Mr. Latken

December 2, 1976

PATENT BRANCH, OGC

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Mr. Willard Marcy
Vice President, Patents
Research Corporation
405 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Marcy:

In earlier correspondence, the Director of NIH, Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, told you that the unsolicited proposal you submitted to NIH, entitled "Program to Enhance Technical Transfer of Research Results of DHEW Grantees at Educational Institutions," would receive careful review and consideration. I was asked to chair a committee of individuals knowledgeable in the area of technology transfer and patents to perform the review, in the light of other initiatives we are developing in this area.

Our committee agreed that there is an important need to acquaint biomedical research investigators with the advantages of disclosure of inventions through the use of patents rather than solely by publication. In addition, the NIH is concerned about its role in technology transfer and its responsibilities in interacting with academic institutions and industrial organizations.

However, in the opinion of the committee the Research Corporation proposal does not seem to have the prospect of stimulating the biomedical research community to a sufficient awareness of the significance and value of the patent process on a long-term basis. Relative to its cost, the benefits would be expensive, and we believe that it is possible to design programs through other mechanisms to achieve more permanent objectives at less cost. As we work on these methods, we will be happy to keep you informed.

Thank you for the opportunity to review your proposal. I am sure that this will not discourage you from pursuing your efforts with the biomedical research community.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Leon Jacobs, Ph.D.

Leon Jacobs, Ph.D.
Associate Director for
Collaborative Research

NIH/OD:LJacobs/SPerry/joc 12/2/76

bcc: Dr. Perry
Dr. Perpich
Dr. Ringler
Mr. Latken