



Office of the President

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January 24, 2012

Mr. Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Mr. Khan:

I write in support of Columbus2020's proposal to station a new United States Patent and Trademark Office in Columbus, Ohio. Quite simply, this is an area of unparalleled opportunity for innovation. Notably, Columbus is central headquarters for The Ohio State University, the state's flagship institution of higher education. Ohio State is also one of the largest single campuses in the country, with an additional collection of engaged campuses throughout the state. The University has more than 64,000 students and 40,000 faculty and members. That talent base of doctors, researchers, and students is nothing short of extraordinary. The breadth of expertise at Ohio State is without peer—from cancer research to bioagriculture to life sciences. And, the University partners with several of the leading public organizations and private industries, including Battelle Memorial Institute, to produce cutting-edge research and development.

This much is certainly true: Ohio State is in the business of ideas, invention, and innovation. Columbus is very much a part of the University's work. It is a fitting choice in which to house a satellite office of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

I hope you will consider us. If I can be of any additional assistance, I stand ready.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'E. Gordon Gee'.

E. Gordon Gee
President