

November 4, 2002

Ms. Christine Corey
Project Director
USDE Title VIA
1990 K Street, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Ms. Corey:

I am pleased to offer my support to this grant proposal submitted by Mississippi College and Dr. Debbie Pierce. This proposal addresses undergraduate international and foreign language training, which is vitally important for Mississippi's international economic development efforts.

The proposal will provide enhanced educational opportunities for faculty and students in their studies related to Japan and Brazil. The proposal's focus on Japan is exciting in light of Nissan's building a new manufacturing plant in Canton, Mississippi, located in the Metro Jackson area. Dr. Debbie Pierce is a founding member of the Japan America Society of Mississippi and she understands the positive impact of providing faculty and students with enhanced learning opportunities. The proposal will also enable Mississippi College to expand its course work related to Brazil and Portuguese.

I believe that the grant proposal by Mississippi College and Dr. Debbie Pierce for undergraduate international and foreign language training is worthy of your resources. I am pleased to offer support for this project.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr