

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK 20742 PATENT BRANCH, OGC

OCT 26 1976

October 20, 1976

Mr. Norman J. Latker Patent Counsel Westwood Building, Rm. 5A03 National Institutes of Health Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Dear Mr. Latker:

Attached is copy of a letter to Dr. Donald S. Frederickson, Director of the National Institutes of Health on the matter of a proposal entitled "Program to Enhance Transfer of Research Results of DHEW Grantees at Educational Institutions." I am also enclosing a copy of the Graduate School Chronicle referred to in the letter.

With all best regards.

Michael J. Pelczar, Jr.

dordially,

Vice President for Graduate

Studies and Research

MJP:bb

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
COLLEGE PARK 20742

OFFICE OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT FOR GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
TELEPHONE: (301) 454-4001

October 19, 1976

Dr. Donald S. Frederickson
Director, National Institutes of Health
U. S. Department of Health, Education
and Welfare
Bldg. 1, Room 124
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Dear Dr. Frederickson:

A proposal has been submitted to the National Institutes of Health (DHEW) for support of a "Program to Enhance Transfer of Research Results of DHEW Grantees at Educational Institutions". My purpose of writing at this time is to express strong support for this proposal. My enthusiasm for the proposal comes from our experience with a similar project that has been supported by the National Science Foundation and carried out by the Research Corporation.

The impact which this program has had on patent disclosures at the University of Maryland is summarized in an article which appeared in our Graduate School Chronicle, December 1975. (Page 9). A copy is enclosed. You will note that a significant number of these disclosures come from our School of Medicine, School of Pharmacy and School of Dentistry.

In my judgement the "patent awareness" program has proved to be a very effective vehicle for the advancement of academic achievements toward evaluation for practical applications. Many faculty are very naive as to procedures to initiate a patent. The site visits and seminars which are part of the proposal provide an effective means for encouraging faculty to make disclosures. In large measure, this is a consequence of a better understanding which the faculty acquires with respect to what is needed to make a disclosure. In addition, a more receptive attitude is generated which encourages more participation.

Universities need to develop means of encouraging faculty in certain disciplines to be on the alert for potential transfers of knowledge gained from research to practical applications. In my judgement, the proposal under consideration provides a very effective means to initiate such action.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this subject with you in greater detail.

With all best regards.

Michael J. Pelczar, Jr.

Vice President for Graduate

Studies and Research

MJP:bb

cc: Dr. Leon Jacobs

Enclosure