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December 5, 1990

Chairman of 2014  
Department of Otolaryngology  
Head and Neck Surgery  
Medical College of Ohio  
P.O. Box 10008  
Toledo, Ohio 43699

Dear Chairman:

If I am fortunate, I will be standing next to you as the capsule is reopened and you have a chance to read the history of the Department of Otolaryngology.

We first began as a Division of Surgery. There was myself, Barbara Hankenhof, a nurse and a secretary, Phyllis Williams. That was the complete representation of the Department of Otolaryngology at the Medical College of Ohio. By applying the three As, which are often the means to succeed, that is, Availability, Affability and Ability in that order of importance, we slowly began to grow and realized the necessity to become our own department.

After appropriately bribing, threatening and seducing all the necessary individuals, the Department of Otolaryngology was founded on November 1, 1988. Millions throughout the world celebrated. To my surprise, this date has not become a national holiday.

At the time we became a department, our staff had grown to two full-time otolaryngologists, that is, myself, Dr. Allan Rubin and Dr. Richard Judkins. In addition, we had brought on board a full time scientist, Dr. Donald Godfrey, as well as a part-time scientist, Dr. Susan Shore. Their roles were to "scientificate" and provide the basic science research critical for the development of an academic department. It was hoped that the physicians as well as the planned additions of clinical Ph.Ds would maintain the other half of the scientific research, that is, the clinical research. As of this time, we have been most fortunate in being able through collaboration with various departments to continue in both clinical and basic research and have presented our results at various national and international meetings.

When we came into existence, we had three major goals. The first was excellent patient care and our department has grown in all aspects critical for our clinical development. With the acquisition of new otolaryngologists, we have planned to expand our services both in terms of availability and subspecialties.

Our second major goal was to provide didactic and hands on teaching of various aspects of otolaryngology to both the medical students and residents from the various departments that rotate through our service. We have become a most popular service through which to rotate and we continue to have individuals from diverse programs including outside the Medical College.

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Our third goal, which has yet to be developed, is to have our own otolaryngology residency program. As of 1990, we have residents in otolaryngology coming from the Cleveland Clinic that rotate through our department. It is our hope that by the time you read this letter, we will have our own residents and be able to institute a new form of slavery in the 21st century.

If nothing else, most of us have enjoyed working in the Department of Otolaryngology. This was particularly expressed at our annual Christmas parties. This is a chance for us to express our gratitude to the people who make the department work, such as, the nurses, the secretaries and the clerks.

At our second Annual Otolaryngology Christmas Party, the Dean of the Medical School, Dr. Richard Leighton, presented a small review of our members which was part of a "Roast." We are enclosing the Dean's poem which will hopefully serve to remind us, who are still around when this capsule is opened, of the fun we had at the Medical College of Ohio.

Sincerely yours,



Allan M. Rubin, M.D., Ph.D.  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

AMR:drk

enclosures

Twas the month before Christmas  
And a Friday at the College  
Not a chairman was stirring  
Not even a colleague.  
The surgeons were settled  
All smug at their work  
While visions of head trauma  
Drove them berserk.  
Dr. Hageman in his scrubs  
Dr. Merrick in his beret  
Had just settled in  
For a long operative stay.  
When out in the parking lot  
There arose such a clatter  
I sprang from my office  
To see what was the matter.  
Away with my camera  
I flew with the flash  
And released the shutter  
Expecting a crash.

#### CHORUS

The sun on the crest  
Of the painted asphalt  
Added new sparkle  
To the crystals of salt.  
When what to my wondering  
Eyes should appear  
But a rusty Impala  
With automatic gear.  
The driver was Canadian  
Though he looked like a Cuban  
In a moment I knew  
It must be Dr. Rubin.  
More rapid than orthopods  
His staff they came  
And he whistled and shouted  
And called them by name.  
Now Judkins, Now Godfrey,  
Now Korzec and Shore  
On Ying, On Yang,  
On Hankenhof and Vanderpoel.  
To the top of Dowling  
To the top of the Morse  
Now dash away, dash away  
To the golf course.

#### CHORUS

On the first tee I heard  
A sound that I knew  
The prancing and pawing  
Of each cleated shoe.  
As he held his head down  
And was turning around  
His ball down the fairway  
Came with a bound.

He spoke many a word  
To the gods of the water  
As he saw his ball sink  
And took less score than he ought'er.  
His clothes got all wet  
As it started to pour  
But he kept to his task  
As he shouted, "fore!"  
He had a droll swing  
On the green and his belly  
Shook when he putted  
Like a bowl full of jelly.  
And I heard him exclaim  
As he slogged out of sight  
Rappy holidays to all  
And to all a good night.

**CHORUS:**

Rubin, Rubin, we've been thinking  
What a great world this would be  
If you guys were all transported  
Far beyond the old Maumee.

**Written and performed by Dr. Richard Leighton  
Dean of the Medical Faculty  
Otolaryngology 1990 Christmas Party - November 30, 1990**