



ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LOS ANGELES DIVISION
3125 MURPHY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1408

PHONE: (310) 825-3851
FAX: (310) 206-5273

April 13, 2007

Professor John Oakley
Chair of the Academic Assembly
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

In Re: Review of The Regents' Proposed RE-89 - Adoption of Policy Restricting University Acceptance of Funding from the Tobacco Industry

Dear John:

Thank you for the opportunity to opine upon the proposed RE-89 policy that would restrict University of California acceptance of funding from the tobacco industry. Upon receipt of the proposal, UCLA Divisional Chair Vivek Shetty asked the Executive Board, an elected body that is authorized to speak on behalf of the Los Angeles Division, to opine. The proposal was reviewed by the Executive Board on March 15, 2007. The Board passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Proposed RE-89 - Adoption of Policy Restricting University Acceptance of Funding from the Tobacco Industry represents an unwarranted infringement upon academic freedom and is inconsistent with the research mission of the University of California,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Board of the UCLA Division of the Academic Senate unequivocally opposes the proposed RE-89 and urges that no part of it be adopted.

7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining

This position by the Executive Board is consistent with the UCLA Division's historical response to the matter. As you may recall, the Academic Senate considered a measure in 2005 that would have restricted the University's ability to receive funding from the tobacco industry. At that time, UCLA Senate Chair Kathleen Komar requested that the Legislative Assembly, the Executive Board, the Council of Faculty Executive Committee Chairs, the Council on Planning and Budget, and the Academic Freedom respond. She also convened a Faculty Town Hall meeting on the matter. At the time, "there was a strong majority opinion that we would rather err

on the side of academic freedom...” (Correspondence, March 9, 2005, from Kathleen Komar to George Blumenthal).

Divisional Chair Shetty is unavailable this week and next. As Vice Chair, I am responding on behalf of the UCLA Division as indicated in Divisional Bylaw Chapter IV, Section 1.20.B.1. Please do not hesitate to contact me if further clarification is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth L. Bjork". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Elizabeth Ligon Bjork
Vice Chair, UCLA Divisional Senate

Cc: Vivek Shetty, Chair, UCLA Divisional Senate
María Bertero-Barceló, Systemwide Senate Executive Director
Jaime Balboa, UCLA Senate Chief Administrative Officer