



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL

October 21, 1975

TO: Holders of DHEW Institutional Patent Agreements

SUBJECT: Information Item No. 36

Attached herewith is the final report of the Executive's Interagency University Patent Policy Committee which basically recommends that all the agencies of the Executive provide to Universities and non-profit organizations a first option to substantially all inventions generated with federal support if they are found to have an identified technology transfer function.

On September 23, 1975, the Committee on Government Patent Policy acting for the Federal Counsel for Science and Technology, adopted the recommendations as the course to be followed by all agencies of the Executive. In addition, the Committee also directed that a committee be formed for the purpose of implementing the recommendations. On October 15, 1975, the Implementing Committee met for the first time and agreed to work toward joint agency identification of Universities and non-profit organizations having a satisfactory technology transfer function.

Notwithstanding these long sought positive developments, it should be noted that implementation of the recommendations by agencies that do not presently have such policies has been left to each agency's own discretion. Accordingly, the opinions of each University and non-profit organization on these matters will significantly effect the direction that individual agencies may take.

Sincerely yours,

Norman J. Latker
Patent Counsel

Enclosure