Thank you very much for the Award for my study of “Eye Blinking in Toddlers” ($2944). This award allowed me to assess blinking in 2-year-olds who had participated in the blinking study when they were infants (at 4 and 12 months). Being able to collect and analyze longitudinal data such as this is critical when investigating developmental change.

Project expenses were (a) a few items of equipment, (b) a research assistant for the Fall and (c) the payment of parents for their time and effort to come to Mahar for the observation. We studied 21 toddlers between May and October 2007. Diana Major (Zoology, Psychology) did an excellent job of scheduling parents in the Fall, coordinating data collection and leading the process of designing coding schemes for the behaviors of interest. Approximately 6 other students assisted in the collection of this data.

These data are sufficient to present in poster format during 2008 and are also sufficient to use as the basis for a new grant application for Federal support of this line of research.

With sincere and hearty thanks for your continuing support of my work,

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