



National Institutes of Health  
National Eye Institute  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

April 19, 2004

Peter W. Williams, Esq.  
Secretary  
Bernadotte Foundation for Children's Eyecare, Inc.  
c/o Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells LLP  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10166-0153

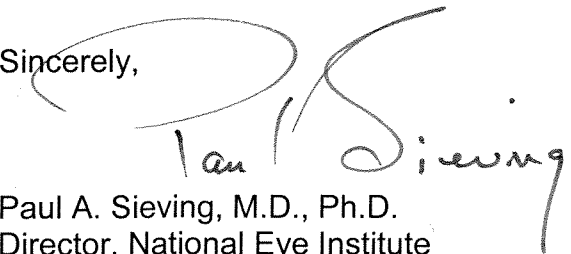
Dear Mr. Williams:

Recently, Dr. John T. Flynn informed me of the important task your Foundation was able to accomplish by providing financial support to ophthalmologists from developing countries. Your support, in the form of stipends to these physicians, enabled several clinicians to attend the **Third International Conference on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP): From the Laboratory to the Bedside** in Anaheim, CA. This is a very worthy use of funds. I admire and applaud your efforts both from my perspective as a physician interested in the clinical and research aspects of visual disorders and as the Director of the National Eye Institute (NEI).

On a related matter, Dr. Flynn also informed me of your interest in supporting outstanding young clinicians by providing stipends for grantees who have been awarded post-doctoral fellowships in the K08, K23 or Fogarty programs here at the NEI. I understand that thus far you have not had applicants for your program. I will be providing Dr. Flynn with a list of successful NEI grantees in these areas. I hope he will contact them personally to see if any are interested in obtaining a year of training abroad through support from the Bernadotte Foundation. This would also be a worthwhile use of the Foundation's resources.

I commend you for the insightful and very practical use of your Foundation's resources, which play vital role in using your dollars to leverage our efforts to combat blinding eye diseases both here in the United States and throughout the world.

Sincerely,

  
Paul A. Sieving, M.D., Ph.D.  
Director, National Eye Institute

Cc: Princess Marianne Bernadotte, Founder