



**ISU-Meridian**  
Health Science Center

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January 30, 2012

Azam Khan  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Office of Under Secretary and Director  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22314-1450

RE: Boise Metro Region for U.S. Patent and Trademark Satellite Office

Dear Mr. Khan:

In light of the search for a new U.S. Patent and Trademark Satellite Office I strongly support the Boise region as the first choice for your consideration of new satellite offices. As a partner to innovation, education and advanced research in the state of Idaho, I know that this area would be well suited for this office. The Boise Metro region is among the top twenty cities in the country for the most patents generated, and Idaho produces more patents per capita than any other state. Idaho has seen strong patent numbers coming from the Idaho National Laboratory (Battelle), Hewlett Packard and Micron Technology with a focus on semiconductor manufacturing and electrical devices.

Idaho continues to enhance economic diversity by working with private and public institutions to enhance research development. There are also many organizations in the Boise Metro region focused on making innovation, technology and technology transfer a vital part of the community. Among them is THE CORE, of which Idaho State University (ISU) is the educational anchor, an Idaho coalition for innovation, promoting health, research, and technology initiatives in the region. THE CORE was formed as a business enterprise corridor or med-tech industry cluster, and works in concert with the Boise Valley Economic Partnership, the Idaho Technology Council, and Project 60, a comprehensive plan proposed by Governor Otter to grow Idaho's Gross Domestic Product. In his recent State of the State Address, the Governor unveiled a new initiative, the Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission (IGEM), to create knowledge-based opportunities in the economy, by increasing strategic areas of research and development through targeted partnerships among industry, higher education and government that leverage resources.

Working for ISU-Meridian Health Science Center, located in the Boise Valley, innovation and research is one of the key reasons so many companies and corporate headquarters have succeeded in the Metro Region. As you are well aware, Universities are at the heart of research and development and one of the principle incubators for new patents in this country. ISU is a Carnegie-classified Research University-High institution, recognized in the top 5% of the nation's 4,663 universities and colleges ranked by the Foundation, with only 98 higher education entities in this prestigious group, and another 108 universities in the Research University-Very High uppermost category.

I hope you will consider our region for your new office(s), and we would look forward to working with you and welcoming you to our community.

Sincerely,

Bessie Katsilometes, Ph.D.  
Dean, Academic Programs  
ISU-Meridian Health Science Center