



June 23, 2023

Mr. Patrick Bower  
Vice President for Development & External Affairs  
St. Luke's University Health Network  
801 Ostrum Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Dear Pat

I am writing this letter to support the creation of an endowed scholarship fund to honor Dr. Santo Longo and Angie Longo. I have known them for almost 20 years now and my admiration for them has only increased over the years.

I first met Dr. Longo while working on a paper that needed pathology illustrations. After quite a bit of running around with many of his pathology colleagues for 3 months, I was lucky to finally get referred to him. What I remember most about that first meeting so many years ago, was the kindness and respect with which he treated me. He was Emeritus Chief of Pathology, and I was restarting my medical training in my new home. Over the subsequent months we worked on the paper, and finally got it accepted after 5 rejections. He invited me to Thanksgiving dinner later that year, and I met his wonderful family including his better half, Mrs. Angie Longo. Once again, I was moved by their kindness. What I also saw that Thanksgiving dinner were friends from all continents of the world, who have bonded with them over time. The atmosphere was that of love, respect, kindness, humility, gratefulness for life, and the pursuit of knowledge.

Over the subsequent many years, we worked on many papers, and we have more than 30 publications together. Smaller papers take about 100 hours of effort while longer studies can be over 1000 hours of effort. He has always been an active participant and helped refine those papers to an extent where they always had learning points for the reader-whether it be students, residents, fellows or attending. Despite being busy with his own work he found time to help me with papers on medicine, cardiology, and cardiac electrophysiology. Over the years we have worked together with numerous students, who went on to pursue their dreams and become attending in gastroenterology, cardiology, anesthesiology, pulmonary and critical care medicine, oncology, pathology, neurosurgery, as well as numerous other disciplines. All these young people have formed a band of brothers and sisters whose major goal is to learn medicine in the purest possible form, and then use it in the care of patients. I find this the most noble part of our profession and Dr. Longo has been the bedrock of building this team. It is an understatement to

say that he has spent a monumental amount of time every year – 1000 hours a year – to help so many students achieve their dreams.

I also realized from the many hours we have spent together learning medicine that we have many common friends over the centuries. It is a School of Athens in his house when we meet and do non-medical work. We invite all these friends from millennia apart and have great discussions with them. It has been wonderful to learn and know from Einstein, Feynman, O' Henry, Mark Twain, Rabindranath Tagore, Kipling, Neruda, Mahatma Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, Dr King, Mandela, Pavarotti, Callas, Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo, Socrates, Aristotle, Newton, Pythagoras, Euler, Maxwell, Amadeus, Ludwig, Ray, Kurosawa, Fellini and so many others. I am extremely grateful to be a part of this great experience and feel happy for all the students who have learned and continue to learn from him.

At 85, Dr. Longo is one third as old as the United States. He is a student of history. He is incredibly optimistic and driven by the vision that the future is going to be better than the past and present. The arc of his universe is always going towards better. However, he is practical and always stresses the point - we have to work to keep this arc moving towards better. Over the last 20 years I have seen him trying to build a critical mass of physicians who are driven by hard work, intellectual integrity, compassion and empathy, respect, love and kindness, and above all who believe in sharing and passing it on to future generation. Everyone is welcome in this group with open arms. The goal is extremely noble - that we be kind to everyone and work to make the world a better place

I support this scholarship which will benefit 1 or 2 students every year, allowing them to work with others who share their passions and interests and help light the way for future generations.

Sincerely,

*Sudip Nanda*

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