

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

May 11, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

SUBJECT: NOTES ON INTERVIEW WITH F. A. J. IANNI, DIRECTOR, DIVISION
OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH - MAY 10, 1965

Much of the interview with Mr. Ianni related to the type of research his office is sponsoring, which relates to curriculum development and the testing of new audio-visual instruction materials.

He uses the usual panel review procedure, plus the review of the overall advisory council which looks primarily at policy questions. He believes the OE needs more "in-house" capability for evaluating proposals. The staff still performs too much of a clerical type function, and some employees are reluctant to even express an opinion about a proposal which is coming up. At one time, staff were instructed not to express any judgment with respect to such proposals, and this attitude still lingers in the minds of some.

As the capability and attitude of the staff have begun to change, some of the more routine proposals are now being handled by the staff without panel review. This was done recently concerning a proposal for new techniques for developing conservation of energy for ninth grade students. The panel did not see but the advisory council did. Ianni states that the panels would like to see the OE take more responsibility for such reviews and have not shown any signs of resenting the current trend. In addition, some of the routine decisions are now reported to the advisory council after the fact rather than for advance "clearance".

He stated that all curriculum development work was done here except for that carried out in the Division of College and University Assistance under their modern foreign language program.

There is some overlapping and other problems concerning the Division of Research efforts within OE. There is a Research Coordinating Council chaired by Flynt, of which Ianni is Executive Secretary. While there would be advantages in consolidating all the research work in one location, Ianni is inclined to feel that a more desirable approach is to leave research with those people who have program responsibility for other areas, but providing a stronger coordinating mechanism than now exists. Perhaps it would be desirable to have a central point for receiving research proposals.

He is concerned that the Bureau plans in FY 1966 the same staffing for a \$75 million program that they had for the program at a funding level of \$5 million.

Legislative area, a very strong unit in OE. Division of College and University Assistance has, in his experience, been an effective organization and he has exchanged staff with that Division. Mood shows promise of making a big improvement in the statistical area.

He feels the need for a much stronger field office next year. In particular, the establishment of the laboratories will make necessary a good research staff man in each field office.

Much remains to be done to develop a working model of a laboratory under Title IV. I had the impression from our conversation that the present staffing is probably not equipped to deal effectively with the development of these laboratories. Bureau structure has not worked well. The Bureau represents simply one additional step to go through.

(Signed) Dwight A. Ink

cc: Mr. Jasper
Mr. Schulkind
Subject
Chron

Dwight A. Ink, Chairman
White House Task Force on Education

DAInk/tvf