



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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January 2, 1990

Bernard A. Harris, M.D.
Manager, Exercise Countermeasure Project
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Bernard:

I express my appreciation to you for the opportunity to serve as the ECP Task Force facilitator. While the holiday schedule slowed us down a bit, all revisions from the Task Force membership have been accounted for in the final Task Force Plan. The original copy of the final report has been delivered to the Task Force Chairman, Dr. Bill Squires. The endorsement signature page we requested of each Task Force member is being mailed under separate cover, and should all be "in hand" by the end of this week. I will forward these to Dr. Squires as soon as they are complete.

The consensus decision making format produced a high quality product that is strongly supported by the Task Force participants; you are to be congratulated for your support of the process. I have had numerous meetings and conversations with a number of the Task Force members, and working group chairmen, since our early December meeting, and it is with this information in mind that I offer the following observations and recommendations.

I believe that a "blue ribbon" panel of Task Force members has been assembled, and through the plan development and revision process you have generated a real sense of commitment and support from these people. I have been told repeatedly that this process generated a spirit of cooperation and commitment that had not existed before. Dr. Squires did a superlative job of involving the "right" mix of external scientists and NASA personnel. I make this observation with the recommendation that you continue to capitalize on the momentum that has been created, and allow this group to maintain their involvement as the science and EDO Plans are implemented. The Task Force structure and leadership worked well, I would continue this process.

Further, I offer the following recommendations to bring the work completed to date to fruition:

- bring the Task Force, or a smaller core of members, back together to write a targeted RFP that could be released expeditiously to the scientific community; and,
- form a Peer Research Review administrative process to accommodate competitive applications to answer the key questions and issues identified in the plan.

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These recommendations appear to me to be the logical follow-up sequence to our work, and will insure the most effective applications of available resources. In this way we not only guarantee the highest quality science available, we also serve as fiduciary agents for the taxpayer's support.

I would be pleased to assist the Task Force in its future work, and may be able to offer particular expertise in the establishment of the research review process. I wish you a most productive year, and hope that you soon find yourself as one of the newest members of our Astronaut Corps.

Sincerely,

Donald F. Haydon

cc: William Squires, Ph.D.
Chairman,
ECP Task Force