



THE CALIFORNIA STATE SUMMER SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE  
COSMOS

CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS  
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November 18, 2002

Lynn Preston  
ERC Program Leader  
Division of Engineering Education and Centers  
National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 585  
Arlington, VA 22230

Dear Mr. Preston,

This letter expresses my enthusiastic support for the proposed National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center for Personal Power Systems. This Center promises more than technological breakthroughs—it opens unprecedented opportunities for K-12 that will meet the strong interest of high school students in engineering. It will also enrich science teachers who, as we have discovered, benefit greatly from creative interaction with higher education. The existing collaborations we enjoy provide ready access to partner schools that are economically disadvantaged, particularly in science education. I am particularly excited about the prospect of engaging our talented high school students from COSMOS, California State Summer School for Mathematics & Science, a statewide summer residential program.

I have worked with Professors Derek Dunn-Rankin, Kenneth Mease, and Faryar Jabbari in COSMOS, and their participation has been vital to the program's growth. Together they conceptualized, designed and delivered two engineering courses for high school students that received high marks. The hands-on experimentation and interaction between the students, graduate students and faculty, created the intergenerational and interdisciplinary environment that inspires young people to follow their dreams. COSMOS is an ideal match for the Center for Personal Power Systems, given that a number of our students enroll in COSMOS specifically for exposure to engineering applications.

I welcome the addition of a Personal Power Systems cluster to COSMOS. Including lab activity, the course cluster has a value of approximately \$35,000 per year. The multiple dimensions of the Center for Personal Power Systems will build on successful relationships developed and nurtured on this campus. The leadership and collaborative work Derek and his colleagues have generated within and without the University will make important advancements both in the discipline and in education. The Center carries great potential for impacting the development of future engineers and scientists. We will assist with the K-12 component implementation in any way that we can, and are eager to support this exciting initiative.

Sincerely,

  
Marjorie DeMartino  
Director

c: Dr. Juan Francisco Lara, Assistant Vice Chancellor