

419-381-4172

3000 Arlington Avenue

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 10008
Toledo, Ohio 43699-0008



Office: 419-381-4485
Fax: 419-382-6182

Carl E. Hunt, M.D.
Professor and Chairman

December 14, 1990

Chairman
Department of Pediatrics
Medical College of Ohio
Year 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Writing a letter to the Department Chairman in 2014 is a very unique challenge and opportunity.

The medical school is now 25 years old, and the Department of Pediatrics has been in active existence for almost 20 years. I have only been at MCO 2.5 years, but I will nevertheless try to briefly summarize the current status of the Department.

The Department of Pediatrics at MCO has established a reasonable role as a tertiary referral center, especially as related to oncology and cardiology. We have approximately 25 full time faculty at Medical College Hospital, with one full time faculty member based at Toledo Hospital and serving as Director of Pediatric Education there. During these past years, a major thrust has been to establish the clinical programs within the divisions of the department. Although several of the divisions remain as one-person divisions, reasonably developed clinical and tertiary referral programs do exist. To amplify these points, I am attaching a copy of our most recent department annual report.

The residency program has not developed to the desired size and quality. We currently have six positions each year for first-year residents, plus two positions in the combined medicine-pediatric residency program. However, these positions have not filled during the past 3-4 years. We have very poor visibility in the region in regard to resident recruitment due to lack of a children's hospital and lack of a centralized clinical program, and therefore interview only 6-8 MCO students each year and 5-10 students from other medical schools. We are in the process of significantly expanding our full time faculty commitment to education, and are hopeful that we are now beginning to see some improvement in this situation.

At the present time, the residency program includes Toledo Hospital and St. Vincent Medical Center as well as Medical College Hospital. Both community hospitals are affiliated rather than integrated hospitals. St. Vincent Medical Center has no academic full time faculty, but does have

geographic full time pediatricians, primarily in ambulatory care. Toledo Hospital, in addition to the academic full-time director of pediatric medical education mentioned above, has seven geographic full-time neonatologists and four geographic full-time pulmonologists. There is considerable agitation and tension currently regarding our efforts to restructure one of these affiliated hospital as an integrated hospital, having academic full-time faculty based at that hospital. This change is necessary to improve the structure of the residency program and is being strongly urged by the Residency Review Committee as well.

Another major issue at this time is the possible development of a children's hospital. I sincerely hope that this issue will seem very arcaic and of historical interest only at the time of this reading. Although individual pediatricians in the community do support the concept, there is considerable resistance on the part of Toledo Hospital and St. Vincent Medical Center to the possibility that inpatient pediatrics would shift from their institution to the newly created children's hospital. MCO is not insisting that a new children's hospital be located on the MCO campus. Toledo Hospital would be an obvious choice for the location of a children's hospital since all of the obstetrics and neonatology is currently located there, including a 60 bed Neonatal ICU and an high risk obstetric service with over 5,000 deliveries annually. However, we currently have no consensus that the medical school would have sufficient control over the educational and other activities in order to make this location workable. Thus, although I am very actively pursuing the development of children's hospital, we currently have no assurance that this will happen in the foreseeable future, nor have we established its location.

The Department of Pediatrics has not yet developed an adequate research component to complement its other professional accomplishments. Although the clinical services have been reasonably well developed and the educational programs and objectives are now showing promise for the future, the development of research programs has been slower. The intention over the next five years is to increase the number of full-time faculty to approximately 40. I am anticipating that this faculty growth will also permit us to develop active laboratory as well as clinical research programs.

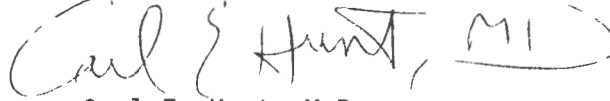
In summary, I hope and anticipate that the second 25 years will see the ongoing development of the Department of Pediatrics as an academic department on a par with other departments regionally and nationally. To do so, we need to develop a children's hospital, with the development of a single integrated community hospital as a short-range solution. We need to further expand and strengthen our faculty in order to fully achieve our educational objectives and develop active research programs and productivity. Good luck for the next phase of growth for the department; I sincerely hope that all of the problems and needs summarized above will have long since been resolved so that your

December 14, 1990

Page 3

problems, albeit no less challenging, will at least be different. If still reachable by telephone, I will be delighted to talk with you. Best of luck in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl E. Hunt, M.D.". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Carl E. Hunt, M.D.
Professor and Chairman

Enclosure

CEH/cj