

September 15, 2006

The Regents of the University of California

Dear Regents:

On behalf of the American Cancer Society, California Division, we urge you to adopt a University of California policy to not accept funding from the tobacco industry. We are pleased to see this issue on the agenda of the Regents' September 19-21, 2006 meeting and applaud you for taking up this important matter.

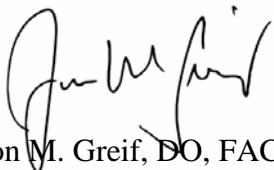
The Society has twice written to the Regents about tobacco industry funding, in 2000 and in 2005. Both times we pointed out that the tobacco industry's contributions to respected academic institutions have been revealed as a strategy to create the perception of a partnership, allowing tobacco companies to boost their public image, enhance corporate goodwill, reduce the pressure for more effective anti-smoking policies, and ultimately to sell more cigarettes.

For years, the American Cancer Society has urged private and public sector organizations to turn away tobacco funding. We have called on institutional investors to divest all holdings in tobacco companies. And it is our own policy to never compromise our strong anti-tobacco position by accepting money or other contributions from tobacco companies.

Smoking is still the leading cause of preventable death in the US and in California. It accounts for at least 30% of all cancer deaths and 87% of lung cancer deaths. While it is the American Cancer Society's goal to reduce the use of tobacco because of the cancers and deaths it causes, we recognize clearly that it is the tobacco industry's goal to increase tobacco use.

These peddlers of cancer and death should be prevented from benefiting from any affiliation with the University of California. We hope you will follow up your previous decision to exclude tobacco companies from UC's investments, by adopting a policy to not accept any tobacco industry funding.

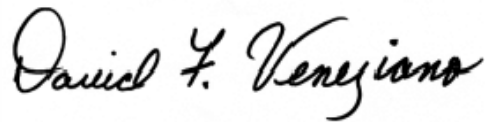
Sincerely,



Jon M. Greif, DO, FACS  
President of the Division



Carolyn Rhee  
Chair of the Board



David F. Veneziano  
Chief Executive Officer