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From: Professor Gordon M Stirrat
 Dean of the Faculty of Medicine

To: The Vice Chancellor

cc: John Farndon, ~~James Wisheart~~

Date: 3 March 1992

Re: Chair of Cardiac Surgery

John Farndon, James Wisheart and I met on Saturday morning to discuss the current highly unsatisfactory situation. Gianni Angelini was very disappointed by this seeming lack of confidence in him by the British Heart Foundation. We agreed that the Foundation could hardly have found a worse way of proceeding with this whole affair and that, at some point, this needs to be spelt out to them.

The two major issues were, however, what should be our response to the BHF now and what are our contingency plans. As to the former, we need to wait for a letter from BHF informing us officially about the decision (or lack of one!). We then need to respond in writing in a letter which John Farndon, James Wisheart and I would draft for you intimating:

- our disappointment at this turn of events
- our commitment to the post
- Angelini's continuing commitment to Bristol
- a veiled comment about the negative effect on the BHF locally of a failure to back our decision
- concern about the process and their refusal to participate.

In addition to the letter, it may well be worthwhile for you to arrange to speak with the Director of the BHF in London.

In discussions about contingency plans, JW and JF felt it important that we try to put together a package which would allow Angelini to come to Bristol without the BHF support on offer. I agreed, but stated that the University would not be able to contribute towards his salary. Space was already on offer and some technical support may be possible but not much more. JW and JF will speak with John Roylance and JW raised the possibility of an approach to the Special Trustees on the basis that the post would be in the medium and long-term interest of the UBHT. They will report back to me on their discussions with JR.

