

*A Public  
Research University*

October 15, 2001

Mr. Daniel M. Hull  
President  
Principal Investigator for STEP II  
CORD  
601 Lake Air Drive  
Waco, TX 76710

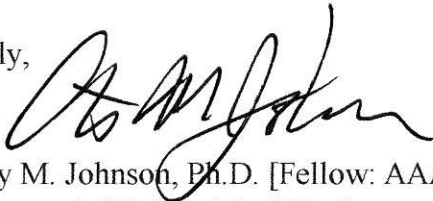
Dear Mr. Hull:

I wish to state my strong support for the goals and objectives outlined in your STEPII proposal to the National Science Foundation. The Optical Society of America is vitally interested in the education of all students preparing for careers in optics and photonics and therefore I applaud your effort to develop appropriate learning materials for the education of photonics technicians—an important segment of our optics family.

It is clear to me that photonics technicians who complete carefully structured two-year programs in our community colleges, with the help of relevant, contextual learning materials, will contribute directly to the continued technological growth of our optics and photonics driven industries.

As a member of the Technical/Industrial Working Group, I will encourage the education offices of the Optical Society of America to work with you and the education community—through our regional and annual meetings—to conduct appropriate orientation sessions and teacher training workshops, and to facilitate the effective dissemination and use of the learning materials you plan to develop. My congratulations to you and the CORD team for undertaking this most important of workforce development initiatives.

Sincerely,



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