

Associated Universities, Inc.  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York 1, New York

May 3, 1956

MEMO TO MEMBERS AUI ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RADIO ASTRONOMY

FROM RICHARD M. EMBERSON

SUBJECT: Activities Since the March 26-27 Meeting

1. Subsequent to the Committee meeting, Mr. Berkner arranged a meeting with Dr. Waterman on April 2. For that occasion, a letter dated March 30, was prepared; a copy was attached to the minutes previously distributed to you.
2. On April 10, Messrs. Burchill, Dunbar and I met with several NSF representatives, including the Controller, Mr. F. C. Sheppard. A letter, first drafted on April 16 and put in final form on April 24, was prepared, clarifying and thus replacing the budget information given with Mr. Berkner's March 30 letter.
3. Several NSF representatives visited the Brookhaven National Laboratory on April 19, which coincided with a meeting of the AUI Trustees. That evening we gave a briefing on the entire project.
4. On April 19 Dr. Seeger advised that he expected 25 copies of a summary of our Planning Document by Wednesday, April 25. In view of the very short time available, a letter was prepared with the March 30 letter to Dr. Waterman and the April 16/24 letter to Mr. Sheppard as attachments. A copy of the letter to Dr. Seeger, dated April 24, is enclosed. The attachments are not reissued to you.
5. The report of the MIT Servomechanisms Laboratory study of a drive and control system has not yet been received but is expected at any time.
6. The final Kennedy design has not yet been received. However, I wish to correct an impression we had at the time of the March 26-27 meeting. Although prior Kennedy reflectors have been of aluminum, for the 140-foot radio telescope it is planned to have only the surface sheet of aluminum; the main structural components will be of steel. Mr. Karelitz pointed out a year ago that we were interested in rigidity and that in the same general design, about the same tonnage of aluminum would be required as of steel to achieve the same surface precision. Apparently the Kennedy engineers have come to this same conclusion.

7. Dr. Feld has started work on an equatorial design, in addition to his activities and honors in connection with the New York Coliseum.

Encl.: April 24 letter to Dr. Seeger,  
without attachments