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LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

DROWN HALL #35
BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA 18015
215-691-7000, EXT. 2104

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JUN 21 1978

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

June 15, 1978

Mr. William O. Burke
Chairman
University Patent Committee
University of Georgia
Office of V. P. for Research
Athens, Ga. 30602

Re: Institutional Patent Agreements
Correspondence of April 28, 1978

Dear Mr. Burke:

In response to your request for information as to the effect of title-in-the-government or deferred-determination government patent policies, the following may be helpful in preventing an adverse change to past practices of HEW and NSF Institutional Patent Agreements (IPA's).

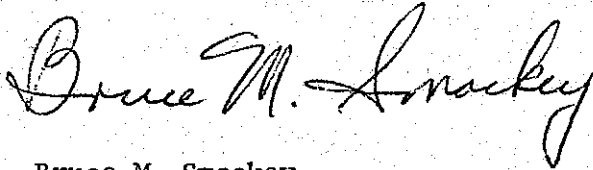
Lehigh University is currently engaged in \$6-7 million of sponsored research, with a concentration in the engineering and scientific disciplines. Two years ago the University formed a Committee for the Advancement of Technological Innovation (CATI). CATI functions under the Vice President-Research, Dr. Joseph F. Libsch, and was formed to more effectively screen and commercialize faculty inventions that were a spin-off of government sponsored research. CATI members include executives of high technology firms as well as Lehigh faculty and administration. It is highly unlikely that CATI would have been formed or have a purpose if IPA's did not permit universities to retain the rights to inventions and to permit exclusivity to a prospective licensee in return for funding further development.

Lehigh University has recently submitted a proposal to NSF to study the effectiveness of IPA's in commercializing faculty inventions and a major area of concern is the vehicle for encouraging industrial support related to development of an embryonic new product or process.

With a retention of all rights by the government, public interests will not be served as there will be little incentive for a firm to risk development capital.

I hope the above comments are helpful and I would appreciate being kept informed of developments in this critical area.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce M. Smackey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Bruce M. Smackey,
Assistant to Vice President-Research

BMS/jc