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From: George Margolin [mailto:gmargolin@adelphia.net]

Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2006 10:31 PM

To: AB93Comments; AB94Comments

Cc: inventor@pobox.com

Subject: Suggestions for AB93 and AB94 from George Margolin

Please forward to :

TO PEGGY FOCARINO – Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations

TO JAY LUCAS – Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy

This is in response to your request for “Suggestions” and/or comments on possible solutions for our Hugely Growing Pendency Periods.

It is also a result of having had the pleasure of meeting both of you and an appreciation of your having convened a small session for us, who are Professional Independent Inventors. Thank you for that.

UNIVERSITY BREEDING GROUNDS

Also – since the need for a supply of fresh faced and enthusiastic future Patent Examiners will grow and go on for decades – I’ve added a spreadsheet as an example of a number of technologically oriented universities that might be a breeding grounds for future examiners – particularly if you at the PTO do or have already done the ground work to establish curriculae at some of the universities.

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2. The number of Issued patents is approximately 160,000 (40%) of applications
3. Your hiring of new examiners is approximately 1000 per year
4. We were told you have approximately 4000 examiners now
5. We were informed that the attrition rate is MORE THAN 10%
6. Training new hires is slow and time consuming before completion
7. Backlog of patents in process (PIP) is, perhaps, 800,000 OR MORE
8. Your slide “We can’t hire our way out...” is ABSOLUTELY CORRECT!!!

So NOW what might we do to get out of this “Graveyard Spiral” as we who fly, would call such a situation. We might also call it “Getting Behind the Asymptotic Curve.” Either way it means that our American Technology advantage and our wonderful PTO, will crash and burn and look like New Orleans after the Hurricane Katrina.

RETHINKING THE FIXES

When in the meeting for Independent Inventors, I asked Mr. Lucas, “How many examiners would we need to be able to keep up with the burgeoning number of patent applications – AND – have a chance of chipping away at the HUGE backlog and beginning to reduce the pendency?” I believe I was told that we would need – at least – TWICE the number of functionally competent examiners – which would be between 8 and 10 thousand. That sounds realistic since our 4000 examiners were only able to handle the equivalent of 40% of incoming applications. So it seems that MORE than twice as many are needed to be able to cover what is already coming in – AND to work on the huge and growing backlog.

THE PTO – THE HEART OF AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY

Since the PTO is much like a LIVING AND BEATING HEART – it is unlikely that we can turn off the blood flow of patent applications coming in and issued patents flowing out --- so perhaps we should use OPEN HEART SURGERY as our model.

In this Medical Model – a Perfusion device – external to the heart – takes over the pumping and oxygenating of the blood – while the heart valves are being repaired. A pretty drastic and clever device. That it works, is one of the Modern Medical Miracles – and hopefully is also well patented.

For OUR purposes of keeping the Patent Office alive with its “blood” flowing, while more than DOUBLING -- our needed battalions of trained examiners – our task is much less life threatening but MUCH more complex.

We need to “keep doing what you’re doing” by growing examiners – at as great a rate as possible – money no object – AND setting up a number of contingencies that I’m certain you have thought of. You must convince Congress of that “money is no object” because without sufficient funds, there will be no way to do it. Hopefully we have some friends in Congress and the Senate that might be helpful for this.

While doing the above with the needed money:

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2. Offer retirees and “escapees” an opportunity to use their experience and skills to help train and season the new examiners.
3. Consider Flex Time.
4. Use this facility as a training ground and base camp for new examiners, so they will NOT interfere with the working of the “real” PTO, yet will be weaned in doing the drudge work of less judgment-requiring tasks.
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FUTURE NEEDS FOR MORE EXAMINERS WILL HAPPEN – READY OR NOT!

The suggestions above – are for our current – must-do needs today and in the immediate future. But the future will catch up to us whether we prepare for it or not. In that light the following suggestions – probably already considered by PTO planners and staff – but, let me propose it anyway – just in case some of it has not been implemented.

It is my belief that the PTO needs to have established close ties to universities – particularly technically oriented universities across the country. In this proposed scenario – the PTO will create curriculae for patent arts and examination studies and credits, in as many universities as possible. In a real sense this would be a PTO designed, controlled and perhaps, run – for one, or hopefully many Patent Arts curriculae for colleges or universities. Perhaps only patent specific classes might be created – but whatever means that will develop a pool of potential Patent Examiners – would be a great boost for the future of the PTO and American Technology.

In closing – I'm very aware that my suggestions may or may not be meaningful to you who are professionals in this field – but I sincerely believe that whatever you can do to encourage, entice and enlist future examiners – would help keep the American Patent System – what it has always been -- the very best in the world.

It has done well by me as a professional inventor and I would hope that it will continue to do so for American technological leadership in the future.

Sincerely,
George Margolin
Vice President
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May 3, 2006

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Sincerely,
George Margolin
Vice President
PIAUSA (Professional Inventors Alliance)
inventor@pobox.com
949-645-5950

TECHNICALLY ORIENTED UNIVERSITIES

<i>university</i>	<i>address</i>	<i>phone</i>
Arizona State University	Tempe, Arizona 85287	602-965 9011
Brandeis University	415 South St, Waltham, Massachusetts 02254-9110	617-736 2000
Brigham Young University	Provo, Utah 84602	801-378 4636
California Institute of Technology	1201 East California Blvd, Pasadena, California 91125	818-356 6811
Carnegie Mellon University	5000 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213	412-268 2000
Case Western Reserve University	10900 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, Ohio 44106	216-368 2000
Cuny Brooklyn College	Bedford Ave & Avenue H, Brooklyn, NY 11210	718-780 5485
Colorado School of Mines	1500 Illinois, Golden, Colorado 80401	303-273 3000
Cornell University	Ithaca, NY 15853	607-255 2000
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University		
The George Washington University	Washington, DC 10052	202-994 1000
Georgia State University System	University Plaza, Atlanta, Georgia 30303	404-651 2000
Harvard University	Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138	617-495 1000
Howard University	2400 Sixth St, NW, Washington, DC 20059	202-636 6100
Iowa State University of Science and Technology	Ames, Iowa 50011	515-294 5836
Lehigh University	Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015	215-758 3000
Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College	Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803	504-388 3202

Louisiana Technological University	Box 3168 Tech Station, Ruston, Louisiana 71272	318-257 0211
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	77 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139	
Medical College of Pennsylvania	3300 Henry Ave, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19129	215-842 6000
Medical College of Wisconsin	8701 Watertown Plank Rd, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226	414-257 8296
Medical College of South Carolina	171 Ashley Ave, Charleston, South Carolina 29425	803-792 2300
Michigan Technological University	1400 Townside Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931-1295	906-487 1885
New Jersey Institute of Technology	University Heights, Newark, New Jersey 07102-9938	201-596 3000
Princeton University	Princeton, New Jersey 08544-0015	609-258 3000
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	110 8th St, Troy, NY 12180-3590	518-276 6216
Rochester Institute of Technology	1 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623	716-475 2400
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey - Brunswick	PO Box 2101, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903-2101	908-932 1766
St Louis University	221 North Grand Blvd, St Louis, Missouri 63103	314-658 2222
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	501 E St Joseph St, Rapid City, South Dakota 57701-3995	605-394 2511
Stanford University	Stanford, California 94305-2060	415-723 2300
State Univeristy of New York System		
Stevens Institute of Technology	Castle Point in the Hudson, Hoboken, New Jersey 07030	201-420 5100
Tennessee Technological University	Dixie Ave & McGee Blvd, Cookeville, Tennessee 38505	615-372 3101
Texas A & M University	College Station, Texas 77843-1246	409-845 3211
Texas Technological University	Box 45015 Lubbock, Texas 79409-5015	806-742 2011

The University of Akron	302 Buchtel Common, Akron, Ohio 44325-2001	216-972 7100
University of Alabama in Huntsville	Huntsville, Alabama 35899	205-895 6120
University of Arizona	Tucson, Arizona 85721	602-621 2211
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences	4301 West Markham St, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205	501-686 5000
University of California, Irvine	Campus Drive, Irvine, California 92717	714-856 6124
University of Chicago	5801 South Ellis Ave, Chicago, Illinois 60637	312-702 1234
University of Dayton	300 College Park Ave, Dayton, Ohio 45469	513-229 1000
University of Denver	2199 South University Blvd, Denver, Colorado 80208-0132	303-871 2000
University of Hawaii	2444 Dole St, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	808-956 8111
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	506 S Wright, Urbana, Illinois 61801	217-333 1000
University of Toledo	2801 W Bancroft Ave, Toledo, Ohio 43606	419-537 4242
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee	PO Box 749, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201	414-229 3800
Wayne State University	5050 Cass Ave, Detroit, Michigan 48202	313-577 2424
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	100 Institute Rd, Worcester, Massachusetts 016090	508-831 5000
Yale University	New Haven, Connecticut 06250	203-432 1900
Thomas Jefferson University	1020 Walnut St, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107	215-955 6617

