NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE 2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE WASHINGTON, D. C. 20418

July 15, 1987

Mr. John P. Campbell 3405B Tom Green Street Austin, Texas 78705

Dear John:

I greatly enjoyed the opportunity to talk with you a few days ago when you were in Washington. Since your visit, there has been a meeting of the Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable. I write now to give you my further assessment of the probabilities of our going forward with the exciting project we talked about--the analysis and discussion, by the Roundtable, of factors causing pressures for change in the university and college systems and the ways in which the Roundtable might play a role in helping illuminate such issues, setting in motion at the respective levels of government, and in institutions a broad process of self-examination.

We had an extremely good discussion of these questions. Several of the Roundtable members, including the industrial executives and the federal agency officials responsible for research and development, are enthusiastic about undertaking the project. Thus, the 1987-88 agenda of the Roundtable will be largely devoted to this set of questions. I would expect that the Roundtable will pursue the effort by way of a series of commissioned efforts, seminars, the invitation of speakers to its own meetings, and perhaps some regional meetings, all of which would be followed later by various efforts to get the topic more thoroughly on the agenda of the federal agencies, the states, and the universities and colleges.

I believe that this would be a excellent endeavor for you to participate in; your policy background and your experience in Texas equip you well for a key role in the Roundtable's planned effort.

Whereas you would gain considerable experience in the execution of your recommended changes if you were to remain in Texas working on the reforms that have been proposed, the Roundtable activity would give you the opportunity to

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gain a national perspective and also a national reputation. I believe that you could make a valuable contribution to our work and it could be, indeed, historic. In the long run, I think that your future is likely to be on the national scene in a career not unlike my own and thus, I believe you should carefully consider this opportunity and continue your discussions with Don Phillips.

Singerely

Philip M. Smith Executive Officer