

Chapter Nine Working With The Federal Government

The relationship between academic health science centers and the federal government is one of the most important in our modern society.

It has helped to build the finest health care delivery system in the world, as well as, a nation wide biomedical research program that is making progress in fighting the diseases that afflict the human species, that was unimaginable a few decades ago. It has helped to develop the finest medical education system in the world and as a by-product the finest physicians, dentist, nurses and other health care professionals to meet the needs of our nation.

The members and leadership of the GBA recognized this from the very first days of the organization and immediately set into motion the actions necessary to build very strong ties between the GBA and the various federal departments and agencies that impact so heavily on the mission of academic health science centers.

The National Institutes of Health:

Since it was first created many senior business officers had developed strong ties with key individuals within the NIH and this grew much stronger once the GBA was founded.

Tom Fitzpatrick, the third National Chairperson of the GBA, was a very important leader in developing, strengthening and improving this relationship.



From left to right: “Red” Stover, June Siegel, Marvin Siegel, Wayne Kennedy, and Tom Fitzgerald.

Tom Fitzgerald was an expert in most aspects of NIH grants management, rules and regulations. This includes the book he has written on Cost of Animal Care Facilities as well as many other articles and publications related to NIH sponsored programs.

Tom was, Director Office of Grants Administration and Institutional Studies, Deputy Budget Chief, Medical Schools, New York University Medical Center.

In 1978 Tom was the driving force in a program jointly developed by the GBA committee's on External Relations and Professional Development and the officials from the National Institutes of Health.

The program was developed by a specially appointed committee and included members from both the GBA and NIH. The announcement for the program said: "This joint effort is designed to bring together individuals from the medical school business officers and the National Institutes of Health to discuss topics of common interest relating to NIH grants programs."

The program reviewed the grant application process through the entire grantee/grantor cycle by using the case study approach.

Dr. John A.D. Cooper, president of the AAMC provided the welcoming remarks.

Participants in addition to those mentioned above included: Ira Goodman, Assistant Director, Office of Grants, NYU, John C. Bartlett, Ph.D., Associate Dean, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, Red Stover, Associate Dean for Administration, University of North Carolina, Richard Littlejohn, Associate Dean, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, Dan Benford, Assistant Dean for Administration, Indiana University School of Medicine, Greg Handlir, Assistant Dean Fiscal Affairs, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Reggie Graves, Executive Assistant Dean, Louisiana State University, Shreveport, Jack Groves, Assistant Provost for Administration, Southern Illinois University, School of Medicine, Lester Buryn, Assistant Vice President for Health Affairs, and Finance, University of Alabama, and many others, and from the National Institute of Health, Tom Malone, Deputy Director of NIH, Helen Schroeder, Assistant Policy and Procedures Officer, Ernestine Taylor, Policy and Procedures Officer, Division of Grants and contract Management, Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

A questionnaire was sent to all participants and the response indicated very high level of satisfaction and benefit from the program.

Because of this success a second program was presented in Washington, D.C., in September 1978. This program was presented by the Planning Coordinators Group, Southern Region. Participants included: Lawrence Horowitz, M.D., staff Director, Senate Sub Committee of Health and Scientific Research, Robert Knauss, M.D., Division of Medicine, Bureau of Health Manpower, Stephan Lawten, Chief Council House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, John Lordan, Chief of the Financial Management Branch, Office of Management and Budget, and Jesse Steinfeld, M.D., Dean, School of Medicine, Medical College of Virginia, and former United States Surgeon General.

The title of the program was, "Medical Schools And The Government – Partners Or adversaries ?".

This program was also very well received.


As you can see from the names of the attendees, both medical school and government, in addition to the subjects discussed the fact that the membership of the GBA and this many officials from NIH were meeting together and discussing mutual goals and objectives, was extremely important and positive to the work of the nations health science centers.

Over the ensuing years many meetings took place between members of the GBA External Relations Committee and officials from NIH. The subjects discussed at these meetings were of great importance to the members of the GBA and their parent institutions.

In December 1979 the GBA and NIH jointly sponsored a program subject, "The Contract Award Process". This was the third program developed jointly by the GBA's External Relations Committee and Professional Development Committee, and the NIH.

December 2-4, 1979


The Contract Award Process



GROUP ON BUSINESS AFFAIRS
Association of American
Medical Colleges

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
Department of Health,
Education and Welfare

Cross Keys Inn
Baltimore, Maryland



Place: Cross Keys Inn, Baltimore, Maryland
Date: December 2-4, 1979
Registration Fee: \$185.00 per person (See General Information)

Make checks payable to:
Johns Hopkins Oncology Center
Pre-registration is required because of guaranteed hotel and meal arrangements
This form with payment included should be sent no later than November 5, 1979 to:
Cynthia Scott
Conference Manager
3845 N. 21st Street
Arlington, Virginia 22205
(703) 533-7225

TRANSPORTATION
The Cross Keys Inn is located on the route of the Baltimore-Washington Airport limousine service. There is a limousine leaving the airport every hour on the hour starting at 6:00 am, ending at 10:00 pm. The forty minute ride will cost approximately \$4.00. If you are driving to the Cross Keys, a map has been provided above for your convenience.

NAME TAG AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Name _____
Title _____
Representing _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Telephone _____

Please Note: Please mail the enclosed hotel reservation form directly to the hotel.
Will spouse be attending? yes _____ no _____

**GBA-NIH
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of Wake Forest University

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Chief
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National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

At a meeting in March 1981 the two groups discussed a number of important matters of mutual interest; [1] new accounting standards that vacation be accrued on NIH grants and contracts, [2] A21 requirement that Animal recharge rates be burdened with full overhead, [3] the misconception on the part of many faculty grant writers that listing 95% effort will improve funding possibilities.

Medicare:

In 1969 auditors from the general accounting office, reviewed medical records in a large mid western medical center and found serious discrepancies regarding bills sent for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

As a result the department of HEW issued regulations, i.e., Intermediary Letter 392 which clarified the ground rules under which physicians providing care to Medicare beneficiaries could bill for these services.

The most important requirement was, “personal and identifiable care”, which meant if the attending physician did not perform the initial history and physical he or she immediately thereafter, met with the house officer, reviewed the diagnosis and planned for the care of the patient, and frequently visited the patient while in the hospital.

The GBA was active in advising its membership of these requirements and planning steps to be sure there was full compliance.

In 1978 HEW published preliminary regulations in the federal register that would greatly reduce the ability of certain teaching physicians to collect for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

The AAMC established a Medicare committee to meet with representatives of the federal government to discuss the proposed regulations. Meetings were held in Washington once a month for almost a year.

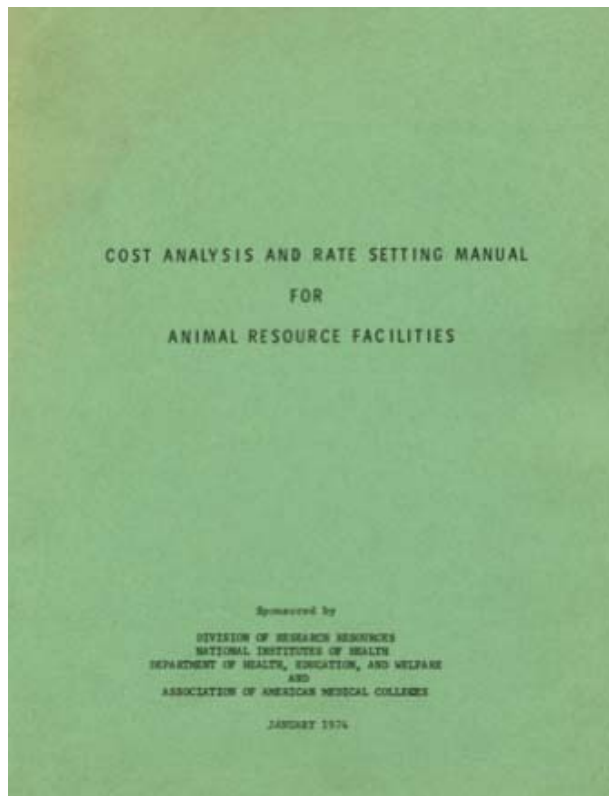
The meetings proved to be very productive and as a result the proposed regulations were not issued at that time.

Veterans Administration Hospitals:

The partnership between the Academic Medical Centers, and the nations VA hospitals plays a very important role in the mission of medical schools as related to medical education, research and patient care.

The GBA has provided leadership over the years in resolving problems of mutual concern to the medical schools and the VA hospitals.

Issues that have been discussed, and in most cases resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned, include such matters as; sharing information regarding medical school faculty who have part time VA appointments and receive a portion of their salary and benefits from the VA, differences between medical school benefit programs and the VA (federal) benefits programs, (i.e., how to treat all faculty as fairly as possible). Sharing important resources to the benefit of their joint mission and programs.



The “Cost Analysis and Rate Setting Manual for Animal Resource Facilities” was published in January 1974. This project was jointly sponsored by the Division Of Research Resources, National Institute of Health, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and The Association of American Medical Colleges. The manual begins with the following acknowledgement: “This manual on cost analysis and rate setting for animal facilities owes it’s existence to the Division of Research Resources Ad Hoc Committee on Animal Costs and the working sub committee that developed the text and tables, and to the encouragement and support of Dr .John A. D. Cooper, President, Association of American Medical Colleges, and Dr. Thomas Bowery, Director, Division of Research Resources, National Institutes of Health. Members of the ad hoc committee and sub committee were; Dr. Michael Ball, AAMC, Mr. Thomas Campbell, AAMC & Upstate Medical Center, State University of New York, Mr. Thomas Fitzgerald, Chairman, New York University, Medical Center, and Mr. Clifton Himmelsbach, Georgetown University School of Medicine.