

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

October 16, 2001



OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. Matthew Cartter
President
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
2872 Woodcock Boulevard, Suite 303
Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4015

Dear Dr. Cartter:

Thank you for your letter of July 20, 2001, and for the copy of the Joint Position statement issued by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. As you probably know, the National Science Foundation primarily supports scientific and engineering research and related educational activities at colleges, universities and other institutions. As part of this broad mission, NSF supports basic research on various issues related to the biology of the earth's biodiversity. This research is supported using open competition and a peer review process.

NSF does not normally support research with disease-related goals, including work on the etiology, diagnosis or treatment of physical or mental disease, abnormality, or malfunction in human beings or animals. Animal models of such conditions or the development or testing of drugs or other procedures for their treatment also are not eligible for support.

I wish you success in achieving the goals outlined by your organization in the position statement.

Sincerely,

Rita R. Colwell
Director

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