



United States Patent and Trademark Office Attn: Azam Khan, Deputy Chief of Staff Mail Stop - Office of Undersecretary and Director P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sent via email: <u>satelliteoffices@uspto.gov</u>

Re: Comments on Additional USPTO Satellite Offices for the Nationwide Workforce Program (Docket No. PTO-C-2011-0066)

Dear Mr. Kahn,

I am the president of Union Graduate College in Schenectady New York. Union Graduate College is one of the twenty-one colleges and universities located in the Capital Region of Upstate New York. The intent of this letter is to support the initiative of Annette I. Kahler who is leading the Region's efforts to apply for consideration as a future location of a USTPO satellite office.

With a graduate program in engineering developed in conjunction with General Electric dating back more than a hundred years to 1905, Union Graduate College is now classified by Carnegie as Private/Master's/Medium. The Graduate College has graduate programs in Business (Management and Healthcare Management), Education, Engineering (Mechanical/Electrical [Energy in 2012/13]), Bioethics, English and History that were previously part of Union College (ranked US News & Report Top 50 Liberal Arts). It is a fully independent private college now comprised of four graduate and professional schools — the programs each have the highest levels of accreditation available and are viewed as having among the most selective graduate programs in the Capital Region of Upstate New York. The Bioethics and MBA/Healthcare programs have a national draw.

Union Graduate College is a member of Union University, a five school consortium located in the Capital Region of New York State. Well known for its members' interdisciplinary joint degree programs, the successful joint degree programs date

back several decades. A new MS in engineering/ JD to support the efforts of development of intellectual property in the Region, is being actively sought by Union Graduate College and Albany College of Law.

Union Graduate College supports the efforts of Innogen, one of seventeen (17) business incubators providing support for a strong culture of entrepreneurship in the region.

I hope that you will consider our region for development of the satellite. In addition to my role as college president, I serve on the Executive Committee of the Board for the Council for Economic Growth (CEG) of Upstate New York and as one of twenty members of the Schenectady Stakeholders, a group of CEOs who have made commitments of time and money to the growth of Schenectady. I provide this information to you to give you a sense of the excitement and momentum the Region has. I know you will find the environment here highly supportive of your efforts.

Sincerely,

Laura Schweitzer, PhD

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President