## The University of North Dakota

**GRAND FORKS 58202** 

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT BOX 8138, UNIVERSITY STATION TELEPHONE: (701) 777-4278

May 10, 1978

WOB RCA \_\_\_\_

MAY 15 1978

Mr. William O. Burke
Office for Vice President for
Research
University of Georgia
Athens GA 30602

Dear Bill:

Unfortunately, I have little documented evidence to provide in response to your letter of April 28, 1978, since the University of North Dakota has not had a great number of patentable inventions. However, we do have one example of an invention under an NSF grant where the company would not be interested in pursuing the invention unless it received an exclusive license from the University. Of course, we could only grant such if the NSF were to approve our petition for greater rights. If we had sufficient patent activity, we could apply for an NSF - IPA.

In regard to the matter of IPA's, my experience at Northwestern indicated that in dealing with private industry, there were far fewer problems in reaching agreement on patent matters when a project for which the company might be willing to provide some additional support was already funded by DHEW, with whom Northwestern had an IPA.

I'm sorry I can't supply much additional information, but I am supportive of your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Earl J. Freise, Director

ORPI

EJF/1t