A proposal to institutionalize a legislative drafting programme jointly managed by University of Witwatersrand Schools of Law and Public and Development Management

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Boston University
October 15, 1998

Dr. Gavin Cawthra
Acting Director
Faculty of Management, P&DM
University of Witswatersrand
Johannesburg
FAX: 011-27-11-484-1755

Dear Gavin:

We very much regret that you have received none of our e-mails. We'll resort to FAXes for a while, and hope things work out better in the future.

We wondered whether you did receive that part of our last FAX that mentioned the Norwegian Human Rights Institute interest in the Centre? We re-attach Jan Mattsson's note. Could you follow it up? Our guess is that Andrew Skeen really is a novice when it comes to fund raising; and that P&DM's record in respect to working with training government officials would prove an attractive feature for them, anyway.

Meanwhile, we will proceed to contact MacAurther and Kaiser next week, using the new document. We will undoubtedly have to discuss the budget details with them, but we'll get in touch with you about that if they show interest; in the long run, probably, you all will be the ones who will sign the contract. But all that's for the long term.

Assuming that that would take some time, however, we would suggest the fall back position, including the Sri Lankan participants (4 or 5 max) if you have an interest. The real problem is how to find housing for the Sri Lankans; we can probably arrange the rest -- classes, etc -- when we get there in late January (assuming we go ahead with the programme). We've been running this programme for them here and working with 4 or 5 on top of what we were doing this year should not pose a big problem. We would of course like to cooperate with you in developing the programme insofar as you have time and resources to work with us on that make-shift basis.

Perhaps you could discuss all this with Andrew Skeen who, as you know, has just become Dean of the Law School; we hope you can reach him. We look forward to hearing from you about all this.

Very sincerely,

Ann & Bob Seidman
Dear Bob and Ann,

Thank you very much for sending me your interesting books and papers. It came in handy as I scrambled to prepare for the workshop on Human Rights and Development in Oslo, organized by the Norwegian Government, UNDP and the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Mary Robinson).

I found out that Norway is funding a project in South Africa which should be of interest in relation to your project. The Norwegian project is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and executed by the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights. I gave your proposal to Asbjorn Elde, the founder and former director of the Institute. He promised to pass it on to Ms. Jannicke Bain at:

South Africa Project
Institute of Human Rights
University of Oslo
Universitetsgaten 22-24
N-0162 Oslo

Phone: 47-22-84-2001
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Asbjorn Elde said that they probably already had some collaboration with the University of Witwatersrand. He seemed interested but emphasized that any request for funding would have come from the University.

Finally, another good contact may be Norway’s ambassador to South Africa, who was previously the Director-General of the Norwegian bilateral aid agency, NORAD.

With best wishes,

Jan Mattsson