

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: National Service

Series/Staff Member: Jim Kreidler

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 1283

FolderID:

Folder Title:

[Meeting Request - Ross University - National Service - Forgiveness of Student Loans] [loose]

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

2

Shelf:

4

Position:

3

Coder: MIC
Date: 4.16.43

- I. Purpose of Letter:
- ☐ Wants to Participate
 - ☐ Summer of Service
 - ☐ National Initiative
 - ☐ General Commentary
 - ☐ Pro
 - ☐ Con
 - ☒ Suggestions for Programs
 - ☐ Requesting General Information
 - ☐ Summer of Service
 - ☐ General Program
 - ☐ Offering their Services
 - ☐ Volunteer
 - ☐ Internships
 - ☐ White House
 - ☐ National Service (Jim)
 - ☐ Employment

Specific Request

- II. Writer Information:
- A. Age (Circle One):
Under 17 17-25 Over 25 Unspecified
- B. Education Level (Circle One):
1. Student:
 - ☐ Elementary
 - ☐ Secondary
 - ☐ College
 - ☐ Graduate
 2. Non-Student (Level Completed):
 - ☐ Secondary
 - ☐ College
 - ☐ Graduate

III. Re-source to Other Departments

- ☐ Commission
- ☐ (Personal, service organizations,
or business proposals)
- ☐ Scheduling/Gloria
- ☐ Other _____

IV. Certified Mail

Ross University

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
460 WEST 34TH STREET
12TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001
(212) 279-5500

CAMPUS:
PORTSMOUTH, DOMINICA, WEST INDIES

TELEX 12319 EAST EUR NYK

FAX 212-629-3147

March 12, 1993

Mr. Eli Segal
Campaign Chief of Staff
National Service Program
Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

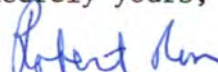
Dear Mr. Segal:

Enclosed you will find a press release sent to the media called "Helping Hands", and a copy of my letter to you dated February 4, 1993.

We are interested in working with you on this program, and I have asked both Johathan Slade and Bob Sommers of MWW/Strategic Communications, to visit with you to discuss our program.

I look forward to receiving your early reply.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Robert Ross

RR:mf
enc.

Jonathan Slade
Bob Sommers

MEETING REQUEST

Ross University

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
460 WEST 34TH STREET
12TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001
(212) 279-5500

CAMPUS:
PORTSMOUTH, DOMINICA, WEST INDIES

TELEX 12319 EAST EUR NYK

FAX 212-629-3147

February 4, 1993

Eli Segal
Campaign Chief of Staff
National Service Program
Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Mr. Segal:

I wish to congratulate you on your recent appointment as campaign chief of staff to head the national-service program in President Clinton's new administration.

Enclosed please find copies of my letters to Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Ms. Donna E. Shalala, Secretary of Health & Human Services, and Mr. Richard W. Riley, Secretary of Education.

It is my understanding that you will be creating a national service program through which students could have their education loans forgiven.

I would certainly like the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this matter in further detail.

Enclosed please find catalogs for Ross University School of Medicine and Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine for your perusal.

Thank you for your time, and I am looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Robert Ross

RR/tt
Enc.

Ross University

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

460 WEST 34TH STREET

12TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001

(212) 279-5500

CAMPUS:

PORTSMOUTH, DOMINICA, WEST INDIES

TELEX 12310 EAST EUR NYK

FAX 212-628-3147

"ROSS UNIVERSITY SETS ASIDE MEDICAL SCHOOL ADMISSION FOR MINORITY CANDIDATES DEDICATED TO PROVIDING PRIMARY CARE"

HELPING HANDS INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO OVERCOME MCAT'S FAILURE TO PROPERLY ASSESS STUDENTS

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- Dr. Robert Ross, Founder and Chairman of Ross University, announced a dramatic new program designed to recruit minority medical school students to provide primary care in America's inner cities and rural areas. The Ross University School of Medicine program, designed by former Deans of U.S. medical schools offers its Basic Science Program in Dominica (West Indies); all of its students' clinical clerkships or rotations can be taken in U.S. hospitals. It is considered by many to be the best alternative for those qualified students unable to gain admittance to U.S. medical schools. Ross University has had over 2000 graduates the vast majority of whom are American citizens who have returned to the United States to do their clinical clerkships and to practice medicine.

Ross University's "Helping Hands Initiative" is designed to attract minority students who are interested in providing primary care in physician-deprived areas such as inner cities and rural locations. Students who qualify for this program may be eligible for federal government student loan programs. In addition, Ross University will make available Ross Loans to students who will make a commitment to serve in physician-deprived areas. These loans will be repayable to the University either through community service or by repayment of the initial loan.

According to Dr. Robert Ross, "While the appropriate authorities are debating and discussing how to alleviate our health care problems and to provide primary care to inner cities and rural areas, I have the ability to do something concrete to solve these problems immediately, and I will do all that I can to insure that we educate more doctors who are willing to devote themselves to primary care. Moreover, I will provide additional opportunities to minority students so that they will be able to practice medicine."

The "Helping Hands Initiative" was created to overcome what Dr. Robert Ross perceives as inequitable admission standards that do not appropriately address an applicant's ability to practice medicine or to succeed in a traditional medical program. In addition, the high cost of medical education makes it difficult for students without substantial assets to afford the cost of medical school in the United States. In selecting students for the Ross Program, the University will take into consideration the fact that students who are dedicated to a call of serving the public do better than those who do not have such aspirations.

An Annual Report published by the AAMC (American Association of Medical Colleges) revealed that a plan called "Project 3000 by 2000" had been launched at the 1991 Annual Meeting. The objective was to stimulate member institutions to develop programs to increase the number of under-represented minority matriculants to U.S. medical schools by 3,000 by the year 2000. Enrollment by under-represented minorities had not kept pace with population increases. In 1990, even though under-represented minorities made up 18.5% of the country's population, only 7% of the students enrolled in U.S. medical schools were from that group.

The same Annual Report indicated that studies have shown that, over a period of several years, mean scores for "minority examinees" were lower than the average for majority examinees. Results of a similar correlation and regression studies of MCAT results revealed a "weak" correlation between MCAT scores and performance in a medical school program. An article published in the New England Journal of Medicine a few years ago stated that in one year, of 48 applicants accepted to U.S. medical schools with a score of "1" (out of 15) on the reading portion of the MCAT, 41 actually graduated from a U.S. medical school. The "Helping Hands Initiative" directly addresses the three bigger impediments to recruiting and training Black, Hispanic, and Native American students to become doctors: culturally biased admissions tests, high costs, and the lack of a community or cultural context.

Ross University School of Medicine is, along with Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Rochester School of Medicine, one of the few institutions of medical education that does not require MCAT scores for admission. By taking a "whole person" approach to medical school admissions, Ross University obviates any cultural biases built-in to standardized tests and assesses all candidates on the basis of scholastic preparation, personal motivation, and ability to become qualified, caring physicians.

Ross University will assist candidates in obtaining applicable student loans and scholarships and will, on a case by case basis, offer the Ross Loan program to qualified students. Ross University's orientation toward primary care focuses students on the day-to-day medical needs of Americans and on physicians' basic obligation to make their skills available to those in need. "I have great expectations and support for President Clinton's proposed health care program", Dr. Ross said, "but I know that the political process can take time to achieve results. America needs 100,000 primary care doctors now. Almost 6,000 communities have no access to general physicians, even though the government doles out \$200 million in grants each year to subsidize training in primary care, many of the students who attend United States medical schools under these grants do not abide by obligations to provide such care." The primary medical care most needed in America is rural and inner city areas and where services at best, are provided in distant and overcrowded emergency rooms substituting for primary medical care.

The lack of physicians willing to practice primary care medicine, even though it is financially rewarding - however, possibly not as financially rewarding as many specialties in medicine - is not only a disgrace to this country's medical education programs, but impairs the ability of Americans throughout the country to obtain affordable medical care. Ross University School of Medicine has graduated over 2,000 physicians, many of whom practice medicine in primary care throughout the United States.