

University of California
San Francisco



Academic Senate
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Communication from the Task Force to Review the Proposal for the Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences Deborah Adey, MD, Chair

June 9, 2008

David Gardner, MD
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate
500 Parnassus Avenue, Box 0764

Re: Recommendation for Endorsement of the Proposal for the Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences

Dear Chair Gardner,

The Task Force has reviewed the Proposal for the Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences (<http://senate.ucsf.edu/2007-2008/v7-05-2008-bioeng-therapeuticsci-deptproposal.pdf>). Overall, the Task Force endorses the establishment of the proposed department, as a departmental home for Bioengineering at UCSF is long overdue. The proposal for this new department is based on strong scientific merit and will avoid overlap in research, duplication of shared resources and has the potential to build upon an already impressive record of innovation and collaboration. Furthermore, the Task Force has confidence in the proposed leadership with proven ability to develop and manage programs at UCSF.

Upon review of the proposal, the Task Force raised concerns about the administration and governance of a proposed department that would be housed in two schools. Co-Chair Sarah Nelson immediately responded to the Task Force's request for more information (attached) and provided the Memorandum of Understanding (<http://senate.ucsf.edu/2007-2008/v7-06-2008-bioeng-therapeuticsci-mou.pdf>) between the Deans of the Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy and the Co-Chairs of the proposed Department.

With the responses Sarah Nelson provided to the Task Force, the members recommend that the Coordinating Committee endorse this proposal and forward it to the UCSF Division for a vote.

To prepare for success, the Task Force strongly encourages that the proposed department clearly and carefully articulate the structures for resolving conflict between the co-chairs, financial responsibility within the department as divided between the Schools, and equitable policies and procedures for faculty with regard to compensation, teaching and other responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Deborah Adey, MD, Task Force Chair, Committee on Academic Planning and Budget
Claire Brett, MD, Committee on Academic Personnel
Grayson Marshall, DDS, MPH, PhD, Committee on Educational Policy
Jeff Lansman, PhD, Graduate Council