

HUGH B. WOODWARD, M.D.

OAK STREET MEDICAL CENTER
200 OAK STREET, N.E.
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87106

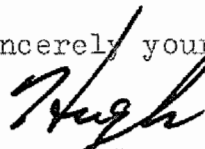
May 20, 1965

Mr. Larry Gordon
Director
Albuquerque Health Department
Municipal Building
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Larry:

My wife and I would like to join the other citizens of Albuquerque in sharing with you the pleasures of the dinner hosted by the Chamber of Commerce on May 27. The recognition and honors to you and your department are well deserved. The citizens of this community are indeed privileged to have leaders of the high degree of competence and dedication exhibited by you. Unfortunately my wife and I will not be able to be present at the time of the presentation of your award, so I take this opportunity to extend my personal congratulations.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Hugh", written over the typed name "Hugh B. Woodward".

HBW/vaw

Hugh B. Woodward, M.D.



Health Department

Section

City of Kansas City, Missouri
Heart of America

1423 E. Linwood
Kansas City, Missouri 64109

Please allow me to take a little of your time to say a few words in favor of the candidacy of Larry J. Gordon for the office of President-Elect of the American Public Health Association. This might seem a bit strange coming from a health educator in Kansas City, Missouri, but I really do speak from a longstanding personal and professional association with Larry.

As a brief self introduction, I was a Health Education Consultant with the Arizona and New Mexico State Health Departments during 1951-59, Director of School Health in New Mexico from 1959-69, and have been Director of Health Education with the Kansas City, Mo. Health Department from 1969-present.

When I first met Larry back in the mid-1950's in New Mexico, we were both relatively young and inexperienced. But even then, everyone at both the State and local levels of the Health Department network there thought of Larry as being a public health professional who was years ahead of his time in his work.

What do I remember most vividly about Larry's capabilities? Let's start with his assets of strong but wise leadership in his jobs and the many organizations to which he has belonged; his broad knowledge and concerns for all aspects of public health; his well-known administrative style and reputation of eliciting the best from his staff and the most from his other available resources — all in a team approach to public health problems; his appreciation of the importance of good communications with everyone; his ability to strategically delegate responsibilities as needed and on the basis of others' known strengths; his dignity, sensitivity, and acute sense of diplomacy which continuously enabled him to cope successfully with all kinds of health problems involving a wide divergence and variety of ethnic, cultural, political and professional backgrounds; and last, but not least, his delightful sense of humor, intelligence and perennial optimism.

As a health educator, I also especially remember from personal experiences that Larry was one of the rare public health professionals back in the 1950's who had a true appreciation of the capabilities of trained health educators in regard to planning, evaluating and making subsequent recommendations concerning the educational components of various public health programs, including his own. Again, Larry was a man ahead of his time.

He also helped us in New Mexico to pioneer a successful joint venture between the State Departments of Education and Public Health to go beyond routine inspections of schools at the local level. After these inspections, when major health-related problems were found, efforts were made to locate both State and local resources (expertise, special funding sources, etc.) to assist local school administrators in correcting such problems. This anecdote is cited as one example to help illustrate my personal knowledge that impact, not just amount of effort exerted, is Larry's main criterion for success.

His expertise and outstanding record in environmental health, the many offices he has held, and the many prestigious awards he has received were listed in the last issue of APHA's newsletter "The Nation's Health". In that delineation of qualifications I hope you also noticed that Larry has broad competencies, interests and experiences in the total public health field --not just the environmental aspects. For example, his services to APHA and knowledge of its internal structure and functions are evidenced by his membership (and offices) on such APHA groups as the "Action Board" in 1970-72, Task Force on National Population Policy in 1971-72, the Governing Council from 1974-79, and the Executive Board from 1975-79. His ten years of experience as a Consultant in Comprehensive Health Planning at both the State and local levels in New Mexico and in the U.S. Public Health Service were also strong "pluses" in his favor in maintaining a broad perspective at all health issues.

And then there is the significant fact that he was selected to head New Mexico's state public health agency for the past few years, which speaks for itself concerning the confidence that his professional and political colleagues and supporters have had in Larry's public health knowledge, experience, judgement and leadership capabilities.

Although I left New Mexico in 1969 to come to Kansas City, Larry and I still keep in touch with each other occasionally. We do this as friends and for professional opportunities to exchange information and ideas through various articles we've presented at various places (however his 74 published articles make him a far more prolific writer than I).

In addition to his concerns for the status of public health today, many of Larry's thoughts, ideas and recommended strategies still run well into the future-- again, indeed, a man well ahead of his time but with current abilities to help APHA to grow and become even a greater force in shaping the future of public health in this nation.

Therefore, I'm proud to endorse Larry Gordon as a candidate for President-Elect of the American Public Health Association, and ask for your support as a member of the Governing Council in helping him to be elected to that office at the annual APHA meeting in New York on November 7th.

Sincerely,



John F. Allanson, M.A.(ed), M.P.H., F.A.S.H.A.
Chief, Office of Health Education



American Public Health Association

1015 Fifteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202/789-5600

August 2, 1991

Larry J. Gordon, MS, MPH
Visiting Professor
Division of Public Health
The University of New Mexico
Social Science Building 3rd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Dear Larry:

Thanks, as always, for your two recent letters. I can always count on thorough and thought-provoking advice from you.

I had been aware of EPA's "Reducing Risk..." document, and as an amateur environmentalist I thought it made sense. Is there general consensus among environmental health professionals that the approach the EPA suggests is appropriate?

Regarding our continuing debate on health *care* (not to be confused with *health*), I can only admire the vehemence of your arguments. They are so well stated, in fact, that you may want a broader audience. Although you published a letter in *The Nation's Health*, have you considered submitting a "Different Views" article to the *American Journal of Public Health*?

While I disagree with you about strategy, I certainly think the separation of the curative and preventive that you suggest has merit. In the Canada example I sent you, public health agencies are not in the business of providing medical care. They do a full range of personal, community, and environmental preventive services. As I tried to point out, the lower level of expenditures for medical services is associated with increased funding for prevention. You may say it's all due to the administrative separation of medical and health functions. I can't argue with that. I just like the results.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Schade, MD, MPH
Associate Executive Director
Professional Affairs

2005 185th Pl. S.E. #L-104
Bothell WA 98012
March 10, 1993

Larry Gordon, MS, MPH
Public Administration Division
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque NM 87131

Mr. Gordon,

Please forgive this intrusion on your valuable time, but I have found that you are one of ~~the~~ few voices of reason in the wilderness of "Public Health". I am looking to you at this time for whatever advice that you can provide me, great or small. However, before I elaborate on the problem at hand, please let me give you some background information which will allow you to understand where I am coming from.

I am Master of Public Health graduating student in the Health Service program at the University of Washington. I also recently earned my doctorate in Medial Sociology and Health Policy from the University of California, San Francisco, where my doctoral thesis was on "The Meaning of Self-Rated Health". I have a fairly extensive background, in social theory, quantitative methods, health policy, and medical sociology, with specialized research in social inequality and health care (You can relax, I am not looking for a job, as I have several offers already.) I am also a member (albeit student) of the American Sociological Association, American Psychological Association, American Public Health Association and Washington Public Health Association, thus I am fairly aware of the direction that social science and public health are taking.

To be fairly direct, my issue at hand is something you wrote in "The Nation's Health" in December 1989 and November 1992. In it you stated that Public Health had no business being involved in health care and that the APHA's Health Care for All effort is misguided. Moreover, that "Health care is not public health!"; "Public Health is not health care!". And lastly, that "more and more for health care results in less and less for public health (disease prevention, health promotion and environmental health) - health efforts which could have a positive impact on the health status of Americans, as well as slowing spiraling health care costs".

I absolutely, positively, could not agree with you more! However, and here is my real problem, the difficulty is that I can't seem to get anybody to do anything more than provide lip service to this understanding of the truth. In fact, I am currently reading a "The Limits of Social Policy" by Nathan Glazer, which does parallel the precepts you have

stated, so I do know that somebody else is listening, which is a little encouraging.

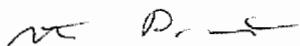
However I wonder, as someone who fervently believes that we must separate public health and health care, and believes as my mentor S. Leonard Syme (U.C.-Berkeley) stated at the California Public Health Association meeting in 1990, that we must return to the premises of "old" public health: public issues which relate to health prevention, promotion, and environmental health, and not health care, how can I continue to support and operate within an organization such as the APHA which refuses to recognize how misguided it's direction is?

Unfortunately, I seem to find that the vast majority of other public health students, academics and professional that I talk to are firmly invested in National **Health Care** (my emphasis), rather than concerning ourselves with more legitimate realms of expertise. Moreover, present day public health as taken over the perspective of acute medicine and has become little more than what I refer to as "Medicaid" medicine.

In addition, as you stated in the August 1990 editorial of the AJPH, we have a lack of leadership in the direction of environmental health and other traditional realms of public health.

At any rate, I would truly look forward to knowing more about what you think on the matter, and whether, in the current social and political climate, there is any chance of the APHA getting "back on course". I am very appreciative that you have the courage to take a stand, and state the facts as they truly are, rather than being quiet or jumping on the band-wagon like so many others I find.

Respectfully,



Steven D. Preston, Ph.D.

Date: Wed, 10 Apr 2002 14:54:23 -0400
From: Rebecca Head <headr@CO.WASHTENAW.MI.US>
Reply-To: CEH - Environmental Health General
<ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV>
To: ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV
Subject: Re: Nursing and Environmental Health

Thanks, Scott - articulate as always - and what a good exchange this is!!! of course, having Larry weigh in with his paper is wonderful - okay - maybe those are enough of the pats on the back...though h all comments are appreciated & Joe - you initiated this - so that is helpful, also!!!
/Rebecca

Scott Holmes wrote:

> As the founding member of the "I want to be like Larry" club, I offer the
> following. For those of you who are not part of the club, you are advised,
> "This e-mail contains statements that may cause apoplexy, angina, or
> gastrointestinal upset."
>
> First, for those who haven't, please take the time to read the definitions
> of "Environmental health and protection professionals" and "Professionals
> in environmental health and protection" in Larry's attached paper - they
> are exquisite.
>
> Second, in my short years of experience in the field of environmental
health and protection, I have come to believe that perhaps the greatest
downfall of our profession is the lack of buy-in ... NO. Let me rephrase
this - our lack of competency in gaining (or lack of attempts to gain)
buy-in from and/or fully involving those professions listed in Larry's
definition of professionals in EH&P. Not only that, but we have also
tended (please keep the historic context in mind here) to have an
arrogance* about us, which often kept us (myself included), EH&P
professionals, isolated both from public health professionals in our own
agencies and environmental protection specialists in other agencies. *By
arrogance I definitely do not mean that we have high confidence in our
competencies (risk assessment, communication, and management) which may be
misconstrued as arrogance, but an overinflated view of our role and place
in the time-space continuum of public health, environmental health and
protection, and environmental protection. I'm referring to the old "We are
THE EH&P professionals you know!" and the old "We should be seated at the
best place at the table!" attitudes.
>
> I think we will and I believe if we go forward as Larry said, "building
> castles rather than laying bricks" a new day will dawn for EH&P
> professionals as we share a vision of managing the environment so that we
> are "protecting public health and the environment upon which all life
> depends." **
>
> ** A slightly modified part of EPA's mission statement (will the blasphemy
> never end?).
>
> Respectfully submitted,
> Scott E. Holmes, REHS, MS
Chief, Environmental Public Health
Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department
> Lincoln, Nebraska
>
> Thanks Larry, I love you man. You are one of my heroes.
>

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 10:25:52 +0000 (GMT Standard Time)
From: Norman Parkinson <norman.parkinson@kcl.ac.uk>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re: -- No Subject --

Larry,

Thanks for sending me your presentation paper.
As your papers always are, it was thought provoking and
self-challenging.

I was thinking of you, and quoting you too (with an
attribution!), recently, when I was asked to compose a
ten year 'vision statement for EH administration' for our
Health Development Agency. I started with your 'Blessed are
those who expect little....'

Hope to see you again soon.
Norman

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 11:11:26 -0500
From: bresnick@naccho.org
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: RE:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Thanks Larry --you're points are right on! I'm heading down to CDC tomorrow
and will be talking with Mike Sage about your two proposals -- I'll let you
know how it goes. If you have any specific ideas/thoughts you want to share
let me know - thanks.

All the best,
Beth

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 08:16:03 -0600
From: Carol.D.VanderMey@us.ul.com
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re: Commentary

Thanks for the commentary, Larry. I'll be happy to put it on the docket for
the next issue of EPH Insights.

Carol VanderMey
Senior Communications Specialist
Global Communication Services
P: (847) 272-8800 ext. 42478
F: (847) 509-6235
E: Carol.D.VanderMey@us.ul.com

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 11:30:53 EST
From: JerroldMM@aol.com
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Looking for love (support) in the right places

Larry:

As usual you have hit the nail on the head. It remind me of an old Yiddish proverb that my Dad used to repeat frequently ; "The person who can't dance says the band can't play"

More of us should also subscribe to the notion that opportunity for progress and recognition in our profession stands beside us every moment and one of its favorite disguises is that of imaginary obstacles.

Jerry

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 09:56:50 -0700
From: "Roan, Olive" <oroan@utep.edu>
To: 'Kathleen McPhaul' <Mcphaul@son.umaryland.edu>,
'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Larry, Kate, this is a neat connection between environmental health professionals (Larry, and the many organizations he represents) and professionals in environmental health, especially nurses on the listserv. I shall enjoy the results of whatever you decide.
Olive

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen McPhaul [mailto:Mcphaul@son.umaryland.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2002 5:43 AM
To: 'LarryGordon'; 'Roan, Olive'
Subject: RE:

Thank you for keeping me in the loop, do you want to distill any of this information, so I can post it to the environmental health and nursing list serve?

Kate McPhaul
Department of Community and Behavioral Health
University of Maryland School of Nursing
655 Lombard St., Room 665
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 706-4907 voice mail
(410) 706-0295 FAX
<http://envirn.umaryland.edu>

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 16:24:49 -0500
From: "Jackson, Richard J. (NCEH)" <rxj4@cdc.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Your points are right on, Larry.
dick

Date: Tue, 05 Feb 2002 16:29:15 -0500
From: Vincent Sikora <sikora@ACCESS.ETSU.EDU>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Thanks for sharing that with me. You always have a keen insight to what
ks and why.

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 15:30:43 -0500
From: Robert W Powitz <sanitarian@juno.com>
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re: Looking for love

Well stated !

Regards,
Bob

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 15:11:00 -500 EST
From: Alan Moberly <amoberly@hhcorp.org>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Hi Larry,
, don't you just tell us how you really feel? No seriously, I
appreciate you sending your thoughts. I always look forward to reading
your latest! Thanks. Alan Moberly

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 14:41:23 -0500
From: "Schletty, Arthur V." <avsl@cdc.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:—

[The following text is in the "ISO-8859-1" character set]
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Larry, thanks! Over the past few years, I've been largely out of contact with what's going on "out there" so I generally too often have to rely on anecdotal information and instincts to tell me what's going on. The information you send me from time to time fills in the gaps (and frankly is consistent with what my instincts and anecdotal information are telling me).
Art

Date: Tue, 05 Feb 2002 14:23:29 -0500
From: Noreen Poor <npoor@hsc.usf.edu>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Larry,
What a great essay!!
Noreen

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 10:52:33 -0800
From: "McGurk, Jack (DHS-DDWEM)" <JMcGurk@dhs.ca.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Well done and on-target! I enjoyed your commentary very much.

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 10:45:46 -0800
From: "Knight, Mel" <KnightM@saccounty.net>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

Larry -
As usual, well stated and focused on an issue we can all identify with. I will enjoy sharing this commentary and insight with others.
Mel

Date: Tue, 5 Feb 2002 11:47:02 -0700
From: "Roan, Olive" <oroan@utep.edu>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

Thanks, Larry - I am giving this to our students and forwarding it to the Director of our local branch of the Texas Nurses Assoc. - what you say about environmental people can be directly applied to nurses also.
Olive

te: Wed, 06 Feb 2002 14:37:06 -0500
From: Thomas Burke <tburke@jhsp.h.edu>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Thanks for the words of wisdom Larry. Very nicely said, I will make sure my students get the message.

Hope things are well with you. These are interesting times for the public health infrastructure, I think the value of practitioners in the Schools is finally being realized.

Tom

Date: Wed, 06 Feb 2002 10:28:23 -0800
From: Rich Gabriel <rgabriel@phd2.state.id.us>
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re:

Larry, first of all, thank you for this message. It is very enlightening. I don't think I have had the pleasure of meeting you, although I have heard many good things about you. I am going to Minneapolis this year for the NEHA conference and if you are there would like very much to have an opportunity to meet you. Did you also send this message to the others on the BOD ? NEHA?

Again, thank you for sending this message.

Rich Gabriel

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 13:17:53 -0500
From: tmlne@naccho.org
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: RE:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Outstanding, Larry. Thanks for sharing!!! I would love to use this...any problems with that, citing you as the source, obviously....

Hope all is well with you.
tom

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 12:49:20 -0500
From: "Beck, Joe" <Joe.Beck@EKU.EDU>
To: eljaygee <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Really like it, this is book material and not just for EH.

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 16:06:43 -0600
From: SHolmes@ci.lincoln.ne.us
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Larry, thanks for remembering me in such e-mails. This is right on the money (as always). I strive for these ideals every day in my career.

Date: Wed, 6 Feb 2002 13:17:08 -0800
From: gnakamur@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re: Cosellian Commentary

Great to hear more pearls of wisdom from the voice and conscience of our profession. I hope you will share your commentary with as many public health practitioners as you can. It is continually refreshing that you are able to relate the Smith Barney concepts to environmental and public health. I think that if you are able to intersperse some Dilbert managerial concepts into your repertoire. I would be willing to sign up as your business manager. Take care and stay in touch.

George Nakamura
Supervising Environmental Health Specialist
Contra Costa Environmental Health
2120 Diamond Blvd. Suite 200
Concord, CA 94520
925 646-5225

Date: Wed, 06 Feb 2002 15:05:17 -0500
From: ELN/nmcclelland <nmcclelland@earthlink.net>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Thanks, Larry. I did not receive this before and the timing now was perfect. I am giving a talk on leadership this weekend in Phoenix. I hope you don't mind a bit of plaguerism.

Best regards,
Nina

Date: Fri, 8 Feb 2002 10:43:36 -0600
From: Peter Rich <peter.rich@CO.OLMSTED.MN.US>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Cc: Giesen Pete <giesen.pete@CO.OLMSTED.MN.US>,
"Inman DJ (E-mail)" <djfoodwizzard@orci.com>,
mlmyszka@mail.co.marathon.wi.us,
"Hibberd Sue (E-mail)" <sue.hibberd@health.state.mn.us>,
"Schroeder Dale (E-mail)" <schroederd@co.st-louis.mn.us>,
"Smith Sharon (E-mail)" <sharon_s@co.kandiyohi.mn.us>,
Lee Terry <lee.terry@CO.OLMSTED.MN.US>
Subject: RE: Leadership Essay - Looking for Love in all the Wrong Places

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Larry-

I just had the opportunity to read and identify with your short "Looking for Love in all the Wrong Places". I have been an admirer of your spirit and philosophy for many years.

<<Larry Gordon's Lookin for Love 1-23-02.DOC>>

Your writings in NEHA's Environmental Health Journals and/or END have been a powerful guide for me, through out my career in Public Health. They provided significant support for many accomplishments our small Env. Health Division has made and continue to progress with in Olmsted County MN. I hope you will be submitting this one to the Journal. It might help a significant portion of our colleagues recognize and avoid the "Woe is Me" syndrome.

I hope you will be able to attend and present at the NEHA Conf in Minneapolis, MN this summer. I am copying some of our colleagues that I know also enjoy and practice your upbeat style and energy.

Thanks and Happy New Year!

Rich Peter, Director of Env. Health
Olmsted County Public Health Services
2100 Campus Dr. SE, Rochester, MN 55904
507.285.8335 Fax 507.287.1492
peter.rich@co.olmsted.mn.us

Date: Thu, 7 Feb 2002 10:33:40 -0500
From: Holly Coleman <holly.coleman@ncmail.net>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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Larry,

I am putting together the program for the Environmental Health Management Section for NEHA's AEC in Minneapolis. Would you be willing to present your "Looking for Love" on July 2nd?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Holly Coleman
NEHA Technical Chair
(919) 542-8209
Chatham County Health Department
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Date: Mon, 11 Feb 2002 09:45:49 -0600
From: Bob Galvan <bgalvan@hsc.unt.edu>
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re:

Thanks, Larry. I appreciate you sending me your comments and I read them with great interest. Your comments are always very insightful and thought provoking. Thank you for sharing them with me. I hope you and Nedra are doing well and look forward to seeing you in Chicago. My best.
Bob

Date: Mon, 11 Feb 2002 00:41:29 EST
From: Dunloper@aol.com
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re:

Larry,

Your comments to RIHEL are well taken. I agree with your points and no longer feel like I am in the swamp alone. When I present similar thoughts I sometimes am met with blank stares. I have often said we have to learn from educational initiatives, transportation initiatives, nursing issues, etc. They are the ones that get funded because they have constituents that come to their aid. They are supported in the legislature because they are supported on the street.

I feel we have two significant challenges before us: educating the existing workforce, and educating the academic schools of public health to advance their curriculums to reflect today's workplace needs.

Thanks for listening. See you in a few weeks in Atlanta. Tom

Date: Sat, 9 Feb 2002 15:15:56 -0500
From: "Buchanan, Sharunda D." <sdb4@cdc.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

You have a awesome way with words...thanks for sharing!

Sharunda Buchanan, Ph.D.
Chief, Environmental Health Services Branch (EHSB)
Division of Emergency and Environmental Services (DEES)
National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)
Phone: (770) 488-7362
Email: sdb4@cdc.gov
fax: (770) 488-7310
mailstop: F-28

Date: Wed, 27 Mar 2002 11:24:09 -0500
From: "Herring, Michael" <zhy2@cdc.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

Thanks Larry. I also enjoyed meeting you. I had heard much about you from my colleagues at CDC and elsewhere. Your reputation as a visionary and one of the true leaders of the environmental health profession are well-deserved.

I have read your attached comments before from a paper you authored. I couldn't agree more.

Take care and keep in touch.

CAPT Michael E. Herring, REHS, MPH
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Environmental Health
Environmental Health Services Branch
770-488-7351
mherring@cdc.gov

Date: Mon, 11 Feb 2002 18:20:01 -0500
From: Patricia Elliott <pellott@ASTHO.org>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

Larry - I liked this one a lot - it was very inspirational! In late May, ASTHO's Environmental Health Policy Committee will be meeting to do some strategic planning and I think your comments will be good to keep in mind as we move forward.

Look forward to seeing you in March.

Best, Pat

Date: Mon, 11 Feb 2002 13:20:46 -0500
From: "Paul A. Locke" <plocke@tfah.org>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re:

Larry:

Nice piece -- thanks for sending it.

Paul

Paul A. Locke, JD, DrPH
Deputy Director
Trust for America's Health

Date: Wed, 27 Mar 2002 14:44:12 EST
From: CSOsaki@aol.com
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re:

Larry. Your commentary is an excellent preface to some projects that I am working on. Thanks for sharing. Hope all is well. Regards, Carl Osaki

Date: Wed, 27 Mar 2002 14:24:46 EST
From: WTCarls@aol.com
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re:

Thanks Larry I welcome you commentary in the spirit of Mort Hilbert. Bill Carlson

Date: Wed, 10 Apr 2002 11:26:16 -0400
From: JIM DRAZE <JRDRAZ@KALCOUNTY.COM>
Reply-To: CEH - Environmental Health General
<ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV>
To: ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV
Subject: Re: Nursing and Environmental Health

Larry,

Thank you, once again, for putting our EH profession efforts in a broader perspective. I continue to hope that we expand our thinking, and improve our practice as professionals.

Thanks

Jim Drazé R.S., M.P.A.
Kalamazoo Co. HSD
Kalamazoo Co. Michigan

Date: Wed, 27 Mar 2002 11:36:08 -0500
From: "Margolis, Stephen (NCEH)" <stm3@cdc.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

Thanks for sharing your optimism with me. I've passed it on to others in the group.
Stephen Margolis

Date: Tue, 12 Feb 2002 09:45:58 -0500
From: "Renard, Paul" <pgrl@cdc.gov>
To: 'LarryGordon' <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: RE:

Thanks Larry, I enjoyed it and hope we have a cadre of folks committed to the points you make. Hope all goes well and I look forward to the opportunity to cast a fly with you sometime. My Best, Paul

Date: Wed, 27 Mar 2002 17:23:33 -0700
From: Jim Dale <JDale@co.jefferson.co.us>
To: eljaygee@unm.edu
Subject: Re:

Thanks Larry

I have a motivational presentation to make in a couple months so would like to use some of your stuff...I'm a fan of M Scott Peck too.

Jim
James E. Dale, DVM, MPH, MBA
Director, Environmental Health Services
Jefferson County Department of Health & Environment

Date: Fri, 05 Apr 2002 17:53:02 -0700
From: Sarah Kotchian <skotchian@comcast.net>
To: LarryGordon <eljaygee@unm.edu>
Subject: Re: MPH Environmental Health Advisory Committee 4-24 Las Cruces 5-6:30

[The following text is in the "iso-8859-1" character set]
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[Some characters may be displayed incorrectly]

I wish you would have an opinion on something once in a while! Gee! You need to get rid of that Adjunct Professor title and replace it with Dean, FH...

Great!
Sarah

Date: Wed, 10 Apr 2002 08:46:09 -0700
From: Vijit Singh <VSINGH@CI.SIMI-VALLEY.CA.US>
Reply-To: CEH - Environmental Health General
<ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV>
To: ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV
Subject: Re: Nursing and Environmental Health

Prof. Gordon,
Brilliant! Thank you for an objective reminder in all the hyperbole, that all disparate disciplines, function to serve one world.
Sincerely,

Vijit Singh
Household Hazardous Waste Program Mgr.
Tel: (805) 583-6782
Fax: (805) 583-6301
email: vsingh@simivalley.org
website: <http://www.simivalley.org>

Date: Wed, 10 Apr 2002 13:40:11 -0400
From: Rebecca Head <headr@CO.WASHTENAW.MI.US>
Reply-To: CEH - Environmental Health General
<ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV>
To: ENV-HEALTH-GENERAL@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV
Subject: Re: Nursing and Environmental Health

Hey - hello & thanks - I wanted to provide this to other folks & haven't yet
this is very timely (as usual)! Hope all is well with you.

St. Joseph Healthcare

June 15, 1988

Mr. Larry Gordon
Secretary
Health & Environment Department
Santa Fe, New Mexico

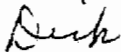
Dear Larry:

As a citizen of the state of New Mexico I regret very much that you are retiring as Secretary of Health and Environment. As a personal friend of more than 30 years I applaud your action, and perhaps, may even be a little bit envious.

Your many accomplishments in Public Health and Environmental management in the many important positions you have held should give you a great sense of fulfillment. The state of New Mexico, the City of Albuquerque and the American Public Health Association have benefitted from your dedication, your competence, your vision and your innovative management.

I am personally grateful for your counsel, your assistance and cooperation during the past 3 decades. Most of all, I cherish your friendship. I wish you well as you take on new challenges during your "retirement."

Sincerely,



Richard W. Heim
Senior Vice President
Mission Effectiveness/Corporate Affairs

RWH:am


Santa Fe, NM
June 14, 1988

Dear Larry,

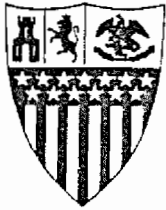
Problems here at home preclude my saying more than congratulations for your many achievements in and for the State of New Mexico.

May the SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE continue to keep you and bless you in the future.

Fraternally,



Carl Henderson



City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

P.O. Box 909, 200 Lincoln Ave., 87504-0909 (505) 984-6500

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Debbie Jaramillo, Dist. 1
John T. Egan, Dist. 2
Bernie Beenhouwer, Dist. 2

Sam Pick, Mayor

Thomas E. Baca, City Manager

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David A. Schutz, Dist. 3
Carlos A. Gallegos, Dist. 3
Peso Chavez, Dist. 4
Phil Griego, Dist. 4

May 31, 1988

Mr. Larry Gordon, Secretary
Health and Environment Department
P.O. Box 968
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0968

Dear Larry:

Retirement! Don't kid me. I've heard of your retirement at least six times over the past 24 years only to see you emerge as Director of this, or Administrator of that. Perhaps the future President of the U.S. has already talked to you (you always had a sixth sense) about the EPA position. An even better guess would be for you to take over the Environmental Section of the Public Health Services. Retirement? Not in my life time . . . I'll play along, however, to humor those who really believe this nonsense.

You remember when we first met, it was in July of 1964. I was offered my first professional job by Peter Griego. I expected to retire from that job. You were very cruel when you informed me that you didn't want to see me around in three years. Graduate school? I did fool you, however, by staying around for four years. One year longer than I should have.

I played along with you, graduate school, EIA, EID, etc, like a duck following its' mother. Little did I realize that I was on my way to becoming a well known Gordon "Clone". You never played fair, however, everytime I got comfortable in a position you were off again to be Director of this or Administrator of that. You were a great mentor but you really couldn't hold a job for very long.

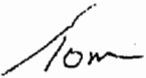
The years have been good to you Larry. You survived the City of Albuquerque, "Ferdy's" power curve, and managed as you always have, to keep ahead of Governors and Legislators. You may be wondering about your position as Secretary of Health and Environment Department. Not too many people know this

L/Larry Gordon
May 31, 1988
Page 2

story, but I was first offered that title. I knew that I could not take the job until after you had served in the position. I told the Governor that there was this fellow in Albuquerque who liked to be Director of this and Administrator of that, and who might enjoy being Secretary. That's the rest of the story.

I am updating my resume which I'll send you right after you "RETIRE". I would enjoy and request an EPA position or perhaps a commission as "General" in the Public Health Service. Retire? You don't fool me.

Best Wishes,



Thomas E. Baca
City Manager

Environmental Health Letter
Occupational Health & Safety Letter
Genetic Engineering Letter

ENVIRONNEWS, INC.

Gershon W. Fishbein, Publisher

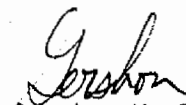
June 3, 1988

Larry Gordon, Secretary
New Mexico Health & Environment Department
PO Box 968
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Dear Larry:

You have achieved great distinction in environmental and public health and long before Smith Barney discovered it, you did it the old fashioned way: you earned it! Best wishes.

Sincerely,



Gershon W. Fishbein
Publisher

June 7, 1988

Dear Larry:

If you remember, I went to work for the Environmental Improvement Agency in August, 1971. It was then that we had the opportunity to meet for the first time; it marked the beginning of my career in public health.

I have to admit, however, that prior to that time, I had some misconceptions about public health, particularly the environmental health profession. I didn't understand it very well at that time in my life.

I had spoken to my advisor, Dr. Lora Shields, of New Mexico Highlands University, who advised me to write to your office in Santa Fe. I received some materials, including some articles which you had authored. I was most impressed by one in particular, entitled, "Environmentalists Must be Aggressive, Creative." It said more about the environmental health profession than I had previously understood. It did, quite frankly, change my limited "health inspector" view of the profession to a more comprehensive and challenging one of the "environmentalist."

I saved that article, and I find that today, nearly 20 years later, it establishes a philosophy and foundation for environmental health professionals to follow. Perhaps you should re-submit it for another generation of environmentalists to read - God knows they need it!

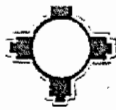
Well, the opportunity has now arrived to thank you for that initial and invaluable guidance which helped me to make up my mind about a career, and to express my sincere gratitude for the support, encouragement and assistance you have given me since that time. Your advice has always been very important to me as I have broadened my background in related public health areas.

Someone once referred to me as "one of Larry's boys". I'll never know exactly why, but I will say that I never argued the point.

Don't forget to stay in touch!

Sincerely,

Ally Georgiuff



Thomas J. Shinas
Hearing Officer
35 General Sage Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 982-8684

*Member,
National Assn.
Administrative
Law Judges*

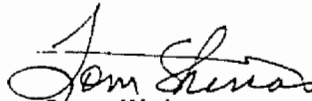
*Member
National Panel
Arbitrations*

June 16, 1983

Dear Larry -

You've come a long way since Silver City and your record of achievement is second to none.

So relax, enjoy your family and friends and maybe we can go to Engle and shoot some Quail this fall.


Best Wishes,

June 8, 1988

Dear Larry and Nedra,

Looking back over the years since we first met you and Nedra, there comes to mind nothing but pleasant memories. In fact, its hard to realize it has been thirty five years.

We sincerely hope your retirement years are as good as ours have been even though we had to leave New Mexico and the mountains. We miss all the friends which we have known for so many years.

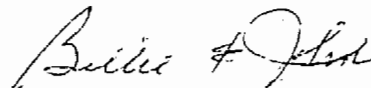
We are now expecting you to take that long awaited vacation and visit us here in Northeastern Arkansas. The fishing here is great on the rivers, and there are five lakes where boating enthusiasts can water ski, fish or just ride around. you can play golf, or horse-shoes, or shoot at the gun and skeet club.

The New Mexico Health and Environmental Department as well as the rest of the Nation will miss you and your expertise. I believe that you will continue to keep your hands in what ever comes up. You have been very active in the Public Health fields and many times I have envied you and your knowledge, advancement and the meetings you have attended.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity you gave me to go to Santa Fe to work with the Department and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Best of luck in your endeavors, and give your lovely wife Nedra our best. Sorry, we can't be there for your retirement party.

Always your friends,


Billie and John

John R. Fleming
19291 Ottawa Lane
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307

June 9, 1988

Dear Larry:

It is hard to envision the field of public health without Larry Gordon deeply engaged in the forefront of the debates and the programs. You have truly been a leader and mover.

I was particularly pleased to have the opportunity of welcoming you to the club, that large band of retirees who have found that there is a good life after the battles of the work-a-day world. Rita and I find ourselves busier than we ever were when working, but the pace and directions of life are largely of our choice.

So plunge in old friend. Pack your gear, climb those mountains, drink in the beauties of nature, and enjoy your family to the hilt. Hopefully, we will meet along the trail and relive some of our past and look to the future. Best wishes for the best years.

Jack.

June 10, 1988

Dear Larry:

Kathy, Chaz and I wish we could be with you on the 17th when your friends and associates pay you honor for your long career and accomplishments in public health. We will join in from afar.

Our preeminent feeling about you on this occasion is gratitude that our professional and personal paths crossed as they did. We have benefitted greatly from the example of dedication and integrity that you have always demonstrated in your work and in your life.

I am especially grateful for the help you gave so generously in that small patch of environmental health that was mine to till: the Crumline Award, which enjoys the esteem it has because of your involvement and direction; Environment News Digest, which was always best when it carried an article by that prolific writer, Larry Gordon; Food Protection Report, which enjoyed your counsel and encouragement from the beginning; and the many projects that were undertaken by the Single Service Institute which benefitted by your guidance.

At the same time we Felixes cherish the warmth of your friendship and the fond memories we have of good times with the Gordons -- the chairlift ride to the top of a Colorado mountain; the boat rides on Lake Powell; the glorious vision of Rainbow Bridge; the harrowing ride home in the storm (!); walking the cobblestones of Red Square; being hustled through Lenin's Tomb... So many memories of pleasant times we spent with people whose companionship we enjoy, who are fun to be with.

For all of this and for so much more: thank you!

The best of it is, we know there is more to come. We count on seeing you and Nedra at NEHA and APHA and hopefully other stages along the way for many years to come. We look forward to that and perhaps hearing from you now and then in between.

We hope and pray that you will be happy in your retirement; that you will enjoy it, as you deserve to enjoy all that you have worked for over the years: an environment that is better for your having fought for it; a peace of mind and personal satisfaction that comes from having worked hard and successfully to make a difference; and the esteem of your family, friends, and colleagues who hold you and Nedra dear because you are so good and so giving.

Please know that we are proud to be counted among your friends. We love you. We wish you well. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Charlie, Kathy, Chaz

CAGLE & ASSOCIATES, Inc.

2403 San Mateo Blvd. NE Suite S-13

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

505-888-5805

May 24, 1988

Mr. Larry Gordon
7100 Carriveau, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

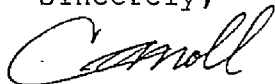
Dear Larry,

Thanks for the press release and the reference to how you will be reachable. It also was good to see you at New Mexico First, even if briefly!

I would like to reiterate what I said on the phone recently: that you are an exceptionally able, progressive public servant who is a credit to the entire state. Every citizen owes you a lot of thanks (but most of them don't even know it!).

Finally, I would like to see if you would like to have lunch soon to discuss the possible notion of some kind of professional relationship or association. Please call me if this is something you would at least consider. And again, compliments on your many achievements.

Sincerely,



Carroll Cagle

P.S. This letter was already on the word processor before we talked by phone today. As you can see, we're on the same wavelength! (I will try calling you next week to schedule something.)

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RICHARD L. ROBERTS, R.S., MPH
P.O. Box 189, CMS #321
Sisters, Oregon 97759

June 22, 1988

Larry Gordon
c/o Loris W. Hughes, Ph.D., Director
Scientific Laboratory Division
700 Camino de Salud NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Dear Larry:

Your retirement announcement finally caught up with me in Memphis, Tennessee, on the very day of the banquet honoring you for your many exemplary years of public service.

Just last month, almost to the day, Carol and I had the same wonderful experience you will have had by now: your relatives, your friends, your coworkers and fellow professional associates all extolling your many accomplishments and presenting you with accolades, resolutions and gifts as they honor you for the evening.

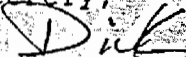
Larry, you deserve so much as you have been, are and I know will continue to be, a great example to others practicing in the public and environmental health arena. Your contributions will be long remembered and are truly historical as public health practice transitioned from the sanitation of the environment to the broader aspects of environmental quality and management.

You have had so much to do with the shaping of my philosophy of the practice and the management of public services. Those accolades that I received on my retirement night are partially due to the inspiration, guidance and help that I received from you over the years.

Carol and I are now one month into our six-month RV tour of the U.S., Canada and Alaska, and are seeing new country and having a great time. I've had an opportunity to meet with several state/local environmental quality and health people regarding SWEEPS during our travels. I'm enjoying a spectrum of responses that I'll share with you when next we meet.

The very warmest and most sincere wish that you have a happy and fulfilling retirement. Hope to see you soon. Perhaps in Cleveland at the NEHA/AEC.

Sincerely,



RICHARD L. ROBERTS

improvement in the quality of instruction, and in teaching and research resources for environmental health is due to Larry's national leadership.

Mr. Gordon has been aggressive in recruiting, training and inspiring young scientists for careers in environmental health, many of these individuals have gone on to careers of leadership in public health, academic environmental health and private practice.

With almost monotonous regularity, Larry reminds policymaker, researchers, academicians, and the general public that without a consideration of the environment, a complete epidemiology of disease cannot be achieved. His peers fondly refer to him as a "tireless fighter for environmental protection," a badge he wears with pride. Swift in emergency action for public health, gifted in long-range planning, he is a dynamic force in bringing public health/environmental health to its full potential.

Now at the peak of an extraordinary career, Mr. Gordon has amassed a wealth of experience in local, state and federal environmental health, professional education and environmental epidemiology and public health administration. He delights in controversy whether overcoming barriers to advancing the application of the environmental health sciences, or jousting with his peers on the efficacy of an environmental management approach.

This towering figure in public health embodies the scientist-administrator's dedication to truth, and the health specialist's concern for human suffering.

I could go on with more supportive information about Larry Gordon including our recent work as advisors to Underwriter Laboratory and other public and private sector organizations. But to keep this letter at reasonable length, I will simply conclude that the sum vector of the comments in the preceding paragraphs and other information in the archives of public health, is a clear indication that in my view the University of New Mexico would do a great service to the people of

with him when I served as director of health standards for the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration and more recently as dean of the public health faculty at University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. I have served with Mr. Gordon on an inordinate number of national and international advisory commissions. I simply point out these associations with Larry to indicate my "qualifications" or standing to make this recommendation.

His resume will be well delineated by others in the University community and I shall not rehearse it here. Larry Gordon will live in the annals of public and environmental health as an inspirational preceptor, as a brilliant innovator in environmental risk assessment and risk management for the prevention and control of environmental disease and disability. He is a public servant who advances, without fear of controversy, upon the public health issue that confront communities.. In both state and local work in New Mexico, Larry's leadership in applying classic methods and developing new one culminated in public health programs and service that deserved commendations of the highest order. In this process Mr. Gordon has led in efforts to coordinate physical health services with environmental health services, where there is often a disconnect between the two areas. In this direction has recognized and taught the importance of understanding the environment in solving today health problems.

This concept was clearly articulated from his "pulpit" as a distinguished president of the American Public Health Association, and in a number of papers he has written and speeches he has made, since that time.

In service to the profession, Mr. Gordon was one of the architects of the standards for accreditation of schools of public health in the United States. He applied those same skills to the establishment of another accrediting body for academic environmental health programs outside schools of public health. In fact it is no exaggeration to assert that

Dear Members of the Committee,

Please consider this my statement of support for the nomination of Larry Gordon to receive an Honorary Degree. As indicated in Mr. Gordon's curriculum vitae and in the letters of nomination from UNM Institute of Public Health Professor McFarlane, and Directors Weiss and Kotchian, Larry's accomplishments are extraordinary and have furthered the cause of environmental health science and management not only in New Mexico, but nationally as well.

I am but one of the many individuals inspired by Larry to pursue a career in the environmental health field and I'm most grateful for the opportunity to have developed under his leadership. Having spent over thirty years in the management and direction of environmental programs at the state and federal levels, any success I may have achieved in the delivery of service to the public has been largely due to my early learning experiences working for Larry Gordon. I believe the significance of his contributions not only to environmental health science but to the effective planning, organization and management of efforts to address public health based missions will continue to be realized for generations to come.

Larry was among the earliest of pioneers to organizationally address environmental health issues in the U.S. creating one of the very first local environmental health departments in the country. Throughout his career he has persistently championed responsible directions for leadership in the practice of public health administration. As evidenced by his extensive list of awards and professional affiliations Larry has achieved widespread respect and acclaim for his continuing environmental health advocacy and his effective leadership style. For several decades his straight forward, common sense approach to problem solving and public administration/management has continued to appeal to a very broad base of entities in the public health community including the nation's schools of public health, other health and public administration professionals, elected officials, the business community, public interest groups, employees and students to name a few.

Larry is that most unique kind of individual who has been such a visionary leader at the policy level and yet so practical in the execution of process. I believe this is one of the attributes which has permitted him to maintain credibility not only among professionals in the scientific/technical and managerial community but within the political process as well. To take disparate programs, located in various different public agencies and to consolidate them into one agency while creating new compliance and analytical initiatives to more comprehensively address a common mission (i.e. today's NM Environment Dept., and NM Scientific Laboratory System) required overcoming political barriers as well as bureaucratic inertia and resistance. Yet, Larry succeeded in accomplishing such restructuring and new direction convincing the various governors and legislative bodies, at the time, along with other interest groups of not only the improved economies of scale but the greater degree of service to be realized by the citizens of New Mexico. These initiatives set the stage for further advancements in the delivery of public health programs for New Mexicans and positioned the new agencies at the forefront of environmental health and laboratory management throughout the country. These agencies flourish today as a direct result of Larry Gordon's stewardship.

campus. It was Gordon's vision that this professional public laboratory should serve all of the state's public health laboratory needs, and it continues today to serve as a model for other states throughout the country. He established New Mexico's national reputation as a leader in public health.

Mr. Gordon served under several City of Albuquerque mayors and several New Mexico governors, most recently as Cabinet Secretary for Health, always demonstrating strong leadership and a stubborn, quiet advocacy for basic environmental health protections for all residents. He remained active for decades in the American Public Health Association, and was elected its President in 1981, traveling the country speaking on pressing public health issues. He received the highest honors from the American Public Health Association and the National Environmental Health Association, as well as the New Mexico Distinguished Public Service Award and the UNM Alumni Association Zimmerman Award.

He is a prolific writer and speaker; his papers are archived on a national web site. He continues to correspond with numerous students and former employees, who themselves have gone on to contribute in the field of public health. His work is legendary in creating the modern philosophy of environmental health and protection services. He and his wife, Nedra, have also made philanthropic contributions which underscore their belief in the value of education.

Mr. Gordon is an outstanding candidate for an honorary degree. He has brought distinction to his state, his university, and his country through his tireless work on behalf of the environment and public health.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination, and please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like more information.

Sincerely,

William Wiese, MD, MPH, Director

Sarah Kotchian, EdM, MPH, PhD, Associate Director

October 4, 2006

Honorary Degree Committee
Office of the Secretary
Scholes Hall, Room 103
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Deborah R. McFarlane, DrPH, MPA Professor

The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

**School of Medicine
Institute for Public Health**

MSC04 4085

1 University of New Mexico

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131-0001 (505) 272-3881

(505) 272-3764 fax

September 27, 2006

Honorary Degree Committee

Office of the

Secretary Scholes Hall, Room 103

University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131

Dear Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the University of New Mexico Institute for Public Health, we are writing to nominate Mr. Larry J. Gordon, MS, MPH, for an honorary degree. Mr. Gordon has made a life-long contribution to the State of New Mexico and to our country through his public health leadership and his demonstration of strong, ethical public service.

Larry Gordon is widely known throughout the country as one of the great leaders of environmental health. He grew up in rural New Mexico, where his mother taught in one-room schoolhouses and his father worked for the Forest Service. Education and service were priorities in his family. After receiving his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biology from the University of New Mexico, he began work as a County and then a State Sanitarian, leaving briefly to pursue a Master of Public Health from the University of Michigan. As his own career in New Mexico advanced, he mentored and supported numerous other professionals over the years in their pursuit of graduate degrees and in involvement in state and national professional organizations, believing that professional education and volunteer service in public health were essential in addressing the challenging problems facing our citizens. He helped to create and served on the boards of the national accrediting bodies for graduate education in both public health and environmental health.

He took seriously the honor of public service, always seeing what services and structures were not there and working to create them. He founded the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department, one of the first local environmental health departments in the United States, and wrote and gained passage of most of the local ordinances and regulations. He founded the NM Environmental Improvement Division, the forerunner to the current NM Department of Environment, writing the necessary environmental regulations for that agency's work, and founded the NM Scientific Laboratory, still located on the University

When I was a graduate student at the University of Michigan School of Public Health over three decades ago, I had never met Larry, but I certainly knew of him- Gordon articles in environmental health were required reading for all public health students. Like any true leader and real visionary, Gordon as often admonished the field and frequently led it in new directions. (See <http://www.ncleha.org/larrygordon/default.asp> and <http://www.ncleha.org/larrygordon/papers/NM Magazine pdf>.)

Trained first in biology (Master of Science, UNM 1950), Gordon began his career by teaching high school science. When an entry-level position in environmental health in Grant County, New Mexico became available, Larry applied and was hired in a field that he would eventually lead, not just in New Mexico, but nationally. Within a year, he was promoted to State Food Sanitarian for the New Mexico Department of Health.

Wanting to learn more about environmental health, Larry pursued a master's degree in public health at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health, where he specialized in Environmental Health (MPH 1954). He returned to his New Mexico in 1954, determined to apply his skills and knowledge.

Within a few years, he had cleaned up the restaurants in Albuquerque and was ready to tackle air quality in Bernalillo County. It wasn't always easy. While Gordon was serving as the founding director of the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department (1957-1968), one city official recommended that Larry be "tarred and feathered and ridden out of town on a rail," so that he wouldn't ruin the area's industrial opportunities.

Gordon persisted, succeeded, and moved on to the state level where he founded the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Agency as well as the New Mexico Scientific Laboratory System. He returned to Albuquerque in the 1980s to head the Albuquerque Environmental Health and Energy Department. Twice he served as Cabinet Secretary for Health, once for a Democratic governor and once for a Republican governor.

Gordon tried to retire in 1988, but once again, he was called to serve, this time for the University of New Mexico. He has served as a Visiting and Adjunct Professor in the School of Public Administration and the Department of Political Science. In both capacities, he continued to demonstrate his extraordinary work ethic and dedication to public service. He advised students, supervised internships, and wrote more articles and chapters than ever before. He retired from UNM in 2005. He continues to be in great demand throughout the country for lectures and program reviews.

Based on the criteria for the University of New Mexico's honorary degree, Larry J. Gordon merits this honor based both upon his academic contributions as well as his public achievements. He is an extraordinary individual whose remarkable career has contributed much to the material welfare of people of the Southwest as well as to the nation and beyond.

Thank you very much for considering this nomination.

Sincerely yours,



The University of New Mexico

Department of Political Science
MSC:05 3070
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
Telephone (505) 277-5104
FAX (505) 277-2821

September 25, 2006

**Honorary Degree
Committee Office of the
Secretary University of
New Mexico**

Dear Committee Members:

I would like to nominate Larry J. Gordon for an honorary degree. Mr. Gordon exemplifies the qualities for which this award is intended. For more than five decades, Larry Gordon has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of people in the Southwest through his dedication to public health and public service. While his work has profoundly affected food safety, air quality and public health in the Southwest, Gordon is certainly a national figure in public health.

He served as President of the 55,000 member American Public Health Association (1980-1981) and continues to speak to and advise numerous national public and private groups, such as Underwriters Laboratories. His national and state awards in environmental health and public health are simply too numerous to recount here (see <http://www.nceleha.org/larrygordon/bio.htm>). For example, in 1987, he received the Sedgwick Award for his public health contributions, the highest honor bestowed by the American Public Health Association. In 1988, he was given the New Mexico Governors' Distinguished Public Service Award. In 1981, he was named an Honorary Member of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health in the United Kingdom. The University of New Mexico Alumni Association bestowed the Zimmerman Award in 1993, and the University of Michigan School of Public Health Alumni Association honored him with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1995.

Gordon has published over 240 articles and technical reports. Although he modestly claims to be only a practitioner, his work has profoundly affected the development of academic public health. He was a founder of the Council on Education for Public Health (the national accrediting agency for schools of public health), a founder of the American Intersociety Academy for the Certification of Sanitarians (now the American Academy of Sanitarians), as well as a long-time member of the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (the national accrediting agency for environmental health and protection academic programs).

From: <rgalvan245@charter.net>
To: "Larry and Nedra" <1016Larry@msn.com>
Subject: Re: Larry Gordon Papers
Date: Friday, February 23, 2007 4:17 PM

Larry, thank you so very much for sharing these papers with the world. I know of no one more intellectually astute in the area of Environmental and Public Health than you. It is an honor for you to share a lifetime of knowledge and experiences with the world. I am personally most grateful to have you sharing this wisdom with me as you have in the past, but most importantly, to have you as a friend and colleague. My very best regards to you, Nedra and the family.

Bob

Main Identity - Backup

From: <rgalvan245@charter.net>
:
"Larry" <1016larry@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2007 1:18 PM
Subject: CONGRATULATIONS

Larry,

I wanted to send you a note of congratulations on the wonderful recognition that will be bestowed on you - Doctorate of Letters - by your University. It not only is a wonderful recognition of you lifelong achievements but also the respect and admiration of your educational institution. You are a glowing example of uncompromised dedication and commitment to the Environmental and Public Health profession and I am extremely fortunate to have you as a role model, mentor and friend. Congratulations again on your recognition by your university and the world. My very best regards to you, Nedra and your family. Your friend, Bob

3/24/2008

Dear friend Larry:

Like your family, I too feel touched by this singular achievement - because when one of our own is honored - we all are rewarded.

This is not only a recognition of your distinguished service to our chosen field and your leadership for environmental health and public health in general - it is a recognition of the merit of the work that you and your band of brothers have committed themselves to for these countless decades.

You have achieved excellence and it is been recognized by the academic community. And your excellence is no accident or happenstance of chance. It is the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent application, skilled performance and the vision to see obstacles to a better environmental condition as "opportunities" to be of service.

Dr. Gordon, you are a credit to our profession and indeed to our great nation and I am but one of many who are proud to be called colleagues and friends.

With respect,

Jerry Michael

See what's free at AOL.com.

Main Identity - Backup

From: "Conway, John B. (HSC)" <John-Conway@ouhsc.edu>
: "Larry and Nedra" <1016Larry@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2007 12:50 PM
Subject: RE: Honorary Degree

Larry,

Fantastic and well deserved. Those of us in the environmental health field owe you much and are proud of you. When someone asks me who my mentors were in Environmental Health, I always mention my academic advisor at Minnesota, Ted Olson, and then the following three professionals: 1) Larry Gordon; Ray Watts of Ohio; and Sam Reed of Washington. How could anyone do better?

My best to you and your family.

Jack

John B. Conway, MPH, PhD
Professor and Chair
Department of Occupational and Environmental Health
College of Public Health
The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center
P. O. Box 26901
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
Phone: (405) 271-2070 Ext. 46802
Fax: (405) 271-1971

The following notice is included pursuant to campus policy.

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From: Larry and Nedra [mailto:1016Larry@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2007 11:44 AM
Subject: Honorary Degree

Larry: I want to thank you for posting all of your papers for the benefit of all environmental health practitioners. Working with you on EHAC and other projects has been one of the highlights of my own career. When I think of you and what you have contributed to the profession I sincerely believe that you were the only voice in the woods with a real sense of a vision for environmental health. You guided the profession in developing a philosophy for environmental health. That was a most difficult task. It is also an enduring gift to the profession.

I first heard of you in class at CSULA and UCLA from Charles Senn. I never thought that I would have a chance to work with you in those days. I was fortunate in that I did have that opportunity. Best wishes always and I look forward to seeing you at NEHA.

Warm regards,
Frank Gomez

From: Larry and Nedra [mailto:1016Larry@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2007 11:36 AM
Subject: Larry Gordon Papers

NCLEHA Board of Directors:

Most of my papers have now been posted on the NCLEHA website as you authorized in 2005.

<http://www.ncleha.org/larrygordon/default.asp>

This website offers the opportunity to share 169 presentations, publications, policy letters and a sprinkling of media items.

The papers are those of a practitioner who has devoted considerably more than half a century to environmental health and other aspects of public health, including roles as a county sanitarian, district sanitarian, state sanitarian, chief sanitarian in a municipal health department, municipal health department director, founding director of a city-county environmental health department, PHS consultant, PHS Commissioned Officer, state environmental services division director, founding director of a state environmental improvement agency, founding director of a state scientific laboratory system, state administrator for health and environmental programs, APHA president, state deputy cabinet secretary for health and environment, state cabinet secretary for health and environment, visiting professor of public administration and adjunct professor of political science.

The papers include discussions of management, organization, public relations, marketing, planning, leadership, programming, mentoring, vision, values of environmental health, competencies, public policy, legislation, definitions, health education, scope of environmental health, the future of environmental health, awards and recognition, educational needs, mission, history, curriculum, community support, priorities, creating agencies, enactment of legislation, congressional testimony, continuing challenges, and numerous specific programmatic issues, as well as the future of environmental health.

The papers discuss victories and successes, as well as defeats and failures. Good ideas and ideas whose time had not arrived.

The papers should be of interest to students and environmental health practitioners desiring to lead and achieve.

The papers represent the career of a sanitarian.

From: [Holly Coleman](#)
To: 'Larry and Nedra'
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2007 5:55 AM
Subject: RE: Larry Gordon Papers

Thank you so very much for sharing your papers with the environmental health profession. Your writings and contributions have motivated and inspired me during my career.

Holly

Holly Coleman, R.S.
Interim Health Director
Chatham County Public Health Department
P.O. Box 130/80 East Street
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919.542.8215
FAX 919.542.8227

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Warm regards,
Frank Gomez

As usual Jerry can say it better than the rest of us so all I can do is agree with Jerry's statment & add that I am so glad that you are being recognized as the leader in EH which is as it should be. I am proud to be an associate of yours.

V. Harry
VHA

----- Original Message -----

From: JerroldMM@aol.com

To: 1016Larry@msn.com

Cc: vee1@voyager.net ; JohnRebelToddphs@yahoo.com ; hatlen@att.net ; joeverr@comcast.net ; DoubleUy@comcast.net ; rentadoc@knology.net

Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2007 10:49 PM

Subject: The award of an Honorary Degree in May of 2007

Dear friend Larry:

Like your family, I too feel touched by this singular achievement - because when one of our own is honored - we all are rewarded.

This is not only a recognition of your distinguished service to our chosen field and your leadership for environmental health and public health in general - it is a recognition of the merit of the work that you and your band of brothers have committed themselves to for these countless decades.

You have achieved excellence and it is been recognized by the academic community. And your excellence is no accident or happenstance of chance. It is the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent application, skilled performance and the vision to see obstacles to a better environmental condition as "opportunities" to be of service. Dr. Gordon, you are a credit to our profession and indeed to our great nation and I am but one of many who are proud to be called colleagues and friends.

With respect,
Jerry Michael

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My best to you and your family.

Jack

John B. Conway, MPH, PhD
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