

*CTR Special Projects*

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Re: Dr. Richard J. Hickey

For the past two years Dr. Hickey has received CTR Special Project funding of approximately \$40,000 per year. Recently, however, the term of his Special Project expired and he has now requested support to continue his studies for the next two years at an annual level of slightly over \$55,000. Copies of Dr. Hickey's draft proposal and budget are enclosed herewith, together with a copy of a memorandum he recently prepared on the status of his work.

Based upon Dr. Hickey's work during the term of his recent CTR Special Project and upon our visits and conversations with him, we recommend that his work continue to receive Special Project funding. The reasons for our recommendation follow.

Particularly during the past twelve months, Dr. Hickey has published a number of articles concerning his work and persuasively supporting the constitutional theory originally advanced by Sir Ronald Fisher and others. On July 5, I forwarded six of his recent writings to you, including three in The Lancet, an article in a respected German scientific journal, his chapter in the book Smoking Behavior: Motives and Incentives, and comments and questions published in Proceedings of the Sixth Berkeley Symposium on Mathematical Statistics and Probability.

LG 2002693

SHOOK, HARDY & BACON

November 7, 1973  
Page 2

Since July 3, Dr. Hickey has had four additional writings published or accepted, copies of which I am enclosing. They are:

Carbon Monoxide: Smoking, Air Pollution, Cardiovascular Disease, and Physiological Homeostasis. The Lancet, 2:571-2, September 8, 1973.

Smoking Hazards to the Fetus. British Medical Journal, 3:501, September 1, 1973 [printing errors corrected 3:552, September 8, 1973].

Coffee, Tea, Tobacco and Cardiovascular Disease. New England Journal of Medicine [in press; manuscript enclosed].

Air Pollution, Smoking and Chronic Disease: Influence of Constitutional Factors. Journal of Occupational Medicine [in press].

Dr. Hickey is also awaiting editorial decisions regarding publication of four additional manuscripts which he has completed. Three are short communications; one submitted to the German scientific journal Klinische Wochenschrift and two to Nature. The fourth manuscript, entitled "Ecological Genetic and Statistical Studies on Demographic and Chemical Variables Related to Chronic Disease Mortality in Man," is quite lengthy and has been submitted to the Journal of Human Ecology.

The Human Ecology manuscript is highly significant. If published and given the attention it merits, it should be an important contribution to the growing evidence implicating air pollution in the etiology of many chronic diseases now ascribed to smoking. Based upon his multivariate analyses of data from 38 metropolitan areas of the United States, as well as upon biological and experimental results of other scientists, Dr. Hickey has concluded that certain chemicals are likely to be hazards to human life at the concentrations at which they appear in the atmospheres of some of our urban areas. He feels the association of smoking with certain chronic diseases may ultimately be proved spurious.

Several other manuscripts based upon Dr. Hickey's data are in various stages of preparation. For example, his preliminary results indicate that heredity may be the most important

LG 2002694

SHOOK, HARDY & BACON

November 7, 1973  
Page 3

factor in the development of arteriosclerosis in young people, while environmental factors become increasingly significant with age. He also has extensive data regarding such factors as race, poverty, sex and overcrowding of dwellings which will provide the foundation for further manuscripts.

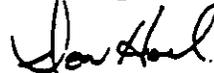
We are particularly impressed by Dr. Hickey's activities in publicly condemning the widespread abuse of statistics in the smoking and health area and by the support he is receiving from such scientists as Dr. Seltzer, Dr. Sterling and P. R. J. Burch of London. Dr. Hickey has been particularly vigorous in defending the studies of the late Dr. Yerushalmy suggesting that the reported decreased birth weights of infants born to smoking mothers may be due to the smoker, not smoking.

In the past Dr. Hickey's colleagues and coauthors, Dr. Richard Clelland and Dr. David E. Boyce, have collaborated with him on a "donated time" basis. In view of the considerable assistance they have been to Dr. Hickey and of the competing demands for their time, the consultant fees now budgeted for them appear to be in order.

Because Dr. Hickey's recent funding has now expired, it is requested that a timely decision be made concerning his continued support. The delay in presenting this proposal to you was caused, in great part, by extended discussions by Dr. Hickey with his institution's financial office. We recommend that Special Project funding in the amount of \$55,066 be approved for one year with a retroactive beginning date of September 1, 1973, and that support be committed in an equal amount for the following year, contingent upon satisfactory progress during the first year.

Please advise Dave Hardy, Bill Shinn or me of your decision as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Donald K. Hoel

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cc: Alexander Holtzman, Esq.  
Lester Pollack, Esq.

LG 2002695