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*File Spine Task Force*

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**JOINT OFFICERS**

July 31, 1987

013821

Stewart B. Dunsker, M.D.  
506 Oak Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Dear Stewart:

The Joint Officers met on the 18th day of July, 1987, and reaffirmed the high priority both the AANS and CNS place in strengthening the neurosurgeons' role in the treatment of spine disorders. We considered a number of avenues to increase neurosurgical presence in spine disease:

1. There was unanimous agreement that the practical courses in the treatment of spine disorders have been useful and popular and should be continued and expanded. In addition the possibility of adding an increased Spine Section presence at the beginning of either or both national meetings should be considered. Expanded practical course activity should be considered for the Spine Section meeting as well.
2. Consideration was given to writing the program directors to encourage them to include spine instrumentation and as much spine surgery as is feasible in their programs. Distribution or dissemination of information concerning currently available spine fellowships for neurosurgeons could be included. Give us your thoughts on this.
3. Your idea of a task force to oversee the problem and to develop further ideas met with a favorable response. How would you advise this be structured?

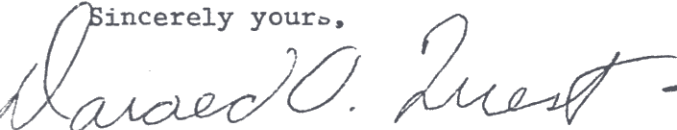
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4. It was felt that it may be inappropriate to change the Special Requirements of the Residency Review Committee. Possibly a letter to Shelley Chou, who is the Chairman of the Residency Review Committee, to reinforce our emphasis on spine disease would be helpful. We will draft a note to this effect.

Please consider these matters and respond to both Presidents of the organizations after you review the above ideas.

Sincerely yours,



Donald O. Quest, M.D.  
President  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons



H. D. Garretson, M.D., Ph.D.  
President  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons

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