COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING AND BUDGET
Stanton Glantz, PhD, Chair

October 29, 2001

Daniel Bikle, MD, PhD
Chair, Academic Senate
University of California San Francisco

Dear Dan,

The Committee on Academic Planning and Budget called a special meeting last week to discuss contingency financial planning with Steve Barclay. Steve had provided the Senate with a draft document outlining the contingency planning process and asked for Senate recommendations, which you, in turn, charged the Committee with considering. The Committee recommends that the attached letter be sent from you to Steve Barclay in response as soon as possible as Steve had requested responses by Friday, October 26.

Please feel free to call Stan with any questions at 476-3893.

Respectfully,
Committee on Academic Planning and Budget
COMMUNICATION FROM THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Daniel Bikle, MD, PhD, Chair

October 30, 2001

Steve Barclay
Vice Chancellor Administration and Finance
University of California San Francisco

Re: FY 2002/03 and 2003/04 UCSF Financial Contingency Planning

Dear Steve,

As was discussed at the special meeting of the Senate Academic Planning and Budget Committee on October 25, 2001, here are APB's recommendations regarding the October 2001 draft of the "FY 2002/03 and 2003/04 UCSF Financial Contingency Planning" document.

In light of the Governor's call for various budget projections, including cuts of up to 15%, APB does not at this juncture endorse 15% across the board cuts. Quite the contrary, APB supports targeted cuts. APB supports the general principle, espoused by everyone, that it is crucial to protect the "academic core" of the university. The problem, however, is defining what this "core" is. APB doubts that it can be defined in abstract terms well enough to make operational decisions. Rather, APB recommends instead that Deans work with their Faculty Councils to outline core programs and identify where cuts can best be made that will total whatever is ultimately imposed in the aggregate. (APB will be happy to work with the Deans and Faculty Councils to the extent that they believe that it would be helpful. APB believes, however, that the primary channel for Senate input at the school level should be the Faculty Councils.)

APB's focus should be at the campus-wide level. To meet its responsibilities, APB recommends that it receive all preliminary plans and any related analyses from your office (between steps 6 and 7 in the October 2001 draft planning document) prior to the January 2002 EBC meeting. To the extent possible, receipt of these plans should allow sufficient time prior to the meeting for APB to evaluate the plans, e.g., to consider potential campuswide impacts and advise on them at the EBC meeting. As otherwise set forth in the October 2001 draft, the timeline target dates for the planning process are reasonable and realistic.

With regard to the "Areas of Financial Risk," APB recommends adding the following to the list:

1. Insurance premium changes as fallout of 9/11;
2. Loss of state assistance in paying energy costs as fallout from decreased state revenues;
3. Impact of lower city and/or and/or federal revenues on the financial needs of the academic programs at SFGH and the VA; and
4. Reduced payments from the UCSF Medical Center.

APB recommends adding the following to the list of "Issues for Consideration:"

1. Paying for build-up of technology infrastructure moving forward;
2. Improving sharing of management practices, particularly for grants administration, that have been developed within individual departments and ORUs to other programs/departments;
3. Placing the academic calendars of all four schools on a common calendar to improve academic resource sharing and the development of new teaching initiatives;
4. Assessment of development office priorities (e.g., charge development office with evaluating campus activities funded by 19900 funds that might be packaged to solicit donor support, e.g., permanently endowed, limited individual tenure positions (named chairs) for junior faculty and fellows); and
5. Consideration of a VERIP (Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program).

Even though these are challenging times, it is important that UCSF remain open to new programs and ideas. We cannot let these fiscal setbacks prevent UCSF from advancing its core missions of teaching, research, and service.

The Senate and APB appreciate the ability to work closely with your office on these issues in proactive fashion and looks forward to continued and productive interaction. Please feel free to contact me or APB Chair Stan Glantz at 476-3893 with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Daniel Bikle, MD, PhD
Chair, Academic Senate

Stanton Glantz, PhD
Chair, Committee on Academic Planning and Budget

Cc: Chancellor J. Michael Bishop
    Dean Charles Bertolami
    Dean Haile Debas
    Dean Kathy Dracup
    Dean MaryAnne Koda-Kimble