

Date: 19th January 2008

Program Director and Review Committee members
Small Business Innovation Research Program
U. S. Department of Education
550 12th Street, SW Room 7119
Washington DC 20065-4230

Dear Review Committee Members:

The New Product Development Center (NPDC) at Oklahoma State University links the innovative ideas and capabilities of Oklahoma small rural manufacturers with the knowledge, technical expertise, and facilities of OSU to develop and commercialize economically competitive new products that strengthen rural economies and create new and enhanced jobs, capital investment, and increased tax base in the State of Oklahoma.

We fully support the recent collaboration between the Educational Technology Department at OSU and Schoolware Inc. for developing the "A Matter of Facts – Numbers Matter" software. This fits in with the scope of our mission to assist small manufacturers in Oklahoma by enhancing their capabilities and to create new and enhanced jobs. We are prepared to support this project through fully funding the OSU portion of the project up to \$100, 000. This would pay for the summer support of Drs. Susan Stansberry and Dr. Pasha Antonenko, research support for Dr. Kathy McKean, student salaries and benefits.

We believe this proposal deserves to be funded and are willing to support it completely. Please feel free to contact me at (405) 744-8398 or through email at vaidyan@okstate.edu if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Ranji K. Vaidyanathan, Ph. D, P. E.
Director