



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

The Director

Tuesday, February 13, 2001

MSG-017a

MEMORANDUM FOR: Human Resources Directors

FROM: Anna Marie Schuh, Acting Associate Director, Office of Merit Systems
Oversight and Effectiveness

Subject: Special Studies Ideas for FY 2002

With your cooperation and support, the Office of Merit Systems Oversight and Effectiveness conducts several special studies each year of human resource management issues that have a critical effect on the Federal civil service. We are beginning the process of identifying issues we should consider studying in FY 2002 and we would like your ideas.

Reports of several such studies done in recent years currently appear on the OPM web site, opm.gov/studies/main.htm. Published studies cover a wide range of topics including: openness in the employment process, awards, the HR occupation, aligning HR management with agency mission, downsizing, poor performers, balancing work and family obligations, and benefits counseling. Other studies are underway on topics including: staffing timeliness, recruiting practices, use of job analysis, supervisory development, veterans hiring, pass/fail performance systems, and telework.

In selecting subjects for our special studies, we try to anticipate the critical issues that OPM and agency human resources officials will be dealing with and will need pertinent background information on. We look at trend data in the Central Data Personnel Data file. We draw on our own experience in working with agency human resource officials. We draw on experience of other employers in the State, local, and private sectors. Also, we invite and encourage ideas from leaders and practitioners in the Federal human resources community.

To assist us in selecting the most meaningful topics for the Federal community, please give us your FY 2002 study suggestions by February 28, 2001. Address your suggestions to me, Anna Marie Schuh, at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW, Room 7676, Washington, DC 20415. Also, you may call me at 202-606-2840 or email me at:

amschuh@opm.gov.