

MEMORANDUM

June 24, 2009

Subject: Sabbatical Leave Report

From: Barry D. Solomon *BDS*
Department of Social Sciences

To: Stanley J. Vitton
Chair of the University Sabbatical Leave Committee

Cc: Max Seel, Patrick Martin

I was granted a sabbatical leave from MTU in the fall and spring terms of 2008-09. I spent the fall term as a visiting scholar at the Center for Public Sector Research at the University of Gothenburg (Sweden) and the rest of the time I was based in Houghton. Most of my time was spent conducting research on several research projects, especially our studies on international nuclear waste management (jointly with Swedish colleagues), biofuels (jointly with colleagues at MTU), and two major book projects. During this period, I was an invited speaker in Sweden (5 presentations), Switzerland (1 presentation, to the United Nations Environment Programme), the Netherlands (1 presentation), for a seminar at the University of Chicago, and at several U.S. conferences (5 presentations). As a result of my recent research and publications, I was nominated for the Eni Scientific Prize in Italy (though was not selected for the award). During this time period, I was also able to review two book proposals (Stanford University Press and Pearson/Prentice Hall).

I consider this sabbatical leave experience to have been very rewarding and highly productive. I wrote or published over 20 papers that were in various stages at the start of the sabbatical leave period, resulting in a refereed journal article published in *Ecological Economics* during this time; release of my co-edited book, Solomon, B.D. and V.A. Luzadis, eds. *Renewable Energy From Forest Resources in the United States* (London: Routledge, 2009), 330 pp., which included three chapters that I either authored or co-authored; and substantial progress was made on the 5-volume *Encyclopedia of Geography* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2010), which I am serving as an associate editor for and have authored 11 entries. During this period, I also maintained my responsibilities under 2 funded research projects and new grant and contract proposals with MTU colleagues. These included the two existing projects: one from NSF - "Renewable Energy From Forest Resources", Ann McLean, P-I; and one from the U.S. Department of Energy - "Hydrogen Education Curriculum Path at Michigan Technological University", Jason Keith, P-I. I also contributed to several new large grant proposals, among them the proposed renewal of our IGERT grant and a proposed Science and Technology Center.