

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA  
SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1963 - 11:45 A.M.

A special meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma was called by the President of the Board and was held in the President's office at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, on Sunday, June 23, 1963, at 11:45 a.m.

The following were present: Regent Glenn Northcutt, President, presiding; Regents Monroe, Johnson, and Little.

ABSENT: Regents Rothbaum, Davidson, and Houchin.

The following were present from the University of Oklahoma Medical Center: Dr. Leonard Eliel, Dr. Mark R. Everett, Dr. Robert Bird, and Dr. John Colmore.

Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter, Acting President of the University in the absence of President Cross, stated the Regents' Medical School Committee (Regent Johnson, Chairman; and Regents Houchin and Little) had requested the President of the Board of Regents to call a special meeting in order to consider a request originating from the Medical Center pertaining to the extension of activities of the personnel and programs existing at the Medical Center to include medical research at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary at McAlester. Dr. McCarter presented the following letter from the Medical Center:

"June 22, 1963

"Dr. George L. Cross, President  
The University of Oklahoma  
Norman, Oklahoma

"Dear President Cross:

"We would like respectfully to request that you place before the Regents of the University a recommendation to consider and approve the development of an agreement between the State Board of Affairs and the School of Medicine. This agreement would provide that the School (and specifically the Experimental Therapeutics Unit of the Department of Medicine) supervise and execute the research programs and production of biological materials in which the inmates of the McAlester State Penitentiary are involved.

"The background for this request is briefly as follows. In November, 1962, a medical advisory committee was appointed by the State Board of Affairs to investigate and write a report on the conduct of research on prisoner inmates of the McAlester State Penitentiary. The committee made

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its survey in early December, 1962. It found that research at the penitentiary, and production of plasma and certain antisera, were under the supervision of a private corporation which made contracts with pharmaceutical firms for execution of the work. The prisoners were paid for participation in the programs. The private research group was reimbursed, through its contracts, for its expenses plus a certain undisclosed profit. The research group was also charged with the responsibility for providing medical and surgical care for the prisoner population. The research group had no connection, contractual or otherwise, with the State Board of Affairs or with the School of Medicine.

"The medical advisory committee found that the research being conducted was for the most part trivial and primarily of practical or commercial value. The prisoner income from participation in the programs was an important source of money for pocket expenses and therefore an important factor in prisoner morale.

"The advisory committee concluded that it was undesirable to charge a research group simultaneously with the medical care of prisoners and the execution of research. It felt that the best interests of the prisoners and of research would not be served with this type of arrangement. It felt furthermore that a prison population is a rare and privileged resource for the conduct of research and that projects of far greater significance to humanity could and should be carried out in such a group of people.

"The committee therefore recommended that a liaison be established with some institution, such as the School of Medicine, so that significant research opportunities under supervision might be arranged.

"A Medical Research Commission was created in May, 1963, by an Act of the State Legislature. A short while ago the Governor and the State Board of Affairs asked the Commission to determine whether the School of Medicine could take over the responsibility for conduct of the research and biological product programs at the Penitentiary, and, if so, under what sort of arrangement.

"The Commission has consulted with the Director of the Medical Center, Dr. Mark R. Everett, the Professors of Medicine, Dr. Stewart G. Wolf and Dr. Robert M. Bird, the Director of the Experimental Therapeutics Unit, Dr. John Colmore, and the Business Administrator of the Medical Center, Mr. Raymond Crews.

"The Commission finds that the School is willing to take on this activity. It sees this as an opportunity to initiate meaningful research programs and to conduct studies which have not been possible heretofore. The programs would offer the school additional graduate teaching opportunities in drug testing, pharmacology, and human biology which are not now available. Some valuable rehabilitation programs might be initiated with the participation of the Medical Center.

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"The undersigned do therefore recommend that the Regents consider and approve the development of a contractual agreement between the School of Medicine and the State Board of Affairs for the conduct of the research and biological production programs at the McAlester State Penitentiary by the Experimental Therapeutics Unit of the School of Medicine.

"Nothing in this request is intended to obligate or dedicate funds or personnel of the Medical Center or the University to the provision of medical care or any other services except research resources as herein described.

"Your consideration of this recommendation is very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Mark R. Everett

Mark R. Everett, Ph.D.  
Director of the Medical Center and  
Chairman of the Medical Research  
Commission

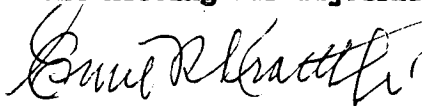
/s/ Leonard P. Eliel

Leonard P. Eliel, M.D.  
Executive Director, Oklahoma  
Medical Research Foundation,  
Vice Chairman and Secretary  
Medical Research Commission,  
Professor of Research Medicine"

Acting President McCarter recommended approval.

Regent Johnson reported the Medical School Committee recommends approval of the Medical Center proposal and moved that the request be approved and forwarded to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for their consideration. Approved.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:10  
p.m.

  
Emil R. Kraettli, Secretary