



# Intercom

## duke university medical center

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### DUKE MEDICAL CENTER MINIMUM WAGE HIKED

On Saturday, April 20, the Board of Trustees of Duke University endorsed the University's proposal that the minimum wage at Duke be increased to \$1.45 per hour.

The action followed by 10 days an announcement by Mr. Wright Tisdale, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, that Duke University would increase its minimum wage to \$1.60 per hour effective July 1, 1969. Mr. Tisdale went on to say that by July 1, 1968, Duke would make a substantial move toward the \$1.60 minimum rate.

The new \$1.45 wage base which goes into effect on May 6, 1968 will affect employees in both the Medical Center and the University. As of the payroll beginning that date, any employee making less than \$1.45 per hour is being increased to \$1.45 per hour. In addition, 1968 increases scheduled for July 1 will take place instead on June 3, 1968, some four weeks earlier than originally scheduled. This June review will cover all employees who were earning above \$1.34 per hour prior to the May 6 increase.

For universities and colleges, the present Federal minimum wage is \$1.15 per hour with steps to \$1.30 as of Feb. 1, 1969, \$1.45 as of Feb. 1, 1970, and \$1.60 as of Feb. 1, 1971. Duke's announcement, therefore, puts us more than a year and a half ahead of the Federally required minimum.

### DUKE MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES GRANT TO AID PHYSICIANS SUPPORT CENTER

The Duke University Medical Center has received a \$262,565 grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to increase interchange between the medical center and private physicians in the areas of continuing education, research and clinical medicine.

The Foundation will make the funds available over a five-year period and will aid Duke's Department of Community Health Sciences in establishment of a Physician Support Center. The Physician Support Center initially will work through two offices - one at Watts Hospital to serve the practicing physicians of the Durham area, and the other at Duke Hospital.

The office at Watts Hospital will be staffed by a faculty member from Duke's Department of Community Health Sciences who will work in the teaching program at Watts; a bibliographic librarian to provide Watts staff physicians with journals, books and photocopies of requested source materials; and a secretary to provide information regarding conferences, teaching sessions and special clinics. Ultimately, plans call for the Duke office to serve center offices at hospitals in other communities as well.

### Air Evacuation Adds New Dimension To Medical Care



Evacuation by helicopter is common, often dangerous but frequently life saving, on the battlefields of Vietnam. The same procedure, without the attending dangers can prove to be life-saving off the battlefield as well.

A helicopter crew from Ft. Bragg demonstrated the use of a helicopter for emergency transportation in time of civilian disaster during a Disaster Medical Care Conference at Duke University April 5 and 6. The program attracted prominent speakers from federal and state agencies, the American Red Cross and private medical practice.

The evacuation demonstration on the Duke baseball field was coordinated by Lt. Col. James W. Ransone of the Army Medical Corp. It was part of a study of military facilities used as a disaster resource. Ransone said the principle advantages of medical air evacuation were ability to get into inaccessible areas and speed. Disadvantages are cost of the equipment and aircraft, but he added, that it is conceivable that the aircraft could be used for other purposes by governmental agencies when not in use for emergency purposes, thereby justifying the cost factor.

The meeting, which was the 23rd such regional conference on disaster medical care sponsored by the American Medical Association's Council on National Security in cooperation with the state medical society, illustrated that helicopter air evacuations add another dimension to the delivery of health care to persons in areas generally considered inaccessible.