IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI CENTRAL DIVISION

OF MISSOURI,) Plaintiff,) v.) GALEN J. SUPPES,) WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,) RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,) and HOMELAND TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,)	
v.)) GALEN J. SUPPES,)) WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,)) RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	
v.)) GALEN J. SUPPES,)) WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,)) RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	
GALEN J. SUPPES,) WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,) RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	
GALEN J. SUPPES,) WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,) RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	
WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,)RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	С
WILLIAM R. SUTTERLIN,)RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	
RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVES, LLC,)	
and HOMELAND TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,)	
)	
Defendants)	

Case No. 2:09-cv-04012-SOW

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS

Defendants Galen J. Suppes ("Suppes") and Homeland Technologies, LLC ("HT") hereby move for dismissal of the above-captioned case for failure to state a claim over which this Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §2201, and 28 U.S.C. §1338(a). Plaintiff's complaint fails to meet the requirements of the Declaratory Judgment Act and the alleged matter does not arise under the Patent Act.

This is an action in which plaintiff alleges subject matter jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1338(a) because it involves patent subject matter in the context of a contractual dispute, including issues relating to the conception and reduction to practice of inventions for which patent applications have been filed. However, no violation of any section of the Patent Act is alleged. The plaintiff's claims arise under contract law rather than patent rights. "Further, the Declaratory Judgment Act is not an independent basis for subject matter jurisdiction." *Prasco, LLC v. Medicis Pharm. Corp.*, 537 F.3d 1329, 1335 (Fed. Cir. 2008). Such jurisdiction is limited by Article III of the Constitution, which restricts federal judicial power to the adjudication of "Cases" or "Controversies." *Id. (citing U. S. Const. Art. III)*.

I. <u>Legal Standard</u>.

The district courts have original, exclusive jurisdiction of any civil action arising under any act of Congress relating to patents under 28 U.S.C. §1338(a). This jurisdiction extends "only to those cases in which a well-pleaded complaint establishes either that federal patent law creates the cause of action or that the plaintiff's right to relief necessarily depends on resolution of a substantial question of federal patent law." *Christianson v. Colt*, 486 U.S. 800, 809 (1988).

Additionally, to invoke the Declaratory Judgment Act, there must be a case or controversy. "For there to be a case or controversy under Article III, the dispute must be definitive and concrete, touching the legal relations of parties having adverse legal interests, real and substantial, and admit of specific relief through a decree of a conclusive character, as distinguished from an opinion advising what the law would be upon a hypothetical state of facts." *Id. (quoting MedImmune, Inc. v. Genentech, Inc.*, 127 S.Ct. 764, 771 (2007) (*quoting Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 227, 240-41, 57 S.Ct. 461 (1937)) (*internal quotations omitted.*).

II. Contractual rights cannot give rise to subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §1338(a).

A. <u>Patent assignment and ownership is a matter of contract law.</u>

Subject matter jurisdiction does not arise over patent ownership or enforcement of a contract concerning patent rights pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1338(a). *See, e.g., Production Eng'g & Mfg., Inc. v. Barnes*, 424 F.2d 42 (10th Cir. 1970). A cause of action does not arise under patent law simply because a patent may be the subject matter of the controversy. *See, e.g.,*

Ausherman v. Stump, 643 F.2d 715 (10th Cir. 1981). Rather, subject matter jurisdiction is a question of "the case made and the relief demanded by the plaintiff." *Air Prods. & Chem., Inc. v. Reichhold Chem., Inc.*, 755 F.2d 1559, 1562 (Fed. Cir. 1985). "Interpretation of a contract is a matter of sate law." *Metabolite Labs., Inc. v. Lab. Corp. of Am.,* 370 F.3d 1354, 1369 (Fed. Cir. 2004). "The critical inquiry is whether in fact the complaint asserted a claim arising under the patent laws." *Cedars-Sinai Med. Center v. Watkins,* 11 F.3d 1573, 1577 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

As a result, this Court lacks jurisdiction over a simple contractual dispute involving construction of contract terms familiar to the patent law. *See, e.g., American Tel. & Tel. Co. v. Integrated Network Corp.*, 972 F.2d 1321 (Fed.Cir.1992) (presence of contractual terms "invention," "made or conceived," and "make or conceive" insufficient to permit removal of case from state to federal court); *Ballard Medical Prods. v. Wright*, 823 F.2d 527, 530 (Fed.Cir.1987) (that patent issues are relevant to resolution of a contract dispute "cannot possibly convert a suit for breach of contract into one 'arising under' the patent laws"); *Beghin-Say Int'l, Inc. v. Ole-Bendt Rasmussen*, 733 F.2d 1568, 1570-71 (Fed.Cir.1984) (dispute over agreements that may assign future patent applications does not convert conflict into one under federal patent laws). When an invention was conceived is more a question of common sense than of patent law. *American Tel.*, 972 F.2d at 1324.

Here, plaintiff seeks declaratory judgment for determination of ownership and for automatic assignment of inventions created by Defendant Suppes based on an employment agreement and "the rules, orders and regulations" of the University of Missouri set forth in the Collected Rules and Regulations ("Collected Rules") (see Complaint, ¶s 11-14). In addition, plaintiff asserted other state law claims for which supplemental jurisdiction is pled under 28 U.S.C. §1367. Plaintiff cites to the entire Patent Act to support its allegation of ¶ 40 that a

"determination of the date of invention, including the date of conception and the date of

reduction to practice, is a question exclusively governed by federal patent law, specifically 35

U.S.C. §101 *et seq.*" (*emphasis added*). This *broad* citation demonstrates that the plaintiff could find no support for its allegation because there is no section of the Patent Act which defines these terms or supports plaintiff's allegation. Questions of inventorship, conception and reduction to practice are all defined in common law, rather than by an act of Congress or the Patent Act.

Likewise, plaintiff cites 35 U.S.C. § 261 in ¶ 46 of Count II of its complaint for

the notion that "determination of the question of automatic assignment is a matter of federal

law." This section of the Patent Act is devoid of any such notion of automatic assignment. 35

U.S.C. §261 provides as follows:

Subject to the provisions of this title, patents shall have the attributes of personal property.

Applications for patent, patents, or any interest therein, shall be assignable in law by an instrument in writing. The applicant, patentee, or his assigns or legal representatives may in like manner grant and convey an exclusive right under his application for patent, or patents, to the whole or any specified part of the United States.

A certificate of acknowledgment under the hand and official seal of a person authorized to administer oaths within the United States, or, in a foreign country, of a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States or an officer authorized to administer oaths whose authority is proved by a certificate of a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States, or apostille of an official designated by a foreign country which, by treaty or convention, accords like effect to apostilles of designated officials in the United States, shall be prima facie evidence of the execution of an assignment, grant or conveyance of a patent or application for patent.

An assignment, grant or conveyance shall be void as against any subsequent purchaser or mortgagee for a valuable consideration, without notice, unless it is recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office within three months from its date or prior to the date of such subsequent purchase or mortgage.

The real allegation and basis for plaintiff's allegation of Count II is found in \P 49 in which plaintiff alleges that it "is entitled to the ownership and assignment of all inventions of defendants, *as set forth in the Collected Rules and Regulations*" - clearly a contract claim alone.

B. <u>The relief sought is not a matter of patent law</u>

The following relief is requested of this Court:

 the order of an accounting of all inventions created, conceived or reduced to practice by Suppes since August 1, 2001;

2. a declaration that all such intellectual property is owned by and the property of the University;

3. a declaration that the language in Suppes' employment agreement created an automatic assignment of all intellectual property created by him to the University;

4. an order for defendants to account for all revenues or other benefits received from licenses and/or sales of University intellectual property;

5. an order for an accounting of all contracts, licenses, agreements, nondisclosures and/or other arrangements entered into between defendants and third parties with respect to the University's intellectual property;

6. an order for defendants to sign any and all documents necessary or advisable to assign rights or confirm ownership of all inventions to the University;

7. to enjoin defendants from purporting to license, assign or otherwise transfer any inventions or other intellectual property that rightfully belongs to the University; and

8. granting specific performance on all valid contractual employment obligations.

Not a single request for relief is based on the remedies available under the Patent Act (*see* 35 U.S.C. §§ 283-285). All are based on alleged violations of rights under the Collected Rules and employment agreement. Therefore, this District Court cannot exercise jurisdiction under the patent laws over an action where "the gravemen" of the claims pleaded in the complaint is that defendants wrongfully obtained patent rights over the invention(s) at issue and that defendants must assign such patent rights to the plaintiff. *Cummings v. Moore*, 202 F.2d 145, 147 (10th Cir. 1953).

III. Plaintiff fails to meet the requirements of the Declaratory Judgment Act.

The Declaratory Judgment Act provides:

In a case of actual controversy within its jurisdiction . . . any court of the United States, upon the filing of an appropriate pleading, may declare the rights and other legal relations of an interested party seeking such declaration, whether or not further relief is or could be sought.

28 U.S.C. § 2201. "The Declaratory Judgment Act is not an independent basis for subject matter jurisdiction." *Prasco*, 537 F.3d at 1335 (*citing Skelly Oil Col*, *v. Phillips Petroleum Co.*, 339 U.S. 667, 671-72, 70 S.Ct. 876 (1950)). "Rather it provides a remedy available only if the court has jurisdiction from some other source." *Id. (citing Cat. Tech. LLC v. TubeMaster, Inc.*, 528 F.3d 871, 879 (Fed. Cir. 2008)). As set forth above, no federal question has been presented over which this Court may exercise jurisdiction. Further, the basic standard for determining if application of the Declaratory Judgment Act is appropriate is whether "the facts alleged, under all the circumstances, show that there is a substantial controversy between the parties having

adverse legal interests, of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment." *Id.* at 1336 (*quoting MedImmune*, 127 S.Ct. at 771).

Considering the totality of the circumstances, plaintiff has not alleged a controversy of sufficient "immediacy and reality" to create a justiciable controversy. To satisfy this standing requirement, "the plaintiff must allege (1) an injury-in-fact, i.e. a harm that is concrete and actual or imminent not conjectural or hypothetical, (2) that is fairly traceable to the defendant's conduct, and (3) redressable by a favorable decision." *Id.* at 1338 (*quoting Caraco Pharm. Labs. Ltd. v. Forest Labs.*, 527 F.3d 1278, 1291 (Fed. Cir. 2008)). "Absent an injury-infact fairly traceable to [defendants], there can be no immediate and real controversy." *Id.*

The contractual rights alleged to be violated by defendants, such as "various patent applications have been abandoned, denied, and/or licensed to third parties without any knowledge on the part of the University," are not concrete but conjectural or hypothetical Complaint, ¶ 17. How can the University make this allegation if it is "without any knowledge?" And who are the "third parties" to which the University refers?

All Counts of the complaint make numerous allegations none of which present a controversy of sufficient "immediacy and reality" to create a justiciable controversy. Supporting allegations in the statement of facts and counts go back over eight years (*see* ¶¶ 9, 10, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 34, 35, 39, 46, 52, 53, 71, 72, 75 and 79), failing the immediacy test. HT is under no contractual obligation to the University and is not participating in any activity adverse to the University's interests. At no time has HT threatened or refused to cooperate with the University.

On September 26, 2006, general counsel for the University sent a letter to Suppes demanding that he "cease and desist from licensing, purporting to license or purporting to assign rights in inventions made during a period of time while [he was] an employee of the University unless or until utilization of the mechanism contained in the University Patent Regulations has resulted in a determination that the University is not the rightful owner of said invention."

Exhibit A, p. 2. The general counsel for the University indicated that there was no urgency to resolving this issue asking Suppes to "reflect whether (*sic*) upon whether the content of this letter indicates that it would be in your best interest to retain legal counsel before further meetings take place." *Id.* On April 25, 2008, general counsel for the University repeated his demand. Exhibit B, p. 1. In each of these demands, the general counsel for the University acknowledged that it has a procedure to determine ownership of inventions, which is the University Patent Regulations.

On four separate occasions, Suppes offered to resolve these invention issues through arbitration, which would be binding on both Suppes and HT. **Exhibit C**. Each time the University refused to arbitrate. Finally, following the procedures of the University, Suppes filed a Grievance on January 2, 2008, more than a year before the present case was filed. **Exhibit D**. Even after filing the Grievance, Suppes again tried to resolve these issues by arbitration. The day before the Grievance Committee was scheduled to meet, this case was filed, thereby abruptly terminating the grievance process. **Exhibit E**. The University's behavior over several years shows that there is no immediacy or reality by which a justiciable controversy is created. Furthermore, repeated offers by Suppes (and HT) to abide by the decision of any arbitration illustrates that the parties are not adverse and that there is truly no controversy.

Finally, Suppes has assigned rights in the "certain inventions" to the University, as admitted in \P 32 of the Complaint. Thus any failure by the University to accept these assignments cannot be fairly traceable to defendants' behavior, but its own behavior.

Accordingly, based on these allegations and the relief sought, it is not clear what damages or redress the plaintiff is seeking based on any conduct of defendants, failing the third prong of the standing requirement.

IV. Conclusion.

Plaintiff's allegation that subject matter jurisdiction exists for this cause of action under 28 U.S.C. §1338(a) is misplaced. The fact that plaintiff's claims relate to patent subject matter in the context of a contractual dispute cannot establish subject matter jurisdiction over these claims. Accordingly, since the plaintiff's claims arise under contractual law rather than patent law, this case should be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. Further, when the totality of the circumstances is considered, plaintiff's claims fail to meet the requirements of the Declaratory Judgment Act.

Accordingly, defendants Suppes and HT request dismissal of this action as to all counts.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James J. Kernell James J. Kernell, #48850 Lara L. McInerney, #60093 ERICKSON, KERNELL, DERUSSEAU & KLEYPAS, LLC 800 West 47th Street, Suite 401 Overland Park, Kansas 66211 Telephone: 816-753-6777 Facsimile: 816-753-6888 E-Mail: jjk@kcpatentlaw.com

Attorneys for defendants Galen J. Suppes and Homeland Technologies, LLC

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI SYSTEM

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September 26, 2006

Professor Galen Suppes W2033 Lafferre Hall College of Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia Columbia, MO 65211

William Rusty Sutterlin W2033 Lafferre Hall College of Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia Columbia, MO 65211

Re: Lack of Authority to License University Owned Intellectual Property

Dear Drs. Suppes and Sutterlin:

Please be advised that under existing University regulations, the University, as the employer and as the representative of the people of the state, shall have the ownership and control of any invention developed in the course of the employee's service to the University. The foregoing principle and additional guidance on the application of the principle are contained in the University Patent Regulations, which can be found in Section 100.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri. A copy of that regulation is enclosed for your convenience.

I recognize that the application of the foregoing principle is dependent upon the facts surrounding specific inventions. There are some circumstances under which University employees, as defined in Section 100.020C.2 of the Collected Rules and Regulations, may create an invention the ownership of which does not vest in the University. However, it is important to note that the University Patent Regulations establish the appropriate mechanism for resolving claims by University employees that inventions made by them fall outside the ambit of University ownership.

In my opinion, unless such mechanism has been utilized and has resulted in a determination that the employee and not the University is the rightful owner of an invention, the employee/inventor is placing himself or herself in substantial legal jeopardy by asserting ownership thereof and/or licensing, purporting to license or purporting to assign rights in said invention to a third party.

Please cease and desist from licensing, purporting to license or purporting to assign rights in inventions made during a period of time while you were an employee of the University unless or until utilization of the mechanism contained in the University Patent Regulations has resulted in a determination that the University is not the rightful owner of said invention.

In addition to the foregoing, I would like to remind you of the specific provisions of Section 100.020D.1.e of the Collected Rules and Regulations which read, in relevant part, as follows:

"An employee of the University shall not file in any domestic or foreign jurisdiction any patent application or Plant Variety Protection Application relating to an Invention or Plant Variety made within the general scope of his University duties unless the University has waived in writing the requirement that rights be assigned to the University."

It is my understanding that the University has not waived in writing the requirement that any of your inventions be assigned to the University. Therefore, please refrain from filing patent applications, including provisional applications, which would constitute a violation of the above-quoted provision.

Dr. Suppes sent me an e-mail indicating that he is in the process of engaging an attorney to provide him and Renewable Alternatives, Inc with legal advice regarding ownership of intellectual property. He subsequently sent another e-mail indicating that he had talked to an attorney and before deciding whether to put down a retainer to engage the attorney's services, he was desirous of seeing whether the issues in dispute could be resolved through a meeting and discussions.

I want to assure you that I have no intention of trying to take advantage of the situation prior to your making a decision on the engagement of counsel. For that reason, I respectfully request that neither of you respond to me directly concerning these issues until after you reflect whether upon whether the content of this letter indicates that it would be in your best interest to retain legal counsel before further meetings take place. If you decide that it is in your best interest and the best interest of Renewable Alternatives to engage legal counsel before meeting, please forward my letter to your attorney and ask him or her to contact me. On the other hand, if you decide to delay engagement of legal counsel until after further meetings are held, please advise me of that fact.

B06-09-26 - Page 3 of 3

September 26, 2006 Page 3

Sincerely yours,

Philep & Hockins

PHILLIP J. HOSKINS Counsel

Cc: Vice President Gardner Jim Coleman Mike Nichols Noah Manring

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL 227 UNIVERSITY HALL COLUMBIA, MO. 65211 TELEPHONE: (573) 882-3211 FAX NUMBER: (573) 882-0050

Stephen J. Owens, General Counsel William F. Arnet, Counsel Katharine S. Bunn, Counsel Nancie D. Hawke, Counsel Phillip J. Hoskins, Counsel Paul R. Maguffee, Counsel Kathleen Murphy Markie, Counsel Kelly Mescher, Counsel

April 25, 2008

Professor Galen Suppes W2033 Lafferre Hall College of Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia Columbia, MO 65211

Re: Clarification of Authority to Assign Rights to the University of Missouri

Dear Professor Suppes:

This will acknowledge receipt of your e-mail of April 23, 2008 pertaining to the signing of documents related to the China Application.

As you requested, this letter is written to clarify a portion of my previous letter to you, dated September 26, 2006. That letter contained the following paragraph:

"Please cease and desist from licensing, purporting to license or purporting to assign rights in inventions made during a period of time while you were an employee of the University unless or until utilization of the mechanism contained in the University Patent Regulations has resulted in a determination that the University is not the rightful owner of said invention."

The above cited language was intended to make certain you were aware that you did not have authority to take the actions described therein, including without limitation, assignment of rights in intellectual property to individuals or entities other than your employer, The Curators of the University of Missouri. It was not intended to suggest that you were prohibited from making such assignments to The Curators of the University of Missouri. In fact, the University Patent Regulations require that you make such assignment to The Curators of the University of Missouri.

April 25, 2008 Page 2

I hope this letter clears up any uncertainty in your mind regarding this matter and that you will now sign the attached document assigning your interest in the technology covered by the China Application to The Curators of the University of Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

Phileip & Hoskins

PHILLIP J. HOSKINS Counsel

Cc: Stephen J. Owens Rob Hall Wayne McDaniel

Suppes, Galen

From:	Gardner, John C.
Sent:	Thursday, October 05, 2006 6:17 AM
То:	Suppes, Galen; Gardner, John C.
Cc:	rusty@renewablealterntives.com
Subject:	RE: FW: Response

Hi Galen...as I understand it (I will clarify today) the 'patent adminisistrator', in this case Mike/MU, has authority. Should there be a dispute, the faculty member requests it be referred to the patent committe, who's judgement is final from Universty's perspective. I know the committee is not meant to be a biased body towards faculty or University but base decisions on IP law, University regs, etc. The Collected Rules lay this out and are fairly clear and we are bound to follow that procedure.

Will check on this today and clarify any misunderstandings I may have so that you, Mike, etc all know the procedure.

Regards, John

--- Original Message ---From: "Suppes, Galen" <suppesg@missouri.edu> Sent: Wed 10/4/2006 6:02 pm To: "Gardner, John C." <gardnerj@umsystem.edu> Cc: "rusty@renewablealterntives.com" <rusty@renewablealterntives.com> Subject: RE: FW: Response

Thanks.

Honostly, to make any real progress on this issue we would need a committee that would be non-biased--which probably means a committee with at least a majority who are not University members. The reason is quite simple, if the committee finds against Renewable Alternatives, it would simply be too easy to dismiss it as biased. Also, the real question is not whether the Unvirsity can claim rights to part of Rusty's IP, but whether RA has absolutely zero rights to any of Rusty's IP. Only if RA had no rights would any of the bargaining position of RA be compromised.

The first step that should be taken would be for Rusty to present a case for RA's rights to his IP---possibly to you and Mike N. Then, if you and Mike N. honostly thought there was a case for RA having no IP rights, the fastest means to resolution would be to have a non-University arbitration committee with both sides agreeing to the results (RA might be willing to pay for this). This approach would actually make progress on the Rusty IP issue. There is a high probability that the Meeting of the 6th will not resolve Rusty's IP issue (primarily because Rusty is unlikely to give up any of RA's claims). However, if you were to meet with Rusty as part of this course of action, good progress could be made before the November meeting.

Please consider it.

Of course, the resolution of Rusty's IP is only the first step. You need to understand that the greatest of research and innovation occurs when there is a high degree of crosscontamination. The University needs to allow for this cross contamination in a format where the company retains some rights -- only then will the true potential of entrepreneurial research at MU be tapped.

Galen

----Original Message-----From: Gardner, John C. Sent: Wed 10/4/2006 3:27 PM To: Suppes, Galen

EXHIBIT C Case 2:09-cv-04012-SOW Document 11-3 Filed 02/25/2009 Page 1 of 13

Subject: Re: FW: Response

Galen...funny you should ask, as I'm at Rolla right now working on revising our policy development and Collected Rules. This committee is being woken up for the expressed purpose as the 'appeal' body for disputes in ownership and/or distributions. Thus, I am getting the 'old' list together right now, revising/informing members, and reconstituting it to only be used when something can't be resolved on campus - thus have some eligibility for it to actually get to the committee. Will get info out to you as I get it together.

Regards, John

--- Original Message ---From: "Suppes, Galen" <suppesg@missouri.edu> Sent: Wed 10/4/2006 2:52 pm To: "Gardner, John C." <gardnerj@umsystem.edu> Subject: FW: Response

Hi John,

Could you please get back to me with the names of the people on the ?Patent Committee?.

Also, if Mike Nichols is on the committee, to whom should a request be made for a substitute.

3. Inventor Requests for Waiver of University Rights -- If the inventor believes that the Invention or Plant Variety was made outside the general scope of her/his University duties, and if he/she is unwilling to assign the rights in the Invention or Plant Variety to the University, he/she

Suppes, Galen

From:	Suppes, Galen
Sent:	Thursday, January 18, 2007 12:07 PM
То:	'VFranck@consolidated.net'
Cc:	'markt@senergychem.com'
Subject:	RE: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol

This is exactly the type of response that could be expected--they do not want to resolve the issue fairly, they want to go back to the posturing, threats, and squeezing &/or outright violation of the contracts they have in place.

Vic--It would be good to talk to you while I am here in Houston. I will be out at Centauri this afternoon and most of tomorrow.

Best Regards,

Galen J. Suppes Professor Department of Chemical Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia http://www.missouri.edu/~suppesg/suppes.html

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----Original Message----From: Vic Franck [mailto:vfranck@consolidated.net] Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2007 11:40 AM To: Suppes, Galen Cc: markt@senergychem.com; 'Kim Force' Subject: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol

Galen:

The response I received today from Lathrope Gage was that "Phil Hoskins is working diligently with Dr. Suppes' counsel regarding the execution issue in particular since Galen is a University employee".

I do not know if this is true, I do not understand what the dispute is, and I do not know exactly what part all the various parties play concerning the technology. But Mark and I are willing to cooperate in any reasonable manner to help resolve this matter.

Best regards,

Vic

----Original Message----From: Suppes, Galen [mailto:suppesg@missouri.edu] Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2007 11:14 AM To: VFranck@consolidated.net Cc: markt@senergychem.com; Kim Force Subject: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol

This is a step in the right direction--and should substantially take care of all the dispute issues.

The problem we will run into is that MSMC and UMC are into posturing, squeezing, and threats rather than attaining a reasonable a fair resolution. You will see the true colors of the players by their responses or lack of responses to your recommendation.

You might need to call the MSMC attorneys.

Best Regards,

Galen J. Suppes Professor Department of Chemical Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia http://www.missouri.edu/~suppesg/suppes.html

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-----Original Message-----From: Vic Franck [mailto:vfranck@consolidated.net] Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2007 8:31 AM To: Suppes, Galen; CRenz@LathropGage.com; McDaniel, Wayne C.; Sutterlin, William Rusty; mohanprasad_d@yahoo.com; DCleveland@LathropGage.com; JFelton@LathropGage.com; 'Kim Force' Cc: 'Mark G Tegen' Subject: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol

We should try to negotiate disputes in good faith, and arbitration may be a reasonable method to get this resolved. Does anyone object to arbitration,

or is this something we can agree to and get the proper documents filed?

Vic

-----Original Message-----From: Suppes, Galen [mailto:suppesg@missouri.edu] Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 10:42 AM To: VFranck@consolidated.net; CRenz@LathropGage.com; McDaniel, Wayne C.; Sutterlin, William Rusty; mohanprasad_d@yahoo.com; DCleveland@LathropGage.com; JFelton@LathropGage.com; Kim Force Cc: Mark G Tegen Subject: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol

Vic,

The center of the dispute centers around the fact that multiple agreements are in place that are incompatible (such as promising >100% of royalties when all is added up). The obvious solution is to meet and resolve the differences.

The problem is that MSMC is not making a good-faith effort to meet and resolve the difference. MSMC and UMC have done things like set up meetings where they had attorney's present, they had basically rewritten the agreements, and "Rusty and I" were expected to show up without legal council and sign off on outrageous terms. Dale at MSMC has refused to meet with me and/or negotiate in good faith. UMC has canceled meeting after meeting leading to months of delays. Just last week we had a meeting at UMC where prior to the meeting UMC agreed to meet without accusations about past issues, and instead, to focus on the path forward.... but UMC did not do this---most of the meeting was on them accusing me of not informing them of inventions and patent filings (both of which were false as documentation firmly establishes).

The bottom line is that there is a dispute, and every attempt to get MSMC and UMC to negotiate toward resolution is good faith has at best only been partially successful. I will sign all forms under the following terms: "If UMC-MSMC-RA-Suppes do not arrive at a resolution by a "CERTAIN DATE" that all will agree to go into arbitration and abide by arbitration solution." That "CERTAIN DATE" could be 2 weeks or 2 months away (any reasonable time if fine)---all that is needed is a commitment to arrive at a resolution of the dispute in good faith in a reasonable time.

Once I get that commitment from MSMC and UMC----I will sign away.

I will be in Houston through Thursday with sporadic access to email. Mark will be here tomorrow. Mark will get here tomorrow (Wednesday)---I can discuss with him in great detail.... and we can conference (meet??) with you if you wish.

Best Regards,

Galen J. Suppes Professor Department of Chemical Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia http://www.missouri.edu/~suppesg/suppes.html

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-----Original Message-----From: Vic Franck [mailto:vfranck@consolidated.net] Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 5:32 AM To: CRenz@LathropGage.com; McDaniel, Wayne C.; Sutterlin, William Rusty; mohanprasad_d@yahoo.com; DCleveland@LathropGage.com; JFelton@LathropGage.com; Suppes, Galen Cc: Mark G Tegen Subject: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol

I do not know what the current hold-up or dispute is, but this situation seems similar to one that occurred several months ago. It seems clear to me that all parties should sign and file all applicable documents to protect the Intellectual Property Rights (or we will have nothing to argue about), and then we can work out whatever dispute there may be between the parties. Is there anything preventing us from working out the dispute after our rights have been protected in China?

Regards,

Vic Franck

****** Victor C. Franck 82 Driftoak Circle The Woodlands, TX 77381 Tel: (936) 271-4989 Fax: (936) 271-4990 VFranck@consolidated.net www.VicFranck.com > ----- Original Message -----> From: Renz, > Chalynda: <mailto:CRenz@LathropGage.com> > To: mcdanielwc@missouri.edu: <mailto:mcdanielwc@missouri.edu> ; > wrsa94@mizzou.edu: <mailto:wrsa94@mizzou.edu> ; mohanprasad_d@yahoo.com: > <mailto:mohanprasad_d@yahoo.com> > Cc: Cleveland, Dan: <mailto:DCleveland@LathropGage.com> ; Felton, > Jay: <mailto:JFelton@LathropGage.com> > Sent: Monday, January 15, 2007 10:59 AM > Subject: Method of Producing Lower Alcohol From Glycerol > > Final reminder for the below signature documents. I have received > signature documents from Mr. Sutterlin and Mr. Dasari, but still do not > have signature documents from Mr. Suppes. Please note if we do not receive > signatures today from Mr. Suppes, this is to advise that patent rights mav > be lost and unrevivable. > > Gentlemen: > > Attached please find the final paperwork necessary to perfect the national > phase application on the above-referenced innovations. Please review and > sign the appropriate document and return via facsimile and follow-up via > regular mail to the address listed below. Please note we need to forward > the Chinese Power of Attorney to the associates for filing in China by > January 18, 2007. If the Powers are not filed by this time, the > application will abandon. > > > <<Sutterlin Power of Attorney India.pdf>> <<454068 Suppes Power of > Attorney for US CIP Application.pdf>> <<454068 Sutterlin Power of Attorney > for US CIP Application.pdf>> <<Dasari Declaration of Entitlement for > Indonesia.pdf>> <<Dasari Power of Attorney For China.pdf>> <<Dasari Power > of Attorney for Europe.pdf>> <<Dasari Power of Attorney India.pdf>> > << Suppes Declaration of Entitlement for Indonesia.pdf>> << Suppes Power of > Attorney for China.pdf>> << Suppes Power of Attorney for Europe.pdf>> > <<Suppes Power of Attorney India.pdf>> <<Sutterlin Declaration of > Entitlement for Indonesia.pdf>> <<Sutterlin Power of Attorney for

> China.pdf>> <<Sutterlin Power of Attorney for Europe.pdf>> <<454068 > Declaration on CIP US Application.pdf>> > Please be advised we are still awaiting confirmation from our associates > that we may reverse listing the University of Missouri Board of Curators > as applicant upon filing. If our associates indicate this cannot be > accomplished, please note we may have additional paperwork which will need > to be signed under a very short timeline, which would including assignment > of the application to the University of Missouri Board of Curators to > avoid abandonment of the application in the particular country. Currently > we are awaiting confirmation from Brazil, China and India. > > If you cannot open any of the attached documents or have any questions > regarding the attached documents, please contact me at (816) 460-5847 or > Mr. Cleveland at (720) 931-3012. > > Thank you for your attention to this matter. > > Chalynda Renz > Patent Paralegal > Lathrop & Gage LC > 2345 Grand Boulevard > Suite 2400 > Kansas City, Missouri 64108 (816) 460-5847 -- Telephone > > (816) 292-2001 -- Facsimile > > > > > WE ARE INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE TO COMPLY WITH TREASURY > REGULATIONS. ANY U.S. FEDERAL TAX ADVICE CONTAINED IN THIS COMMUNICATION > (INCLUDING ANY ATTACHMENTS OR ENCLOSURES) WAS NOT INTENDED OR WRITTEN BY > THE AUTHOR TO BE USED, AND CANNOT BE USED, FOR THE PURPOSE OF (1) AVOIDING > PENALTIES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED ON A TAXPAYER OR (2) PROMOTING, MARKETING, > OR RECOMMENDING TO ANOTHER PARTY ANY TRANSACTION OR OTHER MATTER ADDRESSED > HEREIN. > > This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain material that (1) is > confidential and for the sole use of the intended recipient, and (2) may > be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney work product > doctrine or other legal rules. Any review, reliance or distribution by > others or forwarding without express permission is strictly prohibited. If > you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and delete

> all copies.
>

Suppes, Galen

From: Sent:	Suppes, Galen Wednesday, March 14, 2007 8:41 PM
To:	Gahl, John M.
Cc:	'VFranck@consolidated.net'; markt@senergychem.com; Manring, Noah D.; Coleman, James S.; 'Cleveland, Dan'; Rusty Sutterlin; Felton, Jay; 'Kim Force'
Subject:	Offer for Expediting Dispute Resolution

Chairman Gahl,

I believe the evidence is overwhelming that there are disputes at multiple levels between the following entities:

Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council Senergy Chemicals, Ltd University of Missouri-Columbia Renewable Alternatives, LLC Galen J. Suppes (as an inventor)

It is in everybody's interest to resolve these disputes and identify an amenable path forward. I ask that you convey the following to all involved on my behalf and per my influence on Renewable Alternatives (RA) policy as majority owner: Foremost, RA and I ask that all involved pursue immediate resolution. 1. I offer to meet with all entities involved and to have a RA representative meet to discuss and resolve the issues. This has been requested since Summer 2006 and the offer is open. 2. I offer to have attorney representation for myself and RA in a meeting of attorneys to resolve the issues. This has been a request since December of 2006 and the offer is open. 3. I offer to agree to arbitration and to abide by the decisions of arbitration on behalf of RA and myself to resolve the disputes. This has been a request since January of 2007 and the offer is open.

Please also note that I have had a request to UMC for clarification and agreement on royalty distributions within the University for University-inventors. This has been a request since December of 2005 and the request remains.

Best Regards,

Galen J. Suppes Professor Department of Chemical Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia http://www.missouri.edu/~suppesg/suppes.html

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Suppes, Galen

From:	Suppes, Galen
Sent:	Sunday, February 03, 2008 6:00 PM

- To: McDaniel, Wayne C.
- Cc: Gahl, John M.

Subject: RE: Conversation Documentation

Hi Wayne,

I have avoided making accusations to you, because there seems to be no useful purpose as we need to try to work together.

However, let me be very clear about one thing. You are one of the primary reasons why there is this mess with MSMC. The reasons are as follows:

- 1 Because TMIR (indirectly you) simply sat on the disclosures made in 2003, 2004, and 2005 and did nothing.
- You were even copied on the patent application (disclosure) and did nothing. 2.
- 3. Finally (AND FOREMOST), when Sharp finally noticed that royalties had been paid, here is exactly what you did. In a serious act of malpractice, you decided to make a legal interpretation of the MRDF-RA contact. You decided that because "someone could perceive that MRDF might think that the MRDF-RA agreement precluded any obligations of the parallel UM-MSMC agreements" in regard to assignment and licensing of technology, THAT you did not have to follow through on the UM part of the UM-MSMC agreement (licensing and royalty negotiation). Instead of DOING YOUR JOB and proceeding to lock in license terms of the UM-MSMC agreement.... you spent the next six months systematically attacking Rusty, IN FACT, you told me that Dan Cleveland interprets the MRDF-RA agreement the same RA, and me. way that RA interprets that agreement-namely, that the UM-MSMC agreement still holds, the MRDF gets UM rights to the technology for having filed patents, and that MSMC does have royalty obligations to UM. Here is exactly what is wrong with what you did: 1) in an act of malpractice you made incompetent interpretations of the MRDF-RA agreement and 2) then you neglected to do your job in licensing the technology to MSMC. Your perception was incorrect! CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF EVERYBODY DECIDED THAT ALL THEY NEEDED AS AN EXCUSE TO NOT FOLLOW UP ON CONTRACT TERMS (and their job) WAS TOHAVE THE PERCEPTION THAT SOMEBODY MIGHT INTERPRET A SEPARATE CONTRACT (MRDF-RA agreement) IN A MANNER THAT INTERFERS WITH THE CONTRACT DEFINING THEIR OBLIGATIONS (UM-MSMC agreement). Perceptions on how others might interpret separate agreements are NOT an excuse for not following through on contract terms!

Instead of following through licensing the technology to MRMC, you systematically attacked Rusty, RA, and myself from about 12/05-12/06. That is why this big mess exists. I offered time-and-time again, to have arbitration of the contracts since the contracts had conflicting obligations. UM and you refused....most likely because you figured that bickering, posturing, and stonewalling was the best way to get conditions that the agreements and contracts did not substantiate.

After the January 2007 RA-UM agreement, I commented to you that it was really bad that Phil Hoskins did not allow the meeting to be recorded. You said it was an appropriate decision because it was not to the advantage of UM to record the meeting. Yet another act that substantiates that UM (and you) have spent two years bickering, posturing, and stonewalling to get contract terms not otherwise justified.

My responses to your comments are below:

Galen J. Suppes Professor Department of Chemical Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia http://www.missouri.edu/~suppesg/suppes.html

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From: McDaniel, Wayne C.
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2008 12:45 PM
To: Suppes, Galen
Cc: Gahl, John M.
Subject: RE: Conversation Documentation

Galen,

As is your habit when 'documenting' conversations and events, you invariably twist the facts to suit whatever agenda you are trying to advance on that particular day. This propensity to manipulate the truth is getting more than a little tiring, especially since I am probably the only person left on the UMC campus that is willing to try to help extricate you from the situation that you created for yourself with MSMC. To recap, it has taken almost 2 years to resolve the situation with MSMC (and counting) because you executed a license agreement with MSMC on behalf of your company that made several false assertions, and licensed IP that neither you nor your company owned. I have been willing to believe that you just didn't understand the language in the contract you signed, but in light of your repeated misrepresentations of events and conversations to which I have been a party, I'm having second thoughts.

Per your email below, I will address each false statement in order.

- I did say that I would contact Boss Environmental about the possibility of licensing your technology, but I did not say I would drop everything and do it that day. In fact, during the course of this conversation, I reminded you that there were 112 faculty in the College of Engineering, and I had more to do that just handle Galen Suppes. *[Suppes, Galen]* I LEFT WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU WOULD TAKE THE 5 MINUTES TO SEND THE EMAIL THAT DAY.

- Our office is not losing opportunities because we do not act fast enough on inquiries. Based on your acceptance of research funding from MSMC, this technology has been committed to MSMC from the time you accepted the funding. So the technology is no longer available for UM to license to any of the parties that inquire. The only part of the glycerin to PG core invention that is still available to license are the two additional licenses (which you correctly pointed out) that MSMC reserved for itself to make in addition to the Senergy license. I told you that in my conversations with Dan Cleveland, he encouraged me to put together a consortium to pursue one of these licenses. If that effort is successful, then we will be able to respond to these inquiries with an option that will fill their needs. Otherwise, I have no choice but to refer them to Senergy or MSMC, which I'm sure you would not approve. *[Suppes, Galen]* UM IS LOSING CONTRACTING OPPORTUNTIES BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT HAS PROPER PATENT ATTORNEY ADVICE ON THE TECHNOLOGY. THIS IS IN VIOLATION OF THE UM-MSMC AGREEMENT CLEARLY STATES THAT MU WILL HIRE THE PATENT ATTORNEY AND THAT THE PATENT ATTORNEY WILL REPRESENT MU.

- You did offer to take over the licensing of your technology, but do you seriously think that any responsible

university adminstrator would empower you to negotiate on behalf of UM, given your track record of executing at least one license agreement full of materially false assertions? **[Suppes, Galen]** THEY SHOULD NOT ONLY CONSIDER IT, THEY SOULD DO IT. BE REAL, IT TOOK TMIR 23 MONTHS TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT THAT WAS AGREED-TO AND WRITTEN ON DAY ONE.

- Dale does not want to work with you any more, but as I explained to you on more than one occasion, that is not because of anything I or TMIR have done. Dale does not want to work with you, because he has worked with you in the past. Because Dale will not work with you to explore your idea of forming a consortium to be one of the additional licensees, I offered to try to help put the consortium together.

- I informed you that I was planning to assign a law student to contact the companies that had approached me about licensing this technology. I plan to have him ask the companies if they are still interested, explore the possibility of getting representatives of these companies to visit UMC to learn more about the possibility, and also to explore different models of consortia that might have been successful in the past. But I also explained that TMIR's role would only be that of match-maker, and that I did not envision that UM would be a party to any agreement that came from this consortium. You did express a concern about having to educate the student about the invention, but I explained to you that this was not necessary, as he will be building a team, not writing a patent.

- You then assert in your email that I said it was the student or no assistance, as if this assistance was referring to the handling of this whole invention, which could not be further from the truth. For most of the last 2 years, I have spent more time on this glycerin to PG invention than I have spent on all of the rest of the faculty and all of the rest of the inventions that I handle put together. And to date, this invention has not generated a single dollar of royalty income. So when I said I didn't have time to do it, I was referring to the effort to put together a consortium of companies, and I did not say that I would not be involved, only that by having a student who is 5 months away from graduating from law school, that he is more than capable of handling most of the leg work on this effort. **[Suppes, Galen]** I DO BELIEVE YOU SAID THAT IT WAS THE STUDENT OR NOTHING....I DO NOT THINK I MIS-INTERPRETTED.

- Regarding your next assertion in your email, we did not discuss your concerns about Senergy's plans for this technology. Your concerns about this were expressed in an email to me, but since I had not read the email when you were in my office, I had no opinion on your concerns. We did discuss the need to get a commercialization plan from MSMC for the expanded license for acetol that they were seeking, and we did discuss putting milestones in that expanded license.

So in conclusion, you misrepresented pretty much everything we discussed. And the saddest part of that, is that I am in my office on Sunday to try and catch up on some things, and contacting Boss Environmental would have certainly been one of the things that I could have done. But I have already spent way too much time responding to your 'documentation' of our conversation, and therefore, I am going to move on to other faculty now. After I take care of some of these other pressing issues, then possibly I can turn my attention to contacting Boss Environmental. **[Suppes, Galen]** WAYNE—I do not think anything was mis-represented.

Wayne

From: Suppes, Galen
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2008 7:31 AM
To: McDaniel, Wayne C.
Cc: Gahl, John M.
Subject: Conversation Documentation

Hi Wayne,

Since you did not seem to follow up on our conversation, I at least need to document the items we discussed.

I asked you to at least contact Boss Environmental about their licensing inquiry indicating that UM should be able to proceed with an antifreeze license (in time). You said you would that day and copy me on the email—that did not happen.

I also indicated that your office is losing too many opportunities because you do not act on inquiries fast enough. I offered to take over the licensing aspect of my technology since your office has not been able to handle even the most basic of licensing (e.g. taking 24 months to enact a license that was pre-written). You said Dale would not work with me.

I am OK with Dale not working with me. I again offer to take over the licensing aspect of my technologies.

I indicated a concern over assignment of a student with a 6-month appointment on the project indicating that in such a method of handling the technology I will be called upon to educate the student, that past students were incompetent and had attitudes. You basically indicated that it was the student or no assistance.

I indicated that the evidence was overwhelming that Senergy only seems to try to be using our technology to attract money rather than simply commercializing. Because of this, I indicated that the acetol should not be licensed to them. You indicated that it is Dan Cleveland's opinion that MRDF/MSMC accepted UM licensing terms and all therefore has all rights to the technology they patented----that the acceptance was when they filed the patents in 2005 and 2006.

Please let me know if I have mis-interpreted any aspect of our conversation.

Best Regards,

Galen J. Suppes Professor Department of Chemical Engineering University of Missouri-Columbia http://www.missouri.edu/~suppesg/suppes.html

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University of Missouri Columbia

W2030 Thomas & Nell Lafferre Hall Columbia, MO 65211

Telephone: (573) 882-3563 Fax (573) 884-4940

January 2, 2008 To: Chair of Standing Committee, Grievance Committee Care of: Chancellor Brady Deaton From: Galen J. Suppes, Professor, J.C. Dowell Professorship Subject: Filing of Grievance

I hereby initiate the filing of a grievance against the following UM System administrators: Michael F. Nichols, Phillip J. Hoskins, and Scott Uhlmann. The following information is provided per the Collected Rules and Regulations, Section 370.015.I.1:

Grounds for Grievance:

- 1. Violation of UM-MSMC Research Agreement and UM-MSMC License Agreement as pertaining to research of Dr. Suppes, including but not limited to:
 - a. Violation of clause to license technology within 90 days of disclosure.
 - b. Violation of clause to negotiate royalty other funding group.
 - c. Violation of clause on selection of patent attorney to handle patents.
- 2. Violation of Collected Rules & Regulations Section 100.020, including but not limited to:
 - a. Violation of clauses related to release and/or waiver of inventions back to inventors when UM does not pursue patent.
- 3. Violation of Academic Freedom including but not limited to:
 - a. Violations of the UM-MSMC agreement also constitute a violation of academic freedom whereby a lack of good faith to pursue resolution on issues of conflict have violated the ability of Dr. Suppos to freely pursue research funding.
- 4. Malpractice including but not limited to:
 - a. UM system attorneys practicing patent law without proper qualifications with resulting damages:
 - b. TMIR system employees practicing contract law without proper qualifications with resulting damages:
- 5. Violation of Collected Rules and Regulations on authority including but not limited to:
 - a. TMIR putting forth policies and attempting to enforce policies without proper authority and/or following procedures related to Faculty Input.
- 6. Violations of Collected Rules and Regulations related to honesty and integrity including but not limited to:
 - a. Purposely conveying the lack of full truth in regard to events to Robert Hall as related to a letter of December, 2007.

Basis of Evidence:

The evidence base includes the written contracts and email trails as well as testimony that demonstrate actions were in violation of contracts and/or Collected Rules and Regulations.

Perspective on Attempts to Resolution:

Multiple attempts have been made to resolve the issues over the past two years. The Vice Chancellor of Research (formerly Jim Coleman) generally and systematically refused to meet on the matter when such a meeting did not serve his immediate agenda. In the absence of such a meeting, decisions have been made in the absence of the full and accurate facts related to the issues of dispute. The administration refuses to meet and attempt to resolve.

I ask that the grievance against the 3 named individuals be handled by one committee and set of proceedings by the committee. All violations include a continuation of violation that has occurred within the past 6 months.

Grievance

Grievant Base Case Suppes vs. TMIR May, 2008

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Statement of Counts

<u>Overview</u> – The six counts of this grievance are directly and/or indirectly related to the mismanagement of the intellectual property (IP) submitted to MU per the Collected Rules and Regulations 100.020 on Patent and Plant Variety Regulations. TMIR (Office of Technology Management and Industrial Relations), TMIR's MU-System level management, and the predecessor office to TMIR (Office of Technology & Special Projects) are the specific offices that handle (have handled) this IP and are collectively referred to as TMIR. The counts include:

- COUNT #1 on TMIR's violation of the terms of the MSMC Research Agreement (UEL-1) as related to the handling of patentable IP developed as part of this research funding arrangement. Dr. Suppes is one of three inventors of the patent-pending technology and the principal investigator of the research effort.
- COUNT #2 is on TMIR's violation of the Collect Rules based on TMIR refusing to release IP disclosed to TMIR for patent which TMIR chooses not to patent.
- COUNT #3 is on TMIR's violation of academic freedom for forbidding faculty to publish in certain manners (patent publications) and for torpedoing attempts to fund a research program that TMIR was "holding hostage" as a negotiating tactic.
- COUNT #4 is on TMIR's violation of the Collected Rules requirements for Faculty Input Authority when changing policies for handling IP resources.
- COUNT #5 is on TMIR's violation of the Collected Rules on Personal Conduct when they distributed false facts about Dr. Suppes.
- COUNT #6 is on TMIR's violation of the Collected Rules that require consideration of recommendations from the principal investigator when licensing technology.

The following sections provide narratives and presentations of evidence specific to each count.

Cited Evidence

Evidence is as cited in bold (e.g. **B04-03-18**) and includes materials from Appendix A and materials from Appendix B. The format for items cited in Appendix A is "UEL-#" where # is the number of the item in that appendix. The format for items cited in Appendix B is "Byy-mm-ddx" where y is year, m is month, d is day, and x is "", "b", "c", or "d" indicating the first, second, third, or fourth document with that date.

COUNT #1

Violation of MSMC Research Agreement, Signed April 22, 2003, Renewed 2004, 2005. Violation of MU-MSMC License Agreement, Enacted 9/19/07.

- a. Violation of Agreement, Negotiation of MU-MSMC License within 3 months of disclosure.
- Violation of Agreement on spirit of negotiation of UM-MSMC within reasonable time.
- b. Violation of Agreement clause to negotiate royalty with other funding group.
- c. Violation of Agreement & License on use of MU-hired attorney to handle patents.

Narrative

The MSMC Research Agreement was enacted on April 22, 2003, and established a research contract between the Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council (MSMC) and the laboratory of Dr. Suppes in the Department of Chemical Engineering, MU. The research program was highly productive and led to highly sought technology with two PCT (world) patent applications. The research team received three prominent awards, including the 2006 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award –only one is given in the academic category each year during an award ceremony at the National Academy of Sciences Building, Washington, D.C.

The MSMC Research Agreement (**UEL-1**, 4/22/03) was signed by a MU representative, a MSMC representative, and Dr. Suppes. As such, this agreement is a 3-way agreement including certain restrictions and rights granted to Dr. Suppes. The <u>restrictions</u> include the option of MSMC to exclusively license the technology defined in the proposal at *lower-than-market-value royalties* going to the University Inventors. The <u>rights</u> include such things as requiring that the technology be licensed to MSMC in a timely basis, streamlined processes for handling situations where other entities simultaneously funded the research, and a procedure to make sure that the patent attorney properly represents the interests of the inventor (and MU).

Specific grievance issues resulting from TMIR's lack of diligence in performing its duties under this agreement include:

- Unreasonable delays in licensing from MU to MSMC created confusion as to what was actually invented under the terms of the MSMC Research Agreement (UEL-1) resulting in the inventors being forced to accept *lower-than-market-value* royalties for technology actually developed after the MSMC Research Agreement funding period. Delays in licensing also made it virtually impossible to find another industrial sponsor (Cargill) willing to continue to fund the research when MSMC ended funding at a reasonable level. Cargill lost interest in the project when Cargill discovered that the licensing rights were either not available or under perpetual dispute. Delays in licensing have also resulted in lost commercialization opportunities.
- By <u>not</u> following the "streamlined processes" for handling payments to third-party funding sources as described in the MSMC Research Agreement, TMIR created an environment of animosity that ultimately led to the total deterioration of relations between Dr. Suppes and the MSMC and between Dr. Suppes and Senergy. This breakdown led to loss of immediate research funding, significant attorney expenses, ultimate loss of the opportunity for long-term research/commercialization collaboration, and hundreds of wasted man-hours spent arguing over rights to the IP. This breakdown along with delays in licensing led to the loss of the ability to patent the technology in some countries.
- By <u>not</u> following through with due diligence in selecting a patent attorney to properly represent MU, TMIR caused the following: 1) contributed to the inventors being forced to accept *lower*-

than-market-value royalties for technology actually developed after the MSMC Research Agreement funding period, 2) has led to escalation of attorney costs to all parties including costs that will ultimately be deducted from royalties going to the inventors, and 3) compromised the value of the patent (extent to which the patent can be used to prevent others from commercializing the technology) when the MSMC attorney basically held "hostage" the performance of needed modifications until MSMC received what MSMC demanded.

<u>What was expected</u> was that when A) the technology was disclosed to TMIR and B) TMIR was informed that the MSMC was proceeding to patent the technology based on the MSMC Research Agreement; that TMIR would immediately proceed with what is outlined by the MSMC Research Agreement, including: 1) licensing the technology within 3 months, 2) overseeing the completion of any forms that were needed to complete the patent application and licensing, 3) negotiating with third parties on the amount of royalties to go to these third parties, and 4) participating in patent attorney selection to make sure the interests of MU and the inventors were properly represented.

<u>What happened</u> was that TMIR 1) basically ignored the issues for 20 months (3/18/04 - 11/11/05) until the first royalty check; 2) embarked on a bickering, posturing, and stonewalling (BPS) campaign for 22 months (11/1/05 through 9/19/07) until the MU-MSMC License Agreement was eanacted; and 3) struggled to salvage a situation in which TMIR has lost negotiating power because of blunders in the MU-MSMC License Agreement.

Presentation of Evidence

Counts 1a and 1b violate paragraph 5 of the MSMC Research Agreement (**UEL-1**), an excerpt of which is provided here:

5. As the result of the filing of an invention disclosure, ownership of any patents, other proprietary intellectual property, plant varieties or copyrights resulting from the information, processes or inventions developed as a result of the research or investigation which is the subject matter of this agreement shall be owned by the University except as otherwise provided herein. However, University grants MSMC an option to elect an exclusive, to the extent possible, license under any such subject matter. Prior to actual funding under this agreement by MSMC, University will notify MSMC of any third party rights to a license or sublicense of any patent, other proprietary intellectual property, plant varieties, or copyrights arising out of the research or investigation. This right to an exclusive, to the extent possible, license shall be electable in the sole discretion of MSMC at any time, but no later than three (3) months after the receipt by MSMC of the University disclosure form from the University. With this license (Appendix B), MSMC agrees to pay to University twenty-five percent (25%), and to the Inventor eight and 33/100 percent (8.33%) (said percentage being in addition to that which University will pay Inventor under University policies) of the net revenues received by MSMC for projects for which MSMC is the only external funding source. For projects receiving funding from multiple external sources, MSMC agrees to pay to University in addition to the twenty-five percent (25%) mentioned above, such amount as to be equal to the percentages and amounts due to other funding sources on the project in accordance with the agreement between the University and such other funding sources, and

<u>Count 1a</u> is violation of the clause, "*The right to an exclusive, to the extent possible, license* shall be electable in the sole discretion of MSMC at any time, but no later than three (3) months after the receipt by MSMC of the University disclosure form from the University." occurred when MU refused to make the license available to Cargill (9/13/07) after more 42 months had elapsed since full disclosure of the technology (3/18/04) and more than 21 months had elapsed since submission of a modified University disclosure form.

Dr. Suppes puts forth the following:

- The preparation and submission (by Dr. Suppes and Attorney Dan Cleveland) of the provisional patent in March of 2004 (see **B04-03-18**) was fully enabling of the technology of the MU-MSMC License and fully met the spirit of the MSMC Research Agreement. It was the responsibility of TMIR to follow through on any other formalities (e.g. requiring the proper form, contacting MSMC to initiate the license) as needed for MU to complete the license.
- IBID (the same goes) for the December 2, 2005 modified disclosure form submitted simultaneously to TMIR and MSMC (see **B05-12-02**).
- The failure of TMIR to license culminated in non-reparable damage to the research program of Dr. Suppes when Cargill identified that Cargill had wasted their time visiting the lab of Dr. Suppes on September, 13, 2007. During this visit TMIR was unable to provide licensing options because TMIR was still in the midst of 21 months of essentially constant bickering, posturing, and stonewalling (BPS).

The following paragraphs document where Dr. Suppes performed: 1) repeated full disclosure to MSMC, 2) repeated full disclosure to MU, and 3) repeated full disclosure of how IP rights were jointly owned by MU, RA (Renewable Alternatives, LLC), and MSMC.

<u>Disclosures to the MSMC</u> were made in full on the following dates and forms as well as through multiple verbal communications:

- **B04-03-18** Email on Patent Filing with **B04-03-18b** Patent Disclosure Attachment;
- **B05-03-11c** Email Notifying Filing of US Non-Provisional Patent with **B05-03-11d** Patent Disclosure Attachment;
- B05-10-25 Email Provisional Patent Filing with B05-10-25b Patent Disclosure Attachment;
- **B05-10-27c** Email on US Provisional Patent Filing with **B05-10-27d** Patent Disclosure Attachment;
- **B05-12-02** Email Disclosure Comprehensive on UMC form with **B05-12-02b** Disclosure Comprehensive on UMC16c form.

Full disclosure was also made to the MSMC during the annual reports on 2/04, 2/05, and 2/06. Each of these disclosures separately met, in spirit, the disclosure requirements to MSMC. MSMC was able to and did file patents based on these disclosures.

<u>On disclosure to MU</u>, the definitive disclosure was documented **B04-03-18b** submitted electronically per email **B04-03-18** on March 18, 2004 which included the following message:

"Hi Terry, Wayne, I do not have the time to do the disclosure. The Missouri Soybean Merchandising Counsel is proceeding with the patent per their agreement. This "Provisional Application" will allow Dr. Sutterlin to present at his ACS meeting in 2 weeks."

This email was sent to both Terry Nixon and Wayne McDaniel who were the two TMIR personnel handling IP from the college of engineering. In view of the MSMC already deciding to patent and that the content was already in the form of a patent application, the actual disclosure document was considered an unnecessary formality (evidence suggests that this was

the perception of all, Dr. Suppes, Wayne McDaniel, and Terry Nixon). Neither Wayne McDaniel nor Terry Nixon objected to skipping this formality.

While the March 18, 2004 email disclosure was complete, adequate, and definitive; a continuous stream of at least 29 communications categorized as: 1) Updates on Patent Applications, 2) Disclosure Documents, and 3) Licensing/Commercialization updates includes the following:

			Commercialization / Licensing	
Updates on Patent Applications		Disclosure Documents ¹	B05-01-10	B05-10-03b
B04-03-18	B05-10-07	B04-03-18b	B05-01-10b	B05-10-07b
B04-04-16	B05-10-25	B05-03-11d	B05-01-11	B05-11-01
B05-03-11	B05-10-27	B05-10-27b	B05-01-11b	B05-11-11
B05-03-11b	B05-10-27c	B05-10-27d	B05-01-13	B05-11-16
B05-03-11c	B05-12-02	B05-12-02b	B05-01-13b	B05-11-16b
			B05-10-03	B05-11-17

Each was sent to (or copied to) Terry Nixon and/or Wayne McDaniel who were the TMIR/OTSP contact. Each of these disclosures separately met (in spirit or to the letter of the law) the disclosure requirements to TMIR.

It is also clear that Wayne McDaniel assumed that the MSMC Research Agreement terms were enacted from the start per the following email (**B05-11-16**):

Galen,

I brought this up with my boss yesterday, and we are collecting documentation of the grant funding that has gone toward supporting this work. <u>The grant documents will dictate how the royalty will be split between MRDF and the University.</u> And then the University rules and regs will determine how it gets split once it is received here. Are you proposing some split other than that called for in the patent policy? Wayne²

<u>On Clarification of Patent and Ownership Rights</u>, in addition to the full disclosure of technology and licensing intent, the following communications firmly document communications by Dr. Suppose indicating that MSMC, RA, and MU each have rights to the technology:

- 1. **B04-03-22** Email to Attorney Dan Cleveland Indicating MSMC Rights Based on MSMC Research Agreement including the following communication: *The UMC contract includes provisions related to "development" of technology. While it was invented prior to MSMC funding, it was and is being developed based on MSMC funds.*
- 2. Proposal to MSMC of **UEL-2** (11/04) containing the following text:

13. Licensing Rights: Licensing rights are covered in an agreement between UMC and the MSMC with rights guaranteed to the NSF-STTR partner, Renewable Alternatives, LLC.

- Proposal to MSMC of UEL-3 (11/05) containing the following text:
 14. Licensing Rights: An agreement is in place on this technology that includes MSMC, Renewable Alternatives, LLC, and UMC.
- 4. **B05-03-30** Email (Victor) Witnessing Discussions of IP on PG Technology in which Victor (scientist with P&G) reiterates a description of the technology he heard in a previous teleconference, including: *Renewable Alternatives, MSMC and the Univ. of Missouri*

¹ The U.S. patent and trademark office provides a generic definition of a disclosure document, see **B08-05-12**.

² Wayne was not aware of the RA-MRDF agreement at this time. It is likely that Wayne had the MRDF and MSMC confused. The distinction between the two entities continues to be confusing.

each owns 1/3 of the glycerol to propylene glycol technology. However, MSMC has ultimate negotiating power for this technology.

- 5. **B05-01-13** Email Recommendation on Licensing of Technology include a communication of: 2. *The license should include payment of royalties to the MSMC-UMC-RA collaboration on this project.*
- 6. B05-12-02 Email Disclosure Comprehensive on UMC16c form including a communication of Wayne The attached disclosure represents the agree-upon (Dr. Dasari and myself) distribution of the University's policy of sharing at least 1/3rd of the royalties with the inventors. Please note that Dr. W. R. Sutterlin is an inventor; however, his involvement from the start (through the NSF-STTR) was as a company (Renewable Alternatives, LLC) representative. Due to the fact that the company's IP is its greatest asset, Renewable Alternatives, LLC is taking the stand on this issue that (per his contract) the IP generated by Dr. Sutterlin remains entirely within Renewable Alternatives, LLC, unless otherwise arranged on a project-by-project basis. Dr. W. R. Sutterlin is a part-owner in Renewable Alternatives, LLC, and so, he will in fact receive rewards representative of revenue generated as a direct or indirect result of the IP.

The position of Dr. Suppes is that it was the responsibility of TMIR to immediately follow up with licensing based on any of the cited 29 communications to TMIR, and specifically communication **B04-03-18**. A violation of the MSMC Research Agreement (**UEL-1**) occurred when TMIR failed to license the technology to MSMC within 3 months...in view of...the unwillingness of TMIR to make the technology available for license to Cargill on September 13, 2007 (which was more than 42 months after the initial disclosure).

<u>Count 1b</u> is violation of the clause, "For projects receiving funding from multiple external sources, MSMC agrees to pay....in accordance with the agreement between the University and such other funding sources," Per UEL-14 (RA-MU Allocation of Rights Agreement) the following paragraph defines the "percentages and amounts due to other funding sources" (in this case, the amount due to RA):

(1) Any revenues resulting from the practice, licensing, or exploitation of Project Intellectual Property shall be allocated between UNIVERSITY and the SBC as follows:

	SBC Percent	UNIVERSITY Percent
Revenues	80	20

(2) Expenses and other liabilities associated with the development and marketing of any product, process, or other innovation or invention shall be allocated as follows: SBC will be responsible for 100 percent and UNIVERSITY will be responsible for 0 percent.

Hence, MU agreed to pay SBC (small business concern, in this case RA) \$80 in royalty for every \$20 in royalty received by MU. TMIR excluded this payment in the license (**UEL-6**), which is a clear violation of this agreement.

More importantly, MU never even approached RA about negotiation of a percent royalty per this clause. Rather, MU participated in BPS and conspiracy to basically take all IP rights away from

RA. From the moment MU entered into discussions on this matter, MU set forth a tone of hostility and all relations (RA-MU-MSMC-Senergy) began to deteriorate.

More specifically, TMIR (Mike Nichols) refused to negotiate a 3-way agreement that could have resolved hostility and preserved cooperation and collaboration. This action of TMIR was a violation of the letter and the spirit of the MSMC Research Agreement. TMIR also refused to give Dr. Suppes a copy of the MU-MSMC License Agreement (UEL-6) short of a Sunshine Law request (B07-11-21). Dr. Suppes needed to know the specifics of the MU-MSMC License Agreement in order to identify which areas of his research program were available for development with other companies (like Cargill). The manner in which Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins refused to let Dr. Suppes know the licensing details of technology developed in his laboratory was inexcusable.

It should be noted that RA was and is prepared to take 20% of the gross royalties rather than the 80:20 split. THE POINT IS that multiple agreements existed which, in the end, were not fully compatible. The logical course of action was for RA-MSMC-MU to enter into negotiations to resolved issues of disparity and to identify a path forward. More specifically, the MSMC Research Agreement specifically indicated that it was the obligation of MU to make this negotiation happen. Mike Nichols blatantly refused to perform this negotiation and thereby violated the MSMC Research Agreement obligations to Dr. Suppes.

<u>Count 1c</u> is violation of paragraph 5 of the MU-MSMC License Agreement (UEL-6), an excerpt of which is provided here:

VII. DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN PATENT FILING AND MAINTENANCE

(1) LICENSEE shall reimburse UNIVERSITY for all expenses UNIVERSITY has incurred for the preparation, filing, prosecution and maintenance of U.S. Patent Rights and shall reimburse UNIVERSITY for all such future expenses as a separate payment apart from any royalties or other revenues owed UNIVERSITY. Late payment of these invoices shall be subject to interest charges of one and one-half percent (1 ½%) per month. UNIVERSITY shall be solely responsible for the preparation, filing, prosecution and maintenance of any and all U.S. patent applications and U.S. patents included in Patent Rights, provided, however, the UNIVERSITY shall first consult with LICENSEE as to the preparation, filing, prosecution, and maintenance of such patent applications and patents and shall furnish to LICENSEE copies of documents relevant to any such preparation, filing, prosecution, or maintenance. If requested by LICENSEE, UNIVERSITY will not unreasonably and without good cause withhold its consent for LICENSEE to itself carry out the preparation, filing and prosecuting of patent applications, with the attorney selected by LICENSEE, provided LICENSEE first obtains UNIVERSITY approval. The LICENSEE shall consult with UNIVERSITY as to the preparation, filing, prosecution, and maintenance of such patent applications and patents and shall furnish to UNIVERSITY copies of documents relevant to any such preparation, filing, prosecution, or maintenance. If University does unreasonably and without good cause withhold consent, it shall be responsible for the cost of preparation, filing and prosecution of patent applications.

In view of the more than one dozen patents filed by the MSMC/MRDF since March of 2004, it is clear that the MSMC did not get approval to use their attorney per the clause "*with the attorney selected by LICENSEE, provided LICENSEE first obtains UNIVERSITY approval.*"—the MU-MSMC License Agreement (**UEL-6**) was only signed on September 19, 2007. More importantly, the lack of patent competence by TMIR representation and the handling of the

patent by a MSMC attorney have tremendously compromised the ability of TMIR to protect the interests of the research program of Dr. Suppes.

Also, Attorney Dan Cleveland (MSMC attorney) has not taken needed actions in patent prosecution because of the conflict of interest between him representing MSMC and him representing the technology. These conflicts include but are not limited to: 1) refusal to modify claims in a manner that will expand to the needed protection, and 2) expanding the IP claims of MSMC to include all aspects of the patent application even though some important aspects are clearly outside the work scope of the MU-MSMC proposals and research agreements (UEL-1, UEL-2, and UEL-3).

By neither filing the patents with their attorney nor giving permission to MSMC to use an MSMC attorney, TMIR allowed the MU-MSMC License Agreement to be violated with great loss to Dr. Suppes including the destruction of research program prospects on gas phase conversion of sorbitol to propylene glycol. While the MU-MSMC License Agreement was not signed until 2007, the terms of the agreement were defined by the MSMC Research Agreement which was in effect since 2003.

In Summary TMIR was grossly negligent of their duties per the **UEL-1** MSMC Research Agreement. Serious interest in the technology was exhibited by TMIR only after they found out royalties were being paid (**B05-11-17**). When TMIR became interested, they still failed to follow through on obligations and only pursued means to maximize royalty to TMIR. Rather than facing up to their neglect, they have pursued a process of misrepresenting the situation to upper management and systematic BPS. TMIR is guilty of Counts 1a, 1b, and 1c.

Remedy Sought:

Remedy – The grievance committee will report to the Chancellor that a violation has occurred per the count. The Grievance Committee is to report to the Chancellor that TMIR (Hoskins, Nichols, Uhlmann) is in violation of the UM-MSMC Research Agreement and License Agreement. The Grievance Committee is to inform the Chancellor that TMIR has acted in an irresponsible manner by not following agreements in lieu of BPS (bickering, posturing, and stonewalling). The Grievance Committee is to inform the Chancellor that TMIR has caused unnecessary damage to the research program of Dr. Suppes due to their BPS.

Evidence for Collection & List of Witnesses

<u>COUNT # 2</u>

Violation of Collected Rules & Regulations Section 100.020, including but not limited to: Section 100.020E.2.i - "...the President shall within a reasonable time seek other means of obtaining a patent or release the rights of the Invention to the employee-inventor."

<u>**Count 2**</u> violates Collected Rules and Regulations Section 100.020E.2.i (UEL-7), an excerpt of which is provided here:

i. In the event the report of the Invention or Plant Variety is submitted to an entity organization for marketing of patent rights with which the Curators have approved a continuing contract and that entity advises that it is not to the best interests of the University to seek a patent thereon, the President shall within a reasonable time seek other means of obtaining a patent or release the rights of the Invention to the employee-inventor.

Narrative

<u>Overview</u> – This count is on the purported mismanagement of disclosures by TMIR. It is specifically on TMIR's recently-practiced policy of not releasing patents after they decide not to patent the disclosed technology. Three bad things occur as a result of TMIR refusing to release technology they choose not to patent:

- 1. Faculty/Inventors are systematically denied the benefits of patent application (money, publication, possible research support). In some cases these benefits can be great.
- 2. Our community is denied the benefits of the commercialization of technology that could occur if these disclosures were released. A primary factor that drives technology out of the laboratory and into use by the local community is an "incentive" for a person or company to make commercialization happen—when TMIR refuses to release the technology that they elect not to patent, no person or company has the incentive to develop that technology.
- 3. TMIR management no longer has as strong a motivation to thoroughly evaluate disclosed technology. When TMIR management must release technology that they do not patent, they stand to "lose face" if that technology makes someone rich, and the prospect of "losing face" is a good incentive to do a thorough job of evaluating the disclosed technology.

<u>What is expected</u> is that faculty would fully disclose the technology and importance of a technology to TMIR. Then, TMIR would evaluate that technology in a timely manner and either patent the technology or release it back to the inventor. This process is expected to be accompanied by a prompt filing of a provisional patent application if deemed necessary by the inventor, and any release needs to be prior to the loss of patent priority/protection³ (with time for the inventor to salvage the priority/protection). Due to deadlines associated with patent applications, TMIR should have a process for faculty to file provisional patent applications with essentially zero delay (within a week of disclosure). Assuming that a provisional patent is

³ The priority of a provisional patent application is lost after 12 months if a non-provisional application is not filed. Priority of a non-provisional patent application is lost if the fees are not paid or if it is not allowed—this is now typically 24 to 48 months after the non-provisional patent application.

allowed without TMIR hindrance, the decision to file a non-provisional patent or to release should be made no less than 11 months after the provisional patent has been filed.

<u>What happened</u> was that in 1999, TMIR stopped releasing any technology back to inventors (for all practical purposes). One or two administrators have systematically placed a higher priority on them "saving face" than on the loss of benefits to faculty/community. Specifically in the case of Dr. Suppes, dozens of disclosures have been submitted. Requests for release have been made multiple times for those disclosures that have not been patented. None have been released. The ability to file patent has been lost on some of these disclosures. Others have been without action for over four years.

Presentation of Evidence

Several years back, TMIR put in place an internal organization for marketing patent rights. Clearly, the lack of filing a patent by this group indicates their recommendation that it is not in the interests of the University to seek patent. One of multiple requests for release of technology that TMIR elected not to patent is attached (**B06-12-04**) including the request of:

```
Hi Wayne,
On your letters of 11/28, you indicated that I should contact you to receive release of any rights claimed by MU on my
inventions. I hereby request release of the below and all others that MU chooses not to patent:
03UMC032
04UMC052
04UMC066
06UMC0335
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For these disclosures a reasonable time has elapsed (2 to 5 years), requests for release have been made, and TMIR refused to release the technology. Instead, a "Request for Waiver" form was returned to Dr. Suppes in response to Dr. Suppes's request that the technology be released. The decision by TMIR to cease releasing of disclosed technology dates back to 1999.

In 1999, certain members of UM administration decided to stop releasing inventions (as reported by faculty through invention disclosures) back to inventors for those instances when these UM administrators decided not to proceed with patent. This history is documented by the following data straight from TMIR:

TIME PERIOD	INVENTIONS RELEASED TO INVENTORS
2000-2007*:	7
1990-1999:	128
1980-1989:	168
1971-1979:	147

^{*(}through mid-2007)

TIME	INVENTIONS RELEASED
PERIOD	TO INVENTORS
2006/7*:	0 / 0
2004/5:	2 / 1
2002/3	0 / 1
2000/1	3 / 0
1999:	7
1998	17:
1997:	17

For all practical purposes, when Tom Sharp took over this position as director of TMIR he refused to release the patent rights. One could speculate that Tom Sharp did not want to take the risk that an employee would make money on released IP and make TMIR "look bad" for releasing the technology—rather than taking the risk of "looking bad for having made a poor choice", TMIR decided to violate the rights of employee-after-employee who had the right to

have the invention/IP released if patent was not pursued by MU. These disclosures are now simply sheets of paper in some office without any entity having the incentive to commercialize the technology—this cheats the faculty and the community for which jobs could otherwise be created. TMIR is clearly violating Section 100.020E.2.i of the Collected Rules and Regulations.

In an attempt to create the impression that they following Section 100.020E.2.i, TMIR has created what they refer to as "Waiver Requests" (UEL-12 and UEL-13). The Waiver requests are not releases. The waiver requests are one-sided licenses that demand outrageous conditions. A College of Engineering committee has prepared a statement of Faculty Input (after the fact) on the waiver form (UEL-12) as provided (B07-03-08, B07-03-08b). The conditions are insultingly outrageous including 3X the going rate for royalties and requirement for insurance policies. In many areas of technology (like commodity chemicals) commercial viability is simply not possible with these unreasonable conditions.

Remedy Sought:

Remedy – The grievance committee will report to the Chancellor that a violation has occurred per the count. Within 30 days of the Chancellor receiving this Grievance Committee report, TMIR is to send a message to all inventors who have filed disclosures at UM within the past decade, where the disclosure has neither been patented or released, wherein the letter states that the inventor is entitled to release within the following constraints: 1) TMIR has had the disclosure for more than 11 months and 2) TMIR has been provided sufficient detail for a reasonable patent filing for at least 30 days. TMIR is also to put closure on all disclosure documents that have been on file for more than 11 months and for which an active patent application is not in place—this disclosure is to be in writing with signature concurrence by the inventor. A Faculty Council committee will oversee this closure process.

Evidence for Collection & List of Witnesses

<u>COUNT # 3</u>

Violation of Collected Rules and Regulations, Section 310.010.A on Academic Freedom and Economic Security of Academic Staff.

Two types of violation in academic freedom have been performed.

- a. In one case, the lack of performance of duty on licensing technology and clarifying ownership issues has resulted in restriction of what can be researched based on restricting the ability to acquire funding.
- b. In the other case, the ability to publish in a highly and uniquely reputable manner has been restricted.

Narrative

<u>Overview</u> – Building upon the issues of COUNT #2 (TMIR not releasing non-patented disclosures) and COUNT #1a, this count is based upon two principals:

- 1. A patent is a unique and valuable publication; and when TMIR does not allow an inventor to obtain a patent, TMIR is infringing upon the Academic Freedom of the inventor. TMIR is also infringing upon the inventor's U.S. Constitutional rights of freedom of press. In this case the ability of Dr. Suppes to obtain a patent publication of certain technologies has been lost due to TMIR.
- 2. When TMIR willingly ties up licensing rights (per BPS on licensing to MSMC) on a technology (for 42 months), and a third party (Cargill) cannot be adequately pursued to fund the research (because the license rights are uncertain), TMIR is violating the Academic Freedom of the Inventor by not allowing the inventor to pursue corporate funding under reasonable conditions. In this case, the actions of Mike Nichols became malicious when he torpedoed contact after contract designed to bring financial relief to the research program of Dr. Suppes. In this case, substantial and important areas of the research program of Dr. Suppes have been non-reparably annihilated.

It should be noted that in February of 2006, the MSMC refused to continue funding the research on conversion of glycerol to propylene glycol at a reasonable level, including refusing MSMC research budget moneys into the project. As a result of this, it was critical and important that MU quickly define the technology as it was developed when MSMC funding ended (7/06) and then clarify license options to allow Dr. Suppes to pursue funding from other sources.

What is expected is as follows:

- 1. By virtue of "academic freedom" and "freedom of press", a University inventor must be able to pursue a patent <u>publication</u> on any topic. It could be by having MU obtain patent, it could be by MU releasing a disclosure with the inventor filing for patent, or it could be by another means. No administrator in TMIR or at MU should be in a position to deny a faculty member the right to pursue a patent <u>publication</u>.
- 2. TMIR needs to recognize that their actions and/or inactions can greatly impair the ability of a researcher to obtain research funding. If for no other reason than not to violate a faculty's "academic freedom" to pursue research funding, TMIR needs to be committed to resolving licensing disputes in a timely manner. Also, standard language in contracts needs to become "standardized" without months of bickering to get contract language that has been allowed in previous contracts time-and-time-again.

The use of multiple template agreements (e.g. one for a government agency, one for a private company, one for a nonprofit group) would provide this.

What happened was as follows:

- 1. TMIR has trumped the University inventor's right to obtain a patent publication in favor of policies that make it easy for TMIR to make sure that inventors do not "steal" university IP and in favor of policies designed to "save face" of TMIR management (by not releasing inventions).
- 2. TMIR and MU System attorneys commonly use bickering, posturing, and stonewalling (BPS) on topics of dispute. MU is often the "big bully" on the block, and "big bullies" can gain much in negotiation through use of BPS tactics. This is done with a total to substantial disregard on the impact BPS has on the research program of the University inventor. In the case of contract negotiations for moneys from RA to MSMC, evidence indicates that Mike Nichols sabotaged the flow of these moneys with malicious intent.

Presentation of Evidence

Section 310.010.A on Academic Freedom and Economic Security of Academic Staff is stated hereafter:

- 2. Academic freedom is essential to these purposes and applies to both teaching and research. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Academic freedom in its teaching aspect is fundamental to the protection of the rights of the faculty member in teaching and of the student in learning. It carries with it duties correlative with rights. The following sections are indicative of these rights and duties.
 - a. Faculty members are entitled to freedom in research and in the publication of the results (qualified insofar as necessary in the case of sponsored research), subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties.

<u>Count 3b</u> is on the violation of the right to publish with freedom as to where to publish.

A patent is both a legal document and a publication. The patent publication is unique—no other type of publication undergoes the scrutiny that a patent undergoes to verify that the underlying value of the publication based on criteria of: novel, non-obvious, and useful. In many engineering circles, patents are recognized as valuable accomplishments that are different and unique from other accomplishments. By example, former Associate Dean of the MU College of Engineering, Dr. Manring, had approximately 10 plaques representing 10 different patents on his office wall. Dr. Manring did not exhibit other types of publications in this manner. This indicates that at least Dr. Manring places a high value on patent publication.

To prevent an employee to pursue a patent publication is a violation of academic freedom and freedom of the press. As exhibited by **B06-09-26**, Phil Hoskins commanded Dr. Suppes not to file for patent and thereby violated Dr. Suppes's Academic Freedom as well as the U.S. Constitutional Rights (freedom of press) of Dr. Suppes.

These actions of Phil Hoskins also violate the Spirit of MU's Collected Rules and Regulations the Spirit of MU's Collected Rules and Regulations is for TMIR to either patent the IP or release to the inventor in a timely manner. <u>**Count 3a**</u> The BPS approach of Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins can often be effective toward the <u>single issue</u> of getting the other party or parties to give into otherwise unreasonable conditions. This tactic is commonly used by MU attorneys.

The problem is that life is rarely <u>single issue</u>—it is much more complex. In the BPS approach, Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins have violated the right of Dr. Suppes to reasonably pursue funding from other sources for research. In particular, Cargill visited the laboratory of Dr. Suppes with the specific purpose of possibly funding research on gas phase sugar conversion technology. This visit was more than for 41 and 21 months after the filing of the first disclosure (**B04-03-18b**) and the comprehensive disclosure on form UMC16c (**B05-12-02b**) that initiated the clock for TMIR to license the technology is 3 months. The proper and timely licensing of the technology would have clarified issues at three months and would have allowed Dr. Suppes to clearly define technology available for Cargill to fund and potentially license.

Through the approach of BPS, and specifically for not resolving disputes in a timely basis, TMIR violated the academic freedom of Dr. Suppes to reasonably pursue research funding from other sources. In this same time period, Mike Nichols directly or indirectly torpedoed five attempts by Dr. Suppes to support his research in this area over a 15-month timeframe. In addition, TMIR management has repeatedly refused to meet to discuss the issues and has repeatedly refused to set up meetings with MSMC-MU-RA to resolve issues. The torpedoes of Mike Nichols successfully sank the research program of Dr. Suppes in this area in 2007. Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins violated the academic freedom of Galen Suppes.

Presented now is evidence that indicates the manner is which Mike Nichols torpedoed research agreement after research agreement. The four funding opportunities torpedoed by Mike Nichols were:

- Torpedo 1 MSMC Center Dale Ludwig of the MSMC had invited Dr. Suppes (based on request of Dr. Suppes) to present a funding proposal in August of 2006 before the MSMC Board for a center with funding directly linked and proportional to the net royalty generation of the glycerol-to-PG technology. This would be a perpetual funding arrangement with prospects greater than any previous center at MU. After speaking with Mike Nichols in July of 2006, Dale revoked this offer—never again to have Dr. Suppes present before the MSMC for funding.
- Torpedo 2 \$30k in RA Flow-through from Senergy RA had \$30k in research funding for the laboratory of Dr. Suppes and entered into negotiations with MU on this funding at the end of summer, 2006 (B06-09-01, B06-11-14, B06-11-21). This \$30k was to be followed by an additional \$30k (flow-through from Senergy through RA). Based on a request from TMIR/Mike Nichols (to Dean Thompson), MU put a hold on any research contracts with RA (B06-12-05). This was after months of negotiation/requests and after the TMIR/OSPA stopped another research grant form RA by demanding outrageous conditions that would never be agreed to by a company where the respective product development was critical to the company's business plan (B06-09-08, B06-09-08b).
- Torpedo 3 \$60k and Senergy Research Arm Center (millions) After failure of the attempt to flow funding through RA, Senergy made a direct attempt to fund research in the laboratory of Dr. Suppes. Mike Nichols Engaged in BPS for over three Months (B06-12-07, B07-03-15), demanding outrageous terms (B07-03-15) and ultimately wearing out any intent for Senergy to enter into a direct contract with MU. During this time Mike

Nichols systematically rejected commonly used language used in other MU contracts. At this point, the \$30k had already been expended. In the end, the money was deposited directly into a research account of Dr. Suppes. Only after this (and months of BPS) did Mike Nichols provide a contract with reasonable terms. The terms could have been put into the contract from "day one" based on contract language in common use (see UEL-1), but Mike Nichols unilaterally refused to do that.

- Torpedo 4 Cargill Research Support with License Intent Two representatives from Cargill and a paid consultant visited Dr. Suppes's lab on 9/13/07 (B07-09-06). When they met with Wayne McDaniel, rather than discussing how to license technology of interest to Cargill, the discussions were about the big mess of the licensing situation between MU and the MSMC. Requests for clarification of what could be licensed where unanswered (B07-09-17). Cargill's interest was rapidly extinguished. This last manifestation was the fourth, and basically last, hope to get funding to the laboratory of Dr. Suppes on what was his most active and successful research topic 15 months earlier.
- Torpedo 5 The final and fatal torpedo to this research program of Dr. Suppes was delivered by Mike Nichols in the September 19, 2007 MU-MSMC License Agreement (UEL-6). In this agreement, Mike Nichols licensed the remaining areas of the sugar conversion technology (that were <u>not</u> already licensed to Senergy) in a manner that assured that <u>MSMC would neither develop the technology nor pay for its patent.</u>

Mike Nichols personally thwarted four different attempts to bring moneys into Dr. Suppes's lab on the glycerol-to-PG and sugar-to-PG research over a 15-month period. In a fifth licensing maneuver Mike Nichols licensed the remaining technology is such a way so as to assure that it is neither commercialized nor funded as research. This occurred virtually, exactly as Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins had threatened on September 15, 2006 (as they conveyed to Noah) when Mike Nichols cancelled that September 15th meeting. Mike Nichols cancelled this meeting after being informed that the question of Dr. Sutterlin's IP being owned by RA <u>would not be discussed</u> (**B06-09-12**, **B06-09-14**). Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins indicated that there would be essentially no more research contracts coming through RA because RA had not given up all rights to royalties from the glycerol-to-PG technology as demanded by Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins (because RA had not given into the BPS tactics of Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins). Evidence indicates that Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins had pre-negotiated an agreement between MU and MSMC that would include RA giving up all rights to royalties. Evidence indicates that the September 15th meeting was a "setup" in which both MU and MSMC attorneys would be present and in which high-pressure tactics would be used to force RA to give up its rights.

Evidence substantiates the Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins were holding the research program of Dr. Suppes hostage as a negotiating tactic to get what they wanted. Evidence indicates that they wanted RA to give up all rights to royalties even though: <u>1) U.S. patent law guaranteed RA</u> rights since Dr. Sutterlin was an inventor, <u>2</u>) the RA-MU Allocation of Rights Agreement (UEL-<u>14</u>) already defined royalties to go to RA, <u>3</u>) the MSMC Research Agreement (UEL-<u>1</u>) had provisions for percentages of royalties to go to RA, <u>4</u>) RA funded research at MU and provided in-kind effort that exceeded MSMC funding, and <u>5</u>) the RA-MRDF License defined a reasonable royalty level. Mike Nichols properly conveyed his disposition to Dr. Sutterlin on this topic when he told Dr. Sutterlin that even if Dr. Sutterlin's only MU appointment was 5% in the Art Department, MU still claimed rights to the technology (see affidavit testimony, **B07-05-08**). The position of Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins will almost certainly never hold up in a court of law; however, that has not stopped them from BPS tactics that have caused incredible damage to Dr.

Suppes' career as a result of not surrendering to these BPS tactics. Dr. Suppes has offered and asked many times for MU to agree to outside arbitration and to then identify an amenable path forward—MU flatly refuses.

Dr. Suppes used his RIFF and reserve funds to keep his sugar conversion research program alive for about 12 months—spending approximately \$50k. Funding is essentially no longer being pursued due to lack of commercial interest due to the way the Mike Nichols licensed the technology to MSMC.

In the previous "torpedo 2" bullet, another research grant (**B06-09-08, B06-09-08b**) from RA was mentioned as pertinent. This other grant was an NSF-SBIR subcontract. The other grant was on a timeline as follows:

- July, 2006 Research initiated and negotiation for research subcontract from RA to MU initiated.
- December 31, 2006 End of research period.
- March, 2007 Research contract was finally approved three months after the completing the project.

As part of the BPS tactic of Mike Nichols, he put forth non-negotiable agreement terms to RA on 9/8/06 (**B06-09-08, B06-09-08b**). The agreement included the following terms:

The University retains all ownership to any patents, copyrights, processes, inventions and other proprietary IP of any nature developed as a result of the research or investigation conducted under this Contract. The University hereby grants Sponsor <u>a twelve (12)</u> month option from the date of notice to Sponsor by University for a nonexclusive license for any resulting patents. Should Sponsor exercise such option within this <u>twelve (12)</u> month period, a reasonable and customary royalty rate will be negotiated together with the other terms and conditions of the nonexclusive license.

There are two showstopper/fatal flaws in this agreement that (essentially) no for-profit business would agree to. First, the "University retains all ownership...research or investigation under this contract" is a showstopper because patent law dictates that ownership belongs to the inventor (person who contributed concept). As part of the SBIR research, an idea could originate from Dr. Sutterlin with RA, and patent law would rightfully place ownership of that idea to RA. The proposed **B06-09-08b** agreement required that RA give up its rights otherwise guaranteed under U.S. patent law. The second showstopper aspect of this phrase is that all companies want and need a right to get an "exclusive" license and the language insisted upon by Mike Nichols only guaranteed a right to a "non-exclusive" license—this language/contract was referred to as "final".

This BPS approach of Mike Nichols created great anxiety with Dr. Sutterlin and RA. After all, RA's NFS grant indicated that a \$30k subcontract would go to MU. Extensions in the NSF contract had to be requested for the mere purpose of negotiating the license with MU <u>after</u> the research had already been conducted. This BPS approach of MU/Mike Nichols was substantially the reason Dr. Sutterlin ultimately required that RA be separated from Dr. Suppes' ownership and would move to Alabama from its initial home here in Columbia, MO.

This "final" agreement forwarded by Mike Nichols is a textbook example of bickering, posturing, and stonewalling (BPS). During this same time period, in discussions with Dr. Sutterlin, Mike Nichols told Dr. Sutterlin that he (Mike Nichols) did not care if Dr. Sutterlin's

appointment was on 5% in the Art Department, MU claimed rights to everything he developed. This is a textbook example of posturing and sends many "wrong" messages to a valuable research sponsor and collaborator like Renewable Alternatives, LLC.

In subsequent negotiations of the "torpedo 3" agreement. Mike Nichols again refused to allow Senergy the right to obtain an "exclusive" license for research/technology that would be paid for by Senergy. In this case, Dr. Suppes suggested that the language "exclusive, to the extent possible" be used in the agreement. Dr. Manring indicated that Mike Nichols referred to this language as "absurd". Please note the response of Dr. Suppes as follows (**B07-03-15**):

Galen: This reference is helpful. We'll see what we can do. Noah -----Original Message-----From: Suppes, Galen Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2007 6:00 PM To: Manring, Noah D.; Gahl, John M. Subject: "Extent Possible" language in contracts Hi Noah, John, I have heard that Mike Nichols has dismissed contract language of the sort "the right to pursue a patent or other protection with respect to such invention or patent variety and an exclusive, to the extent possible, license of the form ... "I believe he characterized the "to the extent possible" phrase as absurd. Please note at the top of page 3 of the attached contract....the verbatim use of the above phrase. Such phrasing is not only "not absurd", it is good practice for a variety of foreseen reasons (such as DOE contracts that allow the DOE to retain rights for internal use) to unforeseen reasons such as an inventor who contributes in a capacity other than within the job scope of a university employee. Noah—is this reference helpful? If you need other references of such language, I could pursue. Thanks for standing up for what is right and fair! Best Regards,

Galen J. Suppes

After this email, Mike Nichols finally allowed this commonly used language; however, a month of bickering was the cost. In earlier negotiations with Dr. Sutterlin, Mike Nichols told Dr. Sutterlin that if Dr. Sutterlin did not accept the Mike Nichol's language in the agreement they were negotiating, that it would be two weeks before Mike Nichols considered to topic again. The request would go at the bottom of Mike Nichol's stack of contracts under negotiation. Mike Nichols could have considered the requested revision on-the-spot during the conversation, but that would not have achieved the BPS Mike Nichols pursued. This statement by Mike Nichols and the above examples are <u>definitive evidence</u> of the BPS approach of Mike Nichols during negotiations and disputes.

Remedy Sought:

The same remedies as requested for Violation #1 are sought here only the report is to be written in terms that academic freedom were violated.

Evidence for Collection & List of Witnesses

<u>COUNT #4</u>

Violation of Collected Rules & Regulations Section 310.10.3C3c,

c. Advisory Authority -- The UMC Faculty has advisory authority and responsibility with other persons or offices in matters such as:

(1) Budget and resource allocation.

(2) Planning, including capital expenditures and physical facilities.

(3) Selection of departmental, divisional, campus, and university-level administrators.

(4) Determination of the campus standing committee structure.

(5) Development and implementation of general business procedures which facilitate academic program excellence.

(6) Use of facilities for program activities.

(7) Application of criteria affecting promotion, tenure and termination"

Narrative

<u>Overview</u> – This count is on the failure of TMIR to obtain Faculty Input before and during the modification of forms that impact invention disclosure and invention release. These forms were modified and prepared in 2006 and 2007. In view of the willingness of TMIR to modify forms without Faculty Input, it is likely that TMIR has been performing this for years. In view of this, any forms that do not indicate approval by proper processes (such as including Faculty Input or Patent Committee prescription) are properly considered as forms as prescribed by TMIR but not necessarily as binding under the Collected Rules.

After the Patent Committee met and finally approved the form in May of 2007, the form (**UEL-113**) finally did properly indicate that it was "**Prescribed by Patent Committee**, **5.17.07**". This designation tells the faculty member that the form is the proper form and also indicates to any TMIR personnel (who is not familiar with the Collected Rules) that they need to get Patent Committee approval on any form modifications.

<u>What is expected</u> is that respective TMIR administrators would have requested Faculty Input prior to modifying the disclosure or waiver forms. The Faculty Input should have been recorded. Evidence of responsiveness to Faculty Input and/or the absence of responsiveness to Faculty Input should be accurately ascertainable based on the records of Faculty Input. Ultimately, the absence of responsiveness to Faculty Input should be ascertainable, and when there is a systematic lack of responsiveness to Faculty Input, the respective administrator should be held accountable up to and including a vote of no-confidence. WITH RESPECT TO PROVISIONS ON FACULTY INPUT, THIS IS THE WAY FACULTY GOVERNANCE IS INTENDED TO WORK! When administrators and/or TMIR systematically fail to obtain and document Faculty Input, they not only are violating the Collected Rules and Regulations, they are also attempting to avoid accountability for systematically being non-responsive to Faculty Input.

<u>What happened</u> was TMIR compromised the status of the invention disclosure form UMC16c as a "prescribed form" for invention disclosure by not pursuing Faculty Input, and TMIR has avoided the ramifications of this systematic disregard for Faculty Input. TMIR also prepared the invention waiver form without Faculty Input, and as a result has prepared a form with outrageous conditions that has basically never been used because no faculty will sign off on the conditions.\

Presentation of Evidence

IP is a resource of the University, and as such, administration (including the TMIR branch of administration) is required to get faculty advisory authority on matters related to the handling of IP. The following two forms impact the handling of IP:

- Disclosure Form UMC16c (UEL-9, UEL-10, UEL-11)
- Invention Waiver Form (UEL-12, UEL-13)

On January 4, 2007, the TMIR office released (**B07-01-04**) a new Invention Disclosure Form (**UEL-12**) with footnote 8.1.06 assumed to indicate that document was approved by TMIR on August 1, 2006. There was no Faculty Input provided on this document. At least one means of possible Faculty Input is the Patent Committee (see **UEL-7**) which has the authority to prescribe this form (and should have faculty representation). The patent committee neither met nor prescribed this form on any date near or prior to these dates (the Patent Committee had last met in about 1998—another aspect faculty governance/rights abolished by Tom Sharpe).

On April 17, 2007, the Patent Committee did meet and prescribed this form. However, based on the attached communication with the Chair of this committee (**B07-06-07**), the Patent Committee prescribed this new form without even having it in hand, and so, to date Faculty Input has neither been requested nor considered on this form. This hand-picked committee (Patent Committee) of John Gardner violated the integrity of MU procedures by approving documents without even checking the documents to see if these documents reasonably preserved faculty rights. This violation of the integrity of the system/process should not be taken lightly.

Invention waiver form **UEL-12** was provided for use by Wayne McDaniel to Dr. Suppes on 12/4/06 (**B06-12-04**) and appears to have been drafted on 11/9/06. Evidence dictates that TMIR has attempted to replace the "invention release policy" with an "invention waiver form". Evidence suggests that the form was written by Scott Uhlmann without Faculty Input. It was implemented without Faculty Input. The form is and was an atrocity (see **B07-03-08b**). The method of its preparation and implementation was a violation of Collected Rules & Regulations Section 310.10.3C3c. The terms are outrageous.

As evidence of the lack of input in preparing the waiver forms and the lack of the use of the waiver forms see email communication **B08-05-13** in which Wayne McDaniel clarifies the earlier error of his communication on the forms. The confusion is due to the creation of forms without input (form faculty and from most of the staff) and due to the lack of use of the forms.

Remedy Sought:

Remedy – The grievance committee will report to the Chancellor that a violation has occurred per the count. The chancellor is to inform TMIR that the form they created is in violation of the Collected Rules and Regulations at UM.

Evidence for Collection & List of Witnesses

COUNT #5

Violation of Collected Rules and Regulations, Section 330.010 on "The personal conduct at all times of any employees of the University shall be of such a nature as not to bring discredit upon the institution."

Narrative

<u>Overview</u> – This count is on the distribution of false facts by Dr. Hall to several administrators about the actions of Dr. Suppes.

<u>What is expected</u> is that prior to distributing information that is potentially damaging to the reputation of Dr. Suppes, Dr. Hall should have performed due diligence in ascertaining the facts. This due diligence, at a minimum, should have included allowing Dr. Suppes to defend himself in a meeting with Dr. Suppes (as requested by Dr. Suppes).

<u>What happened</u> was Dr. Hall refused to meet on the subject and distributed false facts to several administrators that likely damaged the reputation of Dr. Suppes.

Presentation of Evidence

Collected Rules and Regulations, Section 330.010 is stated hereafter:

330.010 Personal Conduct of Employees

Bd. Regs. 1949.

A. The personal conduct at all times of any employees of the University shall be of such a nature as not to bring discredit upon the institution. Conduct contrary to this policy will result in the termination of such employees' connection with the University.

Attached as evidence are **B07-12-18** and **B07-12-27**. These letters were distributed to Foster, Brian L. (Provost); Hoskins, Phillip J.; McDaniel, Wayne C.; Nichols, Michael F. (Research/Economic Dev); Deaton, Brady (Chancellor), and James Thompson (Dean). In attachment **B07-12-27**, Dr. Hall makes many false accusations as summarized in **B07-12-27b**.

The following documents the comments and inaccuracy (underlined) of these comments.

Dear Dr. Suppes:

Let me provide a very brief response to the questions posed in your communication of December 20th. A key problem is that <u>you suggest</u> that if your company Renewable Alternatives has some ownership interest in IP that you are then justified in selling UM interest in an invention, which in fact you are not. If IP is owned in whole or in part by UM, then UM needs to be a party to any sales or licensing agreement involving that technology. In a license agreement dated March 30, 2005, Renewable Alternatives licensed IP to the Mid-America Research and Development Foundation (MRDF) consisting of patent applications that were wholly owned by UM (because you were the only inventor) and patent applications that were jointly owned by UM and Renewable Alternatives (as you and Dr. Sutterlin were inventors). UM was not a party to this agreement, and <u>you asserted in the agreement that you and/or Renewable Alternatives were the only owners</u> of these technologies. There was in place an appropriate process for Renewable Alternatives to obtain a license to the UM rights to this invention, but Renewable Alternatives chose to ignore that process and license the Renewable Alternatives rights and the UM rights.

Then, this past summer, you apparently became involved in the negotiation of a research agreement with Senergy (the ultimate licensee of the above invention). UM put a temporary hold on this research contract until certain issues could be cleared up. However, in the meantime Senergy sent you or Renewable Alternatives a \$30,000 check, which they apparently understood to be a down payment on such research contract. The contract was in fact never signed, and Senergy now says that they asked you to return the check. Instead, you deposited this check in your MU account as an unrestricted gift. This gives the appearance of you negotiating a research contract on behalf of UM, and then accepting payment towards that contract on behalf of the University.

However, <u>Senergy got no value for their money</u>, <u>because you deposited it as a gift with "no strings attached." I</u> regard this at a minimum as a patently unethical act.

You have asked in a separate email to meet with me (I infer to discuss your ongoing feud with MU's Office of Technology Management & Industry Relations), and while I am always happy to discuss issues with faculty, I cannot see what might be accomplished by such a meeting. You have met previously on the same subject with Chancellor Deaton and corresponded freely with UM President Floyd. At this point, I simply ask that you abide by the UM Collected Rules and Regulations and work proactively with the technology transfer-related staff at both the campus and UM System.

Rob Hall

The memo was circulated to: Foster, Brian L. (Provost); Hoskins, Phillip J.; McDaniel, Wayne C.; Nichols, Michael F. (Research/Economic Dev); and Deaton, Brady (Chancellor). While most aspects of the memo were misleading, the underlined-bold statements are blatant lies propagated to cause disreputation of Dr. Suppes. Dr. Hall circulated inaccurate data on the actions of Dr. Suppes and refused to meet to clarify the facts. The distribution of such false accusations is a violation of the Collected Rules and Regulations, Section 330.010.

On the "patently unethical" statement, the facts portray a different story. Document **P06-12-21** is one of several documents that substantiates the research performed in Fall 2006 and January of 2007 for which Senergy attempted to provide Dr. Suppes with a \$60k grant. COUNT #3 documents Torpedo's 2 and 3 which sank efforts to fund this research. The research started at the time RA first approached MU with the \$30k at the end of Summer, 2006. During the PBS tactics of Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins the research had been completed and moneys spent. The following staff were assigned substantially in support of Senergy's research based on a verbal agreement dating to July of 2006 when MSMC funds expired and Senergy's support was to take over:

- Ali Tekeei, Research Specialist, 7/1/06-5/31/07
- Roger Chiu, PhD Candidate, 7/1/06-10/30/07
- Wei Yan, PhD Candidate, 12/24/06-5/31/08

After overhead is removed, the \$30k is about \$20k. Including corrections for tuition, supplies, and benefits, the \$30k would have covered the support for Ali and Roger for about 7/1/06-11/30/07. Senergy GOT MUCH MORE THAN they paid for.

The real question is: <u>"What did Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins expect to happen when they</u> committed to the BPS strategy that blocked every attempt to get the \$30k as a Research Agreement to the Suppes lab over a 7-month period?"

The false impressions of Dr. Nichols, Dr. Hall, and Mr. Hoskins could have been easily cleared up, but they refused to meet to discuss the matter with Dr. Suppes. Their persistence in not meeting is suggestive that they did not want to clear up these issues because the truth would reveal the extreme extent to which they have mis-behaved in the past couple years.

Based on preliminary discussions, Dr. Hall and Mr. McDaniel cite the RA-MRDF License Agreement (**UEL-5**) as evidence that Dr. Suppes falsely represented The Curators of the University of Missouri and assigned property belonging to The Curators of the University of Missouri. I have requested interpretations from two separate attorneys (Ms. Force, Mr.

Gallaher), and both have confirmed that this contract does not present Dr. Suppes as representing The University of Missouri Curators. The proper interpretation of the contract terms is documented by **B07-08-28** and **B07-08-28b**.

Dr. Suppes clearly conveyed to MRDF/MSMC that the University has its own ownership rights and that MRDF/MSMC has rights to that IP based on the MSMC Research Agreement (**UEL-1**), including:

- 1. **B04-03-22** Email to Attorney Dan Cleveland Indicating MSMC Rights Based on MSMC Research Agreement including the following communication: *The UMC contract includes provisions related to "development" of technology. While it was invented prior to MSMC funding, it was and is being developed based on MSMC funds.*
- 2. Proposal to MSMC of UEL-2 (11/04) containing the following text:

13. Licensing Rights: Licensing rights are covered in an agreement between UMC and the MSMC with rights guaranteed to the NSF-STTR partner, Renewable Alternatives, LLC.

- Proposal to MSMC of UEL-3 (11/05) containing the following text:
 14. Licensing Rights: An agreement is in place on this technology that includes MSMC, Renewable Alternatives, LLC, and UMC.
- 4. B05-03-30 Email (Victor) Witnessing Division of IP on PG Technology in which Victor (scientist with P&G) reiterates a description of the technology he heard in a previous teleconference, including: *Renewable Alternatives, MSMC and the Univ. of Missouri each owns 1/3 of the glycerol to propylene glycol technology. However, MSMC has ultimate negotiating power for this technology.*
- 5. **B05-01-13** Email Recommendation on Licensing of Technology include a communication of: 2. *The license should include payment of royalties to the MSMC-UMC-RA collaboration on this project.*
- 6. B05-12-02 Email Disclosure Comprehensive on UMC form including a communication of Wayne The attached disclosure represents the agree-upon (Dr. Dasari and myself) distribution of the University's policy of sharing at least 1/3rd of the royalties with the inventors. Please note that Dr. W. R. Sutterlin is an inventor; however, his involvement from the start (through the NSF-STTR) was as a company (Renewable Alternatives, LLC) representative. Due to the fact that the company's IP is its greatest asset, Renewable Alternatives, LLC is taking the stand on this issue that (per his contract) the IP generated by Dr. Sutterlin remains entirely within Renewable Alternatives, LLC, unless otherwise arranged on a project-by-project basis. Dr. W. R. Sutterlin is a part-owner in Renewable Alternatives, LLC, and so, he will in fact receive rewards representative of revenue generated as a direct or indirect result of the IP.

One of the main reasons this grievance was filed was that Dr. Hall refused to meet on the matter to clear up his false facts as documented per my request (**B07-12-20**).

Remedy Sought:

The grievance committee will report to the Chancellor that a violation has occurred per the count. The grievance committee is to inform the Chancellor that there has been improper conduct on the part of TMIR in properly and accurately conveying information to the Vice Chancellor of Research and others who deal with the University.

Evidence for Collection & List of Witnesses

COUNT #6

Violation of Collected Rules and Regulations 100.020.D.1.f hereby quoted:

- "The patent rights and/or ... the President shall consider all relevant factors including, but not limited to the following:
 - (7) The recommendation of the principal investigator, the head of her/his department and her/his dean, or on campuses with no schools or colleges, the Provost. ...
 - (10) The extent to which the University reserves the right to use any patented or patentable products, materials, processes, or Plant Variety. ..."

Narrative

<u>Overview</u> – This count is in regard to the manner in which Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins "blundered" the MU-MSMC License Agreement—giving the MSMC all technology that could qualify as a "continuation in part" from pending patents. This license includes technology developed after the MSMC Research Agreement lapsed and should not have been licensed to MSMC because MSMC has no intent of commercializing it. It also includes technology outside the scope of the proposed work. As a result of this, it is virtually impossible for Dr. Suppes to get another corporation interested in funding and commercializing these important technologies—this destroyed an entire research program in the laboratory of Dr. Suppes.

<u>What is expected</u> is that preserving/enhancing the research program that initially created a valuable technology should be of the highest priority to TMIR. TMIR should base licensing decisions substantially on this criterion. A good line of communication with the University inventor should be established and respected. Any license agreements should have been passed by the University Inventor for general input and specifically to identify any possible blunders in the contract language. In this case it is likely that Dr. Suppes would have identified the blunder prior to the signing of the MU-MSMC License Agreement.

<u>What happened</u> was through a process of BPS, Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins substantially severed any lines of communication between Dr. Suppes and themselves in making licensing decisions. They not only made certain that Dr. Suppes did not see the license agreement during negotiation; they also did not inform Dr. Suppes of the stages of negotiation and were non-responsive to requests for such information. Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins did, indeed, blunder the MU-MSMC License agreement to the devastation of the research program of Dr. Suppes. In the end, Dr. Suppes was required to file a Sunshine Law request to get a copy of the research agreement. Wayne McDaniel characterizes this major blunder as a "typo" and is not responsive to requests for accountability on the manner in which TMIR has devastated the research program of Dr. Suppes.

Presentation of Evidence

The Collected Rules and Regulations 100.020.D.1.f require consideration of input from the principal investigator when making licensing decisions. For the license MU-MSMC License Agreement (**UEL-6**), the input of the principal investigator (Dr.Suppes) was not considered. In fact, consideration of all input was trumped by the "blunder" made by Phil Hoskins and Mike Nichols when they did not limit the license to that technology detailed in the "Field" definition of

the **UEL-6** MU-MSMC License Agreement. This agreement is also referred to in the "Torpedo 5" bullet of Violation #3.

The path illustrated by the following excerpt of **UEL-6** illustrates that the MU-MSMC License ultimately licensed to MSMC all the technology of the patents and continuations-in-part:

(2) "Patent Rights" shall include all designated intellectual property as documented in Exhibit A specified by Serial Numbers or Patent Numbers and any continuations, divisionals, reissues, mexaminations and corresponding foreign patents throughout the world of those listed in Exhibit A.
 (3) "Licensed Product" Any Invention defined by or using any method defined by any pending or issued claim under Patent Rights
 II. LICENSE GRANT
 (1) UNIVERSITY heleby grants and LICENSEE hereby accepts an exclusive, to the extent possible, license to manufacture or distribute, have manufactured or distributed, use and set Licensed Products

The blunder of this contract was that the intent was to limit the license to the "Field" as defined in the following paragraph.

(6) "Field" shall mean propylene glycol and propylene glycol-based products that are produced from glycerin, including, without limitation, deicing, anti-icing, personal care, food, pharmaceutical, detergents, paint, heat transfer, automotive antifreeze, tobacco and general industrial markets, and related methods including methods for the use or manufacture of the propylene glycol and propylene glycol-based products.

 (a) 1,2 propylene glycol is also referred to as 1,2 propanediol. The Field above does not include production of 1,3 propanediol.

(b) Notwithstanding the generality of the definition of Field above, the Field does not include propylene glycol produced from C4 or higher sugars such as, but not limited to, sorbitol, fructose, glucose and sucrose, even if glycerin is produced as an intermediate in the manufacture of propylene glycol from C4 or higher sugars.

By not excluding C4 or higher sugars, Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins have further devastated the research program of Dr. Suppes. It will be essentially impossible to find an industrial sponsor to advance the breakthroughs that the research group of Dr. Suppes attained in gas phase conversions of sorbitol to PG (through reserve funds spent by Dr. Suppes after MSMC funding ended) because MSMC now has all the rights to the technology even though they intend to neither commercialize the technology nor pay for the patents that cover the technology.

Inevitably, TMIR and MU administration operate in a manner so as not to hold their attorneys and senior administrators accountable for such blunders. No Collected Rule & Regulation provision was located to file a grievance for the blunder. No Collected Rule & Regulation provision was located to file a grievance for not being responsive to Faculty Input indicating that such a license would be devastating to the research program of Dr. Suppes. No Collected Rule & Regulation provision holds Dr. Nichols and Phil Hoskins accountable for creating such a hostile environment where they ultimately did not seek input from Dr. Suppes on the contract (which could have detected the error prior to it creating the devastation). However, the fact that the "blunder" trumped consideration of all other factors is a violation of Collected Rules and Regulations 100.020.D.1.f.

The following are few examples of the incompetent actions taken by Phil Hoskins:

- 1. UEL-6 MU-MSMC License Agreement as discussed above.
- B06-09- 26 in which Phil Hoskins tells Dr. Suppes to "please cease and desist from ... purporting to assign rights," when at the same time Wayne McDaniel was asking Dr. Suppes to assign rights and powers of attorney to numerous inventions including applications not assigned to the Curators. A partial clarification was provided 16 months later (B08-04-25, B08-04-25b), but Wayne McDaniel continued to ask Dr. Suppes to assign rights and powers of attorney to inventions not assigned to the Curators.
- 3. In a mid-2006 meeting with Dr. Manring, Noah conveyed to Dr. Suppes that Phil Hoskins wanted to know how Dr. Sutterlin could be an inventor on behalf of RA when RA did not have a research lab. The response was obvious to those competent in patent law (and in plain site on the patent plaques of Dr. Manring's walls. The response was that inventorship is based on concept and a large fraction of inventions are never actually reduced to practice. These type of inaccurate perceptions about patent law likely led to months of delays due to false impressions of the law by Mike Nichols and Phil Hoskins.

Remedy Sought:

The grievance committee will inform the Chancellor that a violation occurred and that precautions need to be taken to not let it happen again.

Additional Remedy Sought (For All Counts):

In view of the violations that have occurred and the propensity for reoccurrence, the Chancellor is to take meaningful measures to prevent the administration from repeating these violations. The measures that are taken are to be conveyed to Dr. Suppes, Chairman Gahl, and Dean Thompson.

Evidence for Collection

- 1. Record of Appointment by Account for Ali Tekeei, Roger Chiu, Bryan Sawyer, and Wei Yan for 2006 and 2007.
- 2. TMIR Statistics Number of people who have submitted each version of the waiver forms.
- 3. TMIR Statistics List of technologies commercialized based on technologies released from either version of the waiver form.
- 4. Copies of TMIR "official" copies of disclosures: 03UMC032, 04UMC052, 04UMC066, and 06UMC035.

List of Witnesses

- 1. Attorney Expert Witness (George Smith, not client attorney, agreed), 573-441-0080, Testify: typical legal interpretation of certain actions and language in Collected Rules.
- 2. Dr. Sutterlin (agreed), Email: rusty@renewablealternatives.com, 573-999-6230, Testify: Mike Nichols negotiation styles and \$30k of Senergy flow-through.
- 3. Noah Manring (not agreed/discussed), manringn@missouri.edu, 573-884-5484. Testify: on September, 2006 meeting that was cancelled.
- 4. Ali Tekeei (agreed), Email: tekeeia@missouri.edu, Testify: Senergy's \$30k flow-through.

Summary of Accrued Damages

- 1. Lost Research Sponsors/Collaborations.
 - a. MSMC
 - b. Senergy
 - c. Cargill
- 2. Lost Opportunities for Major Research Centers with Perpetual Funding.
- Disintegration of Renewable Alternatives, LLC. In May 2008 it is anticipated that RA will be split into two companies with Drs. Suppes and Sutterlin owning separate companies. In addition, RA will initiate a move of location from Missouri to Alabama over Memorial Day Weekend in May, 2008.
- 4. Inability to Continue Research on the Following Topics in Laboratory of Dr. Suppes.
 - a. Commercial support for conversion of glycerol to PG.
 - b. Optimization of process for conversion of glycerol to acetol.
 - c. Value-added products from acetol.
 - d. Conversion of sorbitol to propylene glycol as well as other value-added chemicals.
- 5. Attorney Expenses.
- 6. Hours of Wasted Time.
- 7. Lost Research Funds Due To Unreasonable Languages Demanded by Mike Nichols.
- 8. Lost ability to apply for patent in China.
- 9. Potential loss of all foreign applications from 2006 PCT application.
- 10. Lost value of 2005 patent application due to attorney not properly representing MU.

Mutual Definition of Terms

Agreement. A mutual understanding between two or more persons about their relative rights and manifestations of mutual assent by two or more persons. (definition 1, Blacks Law, 8th Edition)

Assignment. The act of transferring to another all or part of one's property, interest or rights. A transfer or making over to another of the whole of any property, real or personal, in possession or in action, or of any estate or right therein. *Black's Law Dictionary*.

Assignee. A person to whom an assignment is made; grantee. Black's Law Dictionary.

Disclosure. The act or process of making known something that was previously unknown; a revelation of facts. (Blacks Law, 8th Edition)

Disclosure Document Program. A U.S. Patent and Trademark Office program allowing an inventor to file a preliminary description of an invention and establish its date of conception before applying date for a patent. (Blacks Law, 8th Edition)

Claim. In patent law, a claim is an assertion of what the invention purports to accomplish, and claims of a patent define the invention and the extent of the grant; any feature of an invention not stated in the claim is beyond the scope of patent protection. *Black's Law Dictionary*.

Glycerol: Also called glycerin or glycerine. It is a chemical/sugar by-produce resulting from the conversion of soybean oil to biodiesel.

License. A written authority granted by the owner of a patent to another person empowering the latter to make or use the patented article for a limited period or in a limited territory. *Black's Law Dictionary.*

IP. Intellectual property.

Intellectual Property. A category of intangible rights protecting commercially valuable products of the human intellect. The category comprises primarily trademark, copyright, and patent rights but also includes trade-secret rights, publicity rights, moral rights and rights against unfair compensation. (Blacks Law, 8th Edition)

Inventor. One who invents or has invented. One who finds out or contrives some new thing; one who devised some new art, manufacture, mechanical appliance, or process; one who invents a patentable contrivance. *Black's Law Dictionary*.

MRDF. Mid-America Research and Development Foundation. Foundation set up by MSMC.

MSMC. Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council. Board elected by Missouri soybean farmers responsible for identifying uses of that portion of soybean check-off fees that stay in Missouri. This includes funding for University projects.

MU. The University of Missouri's Columbia campus.

Non-Provisional Patent Application. Term often used to refer to a Patent Application as defined below.

Patent. A grant of some privilege, property or authority made by the government or soverign of a country to one or more individuals. *Black's Law Dictionary*.

Patent Application. A patent application is a request pending at a patent office for the grant of a patent for the invention described and claimed by that application. An application consists of a description of the invention (the *patent specification*), together with official forms and correspondence relating to the application. The term patent application is also used to refer to the process of applying for a patent, or to the patent specification itself. *Wikipedia*.

PCT Application. The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) is an international patent law treaty, concluded in 1970. It provides a unified procedure for filing patent applications to protect inventions in each of its Contracting States (see Accession section below for current membership information). A patent application filed under the PCT is called an international application or PCT application. *Wikipedia*.

P&G. Procter & Gamble. A U.S. corporation.

PG. Propylene glycol. The product produced for sale using the technology licensed by the MU-MSMC License Agreement.

Provisional Patent. Under United States patent law, a provisional application for patent is a type of national application for patent filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), but which does not mature into an issued patent unless further steps are taken by the applicant. Furthermore, because no examination of the patentability of the application in view of the prior art is performed, the USPTO fee for filing a provisional patent application is significantly lower than the fee required to file a standard non-provisional patent application. *Wikipedia.* A provisional patent application must be converted to a non-provisional patent application in the application within 12 months or priority will be lost.

R.A. Abbreviation for Renewable Alternatives.

Release. The relinquishment or concession of a right, title, or claim. (definition 2, Blacks Law, 8^{th} Edition)

Renewable Alternatives. Faculty spin-off company owned principally by Dr. Suppes. Full name is Renewable Alternatives, LLC.

Royalty. Compensation for the use of property, usually copyrighted material or natural resources, expressed as a percentage of receipts from using the property or as an account per unit produced. A payment which is made to an author or composer by an assignee, licensee or copyright holder in respect of each copy of his work which is sold, or to an investor in respect of each article sold under the patent. *Black's Law Dictionary*.

SBIR. Small Business Innovation Research, typically referred to as an "SBIR grant" from the U.S. federal government.

STTR. Small Business Technology Transfer, similar to the SBIR except that a U.S. nonprofit research institution must play a key role.

Waiver. The voluntary relinquishment or Abandonment—express or implied—of a legal right or advantage. (Blacks Law, 8th Edition)

Suppes Extended Definition of Terms

BPS – Bickering, Posturing, and Stonewalling. Put forward as the prominent mode of operation of TMIR since TMIR discovered royalties were being paid on a technology and they did not have exclusive control on how the royalties were being distributed.

OTPA. Office of IP Administration, Defined - Office overseeing TMIR at MU system level, mid-2006 to present (estimated), Pertinent Employees: Scott Uhlmann (director)

OSPA. Office of Sponsored Programs Administration. This office processes proposals and research agreements.

OTSP. OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY & SPECIAL PROJECTS, defined – Previous name for group performing TMIR duties. Through mid-2006 (estimated), Pertinent Employees: Wayne McDaniel, Terry Nixon, Tom Sharpe, Scott Uhlmann

PG. Propylene Glycol

Research Agreement. Agreement on a research activity.

Senergy. Company that licensed glycerol-to-PG technology from MRDF for purposes of commercializing the technology.

TMIR. Technology Management and Industrial Relations, defined – MU Campus Technology Transfer Office of OTPA, mid-2006 to present (estimated); Pertinent Employees: Wayne McDaniel

List of Frequently Referred-To People:

- Attorney Dan Cleveland Patent Attorney of MSMC handling all patent applications starting in 2004 on the glycerol-to-PG technology.
- Jim Coleman Vice Chancellor of Research through mid 2007. Director of OSPA.
- John Gardner Vice president overseeing OTPA from about March of 2006 through mid-2007.
- **Robert Hall** Interim director of TMIR and interim Vice Chancellor of Research, 2007 and 2008 as required.
- Dale Ludwig CEO of both MSMC and MRDF.
- Wayne McDaniel Technology licensing specialist with OTSP and then with TMIR. Responsible for MU engineering since mid-2006.
- **Mike Nichols** Director of TMIR from mid-2006 through mid-2007. In mid-2007 he transitioned to Vice President position.
- **Terry Nixon** Technology licensing specialist with OTSP through mid-2006.
- **Tom Sharpe** Director of OTSP through mid-2006.
- Galen Suppes aka Dr. Suppes. Professor of Chemical Engineering. Grievant in this case.
- W. (Rusty) Sutterlin CEO of Renewable Alternatives, LLC. Co-Inventor of glycerol-to-PG technology.

Appendix A – Uniform Evidence

- UEL-1: MSMC Research Agreement (with Proposal)
- **UEL-2:** First Extension (with Proposal)
- **UEL-3:** Second Extension (with Proposal)
- **UEL-4:** One-Month Extension
- UEL-5: RA-MRDF License Agreement
- **UEL-6:** MU-MSMC License Agreement
- **UEL-7:** Collected Rules Patent Policy
- **UEL-8:** Collected Rules MU Governance
- **UEL-9:** Old Invention Disclosure Form
- **UEL-10:** Revised Invention Disclosure Form
- **UEL-11:** New Approved Invention Disclosure Form
- UEL-12: Old Waiver
- UEL-13: New Waiver
- UEL-14: RA-MU Allocation of Rights Agreement
- **UEL-15:** Collected Rules Academic Freedom (300.010)
- **UEL-16:** Collected Rules Personal Conduct of Employees (330.010)