October 9, 1987

Chase N. Peterson, President
James L. Clayton, Provost
University of Utah
Campus

Dear President Peterson and Provost Clayton:

It is my understanding that according to State Board of Regents policy and University of Utah Policies and Procedures, I need to request your permission and that of the Board of Regents to impose special service fees of $8,000-$10,000 for two years for matriculation to the University of Utah Physician Assistant Program, formerly known as the MEDEX Program. The special service fees duly approved by you and the Board of Regents pursuant to this policy, will be paid directly to the University cashier or designated representative of the cashier. The cashier's receipt for the payment will be accepted as evidence that the individual is eligible for the special educational service or program for which the fee was imposed.

The policy would begin with students entering the program after December 31, 1987.

In the likelihood that additional fees are necessary in the future to fully fund the program, increases will be requested of you. The goal is to sustain the program at its current level of excellence without drawing upon other University funds. Discussion of this request by the Institutional Council and approval by the Board of Regents is being requested in this fashion because of the termination of federal funding and the current fiscal difficulties facing the University. Should funding by the legislature change in the future, it is possible that the new vice president for Health Sciences may wish to approach the University for state funding of this program.

It is my understanding that this proposal will be discussed by the Institutional Council on November 9, and presented to the Board of Regents on November 13. Your support of this request is especially appreciated. Although the physician assistant concept is only twenty years old, its propriety is very well established, particularly in states like Utah where the current competition in health care is so great in light of the great number of small hospitals in rural areas and a worsening nurses shortage. Physician Assistants, under the direction of a licenced physician, greatly expand the productivity of the health care system.
If you have any questions or need additional materials, please notify me. All best wishes.

Sincerely,

Don E. Detmer, M.D.
Vice President for Health Sciences

cc: Joseph L. Taylor, Vice President