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November 20, 1984

M. Carman Pettapiece, D.O.
Ferne Land
Broad Cove Meadows
Cumberland Foreside, ME 04110

Dear Carm:

Over the past several years we have seen develop from a dying college of liberal arts, a new university, consisting of a reorganized St. Francis College, a newly created College of Osteopathic Medicine and a newly created College of Health Sciences. An accurate and objective compilation of that evolution is important to those people of today and tomorrow whose endeavors continue that developmental process as well as to others who may wish to emulate it. It is likewise important to recognize all those who have contributed to that accomplishment. Moreover, there is, within the sequence of events and relationships, an interesting tale to be told and enjoyed.

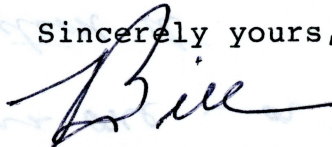
With these thoughts, I am attempting to gather the pertinent facts, figures, recollections, reminiscences, anecdotes, etc.; in short the history of it all, from those who were part of the beginnings and of the early years. It is important to do so now before accuracy becomes clouded in the mists of time.

You were one of those involved in the development of what we all look upon today with pride. Therefore, I am asking you to send to me as brief or lengthy a synopsis as you wish of your recollection of the events and steps which led to the existence of our present institution. If you have any correspondence, clippings, pictures, etc., which would help to document the history, I would sincerely appreciate your enclosing copies of the same with your comments. Please be assured it is my conviction that accuracy is of paramount importance in this endeavor and I am committed to the production of a history which will be a true reflection of our past. Thus, if you have something negative or unpleasant to tell, it may be equally as important as those positive and happy circumstances.

If you have any questions about this project, please do not hesitate to contact me and be assured that I will keep those of you who respond informed of my progress. If you have any suggestions for my project or its process, please forward them to me. Any materials you wish returned to you will be returned. Enclosed, please find a list of those I am contacting.

Thanks again for your help.

Sincerely yours,



William F. Bergen, D.O.

WFB/smt

Enclosure

Dear Bill:

Have read and re-read your letter:-

As usual, an excellent Bill Bergen Idea:-

Actually if one was to follow Bill Bergen around even since he came to Maine a good idea would be gotten as to how things get done and done well -- your courage, foresight, forthrightness, clarity of thought and ideas transformed into action for the profession and the hospital - then later the college - make up a thesis for dedication to the profession --- all of which culminates in a great share of the glory of achievement -- "NECOM" -- culmination began or at least became a part of all this in the embodiment of the speech you made at the end of your MOA Presidential year -- Never will forget the thrust of that Kennebunkport speech:- That others have been purposefully involved in the formation of the college is obvious...but there has to be leadership and then ideas translated into action...--- my role in all of this is minimal compared to the giant efforts of many others...:-

Item - I recall a meeting at OHM one day (NEFOM) - some action was needed stat; funds were needed - there were none -- so I volunteered to help and I guess, according to Bob Brown, this was a major step in accomplishing one of the early phases of development.

Item - Recall one day in the middle of site explorations, you came into the department and announced with joy and eye sparkle "We've done it - St. Francis is it" that indeed was a great day

Item - Meetings with so many on 'how to establish a curriculum - a faculty - an outline, if that's the word, of a G.P. oriented 4 year program which would satisfy all of us and would meet accreditation standards' - I know I wrestled with the Radiology section, long and hard

(over)

Identifying 'items' is hard with the passing of so much time but I'm sure the items I can identify are few and minimam compared with the whole 'gang'

So Bill, I'm afraid I cannot be of major assistance in your so successfully launched historical venture-- however I commend you on it and hope a continuity of thought, effort and accomplishment can be documented to you satisfaction: -

Thank you for writing me on this

All that you do and have done for all of us

BEING YOU

Sincerely

Carman
Carman

December 10, 1984

Bill: I think I have an 8x10 picture (taken by Whitney Draper) of the 1st graduating class officers (& myself) standing in front of the sign the class gave to the school - no doubt the school has one - on the negative - but I thought I'd mention it

MoP