional advisory councils would be invited to attend this meeting.

There was also discussion of the advisability of the NCAB's holding regional hearings, where local scientists could come and present their research. These could be held, e.g., in Seattle with Dr. Henderson chairing; in Detroit with Dr. Powers; and in Boston with Dr. Amos. There was some concern that these might degenerate into a forum for appeals and might not attract the right people. Nonetheless, Mr. Samuels will prepare a written proposal for regional NCAB hearings for consideration at the next Subcommittee meeting. He asked to be reminded about a week before the meeting is held.

- (7) Dr. McCarthy will be asked to present for 10-15 minutes during the Special Actions Subcommittee on May 19.
- (8) See item 6--Dr. Anderson will be invited to present at the May meeting.
- (9) Dr. DeVita's presentation on contracts is on the agenda.
- (10) R01 and P01 grants were discussed from two standpoints:
1. Should there be a ceiling on support for any single investigator?  
Drs. Amos and Pitot agreed to prepare a first draft of this issue for the next Subcommittee meeting.
  2. Should P01 grants be discouraged in favor of R01's?  
It was agreed that some kind of data base was necessary before this could be assessed intelligently.
- (11) Members agreed that the lack of sufficient construction grants for the future is a grave concern and one that must be addressed. The issue was approved for presentation at the May meeting with Dr. Fox to introduce the subject by a construction project report.
- (12) Topics suggested for further consideration at a later date include "What is NCI doing for professional education," "What is the cost of cancer care," and a report on the JNCI.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

April 2, 1981

POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR MAY 1981 BOARD:

NCAB SUBCOMMITTEE ON ACTIVITIES AND AGENDA

April 22, 1981

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Conference Room 9, Building 31

1. Discussion of first two parts of "Decade of Discovery: Advances in Cancer Research, 1970-1980" - Drs. Amos and Henderson
2. Foreign Research Support - Dr. Gregory O'Connor
3. Nova Interferon film - Mr. Paul VanNevel
4. NCI Minority Programs - Ms. Maxine Richardson and Ms. Nola Whitfield
5. Consideration of NIAID publication, "New Initiatives in Immunology: Summary and Council Recommendations" - Dr. Harold Amos
6. Human Hybridoma - Dr. Henry Kaplan
7. HHS "Public Health Service Human Research Subjects" (Federal Register 1/26/81) - Dr. C. McCarthy, Director, NIH Office of Protection from Research Risks
8. Human Protein Index - Dr. Norman Anderson
9. Contracts - Dr. DeVita
10. RO1 vs. PO1 grants--total support for single investigators - Dr. Amos
11. Construction funds lobby - Dr. Amos