

November 5, 2012

Mail Stop Comments—Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Ms. Susy Tsang-Foster, Legal Advisor  
Office of Patent Legal Administration

Ms. Mary C. Till, Senior Legal Advisor  
Office of Patent Legal Administration

Re: Comments of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on:  
*Changes to Implement the First Inventor to File Provisions of the Leahy-Smith  
America Invents Act, 77 Fed. Reg. 43742; and  
Examination Guidelines for Implementing the First Inventor to File Provisions of the  
Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, 77 Fed. Reg. 43759*

Dear Ms. Tsang-Foster and Ms. Till:

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) appreciates the effort to modernize the patent system, both in the passage of the America Invents Act (AIA) and now in the development of the accompanying regulatory framework.

Several comments already submitted highlight important aspects of the proposed regulations. These comments include the necessity for delicate language to preserve the one-year grace period given evidence of congressional intent to accommodate scholarly publishing and communications in advance of patent application filings.

As a result, MIT endorses the comments submitted on October 4, 2012 by six Higher Education Associations, (Association of American Universities, American Council on Education, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, Association of University Technology Managers, and Council on Governmental Relations).

MIT urges rigorous review and consideration of the robust recommendations included in the Appendix of the comments submitted by the University of California on October 4, 2012.

MIT supports the call to protect the grace period as outlined in comments submitted on July 17, 2012 by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.

We thank you for your effort to build the regulatory framework to support implementation of AIA.

Sincerely yours,



Claude R. Canizares