US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

BOSTON COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

September 12, 1997

Mr. Thomas Balf
ML Strategies
1 Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111

Dear Mr. Balf:

Over the past one and a half years, Boston College has been involved with a consortium of New England Colleges and Universities to explore regulatory alternatives for managing the environmental impact of regulations on laboratories. The goal is to develop a consistent and performance-oriented approach to environmental regulations that recognizes the nature of laboratory work and management of hazardous materials in a manner consistent with the nature of the institution within which the laboratory is located.

As Dean of Arts and Sciences, I represent five science departments, and within these departments over 100 laboratories, approximately 65 faculty members, 200 graduate students and over 1000 undergraduate students. As a result, we can find the impact of regulations on our scientists to be great. To use the time and resources of our scientists in pursuing educational excellence as well as in compliance with applicable regulations, it is essential that these regulations apply realistically to a laboratory setting.

Our mission at Boston College commits us to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. In pursuit of this mission, we aim to produce nationally and internationally significant research that advances insight and understanding, thereby both enriching culture and addressing important societal needs. Support of the Laboratory Consortium for

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Environmental Excellence in pursuing a Project XL, to develop alternative approaches for the management of environmental issues in laboratories, is one of many steps towards supporting our mission here at Boston College. The group is responding to a much needed change in environmental regulations of which I am in full support.

Sincerely,

J. Robert Barth, S.J.

J. Robert Barth, S. J.
Dean

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