



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

January 29, 1980

Mr. Howard W. Bremer  
President, Society of  
University Patent Administrators  
614 North Walnut Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Dear Mr. Bremer:

This is in response to your letter of January 24, in which you ask for a change in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare's (HEW) policy of including in its Institutional Patent Agreements a limitation on the share of royalties an institution can pay an inventor at that institution.

A number of recent events, including the Administration's plan for technological innovation and efforts toward a uniform Government patent policy, have led us to an examination of our current patent policies and practices to determine how they help or hinder the innovation process and the utilization of inventions made under HEW grants and contracts. One of the items specifically under review is the one covered in your letter. I appreciate your interest and views on this feature and find them useful in our review. I will keep you informed of developments in this area.

Sincerely yours,

Lowell T. Harmison, Ph.D.  
Science Advisor  
Office of Environmental Affairs

cc: Mrs. Bernstein  
Dr. Dickson  
Mr. Randall

*Copy to COGR  
Subcommittee  
2/14/80*