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January 12, 1978

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Mr. Raymond J. Woodrow, President  
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Dear Mr. Woodrow:

I wanted to thank you personally for sending me a copy of the survey conducted of the forty-eight major research institutions which you sent to Mr. Thornton. I found the responses interesting and have at different times wondered what answers to several of the questions posed would be. I have been in correspondence with Neils Reimers of the Licensing Executive Society and asked him to describe their procedures for developing patents. Your question 12 indicates that my interactions with the Research Corporation have not been wasted energy. They clearly represent a major management firm. I would be interested in a more in-depth analysis of what procedures the remaining Universities use, their major points of difference and opinions on the relative merits of one procedure over another.

Since, in addition to patent policy, a major staff responsibility for me is domestic technology transfer, question 14 is also interesting and only confirms my opinion that there are many points where federal R&D policy in toto, regulation and patent policy, and technology transfer interface. Having a background in University research, I would not hazard a cause and effect relationship or attempt a regression analysis, but it does surprise me that many people feel you can compartmentalize these policy areas and deal with only one in an 'expert' vacuum style.

Norm Latker, patent counsel for HEW would probably like to know, as I would, why so many of the institutions responding do not have IPAs. Do you believe this is truly reflective of Universities across the board? I'm afraid that if of the 48 major research universities only half have IPAs probably the percentage is much smaller for the total universe.

Mr. Raymond J. Woodrow  
January 12, 1978  
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I have gone on at length. My apologies. But, I find the data interesting and as noted above, appreciate your thinking to send me a copy. I will certainly make every effort to keep you informed of any developments on H.R. 8596.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Darcia D. Bracken,  
Science Consultant