



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO | ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87131

Office of Research Administration  
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Telephone: 505/277-3746  
Edmund B. Kasner, Director

4 May 1978

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MAY 08 1978

Mr. William O. Burke, Chairman  
University Patent Committee  
Office of the Vice President for Research  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30602

Dear Mr. Burke:

This is in response to your letter of 28 April requesting information regarding the effect of title-in-the-government or deferred-determination government patent policies. I have attempted, to the best of my experience, to address your listed points of concern in order:

1. We have no record of loss of funding interest of private sponsors because of government claims. (Such a lack of experience may be because we have not been very active in the patent field until recently.) No dollar volume loss, therefore, can be stated. We have no evidence, of any kind, that private sponsors have been reluctant to treat with us because of federal funding.
2. We are involved with negotiating patent clause terms with a private sponsor because the prime funding agency, a quasi-governmental entity, maintains the antiquated rules and bureaucratic patent process that reside from the former Atomic Energy Commission. We consider that the lack of reasonably prompt response to our invention/patent requirements under these old rules is unrealistic and inconsiderate on the part of the potential sponsor.
3. We do not hold institutional patent agreements with any government agencies. We are negotiating IPAs with several federal agencies, however.
4. See the foregoing. Our experience is insufficient to base practical opinion or impression regarding governmental invention/patent policies on industrial research support.

Please note that most of our sponsored research derives from federal and other government sources. Opinion regarding the long-term effect of the invention/patent clauses of government contracts, and experience with the intransigence and the dilatory practices of the bureaucrat, cause us to believe that government sponsorship of research is inhibitory in the areas of the invention, patent, and transfer of technology processes.

Sincerely,

Edmund B. Kasner  
Patent Administrator

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