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Jeffrey A. Brown, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Associate Professor
and Chairman

December 14, 1990

Chairman,
Department of Neurological Surgery
Medical College of Ohio
Toledo, Ohio

Dear Doctor,

Congratulations! If you are reading this document on December 14, 2014 as Chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery you will have exceeded all of my expectations.

This department began with the tenure of Mark Rayport, M.D., Ph.D. who came to Toledo from San Francisco in 1969. Until 1985 there was a Department of Neuroscience combining Neurology and Neurological Surgery in one area. During Dr. Rayport's era, doctors Larry Fried, M.D., Arthur Gerber, M.D. and Samuel Greenblatt, M.D. were faculty members as well as myself. I joined the department at the beginning of 1983. I came as an assistant professor in January, 1983 from Brooklyn, New York and Chicago, Illinois. On June 25, 1990 I was appointed the second chairman. Dr. Rayport brought the department from the Maumee Valley Hospital to our current campus. He spent his years developing his clinical research program in epilepsy with the assistance of Shirley Ferguson, M.D., a psychiatrist, and Dr. Rayport's wife, and Steve Corrie, M.D., a neurologist. He also brought with him Hardy Waller, Ph.D., a neurophysiologist. This is the biblical history of the department. Basically in twenty-five years, the department went from consisting of Mark Rayport and Hardy Waller to those two plus myself.

This is a small university hospital becoming smaller. It is a small medical school becoming smaller. Neurosurgery has undergone a revolution in the last 25 years—CT, MRI, operating microscopes, CT guided stereotaxic surgery, laser surgery, surgery of the skull base. Neurosurgery at MCO has ridden all of these advances. As technical advances become more expensive for each new leap, I expect smaller institutions like MCO to have greater difficulty to remain at the forefront, unless we grow. I sincerely hope that in the next 25 years you are more than a two-man department. I hope that you are a department of physician scientists who have made your mark on the current practice of neurosurgery. I hope that neurosurgery has continued to attract the brightest of young physicians because of the intrinsic intellectual excitement of its practice. I am young enough to remain full of hope for 25 years of growth, and that you have inherited a birthright that will make my generation proud.

Sincerely yours,

Jeffrey A. Brown, M.D.
Associate Professor and Chairman