Law Center Report

Supplementing the Law Center's cooperative academic efforts with Carnegie-Mellon's Center for Entrepreneurial Development and Dartmouth's Innovation Center (wherein Law Center students and faculty are aiding in the development of patent protection and planning for innovative concepts maturing from these programs) is a developing cooperation for similar purposes between the Law Center and the Biomedical Engineering Center for Clinical Instrumentation of the Harvard-Massachusetts Institute of Technology Division of Health Sciences and Technology. Initial assistance is being rendered in the development of technology packages stemming from research in micro-processor-based clinical instrumentation for presentation to potential industrial users.

In collaboration with our PTC research programs, several monographs are being prepared on the following topics:

- Potential FDA regulation of medical devices;
- Proposed changes of FDA trade secret;
- Computer software protection; and
- Modern trends in court attitudes towards the presumption of patent validity.

Studies continue on the barriers and incentives to technology transfer between the federal government and private American industry in connection with two projects: (1) modification in food thermal sterilization processing by means of the flexible retort pouch and, (2) preservation of food by ionizing radiation.

The experiences of our recent second annual institute on trading in the European Economic Community, conducted by an international and interdisciplinary faculty, are under review with the Academy of Applied Science and others, to meet the objective of tailoring continued activities in these areas to the actual up-dating needs of the industrial and academic communities.

A program has been launched to elicit expanded private and public financial support for the above activities, which are necessarily limited in the light of the Law Center's resources. Comments and expressions of interest from PTC members and subscribers and others would be most appreciated.

Robert H. Rines
President of Franklin
Pierce Law Center