



Experimental Center for the
Advancement of Invention
and Innovation
College of Business Administration
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May 9, 1978

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Mr. William O. Burke
Vice-President, Eastern Region
University Patent Committee
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Mr. Burke:

I'm passing your letter on to Mr. Richard Perry of the Oregon State Board of Education for his response. I'm not trying to pass the buck. Interest in technology transfer on this campus has been low, thus I can't give you much information one way or the other. There has not been much activity or interest in technology transfer and I don't think the current furor over university patent rights will have any impact upon this faculty -- one way or the other.

Personally, I think Gaylord Nelson is barking up the wrong tree, for two reasons:

1. a more "relaxed federal policy is essential if technology transfer is to occur and
2. the "skunk" isn't in that tree -- it's up the tree called "the public isn't getting much for its buck."

I support basic research and I'm not quarreling with the need for basic research, but the system neither encourages or stimulates technological innovation. I fear too many of us are hiding behind basic research rather than risking exposure to the real world of patents, R & D and commercialization of technology.

A comment on the impact of government policy -- had the feds -NSF- been tight on our involvement with independent inventors, we would not have been able to develop our program of assisting inventors. The public interest requires a balanced approach to the protection of taxpayer's money and stimulating technological innovation.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald G. Udell
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