Barbara A. Turner  
Procurement Technician  
Office of Acquisition and Assistance  
Department of Energy  
Chicago Operations Office  
9800 South Cass Avenue  
Argonne, Illinois 60439

May 7, 2002

Re: Closeout of award No. DE-FG02-94ER20161

Dear Ms. Turner:

Award No. DE-FG02-94ER20161, along with a grant from the National Science Foundation and funds provided by The Ohio State University, helped to support a summer workshop in microbial physiology at the Department of Microbiology at OSU. This project or summer workshop on the "Molecular Basis, Physiology, and Diversity of Microbial Adaptation" successfully exposed beginning graduate students, research technicians from industry, and other scientists to modern concepts and experimental protocols in an area that both DOE and NSF perceived to be lacking in US science. For 5 different summers, 12-16 students, primarily from academic institutions but some from leading biotechnology companies, spent from 2 to 4 weeks at OSU attending classes and laboratory sessions at the workshop. Each summer, OSU faculty covered four distinct modules or topics, where both formal lecture and laboratory-based hands on instruction were the norm. In addition, every summer, about 10 different leading international experts in microbial physiology were brought in to give formal lectures and informal brown-bag type discussions. The students were afforded every opportunity to interact with these eminent scientists. These interactions, combined with the didactic experimental and lecture work, served to bring the students up to date on the various advances and new laboratory techniques in microbial physiology. Some 70 students participated in this workshop over the years and all of them were enthusiastic about what they had learned and the contacts they had made. Likewise, the visiting scientists very much enjoyed participating in this course and they were effusive in praising what was accomplished. Based on our experiences, and the way in which the students and scientific community responded, we would very much recommend that a similar type summer workshop be supported in the future.

Sincerely yours,

F. Robert Tabita, Principal Investigator  
Eminent Scholar and Professor

College of Biological Sciences
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